

I am writing to express concerns about the introduction of this bill.

My wife Marjorie and I wish to express our disapproval of this matter on a wide range of issues, namely the moral aspects, on religious grounds and on the matters of freedom of expression.

Point 1:

Freedom of expression.

We recognise any individual's rights to express himself or herself, but draw attention to the manner in which the gay and lesbian lobbies seek ways to "force" their opinions on all other people.

As a citizen of this country by birth, I inherited the ANZAC spirit, the mateship attitudes and the ability to freely express ourselves by such means as various ANZAC Day marches, Labor Day marches and the like.

We find the gay and lesbian marches offensive in that all that is decent in the ways depicted above seem to be openly flaunted, forcing those who are not of such mind to be exposed and having to witness things that should remain in private.

If such people wish to have these relationships, we would prefer them to be conducted in private.

This reduces the risk of exposure to small children, already subjected to enough drama and confusion in life.

It seems to us that the lobbies are in essence forcing their opinions on a majority of citizens, which is in essence a violation of our own freedom of choice. It is both confrontational and offensive.

Point 2:

Religious grounds.

Regardless of one's denominational beliefs, same sex relations are clearly transgressed according to scripture. Jewish beliefs, and orthodox Christians alike, together with other religious groups, who constitute the majority of the people of the land, find that same sex relationships are, by definition, sin. I could cite numerous references to substantiate this statement most of which may already be known to the Committee.

Point 3:

Civil Rights.

Important issues that affect all society should be the subject of public discussion, preferably referendum.

The citizens of Australia should be given the freedom of public choice as befits a democratic society.

Legislation made without giving members of the public the fundamental rights are in effect over-ruling our individual civil rights.

In plain language, we want to have a say in the matter, not having it be enforced on us by legislation in response to aggressive pressures by a minority group.

#### Point 4:

The sanctity of marriage with the preservation of the family unit and the fundamental laws of nature

This is close to being based on religious grounds, but most, if not all of creation mankind is comprised of two species, male and female.

It is physically impossible for two members of the same sex to reproduce.

It is entirely impossible for the human bonding and emotional ties that exist in a normal relationship to exist in a same sex relationship. We do not deny anyone's desires for children and although this desire may be met through adoption or other processes, the emotional elements that constitute human psyche are not possible.

A small child may receive the expected care and attention, but despite every effort the natural order of life itself dictated a balance between the male and female components of parenting.

A child reared in such an unbalanced home environment must eventually become adversely affected for life.

Submitted by  
Robert and Marjorie Carter