

Quorum of the Twelve Apostles
50 East North Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84150
USA

Dear Elder Oaks:

I tuned in to General Conference this past weekend and had the opportunity to listen to your talk "No Other Gods." A particular part of your talk stuck out, and inspired me to write this letter, it is as follows:

"A moral coward is one who is afraid to do what he thinks is right because others will disapprove or laugh"

I am very well aware that my letter will do nothing to sway your opinion or change your views; nevertheless, I would be a moral coward if I did not stand up to you. You are a bigoted, homophobic, hate filled bully. It does not take much of courage to stand behind a pulpit, literally surrounded by tens of thousands of loyal supporters and colleagues, and spew backward, vile rhetoric in the name of God. I have heard you say before that you feel like the Book of Mormon prophet Jacob, saddened that you have to harshly critique the people for their wickedness; yet I have a feeling that you *love* it.

Are you aware that it is very likely that one of your talks has inspired an LDS youth to commit suicide, feeling that they will never be accepted by their church, peers and family for who they are? Are you aware that the LDS Church will almost certainly reverse its course on gay rights when societal pressure becomes too extreme? It will probably not be in your lifetime, but it will happen, just as it did with polygamy (on earth at least, *you* know what I'm talking about) and the treatment of black people. Many of your talks and well known quotes will be put into the "they were speaking as men" or "they had limited understanding" categories as your name will be discarded with the Mark E. Peterson's and Bruce R. McConkie's of the Church.

While it would be ideal if you were able to realize the damage you're doing to many within the LDS Church, I know you will never do that; however, there is consolation in the fact that you are showing the world the LDS Church's true colours. Undoubtedly, many outsiders have written off the LDS Church due to hearing your talk.

If by some infinitesimal chance I end up meeting you at the judgement bar of Christ I will happily concede and take my place amongst the Telestial hordes while you enjoy godhood with your wives.

Sincerely,



THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
THE QUORUM OF THE TWELVE APOSTLES
47 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE STREET, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84150-1200

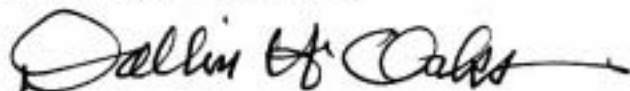
October 22, 2013

Kyle Pederson
[REDACTED]

Dear Brother Pederson:

Your letter of October 8th made me very sad. I see from the membership record that you are an Elder, a returned missionary, and one who has been married in the temple. For one in that position to write the letter you have written is a violation of covenants as well as a breach of civilized discourse. I urge you to meet with your stake president and put your life in order.

Sincerely your brother,



Dallin H. Oaks

DHO/mm

cc: President [REDACTED] W. [REDACTED]