

Cargo Vale Olives
Dr A. R. and Mrs E. M. Gilmour



22 July, 2008

Senate Committee
Evidence Amendment Bill 2008
Parliament House, Canberra, 2600

Dear Committee Members:

I am writing in the strongest terms to oppose changes to the Evidence laws which would remove the obligation on the 'partner' in a non-marriage (same sex) relationship to declare what they know in a court of Law.

In what way does this Bill serve to strengthen our society? Rather it makes it harder for courts to ascertain the truth of a matter, and easy for witnesses to claim exemption from testifying. I can understand why the provision exists with respect to spouses in a traditional marriage. The marriage relationship is 'till death us do part', and is a commitment of personal support which society needs to strengthen, not weaken.

However, a non marriage relationship either lacks a personal commitment or undermines society by choosing an alternative which does not bear and raise children in a natural way. The government should be raising legislation that strengthens the traditional family, not that which undermines it, and society as a whole.

Yours Sincerely,

Arthur Gilmour

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners 1Timothy 1:15