To the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee:

I oppose the Marriage Equality Bill 2009 because it would completely change the meaning marriage has had throughout history. Historically, culturally and biologically the institution of marriage as a union of man and woman is too important to change.

I have spent much of my life ministering with children in a Children's Club environment. So many of the children were affected by not growing up in a family environment with a loving and caring Mother and a responsible Father. Children who are products of Home Environments were there are not two different sex parents, are affected by the imbalance due to the missing inputs from the missing sex.

I must state that Marriage as we know it in Australia is based mainly on Christian rites, beliefs and principles. I believe it is essential that we keep the existing law, as a base for our country. That Law has been a major strength in our two hundred year history and should not be lightly discarded.

Thank you for considering my thoughts.

Your sincerely

Ps. William Thorne