



Religion, Diversity and Government

Wednesday, April 5, 2006

Panel: 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

Thames/St. Clair/Erie Rooms, 2nd floor, Macdonald Block, Queen's Park (Light Breakfast at 8:00)

Panel:

- *Marion Boyd: Author, Dispute Resolution in Family Law: Protecting Choice, Promoting Inclusion; former Attorney General of Ontario*
- *Susan Drummond, Professor of Comparative Law, Osgoode Hall Law School*
- *Haroon Siddiqui, Journalist, Toronto Star*

Recent years have witnessed a re-emergence of interest in the relationship between religion, culture and values and its impact on government, public policy and the law.

This relationship and its impact are different country-to-country depending on such factors as past and current population trends, national legal, human and civil rights frameworks and the organization of institutions such as schools or social services providers as secular or confessional.

In countries with traditionally high immigration levels, each generation must arrive at its own means and types of accommodation as new racial, cultural and religious groups arrive to live in what those already there see as established societies.

Canada and many other countries throughout the world include religious freedom as one of the pillars of their constitution. The practical application of the right to practice all aspects of religion and to live free of discrimination within a religious and denominational framework has never been easy in diverse societies.

Recent examples of areas where religion and government meet in Canada include the federal legislation allowing same-sex marriage, the case at the Supreme Court regarding the wearing of the *kirpan* in Quebec schools and in Ontario, the role of religious arbitration in family law and proposed tax credits for religious schools.

How do all groups, including government, understand and act on the imperatives that diverse values present in our justice systems, our schools, our family policies and in

daily life? Can we manage the dynamic with care and diligence and within a context of equity and equality?

To Register:
Prepayment required by cheque or Visa/Amex/Mastercard
Mail registrations to:

IPAC Toronto Regional Group
c/o Kit Chapman
123 Scadding Avenue, Ste 803,
Toronto M5A 4J3

Or
Fax to: (416) 363-5612

Paid registrations will be confirmed to the email address provided below.

After March 21, for further information, please contact:
Kit Chapman at 416-363-6509x1
email: ipac-trg@sympatico.ca

Visit the TRG web-site at:
www.ipac.ca/toronto

Fax to: (416) 363-5612 (No faxes after 9:30 p.m. A cover sheet is unnecessary.)

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