

## **INQUIRY INTO SAME SEX MARRIAGE LAW IN NSW**

**Organisation:** Endeavour Forum Inc

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## ENDEAVOUR FORUM INC.

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### Submission of Endeavour Forum

#### To the New South Wales Legislative Council Standing Committee on Social Issues

Endeavour Forum is a pro-family NGO which has special consultative status with the Economic & Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations. Our goal is to support family values, we believe that men and women are equal but different, not equal and identical. Our mission includes educating elected representatives and the community on issues facing families, in particular that of preserving the freedom to live their lives, and to raise their children, in accordance with their family values.

We uphold the status and dignity of women in the belief of their being fully equal to men, but different. The dignity of women is largely based on recognition of the intrinsic value of their femininity. We respect the marriage relationship, and uphold cooperation between the sexes. Such a position is consistent with reality and natural science. See our website.

We respect the inalienable dignity of every human person, and authentic human rights, which are enshrined in the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. <http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/index.shtml>.

These include freedom of speech, freedom of conscience and the prior right of parents to choose the kind of education that their children are to receive. In the same document the natural family is described as the "fundamental group unit of society, entitled to protection by society and by the State".

On the basis of these internationally recognised rights, we strongly support marriage as between one man and one woman. This is self evident by reason of biological science, and has been recognised in all cultures from the dawn of recorded history.

The inquiry is indicative of a radical agenda on a subjective basis of desires of individual adults. Marriage legislation has its basis in objective reality, being by its very nature a public acknowledgment of responsibility for the upbringing of such children as may be born of the union. In the case of a same-sex couple such a commitment is irrelevant.

An argument put forward that some marriages are childless is likewise irrelevant, as is a claim that a person in a same-sex relationship may be a parent. That does not alter the fact that such a couple can never co-parent a child. Heterosexual unions may be childless by reason of choice

or infertility, which are characteristics of individual persons or couples. Same-sex couples are of necessity childless because of the nature of the union.

The marriage covenant is the foundation of family relationships, parents, grandparents, siblings, uncles, aunts, cousins and so on. These most cherished relationships are under threat of wanton destruction by such proposed irresponsible legislation.

At the present time same-sex couples do not suffer any disadvantage, being entitled to the same social welfare benefits as heterosexual couples. They also are free to conduct a commitment ceremony to each other at a social level, in which no one is coerced into participation.

Wherever same-sex unions have been legalised, however, under any term, citizens may be coerced into participation under pain of legal penalty. School children are indoctrinated in compulsory propaganda to accept a fallacious belief that same-sex relationships are natural and normal.

In kindergarten they are taught a blatant lie that some children have "two mummies or two daddies". A few years later pornographic images may be used in the "education". Children are at risk of suffering psychological damage as a result. This grossly unjust legislation is in place in Massachusetts, in Canada, in the UK and in Spain. We do not want it in Australia.

The laws of nature are immutable. The law of gravity may be abolished by legislation, but that would be meaningless. A relationship which is, by reason of biology, unnatural can not be made natural. The reproductive system is factually about reproduction.

There is a very clear distinction between homosexual persons, and radical activists who seek to impose a redefinition of marriage on society.

They are definitely not one and the same. There is zero evidence that a majority of homosexual persons desire such legislation, and some are actively opposed.

Homosexuals were among the leaders of a huge demonstration in France in opposition to a legal redefinition of marriage.

A call for same-sex "marriage" may be readily refuted by biological science and human reason, without reference to religion. However freedom of religion is a valid right, and should not be overridden. "Exemptions" for religious bodies would be only of a temporary nature, and easily abolished. Moreover every citizen, religious or otherwise, has a right to freedom of conscience.

In a democracy we "agree to disagree", and mutual respect is recognised for deeply held beliefs that are irreconcilable. In a totalitarian police state coercion is exercised to compel everyone to toe the line, and basic freedoms are forfeit. Legalisation of same-sex unions comes into being by governmental intrusion into family life, and enforcement by the state is the only means of keeping such unions in existence.

No person has a right to a child, but every child has a right to a mother and a father, and to know and be loved by his or her own natural parents. All studies have demonstrated that a child fares best in a household of a married mother and father, each of whom has a different role in child rearing.

As marriage law belongs to the sphere of the federal government, any state legislation on same-sex "marriage" may be unconstitutional.

Thank you for an opportunity to participate.

Babette Francis  
National & Overseas Co-ordinator