

Woodford Baptist Church, London.txt

From: neilspencer [neilspencer@breathemail.net]
Sent: 23 January 2002 12:09
To: ownershipconsultation@culture.gov.uk
Subject: Broadcasting Bill

To Tessa Jowell MP,
Secretary of State for Culture, Media & Sport,

Dear Ms Jowell

I write as Minister of Woodford Baptist Church, E18, representing a congregation of around 120 people. Many of my members gain great benefit and encouragement from current Christian radio and would like to see more specifically Christian radio and television as new licences are granted in future. I therefore ask that the proposed Broadcasting Bill should not preclude Christian organisations from applying for licences.

Christians still comprise by far the largest religious group in the UK yet our views and interests are very much under represented in existing broadcasting. We are very aware of our multi-faith society and believe that other religious groups should also be free to apply for broadcasting licences. Since tuning in to any broadcast media is entirely voluntary, no one who objects to Christian programming would be forced to endure it, in the same way that I am not forced to endure the significant proportion of current terrestrial broadcasting which I consider offensive.

I do not believe that proposals for multi-faith channels are realistic. They are likely to be so compromised in order not to offend other faith groups that none would be satisfied.

I simply ask that Christian broadcasters be given the same opportunities to apply for broadcasting licences as any other broadcasting organisation.

I await your response with interest.

Yours sincerely

C Neil Spencer
Woodford Baptist Church
George Lane
South Woodford
E18 1LW

This message has been checked for all known viruses by UUNET delivered through the MessageLabs Virus Control Centre. For further information visit <http://www.uk.uu.net/products/security/virus/>