

1982

RESOLUTION: CIVIL RIGHTS FOR HOMOSEXUALS

WHEREAS, The Scriptures tell us that we are all one in Christ; and

WHEREAS, The Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ approved a resolution in 1976 "to support legislation that would guarantee the civil liberties of all persons, without discrimination related to affectional or sexual preference", and which would not involve "passing personal moral judgment on the rightness or wrongness" of homosexuality; and

WHEREAS, That resolution directed the Department of Church and Society to work for the enactment of such legislation at a time when no specific legislative proposal was available, and

WHEREAS, The General Assembly bills subsequently introduced have been so worded that the application of the resolution has not been clear and hence has required substantial staff interpretation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 1976 resolution, entitled "Civil Liberties for Homosexuals", be replaced by the following resolution:

BE IT FURTHER-RESOLVED that the Department of Lay Life and Work, or its successor, be authorized to;

- a. Actively seek to reduce unwarranted, hurtful treatment of persons who experience such treatment solely because they are, or are thought to be, homosexuals.
- b. Discourage belief in unfounded, categorical or stereotypical assumptions and myths which foster such treatment.
- c. Encourage Legislation which is designed to insure for homosexuals equal standing with heterosexuals before the law.