

INQUIRY INTO SAME SEX MARRIAGE LAW IN NSW

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Thank you for this opportunity to contribute to the debate. I'm delighted that our Government is motivated to see all people treated equally and fairly in our country. And I applaud the efforts of all who seek to preserve the dignity of human relationships.

I would question whether this should extend to changing the definition of the ancient and time honoured tradition of marriage. Marriage has been understood for millennia as between a man and a woman.

Please understand that I am not trying to belittle the commitment that exists between many same sex couples but I am arguing that it is a different relationship to how marriage is defined.

Is changing the definition of marriage the only way to affirm equality and fairness? Would not we be as well served by a new category that expresses the relatively new and emerging views of society in this area? Yes, homosexual relationships are ancient in their history too ... but they have never before been mixed up with marriage. Marriage has always stood apart as being between a man and a woman.

So why change the definition of marriage now? Why merge different relationships into an already meaningful and understood category? Respectfully I can't agree with this approach to the matter