Submission No 304

INQUIRY INTO SAME SEX MARRIAGE LAW IN NSW

Name: Ms D Cohen

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We are, what in Judaism is called "Beshert": meant for each other. Our love has not only survived, but flourished in 30 years of all the usual ups and downs of marriage. We have proved true to each other through sickness and in health, for richer and poorer, in good times, with in laws, and bad. Our relationship has been indisputable evidence of the capacity for lesbians to have a lively, sexual, faithful, life-long bond, from which to contribute to the wellbeing of the world. We have done all the work and enjoyed all the rich rewards of marriage. Except one. Being acknowledged as the married couple that we are by the laws of our land, and through that acknowledgement, receiving the support and acknowledgement accorded to opposite-sex couples. Marriage is is the best training course there is in learning to love, and to in peace with another adult human being. Heterosexuals are rewarded with the certificate simply for entering the course. Surely, after 30 years, we have earned ours. D Cohen