

**MEDIA RELEASE  
BY CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE (CDA)**

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**Kovsies must handle matter on God with dignity**

“The management of the Free State University must now come clean on the decision to remove God from the university’s logo,” says Rev. Theunis Botha, leader of the Christian Democratic Party (CDP). “To threaten Afriforum, which tried to establish the opinion of the students on this matter, with court cases does not send out the correct educational message to people who are being prepared to be future leaders. But if the university does enter into litigation on the matter, we trust that the funds for this action will be contributed by those who support their stance, and that funds of parents and students paid for their studies, and who oppose their decision, will not be used.

“We also ask that the matter will now be conducted in ‘n dignified manner, surely, the Lord does not deserve to be the subject of a humiliating popularity contest. Rather respect those students who enrolled at a Christian university as university of choice, and those lecturers who applied for positions at such a university. Surely, none of the students or lecturers opposed to the Christian character of the university joined against their will. Recognition of the Lord also does not exclude freedom of religion.

“On the other hand, if the university is no longer a Christian university, one should consider omitting the Lord’s name. The Lord is no-one’s marketing gimmick. Proper consultation is the only way to establish the character of the university.”

**Kovsies moet kwessie van God met waardigheid hanteer**

“Die bestuur van die Vrystaatse Universiteit moet nou oop kaarte speel oor die besluit om God uit die universiteit se leuse te haal,” sê ds. Theunis Botha, leier van die Christen-Demokratiese Party (CDP). “Om Afriforum, wat die mening van studente probeer bepaal het, met hofsake te dreig stuur geen behoorlike opvoedkundige boodskap aan diegene wat as toekomstige leiers van die land voorberei word nie. As die universiteit egter wél sou besluit op litigasie hieroor, sal dit gewoon gepas wees dat slegs fondse van diegene wat die universiteit se optrede steun gebruik, word en nie fondse wat ouers en studente wat teen die besluit gekant is vir studies betaal het nie.

“Ons vra ook dat die saak waardig hanteer word, want die Heer verdien immers nie om aan ‘n vernederende gewildheidskompetisie onderwerp te word nie. Respekteer liewers die wense van studente wat gekies het om aan ‘n Christelike universiteit te kom studeer, en dosente wat willens by so ‘n universiteit vir poste aansoek gedoen het. Niemand is immers gedwing om teen hul sin deel van Kovsies te word nie. Erkenning aan God sluit ook nie godsdienstvryheid uit nie.

“As die universiteit egter nie meer ‘n Christelike universiteit is nie, sal dit gepas wees om te besin oor die weglating van die Here se naam. Die Here is immers niemand se reklamefoefie nie.”