Submission No 308

INQUIRY INTO SAME SEX MARRIAGE LAW IN NSW

Name: Mr John Doyle

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To the Chairperson and Members of the NSW Legislative Council's Social Issues Committee accepting submissions on the proposed NSW bill to legalise "same sex marriage,"

As a married NSW voter who has raised six children I urge you very strongly to reject this and any similar bill that would legalise marriage between two persons of the same sex.

My first reason for this request goes back to bedrock. A friend once said to me, "The laws of Australia are based on the Ten Commandments." Today one could wish they were. The Mosaic Law forbade the practice on homosexuality, because it is both unnatural and wrong. In Genesis chapters 18 and 19 we read how God assessed the behavior of the people of Sodom and Gomorrah, and found them not only sinners, but also arrogant and unrepentant in their sin, and in their forcing it on others who did not want it. While He saved Lot and his family, God poured out His judgment on the people of Sodom and Gomorrah. He rained fire and sulphur on the place, and if you want proof of this you can go to the arid depressed area near the Dead Sea today and inspect the ruins of ancient Gomorrah, now uncovered by archeology. You can even pick up balls of sulphur. As a nation, and as a state, we cannot expect God to favour us if we defiantly make laws contrary to God's laws. The gay lobby shows the same arrogance today as did the ancient Sodomites. The basis of law must always be morality, otherwise our laws would destroy society. Since the practice of homosexuality is wrong, same sex marriage is also wrong.

My next reason relates to children. In the 1990s the Federal Government ordered a National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Straits Islander Children from Their Families. The report was published in April 1997, and has led to legislation that seeks to help those families who were affected, "the stolen generation." When Parliament opened on 13 February 2008 the then Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, with the full support of Parliament, made a formal apology to the Aboriginal people. As a nation, we confess we made a mistake that caused huge distress to many families, and are now trying to make amends. Our black brothers and sisters wept before us for their children, and showed us, ever so plainly, that the right people to bring up children are their natural parents. Family, even before culture is the basis of society. The United Nations has ruled that every child has the right to be brought up by a father and a mother, the natural parents of the child, as far as that is possible. Our children become what we are. Well adjusted, happy and successful children have the role models of a loving father and mother, chicks raised in the nest of family. Without this many, too many, will grow up not knowing who or what they are, and not knowing how to relate to others in a positive and edifying way. Two men as parents cannot model to children the unique relationship of husband and wife, and neither can two women. Having done our best for Aboriginal families, are we to do our worst for the rest of Aussie families?

My third reason is that same sex couples have to jump through hoops to get children. They are not fit to adopt, and the whole idea of surrogacy is very questionable to say it mildly . Two (or more) wrongs will never make a right, and the very nature of the problem ought to say to us, "Don't go down that road."

Then there is the question of family integrity, family history. Are we to write lies on birth certificates? Or are we to hold back information that people are bound to want to know? Even though one of them was a convict, I am very proud of my family history, and my prayer for the new generation is that they will all follow Jesus Christ and live as he teaches in the Bible, and be his witnesses.

Please don't be misled by the gay pressure. In our democracy we believe in rule by the majority, but respect the rights of minority groups. But having said that, we are definitely NOT going to be ruled by a minority which is less thah 2% of the population. Our society is built upon a strong Christian tradition, and, live or die, we will keep it.

Please reject the bill to legalise same sex marriage, and keep on rejecting similar bills.

Thank you for reading this and considering its argument.

We are praying for your right decision.

John Doyle