

Position Paper for Crisis: Salem Witch Trials

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Committee: Crisis: Salem Witch Trials

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Troubling times have settled upon Massachusetts with the revelation of the Seer's words. And considering the possibility of the authenticity of these prophetic words, I must affirm my position as opposing the initiation of any form of these witch hunts. As it is, there are more realistic and imminent threats plaguing our settlement and the witch trials will cause nothing more than the loss of many innocent lives.

As it is already well known, I do not believe in the existence of witchcraft and find any attempt to find and execute innocent people based on mere heresy not only a waste of time, but as detrimental to the well being of the settlement as a whole. This will surely aggravate the rifts that already exist within the community; it will set neighbour against neighbour and family member against family member, breaking a fundamental instruction given by the Apostle Paul himself: "Let there be no divisions among you" (NIV 1 Cor 1:10). Let us not forget the previous attempts to execute these so called "witches" which led to the hanging of more than 10 potentially innocent individuals. This is not the will of God and can only result in the soiling of our own hands and the incurring of the wrath of God. Surely, there is no greater sin than the murder of innocent people. Let us keep in mind that the devil was once an angel and that the descent from grace is all too easy.

This is not the sole reason for my position against the implementation of witch trials. The fact that spectral evidence is now an acceptable form of evidence in the prosecution of accused "witches" is unacceptable and unethical at the least. If the council decides to proceed with the witch hunts, which I assume it will, solidified evidence must be provided to prevent the shedding of innocent blood. Let us also remember that the devil does work in mysterious ways, "For Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light" (NIV 2 Cor 11:14). Satan is constantly searching for ways to confuse and divide the people of God and we must not allow this to happen within our community.

It is my hope that the community will see the witch trials as a nuance that need not be attended to and focus its energy on more important issues within the community and showing love towards one another, just as our Saviour instructed us.

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