



April 28, 2024

Dear Members of the Toronto Executive Committee,

I am writing to you today to express my absolute disappointment with the result of staff's direction to investigate a graphic flyer bylaw as well as an update to your street signs bylaw. In their response, they say the public *can consider mechanisms already available to them to prevent the unsolicited delivery of graphic flyers*. To put it simply, this is just not good enough. If it were good enough, why are people still receiving them and complaining? Why are children still finding them? Why are people who have experienced pregnancy loss suffering because of them?

Since the main cause for concern is based around Charter Rights, specifically Section 2, I will remind you of the following:

The s. 2(b) protection of freedom of expression protects everyone's right to hold any opinion or belief and to express those beliefs, through their words, actions or any other means of expression so long as the expression is **not violent** in form or in content.

Now let us review Blaise Alleyne's (Canadian Centre for Bio Ethical Reform) comment in a letter he sent to London City Council in 2020:

He says and I quote **"we share visual evidence of violence that has occurred to appeal the public to stop the violence."** (<https://pub-london.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=75745>)

He admits they share VIOLENT images in content to show their view on abortion to others to stop people from having them. His view is it is violence and he believes they have a right to show this to people in their own homes, unsolicited.

The Charter protects ALL of us, not just one side. Please remember this and send this back to staff and have them at the VERY LEAST look at the graphic flyer bylaw. These images are NOT APPROPRIATE to be left at private homes, in their safe spaces. This group leave these flyers even when there is a NO FLYER sign on the mailbox. They do not respect boundaries. This is bullying behaviour and shame tactics forced on tax paying citizens that are telling you they do not want them.

Sincerely,

Katie Dean

Co-Founder, VDLC