

FAD - Fathers Against Discrimination a.s.b.l.
"Both Parents for All Children™"
29, Boulevard Prince Henri
L-1724 Luxembourg
Luxembourg

8 April 2021, Luxembourg

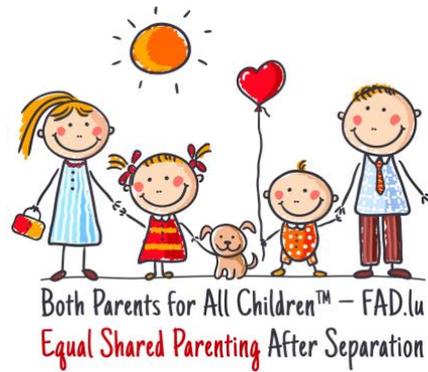
L'honorable Xavier BETTEL
Premier ministre, ministre d'État
4, rue de la Congrégation
L-1352 Luxembourg
Luxembourg

Dear Mr. Prime Minister,

On March 18th, 2021 the Motion No.3122 – "Création de structures d'hébergement pour hommes et garçons victimes de violence domestique" initially presented by Deputy Mr. Fernand KARTHAIER was put to vote in the Luxembourg Parliament.

In case the vote did not bring your attention on the mentioned day please find attached a copy of the Motion No.3122 as well as a copy of the "Bulleting de vote" providing more information on how each member of the Luxembourg Parliament voted.

In order to briefly summarize the course of events, we would like to inform you that **CSV** and **ADR** voted in favor of the Motion No.3122, **Pirate Partei** abstained from voting and the Luxembourg government coalition **DP**, **LSAP**, **déi gréng** as well as **déi lénk** voted against the Motion denying men, boys and fathers with children equal treatment and the same type of social services already available in Luxembourg to women, girls and mothers with children.



The Motion presented by Deputy KARTHEISER was a step towards the attempt to end gender-parental inequality in Luxembourg institutions and extend inadequate social services available in Luxembourg favoring one social group. Gender bias treatment that creates barriers and often leads to fatherless homes. A serious problem Luxembourg society faces but a problem current Luxembourg government you are in charge of Mr. Prime Minister continuously ignores.

The result of the vote came to us as a surprise and we have received the news with great disappointment. Before communicating to the public and the constituents the details on how each deputy voted on 18 March 2021, FAD decided to reach out to those members of the parliament who voted against and denied men, boys & fathers with children equal treatment and access to the same type of social services already available to women, girls and mothers with children.

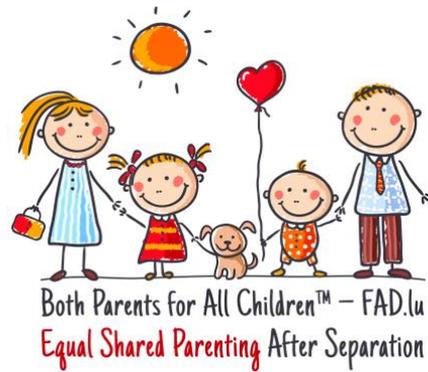
We wanted learn and understand the logic behind voting against the Motion No.3122. After all DP and the government coalition apparently cares for gender equality in Luxembourg and continuously fights for it.

FAD has sent correspondence to all 60 members of the Luxembourg Parliament and received numerous replies with number of deputies explaining they did not have enough information on the subject for them to have a clear view on the matter in question allowing them to vote in favor of the Motion.

This was somewhat unsettling to all of us because if true it would mean that deputies of the Luxembourg Parliament vote on very important issues concerning Luxembourg residents without understanding what they are voting on. We have become even more concerned when it was confirmed to us by different independent sources that the topic and the Motion No.3122 "Création de structures d'hébergement pour hommes et garçons victimes de violence domestique" was widely discussed and presented in the parliament prior to the vote.

In order to cater to those in need of additional details, on 26 March our organization sent to all members of the parliament a copy of the study providing facts and details on the matter, exposing misleading and inaccurate information often presented to the public and the honorable members of the Luxembourg Parliament.

