

England's Largest Muslim Group Wants Franklin Graham Banned From Preaching There

The largest Islamic organization in Britain is urging the government to ban evangelist Franklin Graham, who is scheduled to appear at an event in the country later this month.

Newsweek reports the Muslim Council of Britain (MCB), the umbrella organization for hundreds of Islamic groups, has supported the calls from three members of Parliament and members of the public to deny Graham a visa for spreading what the organization calls "hate speech."

The "hate speech" they refer to is Graham's preaching against Islam as "evil" and as a "religion of war." He's also been an opponent against the movement for LGBTQ rights.

Graham, the son of the late Billy Graham, is to be the featured speaker at the Festival of Hope event in Blackpool, located in northwest England, on Sept. 21.

On the website Jihad Watch, writer Robert Spencer asks "Would anyone be calling for the banning of Graham from the U.K. if he had called Christianity 'evil'?"

The MCB. in a statement to *The Guardian*. said: "In the past, the government has banned individuals whom they claim are 'not conducive to the public good.' Mr. Graham's remarks are on record and clearly, demonstrate a hatred for Muslims and other minorities.

"We would expect the government to apply its criteria here. If it does not, it will send a clear message that it is not consistent in challenging all forms of bigotry."

Spencer says the British government is already inconsistent.

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