

Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee  
Parliament of Australia

20 August 2009

Dear Senators,

I write in regard to Senator Hanson-Young's private Senator's Bill aimed at the legalisation of so-called 'gay' marriage. May I remind you that, only five years ago, both major parties agreed to insert the definition of marriage into the *Marriage Act* as the union of a man and a woman?

The stated aims of Senator Hanson-Young's bill are to recognise 'freedom of sexuality' and to celebrate 'diversity'. While these may be the values of a gay mardi gras, they are not the values of marriage. 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.

I urge you not to tamper with the definition of marriage in any way, and to reject this Bill outright.

Yours sincerely

Geoff Earl