

Finance & Personnel Committee, Seattle City Council  
Public Hearing, June 26, 1989  
Event 13225 (00:44:02 – 00:47:21)

**Lozem I. Nelson:** Yes, I'm Mr. Nelson. Seems like it's time for the other side to be heard a little bit here. And, um, I speak for myself. I also am a member of the notorious Local 17...and I am also an ordained minister. And I hope that as I speak, I speak not only for myself, but also for those who believe in God and believe in the Bible that he inspired. And these days it seems that progress is being defined, uh, in terms of the wrong direction. And how do we--how do we determine what is right direction as opposed to the wrong direction? Uh, we follow, uh, what God has said plainly and told us in the Bible: that homosexual relationships are wrong, and so this is my concern that will be this ordinance will tend to give, uh, societies approval for this type of relationship, which down through history has left a, uh-uh, a continuous stream of wrecked and ruined, uh, civilizations, which the state of the archaeologists are still digging up. The humanists and the ACLU and now and others, uh, they are telling us to go in the other direction and against God and established order of traditional Judeo-Christian values. I believe that this ordinance will tend to, uh, discriminate against family members who may be living together. Apparently, that was in the writing there somewhere. Society cannot survive under a death style of homosexuality.

My second concern, um, briefly, is the financial one. I believe, to quote pre--one of the previous speakers here: this ordinance is a first step. And that's sort of the feeling I think a lot of us have that this is a first step toward extending health benefits which means that this will end up being, um, supporting, um, the victims of AIDS, those who have chosen a wrong lifestyle in our point of view and is not fair to us—to the rest of us, to have to pay for these wrong choices. And, um, so, uh, I say at this point that God has given us instructions in the Bible and, uh, all of us can have forgiveness. God does love us all and there is redemption. There is salvation. There are many homosexuals have--who have turned from a wrong, uh, lifestyle to, uh, to a, uh, correct lifestyle, to falling as God has told us to do.

So, those are my two concerns. I hope that the Councilmembers will not forget that there are many others who, uh, would agree with this in general. Thank you.