First name: Jemma Last name: Bates

Do you wish for your name to be withheld from publication?: No

Do you wish for this submission to be confidential?: No

Your submission:

I write to express my support for the Marriage Equality Amendment Bill 2009.

I thought long and hard, but came up with the 10 reasons as to why our government is still neglecting to legislate for equal marriage rights.

- 1) Being gay is not natural. Real Australians always reject unnatural things like eyeglasses, polyester, and air conditioning.
- 2) Gay marriage will encourage people to be gay, in the same way that hanging around tall people will make you tall.
- 3) Legalizing gay marriage will open the door to all kinds of crazy behaviour. People may even wish to marry their pets because a dog has legal standing and can sign a marriage contract.
- 4) Straight marriage has been around a long time and hasn't changed at all; women are still property, blacks still can't marry whites, and divorce is still illegal.
- 5) Straight marriage will be less meaningful if gay marriage were allowed; the sanctity of Britney Spears' 55-hour just-for-fun marriage would be destroyed.
- 6) Straight marriages are valid because they produce children. Gay couples, infertile couples, and old people shouldn't be allowed to marry because our orphanages aren't full yet, and the world needs more children.
- 7) Obviously gay parents will raise gay children, since straight parents only raise straight children.
- 8) Gay marriage is not supported by religion. In a theocracy like ours, the values of one religion are imposed on the entire country. That's why we have only one religion in Australia.
- 9) Children can never succeed without a male and a female role model at home. That's why we as a society expressly forbid single parents to raise children.
- 10) Gay marriage will change the foundation of society; we could never adapt to new social norms, just like we haven't adapted to cars, the service sector economy, or longer life spans.

It's time for a change. And it's time for equal rights.