

Dear Committee members,

Please accept my submission to the inquiry into the status of the human right to freedom of religion or belief.

This is a timely inquiry, because since the committee last examined these issues, at the turn of the century, the homosexual lobby has managed to pass much legislation which in its own regard, and especially in conjunction with existing 'anti-discrimination' laws, has severely curtailed religious freedom throughout the Western World.

I refer, particularly, to legislation which redefines marriage and also that which mandates the promotion of the homosexual lifestyle in schools, often under the guise of 'anti-bullying' programs. Combined with 'anti-discrimination' laws, this legislation places severe restrictions on the freedom of religion and belief for business owners, parents and students.

To take just one example, Robert and Cynthia Gifford of New York, owners of an Albany-area farm, were found by the State Division of Human Rights to have violated the civil rights of a lesbian couple when they declined to host the couple's same-sex wedding ceremony in 2012. They were fined \$10,000 and an additional \$3,000 in damages to the lesbian couple. And there have also been many instances in the US where parents have been threatened by school officials for complaining about pornographic material forming part of the homosexual 'anti-bullying' programs in schools (see: <http://www.massresistance.org/>).

Australia, lagging behind much of the West in this regard has yet been spared some of these consequences. But I trust that this inquiry will provide a good opportunity to review the dangers posed to freedom of religion and belief should Australia continue to follow the path of redefining marriage at the federal level and including 'sexuality' and 'gender identity' as protected attributes in existing state and territory 'anti-discrimination' laws.

I urge the committee to report on these dangers and, in the interests of protecting freedom of religion and belief, recommend Australia not give any more ground to the homosexual lobby.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Mansel Rogerson

The following 31 people submitted versions of a Form Letter which were identical or substantially similar to Form Letter 2.

Dr Mansel Rogerson
Sami Greiss
Jennifer Davidson
Lynette Evans
Dr Ian & Dorcas Denness
Rhonda Stevenson
Kim De Bruis
Kenneth Lewis
Yee-Ling Lam
Dr Christopher & Katharina Hopwood
Dr Thomas & Susanne Kalotas
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Ann Losic
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Joy Bola
Leo & Sally Costello
Magdalena Lane
Nigel & Christine Lau
Dieter Schoell
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Katy Kucks
Shirley Coombs
Rev Adrian Kebbe
Dr David & Ruth Cummings