

McGill Physics Opposition to Bill 21

The ruling provincial government has recently tabled Bill 21, a bill that promises to disqualify certain members of our society who choose to wear religious symbols from being able to work as teachers, lawyers, and police officers among other public-sector positions.

The undersigned members of the Physics Department at McGill wish to make it abundantly clear that we are categorically opposed to such a bill. Our aim as educators is to foster an environment that is conducive to learning, and a part of fulfilling that commitment is achieved by engendering respect for people of all faiths and cultures. We will continue to ensure that our department remains a place where diversity of thoughts and attires is both respected and celebrated.

Meanwhile, we urge our political leaders to oppose this bill, for it stands, first and foremost, against the cherished ideals enshrined in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which protects our freedom of thought and religion. We hope our leaders can fight instead for legislation that brings society closer, helps more people participate in our economy instead of excluding them, and inspires the best in all their constituents, in the same way we strive every day to fulfill the potential of all our students.

We will continue to express our opposition to this bill through all legitimate means available, to ensure we do right by our students.

Les membres du département de Physique de l'Université McGill s'opposent au projet de loi 21

Le gouvernement provincial a récemment déposé le projet de loi 21 qui promet de disqualifier certains membres de notre société, qui choisissent de porter des symboles religieux, de pouvoir travailler comme enseignants, avocats et policiers parmi d'autres postes du secteur public.

Les membres soussignés du Département de physique de l'Université McGill souhaitent préciser clairement que nous nous opposons catégoriquement à un tel projet de loi. En tant qu'éducateurs, notre objectif est de créer un environnement propice à l'apprentissage. L'accomplissement de cet engagement passe en partie par le respect des personnes de toutes les religions et de toutes les cultures. Nous continuerons de veiller à ce que notre département reste un lieu où la diversité des idées et des tenues vestimentaires sont à la fois respectée et célébrée.

Entre-temps, nous exhortons nos dirigeants politiques à s’opposer à ce projet de loi, car il s’oppose avant tout aux idéaux inscrits dans la Charte canadienne des droits et libertés qui protègent notre liberté de pensée et de religion. Nous espérons que nos dirigeants pourront se battre pour une législation qui rapproche la société, aide davantage de personnes à participer à notre économie au lieu de les exclure, et inspire le meilleur de tous leurs électeurs, de la même manière que nous nous efforçons chaque jour de réaliser le plein potentiel de nos citoyens étudiants.

Nous continuerons à exprimer notre opposition à ce projet de loi par tous les moyens légitimes disponibles, tout en gardant à cœur l’intérêt de nos étudiants.

Signed by/ Signée par:

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