The above mentioned study is in English and will be translated to other languages mainly for the purpose of presenting the findings to the wider audience in Luxembourg and communicate the problem of institutional gender inequality to international organizations in other EU member states. We attach a copy of the study for your review and we remain available for any questions you may have.



As you know FAD – Fathers Against Discrimination a.s.b.l. has been created to become a platform of dialog to promote gender equality of chance for both parents, to stop violation of children’s rights in Luxembourg Family Courts and to assure their well-being.

As an organization we believe a child should never be deprived of his natural human right to family life and equal access to both parents. Nor does anyone have the right to decide which of his parents' love have more value.

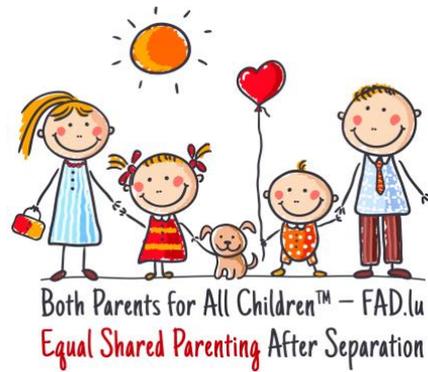
We seek equal treatment of both parents in Luxembourg institutions and during custody hearings in Luxembourg Family Courts. We support the rights of fathers and mothers to equal parenthood and successful professional career. We address the importance of family values promoting the positive impact a full and healthy family has on the upbringing of children.

We wish to find people of good will that could be a driving force supporting the efforts to stop gender biased discriminatory practices in the Luxembourg institutions and Family Courts. Practices that often leads to violation of children’s rights undermining their emotional stability. This can be only done through education of those who decide about the future of children after separation of parents. Influential and prominent figures like yourself Mr. Prime Minister can help getting this message across and this is why we are asking for your support.

We appreciate that you from time to time courteously but shortly reply to our letters we send to you and the advice you share with us that our concerns of institutional gender inequality in Luxembourg, violation of children’s right and discrimination against fathers in Luxembourg Family Courts are forwarded for review and further evaluation to either Ministry of Justice or Ministry of Equal Rights between Women and Men.

As mentioned numerous times in the past, the ministries in question have been informed of the concerns presented by FAD on many different occasions in the last 2 years. Unfortunately, both ministries continuously refuse to look into the problem and deny any cooperative.

We are under impression that Minister Ms. Sam TANSON and Minister Ms. Taina BOFFERDING are so focused on creating advantageous laws, structures and services for one social group in spite of gender equality that so far they have shown zero interest in protecting children from the consequences of a radical gender prejudice commonly introduced in Luxembourg institutions and Luxembourg Family Courts.



We allow ourselves to remind you that according to the Luxembourg Constitution the Prime Minister being in charge of all government branches is the ultimate responsible for the course the Luxembourg government takes. Delegating responsibility to others without taking ownership of important challenges the Luxembourg society faces is simply not good enough.

Unanimous vote of the government coalition against creation of the 1st structure in Luxembourg available to men, boys and fathers with children victims of domestic physical violence and emotional abuse denying them assistance and services similar to those already overwhelmingly in number available in Luxembourg but only to women, girls and mothers with children was wrong, socially unjust and it overshadows your work as Prime Minister.

It is obvious that voting against the Motion No.3122 was agreed amongst government coalition. Presumably there was absolutely no room for "conscience vote" among party ranks in this specific case. The ambivalent bias approach towards facts, statistical data of your colleagues from DP, LSAP and déi gréng is astonishing if not to say unsettling. Ideology beyond anything.

The approach taken by the current government exposed again organized group efforts to suppress any form of serious discussion on what a true gender equality is and what measures to take to introduce it in Luxembourg. Pure politics, pure hypocrisy leaving those in need of help and assistance behind.

Regards,

Luxembourg Parents and Grandparents
Board Members of the Association and Members
FAD - Fathers Against Discrimination a.s.b.l.



"Mir wëlle bleiwe wat mir sinn an mir kënnen e Beispill fir den Rescht vun Europa sinn." -
- "We want to remain what we are and we can be an example for the rest of Europe."

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