

Craig, Sondra

From: Elsen, Nikki
Sent: Sunday, June 12, 2022 2:58 PM
To: Craig, Sondra
Subject: Fw: Conversion Therapy Ban

From: Deb Bassett <debb@7riverslgbtq.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 9, 2022 3:30:59 PM
To: ZZ Council Members
Subject: Conversion Therapy Ban

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To Our Honorable City Council Members:

I am writing to encourage you to cast your vote for a ban on conversion therapy in La Crosse. It is time to join the other cities and states in our nation in banning this brutal and archaic practice. I can't even begin to imagine that any of you would uphold a "treatment" that is based on physical and mental abuse. While it has been proven to be ineffective, conversion therapy continues on, sometimes under a different name. We have been assured that it is still going on in La Crosse, and with every bit of human compassion in me, I urge you to do the right and decent thing and ban it. While some argue that it takes away parents' First Amendment Rights, many courts do not consider these treatments to be speech, rather they say that it is actually actions. In addition, parents do not inherently have First Amendment rights if their words and actions are harmful to their children. It has been constantly demonstrated that conversion therapy proves to be damaging, inflicting physical and mental harm on its VICTIMS. It is time to be on the side of goodness and caring for children and no longer let this practice take place in our city. Please protect our innocents by adopting this ban so they are no longer exposed to the abuse, both physical and mental, of conversion "therapy".

Thank you.

Deb Bassett
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Volunteer Coordinator
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