



Evangelical Alliance of Singapore's Response to the Government Decision on the Repeal of Section 377A

Singapore, 22 August 2022 – With reference to the announcement made by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong during the National Day Rally 2022 to repeal Section 377A (S377A) of the Penal Code, the Evangelical Alliance of Singapore (EAS) regrets the Government's decision to remove S377A. However, EAS welcomes the Government's assurances that it will continue to uphold and safeguard the institution of marriage and its definition as a heterosexual union. We strongly urge the Government to enshrine this definition of marriage into our Singapore Constitution to shield it from future legal challenges. Additionally, we advocate for stronger safeguards on policies relating to marriage and families comprehensively, such as those on adoption, education, public housing and media before the repealing of S377A, so as to avoid negative social consequences.

As Evangelicals who adhere to the teachings of the Holy Bible, we affirm that marriage is an institution created by God in which one man and one woman enter into an exclusive relationship for life. Marriage is the only form of partnership approved by God for sexual relations and same-sex sexual practices are incompatible with His will as revealed in Scripture. We do not accept that holding these theological and ethical views on biblical grounds is in itself homophobic. As such, we would like to seek explicit assurances from the Government that the churches in Singapore have the right to teach these biblical principles freely.

Finally, we encourage evangelical congregations to be communities of grace in which those who experience same-sex attraction and seek to live faithfully in accordance with biblical teachings are welcomed and affirmed. Such Christians need churches which are safe spaces for mutual encouragement and support as we help each other grow together into maturity in Christ.

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About EAS

The Evangelical Alliance of Singapore (EAS) is a network of evangelical churches, denominations, Christian organisations, movements and individuals in Singapore. EAS was formed in May 1980 (as the Evangelical Fellowship of Singapore) with an emphasis on concerted prayer, co-operative evangelism and coordinated mission programme in conjunction with local churches and Christian organisations. Since its formation, EAS has organised several national prayer and evangelism projects such as the Global Day of Prayer, Jubilee Day of Prayer, GoForth National Mission Conference, and the recent Celebration of Hope.

EAS is a member of Asia Evangelical Alliance (AEA) and World Evangelical Alliance (WEA). Since its formation in 1846, WEA has served more than 600 million evangelicals belonging to churches that are part of 143 national Evangelical Alliances in 9 regions.

Please contact info@evangelical.sg for more information.