Association for Homeschooling Vereniging vir Tuisonderwys



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TO : Ambassador Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany P.O. Box 2023 Pretoria 0001 Fax: (012) 343 3606 Email: germanembassypretoria@gonet.co.za

Dear ms. Scholl

The Association for Homeschooling has written many letters to the German Embassy on the persecution of homeschooling families since 2005, and pointed out that this persecution of homeschoolers is an infringement on the fundamental right to parental care of German children.

In spite of these letters, the German government has intensified its persecution of homeschooling families. Reports on the actions of the German government are increasing every week. (*An archive of these reports can be seen at <u>www.bremen-memorial.org</u>) In one of these reports one can hear the cries of Dan Shulz that was taken in an early morning police raid in 2006 when he was just 7-years-old.* 

Uwe Romeike, a music teacher, and his family have fled from their home country to the United States. They fear that they will lose custody over their children, be jailed or have their bank accounts confiscated, if they return to Germany. This family has applied for political asylum in the USA.

On Tuesday Jan 26 this year, Tennessee Judge Lawrence Burman has granted political asylum to the family and called Germany's actions with the Romeike family a violation of their human rights and "repellent to everything we believe as Americans" before passing a ruling that allowed them to stay in the U.S.

The Association for Homeschooling supports the ruling of the US immigration judge and has expressed its appreciation for this ruling to the US Government. The letter to the US embassy is attached to this letter.

With this letter the Association for Homeschooling would like to request the German Embassy to make the relevant political leaders in Germany aware of the ruling of the US judge. We would also like you to convey the repugnance of South African homeschoolers on the persecution of home schooling families by the German government.

Yours sincerely

Bouwe van der Eems (Chairman : Association for Homeschooling)