

**Submission
No 1117**

INQUIRY INTO SAME SEX MARRIAGE LAW IN NSW

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As a Catholic priest of twenty years I have joined in marriage many hundreds of couples. I can't count how many. I am now married and do know that marriages break up at an alarming rate.

I do not feel that it would be a helpful step for any government to attempt to redefine what most of us know to be a given: marriage is the joining together of a committed male and female for the purpose of combining assets and obligations. It normally has the inclusion of children, naturally born into the union as its goal.

Two people of the same sex can not have children normally. This would be enough evidence for me that it is not the intention of the natural law to imagine that what can not be done naturally should become normalised.

It is not appropriate to argue for the premise on the basis of anti-discrimination. I am a bald man and feel discriminated on the basis of hair colour every time I am asked that question. But I can't argue therefore for the exclusion of all questions pertaining to hair colour just because I do not have any.

The squeaky wheel gets the oil. The government is listening to the noise of a minority who don't reflect the wishes of the majority. Therefore I suggest:

To change the essential definition of what makes a marriage would require a Referendum of the whole population.