

Joint Resolution to the Board of FPG By Pagans for Change

The following Joint Resolution has been developed to be shared with the Florida Pagan Gathering's Board, officially the Board of Directors of The Temple of Earth Gatherings, Inc. Please comment with your name, city, and state if you support this statement.

As attendees of the Florida Pagan Gathering (FPG) for many years, members of the Florida and national Pagan communities, and concerned allies of the pagan community, we express our collective concern over the decision to have Gavin and Yvonne Frost as workshop presenters at the 2014 Beltane Florida Pagan Gathering. We love FPG and see it as a true community-built and driven event. For those reasons the pagan community must have the ability to provide feedback and be heard on what teachers we put forward to instruct new seekers, our children, and ourselves. On April 1st, 2014 we learned that Gavin and Yvonne Frost will once again be attending FPG and presenting workshops. This information was not made public but was shared by a concerned member of the FPG staff.

In the 1970's the Frosts published material advocating the sexual initiation of children into the Craft. Not only have the Frosts refused to recant this advocacy, they have affirmed it, republishing these materials and sharing their position in subsequent interviews and workshops.

Since their original publication these ideas have been viewed as bizarre and unrepresentative of most traditions of the Craft. Today the pagan community is strong enough to speak with one voice when we condemn the abuse of our divinely granted sexuality. To teach that sexual submission by minors is required for initiation is a felony and does not honor the integrity of modern Paganism, our Ancestors, nor the Old Gods.

A movement has sprung up in the last couple of days among FPG attendees to request that the FPG Board of Directors disallow the Frosts from presenting workshops at Florida Pagan Gathering. Despite numerous personal emails to the board, requests for refunds of registration fees, concerns expressed via the festival Facebook page, etc. the BoD has thus far responded by deflection without addressing the issue at hand. They first deleted discussion from their public Facebook page and then blocked posts all together.

We stand together, as modern Pagans, to urge the FPG Board to listen to our concerns and to help host and foster discussion about this critical issue. We call for a removal of the Frosts as presenters at FPG and a ban on any distribution or vending of their materials. It's past time that our beloved community take a stand against those who advocate abuse. Silence = complicity. The FPG Board has an opportunity to confront a critical issue in our community and our society. Be leaders who reject all forms of abuse beginning with this very issue! Speak out against those who would advocate the manipulation of sexuality for spiritual growth and especially those who would victimize our youngest members of the Craft.