

## INQUIRY INTO SAME SEX MARRIAGE LAW IN NSW

**Name:** Name suppressed

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Partially Confidential

To the NSW Parliament Inquiry :

I want to firmly voice my opposition to the proposed NSW bill to legalise same-sex marriage. I am opposed to this proposed change to the fabric of our social structure for the following reasons:

- As a married woman, whilst I sympathise with the desire of homosexual couples to legitimize their relationships, I know that the definition of 'marriage' isn't inclusive of two people of the same gender. To legalise same-sex marriage is to completely redefine the word "marriage", which has been defined for centuries and accepted by humankind as the union of a man and a woman to the exclusion of all others. So in considering legalizing same-sex marriages our parliament is considering changing the definition of marriage entirely, not only for homosexual couples but for all married couples.
- I firmly believe that children need to be given the opportunity to be raised in a home where there is a male and female mum and dad. As a female parent, I know that it's impossible for me to give my son all the building blocks for life. It's critical that he has the impact and influence that only my (male) husband can bring to him. Similarly, my daughter needs the influence of her (female) mum in her life, not just her dad. To deny my children the opportunity to be raised in an environment where they are able to develop a balanced identity is prejudicial and simply wrong. By agreeing that children don't need male and female parental role models is to deny them natural justice.
- Marriage should remain a federal issue. To have individual states legislate on the definition or realm of marriage will create confusion, division, and disharmony. There is also a question of the constitutional validity of such a bill, given the current federal nature of 'marriage'.

I implore you to consider the views of mainstream Australia on this issue. Whilst you may not receive volumes of submissions from 'mum & dad' Australia please know that they don't support this proposal; they do seek to retain the fabric & structure of our society, with families having a male and female parent for the benefit, well-being and love of its children.

Please convey my opposition to the Legislative Council's Social Issues Committee.

Sincerely,