

INQUIRY INTO SAME SEX MARRIAGE LAW IN NSW

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John and I met in 1977 and have been together ever since. We have a very affectionate and loving relationship and enjoy going on walking trips. In the early days, we lay in each others arms at night and knew that this love we had found was illegal, not to be talked about in public, and we had to be careful. We still need to be careful sometimes. Homophobia has not disappeared. We see reform on marriage equality taking place around the world, in "developing" places, but not here in N.S.W. and wonder are we in some sense still in 1977. Marriage equality is not only about removing a discrimination, it is a declaration, a message to the general community that people like John and I, who have spent our lives working as nurses, caring for other people, looking to their needs, that we are fit and proper and deserve the same respect as everyone else. That it is no longer 1977.

