

INQUIRY INTO SAME SEX MARRIAGE LAW IN NSW

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially Confidential

I would like to offer my support to then NSW government regarding the legalisation of marriage equality. I believe that it is one of the most important issues facing our country today and to continue to refuse same sex couples the human right to a civil marriage is both archaic and detrimental to a wide range of people.

I was born in NSW but currently live in WA with my same sex partner, I would love to consider moving back and would do so if marriage equality were legalised. We are the epitome of a regular couple, we have been together since high school (5 years now) and share each others lives, with plans for a family in the future and hopefully a wedding where we can declare to the world our lifelong commitment as our parents and heterosexual friends are freely able to do. Australia is a democratic and progressive society and yet we are falling behind the times and countries like South Africa and Spain have surpassed us regarding this issue. In school I learned that separation of church and state were paramount to a successful democracy, but it seems currently as if the moral compass of the church is influencing lawmakers when it has no right to and should not be taken into account when considering an issue like this.

Apparently, 60% of Australians support same sex marriage, but from my own experience, the figure is much higher than that and if the NSW government could legislate in favour of marriage equality, they could go down as being on the right side of history. Please consider allowing these reforms to be made, same sex couples only want the legal, financial and social recognition that marriage provides, which is automatically given to our heterosexual neighbours.

Thank you for your time.