

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

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Since the dawn of history, marriage has meant the lifelong union of a man and a woman who are not closely related to each other.

The purpose of marriage – as far as governments are concerned – is to help provide a stable environment for raising any children of the union, with both male and female role models to help them to relate to people of both sexes.

“Same sex marriage” does not make sense. Two men or two women cannot produce a child of the union, or bring up a child with both mum and dad role models. Marriage Act provisions that ban close relatives from marrying (to protect against genetic disabilities in children) do not make sense for a union of two men or two women, because they cannot procreate. Marriage is about more than just love.

Marriage is a federal, not state, issue under Australia’s Constitution – so a NSW bill relating to marriage or “same sex marriage” would be invalid and unconstitutional.

Different state marriage laws would lead to confusion and uncertainty. Marriage issues should be decided for the whole of Australia in the federal parliament.

Opinion polls with loaded or simplistic questions are not a reliable guide to public opinion. Only a referendum, where voters receive a booklet explaining both sides, can indicate their true views.

Marriage recognises the committed union of a man and a woman to encourage the stable social context needed for resulting children to be raised to responsible adulthood.

Mothers and fathers parent differently, and children need both approaches in order to develop a balanced identity. That is why marriage should remain a union of a man and a woman.

No one can be brought in to this world from the union of a homosexual couple.

No right thinking person would want a child to grow up in a depraved relationship.

Bruce Jordan