

## **INQUIRY INTO SAME SEX MARRIAGE LAW IN NSW**

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The Gay lobby which will never give up hounding politicians wants to reduce marriage to just another lifestyle choice - like fashion or joining a club. They want minority groups to define it for themselves. But the problem with introducing free market thinking to marriage is that it is changed from a unique social institution that is primarily about children to just another contractual agreement between consenting adults. The government has no right and no mandate to privatize marriage like that.

If we continue to cave into the Gay lobby (which does not even fully represent the national homosexual & lesbian community which according to Australian secular university studies does not even total up to even 2% of the total Australian population) we will effectively render marriage meaningless. Civil partnerships will eventually have to be opened to heterosexual couples; individual rights claims will inevitably erode most of the so-called protections for religious groups; and multiple forms of marriage will begin to appear thereby undermining the institution itself. What is so contradictory about this is that by applying free market principles to marriage the state will also need to enforce a new social orthodoxy by dramatically interfering in family life, religion and society. A redefinition of marriage will require vast and incalculable changes to local government, the legal system, health, welfare, employment and education.

There is no legal protection for the majority of the ordinary non-religious public who insist that marriage is only between a man and a woman. Equality is not the same as uniformity, and the debates around adultery and consummation show that if we change the meaning of marriage it will no longer be marriage. In the long-run, this would be unsustainable because the distinctive integrity of the social institution of marriage is essential if we are to build a civil society in which we can all live with our deepest differences. I do hope you will seriously consider my logical argument and the many implications of my brief points.

(As he can write in a more exact and pithy manner than myself, I have borrowed heavily from thoughts expressed by Dr Dave Landrum director of advocacy by the Evangelical Alliance, in England, commenting on the recent 1st stage decision in the British parliament.

Yours most sincerely,

Peter J Magee