Conseil Unitarien du Canada

Child Welfare

WHEREAS THE AIM OF Child Welfare Legislation is to pursue policies which are in the best interests of those dependent children for whom society must provide; and

- 2. WHEREAS the number of these dependent children in increasing; and
- 3. WHEREAS the granting of an adoption order should be based on the ability of the adopting parents to provide love, and emotional and physical security, and this ability may have no relation to professed religious affiliation; and
- 4. WHEREAS although a child under the age of reason cannot be considered to have a religion, the present child welfare legislation makes no reference to religion with regard to adoption, it is the practice of most agencies to make adoption placements along religious lines:
- 5. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Unitarian Council 1967 Annual Meeting requests the Provincial Governments, where applicable to delete the section regarding religious presumption as to the faith of the child, and amend the Child Welfare Acts to specify that the religion not be considered in determining adoption except in cases where the child himself wishes to express a preference.

Medical Aid to Vietnam

- 1. WHEREAS the war in Vietnam continues to escalate and the number of innocent civilians killed and injured increases daily; and
- 2. WHEREAS the Canadian Unitarian Council and the Unitarian Universalist Association have several times expressed their concern for a negotiated peace in Vietnam;
- 3. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Unitarian Council 1967 Annual Meeting:
- 1. Urges the Government of Canada to render all possible medical and humanitarian aid to wounded and injured civilians in all parts of Vietnam;
- 2. Urgently requests aid from the Government of Canada to bring burned and injured children from all parts of Vietnam to Canada for treatment;
- 3. Commends the Canadian Friends Service Committee for its program of sending medical supplies for civilian use to all parts of Vietnam and urges Canadian Unitarian Service Committee of Canada to extend its humanitarian program of service to children to all parts of war-ravaged Vietnam.

China

1. WHEREAS one of the most dangerous threats to peace in the world today is the lack of communication between many countries and the People's Republic of China, leading to misunderstandings and tensions on both sides, and this especially true

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since China has developed atomic weapons; and

- 2. WHEREAS the present exclusion of the People's Republic of China from the United Nations isolates approximately one-quarter of the world's population;
- 3. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Unitarian Council 1967 Annual meeting urges the Government of Canada to:
- 1. Recognize the present government at Peking as the Government of China;
- 2. Support, and urge other nations to support, the efforts of those countries working for the admission of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations, to replace the present representatives from "China";
- 3. Seek immediately the inclusion of the People's Republic of China in world disarmament talks.

Water and Air Pollution

- 1. WHEREAS clean water and clean air are essential to most forms of life but are polluted by steadily increasing quantities of human and industrial waste; and
- 2. WHEREAS these pollutants constitute an increasing danger to the general health of urban communities and, in particular, to the health of vulnerable individuals (in these areas), e.g., the aged, the young, those susceptible to lung, heart, alimentary canal ailments, etc.; and
- 3. WHEREAS industries and municipalities continue to pollute water and air resources despite existing legislation and where the damage in some locations has reached the stage where it cannot be rectified; and
- 4. WHEREAS pollution is a problem of immense complexity involving large geographical areas, as well as Federal, Provincial, and Municipal Governments and where increased awareness of the dangers involved has produced no effective leadership in solving this problem:
- 5. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Unitarian Council 1967 Annual Meeting urges the Federal Government to initiate a comprehensive pollution control policy to co-ordinate and implement existing legislative programs to create further specific opportunities for financial aid to the Municipal and Provincial Governments to proceed with their programs; to penalize, by enforced anti-pollution laws, all delinquent organizations and individuals; to continue to extend air and water pollution research, and to take all further steps necessary to arrest this menace; and 6. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Meeting encourage individual churches and fellowship to exert further pressure at the municipal level and by communication to Members of Parliament.

Vietnam

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- 1. WHEREAS it is evident that the war in Vietnam continues to expand with increasing U.S. commitment, endangering not only the combatants and civilian population of Vietnam, but also the peace of the world;
- 2. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Unitarian Council 1967 Annual Meeting urges the Government of Canada press for the initiation of a United Nations peace-keeping force until such time as self-determination by the Vietnamese people is assured; and
- 3. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Meeting petitions the Government of Canada to urge the parties involved to negotiate on the basis of the 1954 Geneva Accords and the three-step proposal of United nations Secretary-General U Thant of June 20, 1966; viz:
- 1. Cessation of the bombing of North Vietnam;
- 2. Scaling down of all military activities in South Vietnam;
- 3. A willingness of all sides to enter into discussion with those who are actually fighting.

Passed by delegates at the Annual General Meeting, 1967 Canadian Unitarian Council





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