



AUSTRALIAN FAMILY ASSOCIATION

South Australian Branch

25 July 2008

Committee Secretary
Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee
Department of the Senate
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Inquiry into the Evidence Amendment Bill 2008

The Australian Family Association (AFA) (SA Branch) wishes to make a brief submission to the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee inquiry into the *Evidence Amendment Bill 2008*.

- The AFA (SA) opposes all legislation that waters-down the all-important institution of marriage.
- Since in both name and nature, de facto relationships are de facto marriage, the AFA (SA) opposes the move to amend the term “de facto spouse” and replace with “de facto partner”.
- If unjust discrimination does exist in the *Evidence Act 1995*, it should not be addressed at the expense of marriage and marriage-like relationships.
- If unjust discrimination does exist, it should be addressed with separate provisions, so that the institution of marriage is not weakened further.

Jerome Appleby BA LLB
State Officer

**PO Box 460
Fullarton SA 5063
Ph: 8379 0246
Fax: 8379 9206
nccafa@chariot.com.au**
