

**Submission
No 385**

INQUIRY INTO SAME SEX MARRIAGE LAW IN NSW

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Thank you for giving me the opportunity of putting forth my opinion on why same-sex marriage should be legislated.

In the bible there is a passage, David and Jonathan 'made a covenant, because he loved him as his own soul.' There is no reason for homosexuals to get married. The right to love and give vow to one another is what makes a healthy relationship.

I have family members, friends and friends of friends, who are homosexual and proud of it. They would give anything to make a vow to one another and make the commitment of spending the rest of their life.

There are all these families, who bare children and have families, but then you have children in homes and awaiting adoption, most do not find homes unless a gay couple come and adopt. You will find that a majority of adopted children come from a family with same sex parents, and they are ok with that. I for one know of a family like this, I have a cousin who has 3 siblings, yes she was born into a family with a mum and dad, but the mother was not straight she was bisexual - later she got a divorce and later got a girlfriend where they adopted 3 children. Not once has she ever regretted having 2 mothers and 1 father.

I may only be 17, but I know when I have children of my own, whether they are homosexual or straight, I would fully support their decision and hope that one day they can have equality. Because that's what we need we need equality with in Australia.

In the UK same-sex marriage, is on the path of being legalised, should we not take this as a guide and allow for same-sex marriage. If our mother country see's this as equality, shouldn't we?

Colossians 3:14

And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

There are quotes in the bible that if you read and analyse closely they show that even God believes in equality and the love of his people.

As I said before I'm only 17 but I know and feel that it's right to allow gays and lesbians to get married, not only for themselves, but for the love of God and his people. If the quote above shows that God accepts them, why can't we?

To be honest, at first I was against it, but over time I learnt to love and support my friends and family who are gay, and if this is a world where they are discriminated against and demoralised, then it's not the world I wish to live in. Is it to much to ask for the equality of our people?

I may not know everything, I may not understand the backlash and hate that will happen if it's made legal. But being only 17, this is something I feel strongly about because it effects people who are close to me.

If same-sex marriage does become legal, it would be a great honour to my family and my friends but also the wider community. The unity and the equality that will be brought to our community, if same-sex marriage is legalised would be for nominal. Sure there will be some hate if its legalised, but why let a little hate ruin a change of a life time.

Everyone has a right to be married, whether it be homosexual or heterosexual, it is still a right to the people of the world.

I'd just like to thank you for reading this, and I hope that it helps with the decision. But I leave you with one last quote from the bible:

Luke 6:31

Do to others as you would have them do to you.

So if heterosexuals can get married why not homosexuals. Thank you for taking your time in reading my submission.