

Senate Committee Submission  
Committee: Legal & Constitutional Affairs  
Inquiry: Marriage Equity  
24/08/09

My objection to the proposed changes follow:

Same sex marriage will undermine marriage because it equates any loving relationship between any two consenting adults as marriage. I work with young people, have done for almost 30 years. The most stable young people come from loving families, with male and female role models. I spend too much time (as do many youth workers, dealing with angry youths (boys in particular) as one or both of the role models are absent. As much as some do not like their father, they still seek a father figure. Likewise for girls!

Single parent families do it tough for many reasons. I know many single parents who have expressed that it would be so much easier with a partner (of the opposite sex). Boys need a mother and need a father. Girls need a mother and need a father.

The stated aims of Senator Hanson-Young's bill are to recognise 'freedom of sexuality' and to celebrate 'diversity'. These in God's opinion are not the values of marriage. Both Christians and Muslims (and numbers of other religions) hold to the importance and supremacy of marriage between male and female.

Marriage is about love, commitment, fidelity, and the stable nurturing of children where they are the product of marriage. These qualities are what make marriage the building block of society. Within marriage couples can find true freedom of sexual expression.

In 2004 both major parties agree to insert the definition of marriage as the union of a man and a woman into the Marriage Act. There is no need to change what both parties saw as the right thing and still is the right thing.

For the sake of a few who wish a definition change why would we have a law in place that is at odds to the faiths of Muslims and Christians.

At this time of renewed threat to marriage by the Greens, it is important the ALP and Liberal party remain committed to marriage remaining the union of a man and a woman.