

Should international charities be regulated by a governing body? Ary

Highlight = evaluation

International charities should be regulated by a governing body to cut down on discrimination along with budget corruption despite that they have their own well-functioning governing bodies and will result in greater corruption within.

- Yes, because it may cut down on discrimination

“A CATHOLIC adoption agency faces possible closure after being threatened with the loss of its charitable status for refusing to place children with gay and lesbian couples.

Watchdogs criticized St Margaret's Adoption and Family Care Society, accusing it of discrimination and breaking equality rules...

...However, the regulator's judgment appears to give St Margaret's little option but to comply with equality legislation or face an end to its charitable status...

... ‘For these reasons OSCR finds the charity does not provide public benefit, and it therefore fails the charity test.’

While St Margaret's is primarily an adoption agency, it also provides support to families after an adoption order has been granted, and often in later life.

Alistair McBay, spokesman in Scotland for the National Secular Society, said the rules ‘restrict the pool of adoptive parents’...”

St. Margaret's shows major discrimination toward members of the LGBT+ community when considering an adoptive parent pool, thus suggesting the idea that the individual beliefs of an organization can lead to corruption within. When gauging how a charity's beliefs can lead to a lack of inclusion, or in this case downright rejection, there is a clear need for another higher body to impose rules upon the biased charity.

- Yes, it may cut down on budget corruption

“The American Red Cross spent a quarter of the money people donated after the 2010 Haiti earthquake — or almost \$125 million — on its own internal expenses, far more than the charity previously had disclosed, according to a report released Thursday by Iowa Sen. Chuck Grassley...

...The charity insisted to congressional investigators that \$70 million spent on ‘program expenses’ included funds to oversee and evaluate its Haiti programs. But Grassley’s office found that the charity ‘is unable to provide any financial evidence that oversight activities in fact occurred.’...

...The Red Cross has kept the charity's own internal investigations and ethics unit ‘severely undermanned and underfunded,’ the report says, and the charity ‘appears to be reluctant to support the very unit that is designed to police wrongdoing within the organization.’”

The Red Cross's direction of funds extremely lacked transparency with a large portion of it being directed towards the organization's personal expenses. Actions such as these in combination with the charity's lack of internal support to corruption reporting unit being underfunded leads to major distrust of the public when donating. An assessment of the situation at the Red Cross indicates that their lack of straightforwardness with the organization's money dealings, as found within many charities, can ultimately lead to corruption and distrust which is avoidable through the implementation of rules from a higher governing body.

- No because charities have their own well-functioning governing bodies

**"Barbara Frost, chief executive of WaterAid, explains the key ingredients to a successful charity...
...I came to WaterAid eight years ago from a smaller charity. Though I knew well what it meant to be a chief executive, the sheer scale and pace of WaterAid was very different, though wonderfully exhilarating..."**

...From the founding vision in 1981, we now have staff teams in 30 offices around the world, covering many different cultures and languages - all addressing local needs. We love the diversity and richness this brings. It can bring cross-cultural challenges, but we have embraced the importance of building effective personal relationships, and our colleagues work hard to understand the context and language of the countries where we work. This helps ensure what we do is sustainable and of high quality.

Our values are to be courageous, collaborative, inspiring, inclusive, always learning and accountable. I talk about this a lot, and I try hard to demonstrate them in my behavior and to be clear of what I expect of others."

Barbara Frost, the chief executive of WaterAid, provides a break-down of her company and its values that demonstrates how a charity's dedication, experience, and worldwide-reach can help to make it a well-functioning and transparent organization with a great understanding of the various groups of people that it works to assist. An assessment of this charity can determine that through the implementation of strong, moral leadership alongside promotion of a positive work environment, charities can successfully maintain their goal without veering off into various forms of corruption.

- No because it will lead to greater corruption in charities

"The single most important action that remains is to undo President Bush's Executive Orders and regulations that permit a religious entity that receives a government grant or contract to make hiring decisions, for the very programs that are federally funded, on the basis of religion,' Lynn told the subcommittee during his opening statement. 'This is sometimes referred to as 'preferential hiring'; it is more accurately labeled simply as 'discrimination.' And it is ethically and legally wrong.'"

The Executive Order put out by President Bush allowed for religious charities to be discriminatory in their hiring process of minorities which affirms the idea that despite the federal government's inclination to provide equality for all citizens of the country, there is often much corruption and bias that can negatively affect all of the people involved. When assessing the affects a governing body may have on smaller charities, one can see the bias and opinions of the principal leaders often lead to poor decision making that hurts the organizations and its members through an increase in corruption and discrimination.