

Private Submission to the Senate Inquiry into the Marriage Equality Amendment Bill 2009

This submission is brief because the entire issue is simple.

The only philosophical bases for objecting to equality for gay and lesbian marriages are religious – primarily stemming from the Abrahamic religious traditions. All other objections are either pseudo-scientific or simple personal prejudice – neither of which should have any impact on the laws of a democracy.

Australia is constituted as a secular state. Furthermore, Australia in 2009 is clearly post-Christian and one of the most diverse societies ever documented in human history.

Therefore it is contrary to the spirit of the Australian Constitution and inappropriate for a modern, diverse democracy to allow the continuation of legislation that unfairly discriminates against a particular group of people on no basis other than a narrowly-defined religious belief (which, anyway, is controversial even within Christianity overall and has only the most tenuous basis in scripture).

For these reasons, the Senate Inquiry must reverse this unreasonable and useless discrimination against a significant sub-section of the Australian population.