



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Ruben Diaz

Senator Reverend Ruben Diaz Denounces Pastor Sean Harris' Sermons

RUBEN DIAZ May 23, 2012

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New York State Senator Reverend Ruben Diaz released the following statement in response to news reports and online videos about North Carolina Baptist Pastor Sean Harris' outrageous sermons instructing parents to beat their children if they show signs of homosexuality, and for society to put gay people in concentration camps:

"I am hopeful that through this press release, my message to Pastor Sean Harris and his followers will be heard and he will see the errors of his ways.

The sermon Pastor Sean Harris gave that has been broadcast online and covered in the media is, to say the very least, not Christianly. As followers of Jesus, Christians must oppose

violence and hatred toward all human persons. I implore all parents to always love their children and never abuse them or turn their backs on them for any reason. It is an outrage that anyone, especially in the name of Christ, would ever suggest putting any human persons in concentration camps or mistreating each other.

Jesus' message to love one another is the core of Christianity even if we disagree with the actions of others or with their way of life. There is nothing in Christianity that permits us to become savages or treat each other with violence and contempt. Pastor Harris' teachings are not based on Christ's teachings at all."

For further information, please contact Senator Reverend Diaz at (718) 496-4793.