Submission No 297

INQUIRY INTO SAME SEX MARRIAGE LAW IN NSW

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Marriage recognises the committed union of a man and a woman to encourage the stable social context needed for resulting children to be raised to responsible adulthood.

Mothers and fathers parent differently, and children need both approaches in order to develop a balanced identity. That is why marriage should remain a union of a man and a woman.

Jesus was very clear that marriage is between a man and a woman. When asked, He quoted from Genesis, the first book in the Bible. He said (Matthew 19: 4-5): "Haven't you read that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,' and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'?"

Marriage is a federal, not state, issue under Australia's Constitution – so a NSW bill relating to marriage or "same sex marriage" would be invalid and unconstitutional.

Different state marriage laws would lead to confusion and uncertainty. Marriage issues should be decided for the whole of Australia in the federal parliament.

In view of the above, being an Australian citizen and a resident in the NSW, I strongly believe a NSW bill relating to marriage or "same sex marriage" is invalid and unconstitutional.