## INQUIRY INTO SAME SEX MARRIAGE LAW IN NSW

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**Date received**: 30/01/2013

Love is love and the government has no business interfering with love or marriage. But more importantly, the current attitude of the state and federal governments against same sex marriage is one that underscores that there is something not quite right about same sex love. You owe our citizens better than that. The message that same sex love is not OK, is not legitimate, that it's a lifestyle choice feeds into the sense of despair that young (and older) GLBT can experience. The message is that there is something wrong with them and they way they love. Love is part of the core of our being and to believe that the way one loves is wrong, dirty, evil etc is devastating. Some of these younger folk would rather kill themselves then live as they really are. Same sex love is the exact same thing as heterosexual love and as such, same sex couples deserve ALL the same rights and that includes the right to marriage. Not civil unions but marriage.

I do not accept that the catholic church gets to lecture anyone about morality. I was brought up in the catholic church and know full well how they operate. I know about the institutionalised abuse and about the corruption.

I would be so proud if NSW could be the first state in Australia to legalise same sex marriage. Indeed it boggles my mind that such a thing even requires legalisation. As I said, love is love.