

I am a 35-year-old heterosexual married woman who will shortly give birth to her first child. I feel compelled to make this submission because I am deeply distressed that I live in a country that treats homosexual couples – and their families – as second-class citizens. I see no reason why my husband and I should be afforded the protection of the law – and that our child should automatically benefit from that protection – when a loving, heterosexual couple and their children should be denied those rights. It is especially galling that this should be the case when a 2009 Galaxy poll reveals that a clear majority of Australians are in favour of same sex marriage. I believe that this issue will become the civil rights movement of our generation, and that as politicians you will be held to account for your failure to right this clear and abhorrent wrong.