

Senate Committee Submission
Legal and Constitutional Affairs
Marriage Equality Inquiry

To whom it may concern

I make this submission as an Australian citizen who believes that same sex marriages are the equal of opposite sex marriages and that legal reform to the marriage act should be made to reflect this.

Denying the rights conferred by marriage to a subset of the population based on their sexual orientation is a form of discrimination not tolerated in almost every other part of their lives. It is illegal under the Equal Employment Opportunity act, for example, to discriminate against a person based on their sexual orientation and it is inconsistent and unjust that this discrimination is condoned by the Marriage Act, and rights and benefits enjoyed by opposite sex married couples are denied to the gay and lesbian communities.

In the 21st century marriage is seen by contemporary Australian society as a bonding between two people – not only ‘a man and a woman’ – who are prepared to make a lifetime commitment to caring for and loving one another. It is well overdue for Australian law to catch up and accurately reflect the views of the society we live in and ensure that groups within it are no longer discriminated against on such arbitrary grounds as sexual preference.

Sincerely