

# Today's Martyrs

*Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom*

## **Weekly Commentary - 2021-03-21 through 2021-03-27**

This week ([please click here to read the full report](#)) we have several of the usual stories from China and India. We also have a story detailing the retributions the government of China has begun to enact against Western Christians who have opposed their internal persecutions. Lord David Alton of Liverpool is cited on our report thanks to his long stance in favor of the religious and pro-democracy minorities in China, as well as his opposition to anti-Christian discriminations in his own country.

Another observer of Western discrimination on our report is Dr Albert Mohler of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, who reacted to the implications of an overtly anti-Christian editorial in USA Today.

This week also saw two Colorado stories from the very same day: the Boulder mass shooting atrocity, and the opening of another trial against a Christian baker who has already prevailed in the U.S. Supreme Court. This last story is bizarre: his First Amendment defense is now the law of the land, and yet his opponents keep coming back with more lawsuits that differ only with the exact wording on the cake. The Denver court should declare them to be vexatious litigants who willingly admit that they are using the legal system to harass the baker solely for his faith and show them the door. We need to ask why this doesn't happen.

Lastly a Canadian man has been sent to jail on a family violence charge. Why? Because he has attempted to stop his 14 year old daughter from transitioning to become a male.

Transgenderism has become quite the *cause celebre*, with its adoption of civil rights language and the backing of powerful and influential segments of society, especially the entertainment industry. Moreover, there are two fundamental truths that fuel it.

First, the existence of androgen insensitivity syndrome would seem to indicate that gender replacement is possible, at least the male to female variety. By the 1960's this and modern embryology made the concept a plausible solution to what has become known as gender dysphoria.

Second, there has been a backlash against the standard treatments for what are often (and in large part incorrectly) termed intersex conditions. Children born with ambiguous genitalia were formerly given reconstructive surgery that in hindsight were often hurried and physically damaging. A more loving and accepting social attitude to such situations within families would seem to be more supportive, without foreclosing possible later surgical interventions with full consent.

So medical science embarked on a program to 'correct' gender dysphoria via sex reassignment surgery. It became accepted theory that the lower the age of onset of transition the 'better' the outcome (the irony here is that this argument is exactly the same as that behind the now controversial intersex surgeries). As the number of such cases grew it became possible to conduct retrospective studies to determine the efficacy of these procedures. Interestingly, very few such studies have been done, and the few that have been published have been attacked more for violating transgender ideology than on the science. Meanwhile books quoting such studies have been suppressed by Amazon and people who use social media to express their regrets and to announce their detransitioning are banned.

Into this confusing maelstrom enters the case of *Keira Bell vs. Tavistock*. Decided in December 2020 by the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom in London, it held that Keira Bell was harmed by her sex reassignment

and declared that legal minors had no right to consent to such procedures. Tavistock, the government owned clinic, testified to the Court that it had only one retrospective outcome study from 2011 and that was unpublished because it had not been peer reviewed. The day after the Court decision the Tavistock study was published, and it showed that out of 44 cases only one – *one* – had a positive outcome. The clinic’s brochures which told a very young Ms. Bell that there were no known adverse outcomes to her treatments were *lies*.

Let that sink in for a moment.

Transgenderism may have developed as an attempt to mitigate real human suffering, but as an ideology, as a way of looking at reality, it is a lie. Moreover, as we see with the Canadian court case and similar cases in the U.S. (which failed to gain notoriety because no one has been jailed), as we see in the suppression of countervailing studies and of autobiographical regrets, and as we see with media propaganda, transgender ideology requires the support of institutional power to suppress the truth in order to survive. The Canadian situation is particularly worrisome, since state power has now been wielded illiberally in its defense. As a template for the Western world this will lead to an end point that can only be described as anti-Christian totalitarianism, and so we must thank the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom for showing us this end is not preordained.

So, a man named Rob Hoogland now sits in a Canadian jail for having opposed what he rightly calls a “delusion”. He has exposed the Canadian government to be the real perpetrator of his child’s abuse, and he has exposed his daughter’s psychologist as a charlatan who advises his young patients to claim suicidal ideation to force the medical and legal professions to bow to their desires. During his two-year battle with the state he has recovered the Christian faith of his youth, and it has inspired him in his appeal to you and me:

*I had a perfectly healthy child a year ago, and that perfectly healthy child has been altered and destroyed for absolutely no good reason...What kind of father would I be if, let's say in 5, 10 years my daughter is detransitioning, and she turns to me and says... 'Why did none of you do anything to stop this? I was a child. None of you stuck your neck out for me back then. You just let me do it because I was a...immature kid, thinking this was something great.' When my daughter asks me that question, I'll say... 'I did everything that I possibly could.' ...Whatever happens to me pales in comparison to what's already happened to my daughter.*

And he said just prior to his arrest:

*pray - anybody can pray...Educate people. Tell people what's going on...talk to your neighbor and say, 'Hey, this is what's going on in the world'...To even do a simple thing like that...that's commendable, that's courage to me. To even do a simple thing like that.*

## **Today's Martyrs**

For more information please visit our web site at: <https://todaysmartyrs.org/index.php/blog-3/>

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