

Dear Sir/ Madam,

I would like to make a submission to the parliament in regards to the amendments that are tabled at the present time on marriage.

I regard marriage as a sacred covenant that was set up to be the basis of our Society. It is of vital importance and as we can see with the breakdown of families it usually originates with the breakdown of the marriage. We need to be strengthening marriage in every way we can at a time that it is under threat more than at any time in the past. Our whole society depends on stable, functioning marriages and families.

I believe every child born into this world has the right to two loving nurturing biological parents. It has been shown time and again that this gives the child the greatest chance of success in this life. Not all parents do a great job unfortunately but this should not take away from the child's rights.

It has also been proven scientifically that men and women are different. They think differently, their hormones are different and they parent differently. It has also been shown that children need both these parenting styles to develop in a healthy well-balanced manner.

I know through personal experience having lost my father when I was six through Asbestosis that I missed out by not having a father. I know this as an adult because being married for 26 years and watching my husband father my 4 children I can see the difference in their development. My son has been taught many things that only a male can teach and only a father would take the effort to teach, that my brother missed out on. My sister and I missed out on being loved by a father and protected by him in a way that gives a young girl security and teaches her about her self worth.

This is not about an adult's sexuality it is about a child's rights. We need to protect those that cannot protect themselves. I hope this matter is considered very carefully and not just looked at as an equal rights matter for adults. I believe everybody has the right to choose for themselves they way they want to live but that should not take away from the rights of others. Especially those who can't speak for themselves and who won't know until they are adults.

Sincerely,

Sally Kannar