

ORAYNU CONGREGATION FOR HUMANISTIC JUDAISM
PUBLIC POSITION ON SCHOOL FUNDING

September 8, 2000

Oraynu Congregation agrees with the recent United Nations ruling which describes as discriminatory the current educational policy of the Ontario Government. This policy is one in which the Catholic School System receives public financial support while other religious groups do not. This is clearly contrary to the spirit of democracy. Our proposal is one which protects the integrity of the public school system, upholds the principle of democracy, abolishes the untenable policy of diverting tax dollars into religious institutions and reaffirms the separation of religion and state.

To these ends, Oraynu Congregation urges the Ontario Government to:

1. strive to amend the Canadian Constitution so that neither the Catholic School System nor any other religious school system will be able to draw upon public funding for its support;
2. ensure that no public funding be extended to private schools;
3. ensure that private schools be allowed to exist if they meet public academic standards and are self-supporting; and
4. ensure that 100% of every educational tax dollar goes into the public school system.

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