



Committee Secretary
Senate Legal and Constitutional Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House Canberra
ACT 2600 Australia

28 August, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: Inquiry into the Marriage Equality Amendment Bill 2009

On behalf of Family Challenge Australia, I would like to express my concern about the Federal Greens' Marriage Equality Amendment Bill that aims to amend the Marriage Act 1961 and dilute a longstanding bedrock institution of society that is well established by scientific research to be the best framework for family life and raising children.

In our field of Clinical Psychology that aims to best support families, there is strong support for marriage in Australian law to remain the union of a man and a woman – for the benefit of both families and society at large. As such, we are formally apposed Federal Greens' Marriage Equality Amendment Bill to amend the *Marriage Act 1961*.

Sincerely,

Robi Sonderegger, Ph.D
Director, Clinical Psychologist