

Rev. Sylvia Griffiths

24 August 2009

Re “Marriage Equality Amendment Bill 2009”

To: The Senate

As an authorised marriage celebrant (registration number: V25842), I am writing to express my affirmation of the existing *Marriage Act 1961*. I affirm that “**marriage** means the union of a man and a woman to the exclusion of all others, voluntarily entered into for life.” Part of the reason for this is defined by nature. Nature asserts that reproduction requires a male and female. Ideally children are brought up within a loving, natural environment which includes the security of being raised by their biological mother and father. The “Marriage Equality Amendment Bill 2009” undermines one of the fundamental building blocks of a healthy society. I urge you **not** to pass the “Marriage Equality Amendment Bill 2009.”

Sincere regards,

Sylvia Griffiths