Submission No 461

## INQUIRY INTO SAME SEX MARRIAGE LAW IN NSW

Name: Mr Peter & Mrs Sammy O'Kelly

**Date received**: 10/02/2013

My wife and I would like to contribute our view below:

We support marriage in the traditional sense i.e. recognising a union between a man and a woman for the purpose of raising and nurturing children. Any other meaning or definition tendered to the traditional meaning of marriage will demean and undervalue our marriage.

We respect all law-abiding individuals, however to suggest changing the definition of a legal construct that has served the nation well for centuries is an inadequate response to the gay lobby. By all means recognise same-sex unions but please do not denigrate our marriage and committment to family by altering the definition of marriage.

Do not allow the politics of this debate to outweigh the common good which surely is to respect marriages which provides our country with natural offspring within committed relationships.

If we are to go down the road of change, then a referendum is the only just poll, not the one-sided debate put out in our media today.

Marriage is the union of a man and a woman, a commitment we ourselves made to God. Let no man pull it asunder.

Yours sincerely

Peter & Sammy O'Kelly