

22 March, 2012

The Inquiry into the Marriage Equality Amendment Bill 2010 Secretary, Senate Legal and constitutional Affairs Committee PO Box 6100 Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

## Dear Sir

I write to urge this inquiry to support the current definition of natural marriage and to protect the sanctity of marriage as between one man and one woman only and to decline any current proposal to amend the definition of Marriage in the Marriage Act (to include the same-sex relationship) in the name of equality.

In the beginning God created them, male and female and it was from this union that children would be birthed and raised within the security of a family unit. This enabled the child to grow and experience the protection and provision of the father alongside the nurture and love of the mother.

Although traditional families are often dysfunctional, the statistics prove that most children do far better having been raised in a traditional unit than those from other backgrounds.

For the sake of our children and the children of future generations, the stability and structure and welfare of our society - our Nation - marriage between a man and a woman must be preserved.

We need to stand for families and as a patron of the Australian Family Association, I truly want our young people to know the security, love and protection of having a family comprising of a mum and a dad and other siblings.

Yours sincerely

Rev Dr Margaret Court AO, MBE