

**Submission
No 277**

INQUIRY INTO SAME SEX MARRIAGE LAW IN NSW

Name: Mrs Acushla Adams

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I wish to make my views on same-sex "marriage" clear to those who are going to discuss it in the Public Questions Committee..

Firstly, this is a federal issue, and a law passed by one state would be invalid and unconstitutional. What a mess if every state makes its own law on this issue. Nobody would know where they were, as they moved interstate and were faced with different laws.

Opinion polls and other methods of voting that only cover a certain section of the community can't give a reliable picture of the whole community's opinion. We need a federal referendum, with a booklet telling us all the facts of both sides, so that we can judge wisely.

Marriage has always down through the ages referred to a man and a woman in a lifelong union, and is for the purpose of mutual support and procreation. Two persons of the same sex can't engender children, so the word "marriage" is not appropriate.

Men and women have different parenting methods, and children need both role models to give them a rounded personality and social experience. If they only have one type of parenting, and especially from two people (rather than one person) of the same sex, they are mentally, socially and emotionally deprived. That's why it is insisted that if parents break up, the child must have contact with both parents. Yet the government is envisaging doing a right-about-face on this to please a tiny section of the community who have a strong lobby, though the whole idea makes no sense at all. People with a homosexual orientation are already allowed to live together - why do they have to try to call themselves "married?"

I was a teacher, and married and brought up five children now in their forties, as well as having spent many years with my husband in the Christian ministry, so have had wide experience, I hope you will take my comments into account when considering the matter.

(Mrs.) Acushla Doreen Adams