

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

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I am 60 years old, I have lived in the UK, Canada and Australia and travelled widely. I am a man married to a woman, I have an adult son from my first marriage who I have a close relationship with. I have seen in my lifetime some appalling behaviour and discrimination toward GBLT friends, coworkers and strangers. My, and societies, attitude have gradually changed over time. Mine as I worked with and became friends with many people who were brave enough to become open about their sexual orientation and I realized they should have the same rights as all of us. In that same period various parliaments and legislatures around the world have come to the same conclusion. For example the Province(equiv of State) of Ontario, Canada passed legislation allowing Same Sex Marriage a decade ago and now has a Lesbian Premier who is married to her female partner. It is clearly time for NSW to give the same rights to its GBLT citizens as it does to all its other citizens. They, their children and grandchildren deserve no less.