

To Whom It May Concern:

I am not gay, I am straight, yet I support this proposed change as I have friends and family who ARE gay and I know that it matters an awful lot to them to see their love finally be validated by way of marriage.

They are not out to threaten religion or undermine heterosexual's marriages, all they want is to be finally accepted for who they are and for who they choose to love.

I know it won't be a popular vote as there will be a lot of backlash from the Christians, but really who are they to tell people who they can and can't marry. Who is anyone to do that- it is a right to love someone else and to marry- we can't keep blocking these people out. The friend I know who is really affected by this is the nicest person I know- she supports charity and loves animals and helping people- so who are we to judge her because of who she chooses to love and marry.

Please consider this seriously and without fear of being unpopular as you will be helping thousands upon thousands of Australian gay couples out there finally feel validated.

Yours sincerely,

Alexia Lishmund