

From:

Inquiry into the Marriage Equality Amendment Bill 2009

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to the Senate.

The proposed amendment bill states:

Objects

The objects of this Act are:

(a) to remove from the Marriage Act 1961 discrimination against people on the basis of their sex, sexuality or gender identity; and

(b) to recognise that freedom of sexuality and gender identity are fundamental human rights; and

(c) to promote acceptance and the celebration of diversity.

My Comment

I agree that people should not be discriminated against on the basis of their sex, sexuality or gender identity. I also agree that freedom of sexuality and gender identity are fundamental human rights. However, to use the definition of marriage to express this is not necessary. The definition of marriage is, and should remain, as “the union of a man and a woman”.

Same sex marriage will undermine the union between a man and a woman (marriage), equating any loving relationship between any two consenting adults as marriage.

Senator Hanson-Young’s bill aims to recognise ‘freedom of sexuality’ and to celebrate ‘diversity’. A marriage is not freedom of sexuality (in terms of free (everywhere / anyone / anytime) love) – it is the bonding of one man and one woman. Diversity? No! Marriage is between that one man and that one woman until one of them dies.

Marriage is, and should remain as being, about love, commitment and fidelity. Marriage should be the place where any children, as the product of that marriage, are nurtured.

These qualities are what make marriage the building block of society.

Senator Hanson-Young’s bill threatens to undermine the building block of society and should not become law. Same sex partnerships should not be recognised as marriage under the marriage act.

Senator Sarah Hanson-Young states:

This Bill will also reverse amendments made to the Marriage Act in 2004, which not only continue to discriminate on the basis of sexuality and gender identity, but also explicitly prohibit the recognition of same-sex marriages entered into under the laws of another country.

My comment

Following above, same-sex marriages entered into under the laws of another country should continue not to be recognised.

Thank you once again for the opportunity to comment on this very important matter – one which affects all Australian society.