

INQUIRY INTO SAME SEX MARRIAGE LAW IN NSW

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Partially Confidential

Marriage has always been between a man and a woman. Man and woman come together to become a new family and become models of the past and the beginning of the future. Most but not all will have children and will carry on the traditions and beliefs instructed to them. It is the beginning of bringing together for the future for future generations.

The laws of our world had their source initially to the Ten Commandments and over time laws have been watered down moving slowly away from the Ten Commandments. This has resulted in less satisfaction in the world we live. People yearn for the “good” and “moral” and yet the lawmakers of this country submit to strong minority groups to introduce change so we can be “inclusive” and leave the silent majority unhappy and more discontent with the world around them. Underlying every good that we derive from society is the proper understanding and functioning of the family. Special celebrations are centred on the family, the family from the past, the family from the present and the family to be the future. Where family structure and authority weaken or disintegrate, these goods melt away.

Same-sex marriage has nothing to do with the begetting and moral formation of the next generation on which all of life depends. We have weddings as community events because every marriage, God willing, is the community’s lifeline to the future. It’s how we beget and train the next generation. The community has a stake in the permanence and health of the marriage. This is not true of homosexual couples by the very nature of the relationship.

Recognizing the homosexual relationship as a marriage, then, reduces everyone’s marriage to essentially that relationship. The term “husband” or “wife” is used less frequently and the term “partner” used more and more reducing the status of marriage and the status of the spouse to the same status of a friend or lover. There would be nothing solemn, therefore, about anyone’s marriage, and no expectation of permanency. Our easy divorce laws have already taken a heavy toll on our understanding of marriage, though the old ideas persist because of the nature of the union. But equating homosexual “marriage” with heterosexual marriage destroys the basis for those ideas.

It is the family unit that is the core of society, the core of stability and functioning in society and in the world around us and that owes its source to a man and a woman bonded together. The changing of the definition of marriage is not about changing a word but changing the very fabric of society and reducing the status of two heterosexual people to that of a friendship. Marriage is the setting apart of a man and a woman to come together for a mutual commitment and procreation of children. Not all people can or will have children but you don’t change the essence of our society for a few people. There are many gay people who do not support this legislation and there are heterosexual people who support gay marriage.

The issue has arisen based on an argument of equality. Where will that stop. Why can’t two children enjoy the equality of marriage or an older person and a child? Why can’t we marry two animals together or a person with an animal? Why can’t a person marry an inanimate object? All arguments are equally valid even though some may seem ludicrous now in the future there is no reason why these arguments can’t arise and I can see no reason why they wouldn’t arise.

We need to protect our children. We need to protect society. We need to listen to the silent majority. Every day conversation confirms the very real non-acceptance of the “relationship” and the prospect of marriage. Society has had gay rights imposed on it and now there is an attempt to impose gay marriage but what about the person who wants to marry a rock, in

principle they would be entitled to make the same arguments. What do we consider marriage to be?

Marriage is not simply the term we use to describe those relationships most precious to us. The word means something and has meant something throughout history. Marriage is more than a union of hearts and minds. It involves a union of bodies—and not bodies in any old way we please, as if giving your cousin a wet willy in the ear makes you married. Marriage, to quote one set of scholars, is a "comprehensive union of two sexually complementary persons who seal (consummate or complete) their relationship by the generative act—by the kind of activity that is by its nature fulfilled by the conception of a child. So marriage itself is oriented to and fulfilled by the bearing, rearing, and education of children." This conjugal view of marriage states in complex language what would have been a truism until a couple generations ago. Marriage is what children (can) come from. Where that element is not present (at the level of sheer design and function, even if not always in fulfilment), marriage is not a reality. We should not concede that "gay marriage" is really marriage.

The adoption of children by gay "couples" is now permitted and the argument is that there is no real evidence that children are adversely affected by being raised by a gay or lesbian couple. I don't know if this is true or not however I do know research has proven that children do best (and it what is best for the children of our future is what matters) if they are raised in a home with a man and a woman. Not by a single parent or two people of the same sex but by a man and a woman. It is only through a union of a man and a woman that children are brought into this world and through this union children have the benefit and input of both sexes for their nurturing and growth and with that comes the traditions of the past for our present and future.