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I write to express my concern in matters relating to The Evidence Amendment Bill 2008.

Marriage is a precious and time honoured institution that sadly is not held in the esteem for which it was created.

Marriage is the union of one man to one woman to the exclusion of all others, voluntarily entered into for life. The introduction of this bill de-values the sanctity of what marriage stands for.

With the attack on marriages moral fiber, committed marital unions between one man and one woman deserve and need protection legally, so that spouses are not forced to testify against each other in legal matters. Non married relationship as of those in defacto and same-sex do not deserve this privilege. Criminals could use proposed legislation of this bill to avoid prosecution and exploit legal situations. Those in defacto relationships, including same-sex couples should not be treated equally to married couples in legal situations, or have the rights of married couples, because they are not married. The ramifications of legal exploitation of those wishing to escape prosecution would only further burden our straining legal system and unfairly penalize people who encounter exploitation of this loop hole.

There has to be a point where if people want to belong to an institution, they must abide by the laws of that which they seek to belong. It is a selfish and self centered individual who seeks to change an institution so that they may belong. If we change laws to suit every minority group or person who protests then where and when do we stop changing laws and legislation?

Perhaps instead of pandering to the whims of a minority and rewriting laws to suit we should explain to people what marriage is; just like belonging to a club or an organization, let them know that if they don't like the laws or rules of that organization, then no-one is forcing them to belong.

Yours Sincerely

[Andrew Soper](#)

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