

MEDIA RELEASE
by CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (CDP)

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Los tameletjie oor seksuele misdrywe dringend op - CDP

“Die Christen-Demokratiese Party (CDP) het met skok kennis geneem van die chaos wat in die regspraak oor altesaam 29 seksuele oortredings heers,” sê ds. Theunis Botha, leier van die CDP.

“Die ironie is dat die meeste van hierdie oortredings reeds goed in die gemenerereg ondervang was, en dit lyk of die parlement nie sekuur genoeg met die saak was om die chaos te voorkom nie. Die gevolg is dat dieselfde oortredings nou in die Wes-Kaap nie strafbaar is nie, maar wel in die Vrystaat en KwaZulu-Natal, terwyl die ander provinsies se hooggeregshowe nog hieroor moet beslis.

“Dit is bloot net nie goed genoeg dat die regering teen gisteraand nog net oorweeg het om teen die Wes-Kaapse beslissing te appelleer nie. Intussen moet die parlement dringend sy skynbare brouwerk regstel, sodat indien die appèlsaak verloor word, die skade beperk kan word.

“Ons raak toenemend bekommerd oor die kwaliteit van wetsontwerpe wat van die amptenary na die parlement gestuur word. Regsopleiding is nie ‘n kwalifikasievereiste vir parlamentslede nie, en dit behoort dus nie werklik nodig te wees dat parlamentslede as waghonde moet dien oor tegniese blapse nie.”

Urgently solve sexual offences mess - CDP

“The Christian Democratic Party (CDP) noted with concern the chaos in the judiciary regarding a total of 29 sexual offences,” says CDP leader, Rev. Theunis Botha.

“The irony was that most of these offences had already been well accommodated in common law, and it seems as though parliament was not accurate enough with the legislation to prevent this chaos. The result is that the same offences are punishable in the Free State and KZN, but not in the Western Cape, whilst the other provinces still need to await High Court rulings on the matter.

“It simply is not enough that government, by yesterday evening, had not finally decided whether to appeal the Western Cape ruling. In the meantime parliament needs to urgently address the matter, to prevent further damage should the appeal be lost.

“We are increasingly concerned at the quality of bills presented to parliament. Judicial training is not a prerequisite for parliamentarians, and it should not really be necessary for parliamentarians to act as watch dogs for officials paid to do the job right.”