

Submission
No 513

INQUIRY INTO SAME SEX MARRIAGE LAW IN NSW

Name: Name suppressed

Date received: 12/02/2013

Partially Confidential

I wish make a submission to the NSW Parliament's 'same-sex marriage' inquiry.

While it is appropriate to ensure same-sex couples have the same legal rights that come to those who are joined a civil union, it is unnecessary and I would argue unhelpful for our society to redefine marriage from its current position.

In my view, it is essential that this law is not passed for the protection of this vital institution within society. The union between a man and woman for life has always been what constitutes 'marriage'. To fundamentally change this institution completely reverses the wisdom and consensus of society past. We cannot cast this wisdom and consensus aside on a whim because of a movement in time that is only a blip in our historical narrative.

It's the marriage between a man and a woman that provides the proper environment for bearing and raising of children under the care of both a mother and a father. The 'same-sex marriage' movements wants us to believe that there is no difference between a father and a mother and that two parents of the same sex can provide the same care for children. However, as male and female we are created differently. Husbands and wives, fathers and mothers naturally complement each other – both in marriage and in parenting. A child raised in a same-sex marriage loses the benefit of having their true father or mother modelling manhood or womanhood to them.

In addition, the family unit has always been the key structural unit of society. When families are healthy, society is healthy. We have seen the impact that the breakdown of families and the family unit is having on our world. To redefine marriage and undermine that family structure will further undermine the health of our society.

Furthermore, I believe it is unethical and inappropriate for a state like NSW to act independently from the Commonwealth on this matter. The Marriage Act is a Commonwealth Act. It maintains the jurisdiction over this matter where it has been debated recently at in our national parliament. To move on this issue independently of the Commonwealth government would undermine the structures of government we have in our country, not to mention create a schism and lack of unity between the other state governments as residents from those states flock to NSW to be married.

I trust that this submission will be duly considered as part of this inquiry