

We lack a bill of rights in Australia, when a bill was proposed it was put forward that the democratic system which had been built would represent all Australians and not just the majority. It was believed that the parliament of Australia was best placed to safeguard human rights for all Australians and that it would be flexible enough to change to ensure that as the threats to our basic human rights changed so too would the law; ensuring that we would always have fairness and justice in our society. It is time for the Australian government to live up to this promise. There is a minority community in Australia which is not being treated equally by the law, those who are biologically homosexual are not allowed legal status as couples, these people, good hardworking Australian citizens, are being prevented from enjoying the same legal protections that heterosexual people enjoy. It does not hurt in any way the heterosexual community to allow all Australians to enjoy these protections. It is time for all Australians to be allowed true freedom, the freedom to have love regardless of our biology, the freedom to use the words we feel best represent us and what is in our hearts. It does not matter what we as individuals feel the word marriage means, to go into someone else's home and tell them that they cannot be married because that is not what you feel the word married means tramples all over the freedoms we entrusted the parliament of Australia to protect. We now understand that being gay is a choice biology makes for us, the same as biology chooses which will be our dominant hand or the colour of our eyes. This is the same struggle women had and in some cases still have for equality of pay; this is the same struggle the Aboriginal Australian community had for equality of treatment. A female is no better or worse than a male, a black person is no better or worse than a white person and a gay couple is no better or worse than a heterosexual couple. I hope with all my heart that this will be the last struggle we will see against discrimination on biological grounds and I hope that the senate committee does its part in ensuring that we are all allowed equal freedom regardless of our biology. Thank you for reading my submission.