To the Legal & Constitutional Affairs Commission,

I am writing regarding the inquiry into the legalisation of same sex marriages in Australia. I would like to express my sincere conviction that marriage needs to remain solely between a man & a woman.

It is my experience that parental male & female role models are essential in a child's upbringing & that the introduction of same sex marriage will contribute to the breakdown of those role models and to the family unit which a child needs. It is also my belief that a minority group such as the gay & lesbian community of Australia should not have the democratic weight to redefine an institution such as marriage to suit their choice of sexuality and that they are over-represented by lobbyist groups pursuing that community's agenda.

It is for the same reasons why I would not want overseas or Australian same sex marriages recognised as legal in this country.

Yours Sincerely,

Chris Harwood.