



THE PARLIAMENT OF UGANDA

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In any correspondence on
this subject please quote No.

29th August 2023

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I, SARAH OPENDI, as a duly elected Member of the Parliament of Uganda and Chairperson Parliamentary Forum on Family and also Chair and Conference organising Committee of the 1st African Parliamentary Conference on the Family Values and the Sovereignty held from 31st April to May 2nd, 2023 issue this affidavit to attest to the following facts;

1. That the African Inter Parliamentary Conference on Family Values and Sovereignty held under the theme, Protecting African Culture and Family Values, was held from 31st March to 2nd May 2023, over a month after the Parliament of Uganda had passed the Anti-homosexuality Bill on 22nd March 2023 with majority MPs supporting the bill.
2. That as Chair of the First Inter Parliamentary Conference with the support from Parliament of Uganda, I invited the Members of Parliament from different African Countries and conference guests including the President of Family Watch International Ms Sharon Slater and her husband Greg Slater.
3. That I organised the meeting of the conference participants with the First Lady, Hon. Janet Kataaha Museveni and H.E President Yoweri Museveni on 31st April 2023 and 1st May 2023 respectively. The meeting with the First lady was a courtesy call by the Heads of delegations from across Africa and included the different organisations while the meeting with the President included all participants.

4. That at the meeting with the President, Ms Slater during her brief remarks informed the President about the ACP EU Partnership Agreement, a 20 year treaty and requested the President not to sign the Agreement in its current form.
5. That Ms. Slater during the meeting with both the President and earlier with the First Lady warned about the harms of the Comprehensive sexuality Education (CSE) agenda.
6. During the meeting with the President, Ms. Sharon Slater was quite concerned about the content of the anti-homosexuality bill and pleaded with the President to revisit the bill and provide for a safe haven for those homosexuals that would wish to voluntarily seek for help and counselling rather than their punishment.
7. That this message from Ms. Slater is the reason the President even returned the bill to parliament for its reconsideration and insertion of a clause to address the concern.
8. That to the best of my knowledge, at no time did the Slaters interact with the mover and seconders of the anti-homosexuality bill before seeking leave and during the legislative process.
9. Contrary to some western media reports, the Anti homosexuality bill was not influenced by any foreign organisation but was influenced by accounts of Ugandan children being recruited into homosexuality through some donor funded initiatives and children being paid close to \$1,500 to create pornography films of children engaging in homosexual acts.
10. That during consideration of the bill on the floor Hon. Musa Ekwere testified that he had himself witnessed and seen a child in hospital with a destroyed/raptured anus arising from an adult that had sodomised the child.



11. That there was a public outcry about the increasing cases of homosexuality in schools and some NGOs working in communities and this formed the basis for the introduction of the bill.
12. The Anti- homosexuality bill had been earlier passed by parliament in 2014 and only annulled because of lack of quorum.



SARAH OPENDI (MP)
CHAIR, PARLIAMENTARY FORUM ON FAMILY
CHAIRPERSON, UGANDA WOMEN PARLIAMENTARY
ASSOCIATION