

Queensland Resolutions

From Minutes of the Special Synod, 7 – 9 November 2003

03.19 Humanity and Sexuality

- A. Affirms that the UCA lives and works within the faith and unity of the one, holy catholic, and apostolic Church, and that any determination by the UCA on matters of doctrine and/or the ordering of its life and witness must take account of this reality
- B. Notes Synod Resolution 91:117 which was noted in 96:112; and Synod Resolution 96:113; and
 - I. Affirms that sexuality is integral to being human as created by God.
 - II. Affirms
 - i. that God founds marriage for the purpose of fulfilling God's will for humans created in the image of God for relationship to each other and God, and
 - ii. that Christian marriage is a sign of the relationship of Christ and the church.
 - III. Encourages the Uniting Church in Queensland to explore and explicate these realities in (II) (1) and (2) in ways in which it does its theology, liturgy and pastoral care.
 - IV. Affirms that for Christians a violation of the marriage relationship is a violation against Christ, noting that violation here does not refer to separation or divorce.
 - V. Recognising that human beings exploit each other's personhood by casual indiscriminate sexual relationships, affirms that the word of Christ's forgiveness creates the possibility of new life.
 - VI. Deplores all sexual abuse, exploitation, and violence within marriage, within families, and within the wider community, and resolves to listen to, and to care for, both victims and other parties involved.
 - VII. Affirms that Christians are called and set free to live lives of celibacy in singleness and loving faithfulness in marriage.
 - VIII. Affirms its conviction that the rupture in the relationship between God and humankind, which has come about solely through sin, demands both the repentance of humankind and the recognition that true reconciliation may be found only in Jesus Christ.
 - IX. Recognises that homosexual practice is one of many signs of a disordered creation, but also affirms the need for showing compassion toward homosexual people, especially during times of injustice.
 - X. Declares its utter reliance on the ability of God in Christ to give life, to create new life in us, and to fulfil God's purposes for creation and humanity.