
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Dear Senators,

Today I was horrified to receive an e-mail from a so called Christian group which I have never heard of & to which I certainly have no affiliation, asking me to object to the 3 Bills which are now being debated or about to be debated by the Senate; namely
Family Law Amendment Bill 2008
Same Sex Relationship Bill 2008.
Evidence Amendment Bill 2008.

I would like to register my strong support for the passage of the 3 Bills.

For far, far too long our laws have not kept up with the changes which have occurred in our society and so people in relationships, be they de facto or same sex couples, who are often more caring of & committed to their partners than many married couples, have been treated very unfairly. Why should they not have the same rights & responsibilities as the rest of us? After all they are our family members, our friends, our colleagues, our neighbours. Why do we all, according to some of the objectors to these Bills, have to all fit into the same mould to be a worthy individual? The world is a much better place thanks to its diversity & we should be anxious to embrace that diversity & reward it by accepting it.

Laws relating to social changes are naturally reactive but I believe that this overly long lag is to a large extent due to a very small but well organized, vocal and largely irrelevant minority, hiding behind a religious screen. Why should we allow them to tell the rest of us how to live when most of us do not interfere with the way they run their lives? There really is a silent majority out there who, like myself before the appearance of the e-mail, do not know of these Bills & who would support them wholeheartedly if they knew.

It is up to you, our elected representatives, to weigh up the arguments and make decisions on the relevant Bills on our behalf.

At the same time I would hope that the changes you may make to the laws which govern me & my fellow Australians would have as their base the best interests of the country & ALL my fellow citizens, & those laws should not be formulated in the perceived interests of vocal, selfish & myopic minorities.

Thank you for taking the time to read this correspondence.

Yours sincerely,