

INQUIRY INTO SAME SEX MARRIAGE LAW IN NSW

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially Confidential

I'm a 41 year old gay man who had always assumed he'd never be able to get married. I assumed this until I heard that particular countries in Europe started legalising same sex marriage at the turn of the century.

At this time I realised that I should have the same rights as my heterosexual sister and friends! Why should I be denied the ability to publicly and legally commit to my partner, if that is my choice!? It's certainly not a choice to be gay, but it should be my choice to be married or not.

I have spoken to other gay couples who have been married in their home countries and they feel more committed to each other than ever before. I want this feeling.

It's now 2013 and Australia is quite obviously falling behind modern society's view of this "issue".

Let me reiterate some examples:

- Obama can support it and win an election in an extreme religion America
- Very Catholic Spain can do it
- Very Catholic Brazil can do it
- The land formally known for Apartheid and racial extremes can do it
- The rule of England, that people like Tony Abbott fought so hard to retain, is doing it! We must give their Queen rights in Australia but not our own queens?

Makes no sense to me or the increasing majority of Australians.

The younger generation coming through can't even understand why this is an issue (the number one song in the Top 40 is about this very issue!), yet all the baby boomers in their 50's and 60's are telling us what to do. Not the way of the future! Not the way of what I thought was a progressive nation like Australia.

Please let me marry my boyfriend. No kittens will die if you do. No heterosexual marriages will collapse as a result.

To those who don't agree, well, you were never invited to my wedding in the first place so why should you care?!