

Dear Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee,

This is my submission to your inquiry into marriage equality in favour of the Marriage Equality Amendment Bill 2009.

I was born and raised in a country town. I moved to to complete a tertiary medical science degree with honours. I worked and paid taxes for two years. I am now completing my PhD. I would love to then work as a post doctoral scientist in my home country and give back to the country that I was raised and educated in, a highly skilled scientist and valuable member of the community. However at the completion of my post-graduate degree, I will opt to live in another country where I know my relationship with my partner will be recognised. Allowing same sex marriage has had no detrimental effects in other countries. Why should I have to leave my own country because I cannot marry the person I love? Australia should get with the times.