

I completely oppose the Marriage Equality Bill 2009 because I believe that it will permanently change our society in a direction from which there will be no return. I believe that children have a right to a mother and father whether they end up living with both of them or not. Both these roles play an intricate part of the development of a child to be the adults that they deserve to be.

Statistics prove that children have more problems getting through the teenage problems (eg drugs, alcohol, unplanned pregnancy, school leaving age, crime, eventual incarceration etc) when there is no father living with them. How much worse if there is no father at all? The legal system always says that children have a right to know the father and promote that relationship in custody battles and visiting rights. That is one example that will no longer apply if the law says that a father is not necessary at all. If a father is not necessary then neither is a mother, except as an incubator, and I dont even want to imagine how far that could be taken in 10 or 20 years, or even less. I think that we would be opening the proverbial "pandora's box".

We do not even have the capacity to imagine to what degree that it will impact our society and where it will eventually lead.

Please do not support this law.

Monica Joske