

July 24th, 2009

My name is Michael and I am 37 years of age.

My partner and I have been together for over 10 years and yet we are not recognised as a couple under many areas of government law in this country.

(Except of course, when it comes to taking money from us as such as with the new unemployment benefit changes).

NO WE ARE NOT UNEMPLOYED.

If you are going to recognise us as a couple in ONE situation under law, then you are admitting that we are a couple and should be recognised in ALL situations.

We are not asking for Gay rights, just equal rights. What right do you have to deny me the opportunity of getting married to someone I love when a heterosexual couple who have know each other for only hours can go out and get married?

Why is Religion a part of law anyway?

I am atheist but I have no problem with anyone believing in anyone or any thing as long as it is not forced on to others through custom, beliefs or law. Does this mean I am exempt from any laws written pertaining to the "word of god"?

Marriage is only between a man and a woman! It's your rules like this that are forced into lives like mine and others that cause a stigma through cultures and families, that anything different is wrong. Just remember every time you hear about another gay suicide that perhaps it could have been prevented if the victim hadn't felt like an outcast in society or couldn't be themselves around their own family because the law tells them, it's an abomination. I only hope none of Mr Rudd's children are gay, they may well be another statistic later in life wether it be in their teens or after they have been married themselves and had children. You can only fight what's true inside for so long, it will come out sooner or later.

What will you do if your child says "I am gay"?

Why is it that many companies and organisations recognise us as a couple here in Australia, defacto or otherwise yet the government does not?

Why are the wishes of "the voting people" ignored by its own elected government when it is shown again and again that the majority of the Australian public are for Gay marriage?

This is also shown all around the world by laws being changed, yet as usual the Australian government lags behind with no thought of its people actually want.

Why should we have to worry about what will happen to our partners superannuation upon their death when Mr Rudd's wife can sit back and relax?.

I just thought Australia was a world leader in doing what is right when I was growing up, now Australia needs to grow up and recognise that because something has "been that way" in the past, doesn't make it right. Does slavery ring a bell or looking back at the stolen generation, STOLEN!... because of Government laws.

I just want to be able to choose from the same plate as everyone else. If there is something I don't like, fine. I can pick something else, doesn't mean the next person shouldn't get the opportunity to select it because it has been taken away for my benefit.

We will get the right to marry like most others, it's just more likely that this isn't the government that people will look back at and remember it for.

Thank you for allowing me to put across my views as I would be happy to listen to yours.

Michael