

The Senate Committee:

I have a number of concerns with this Bill in particular and the whole direction that anti-discrimination legislation is taking in the Western world generally. It is unfortunate that this type of legislation is very often just a thinly veiled way to advance an agenda which will destroy the social fabric of our nation with disastrous consequences on its future viability.

Numerous examples from overseas could be given to support this assertion. There has been the prosecution of several Christian bed and breakfast owners from the UK for refusing to compromise their beliefs by extending their services to homosexuals (<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/law-and-order/9617792/Gay-couple-turned-away-from-BandB-win-discrimination-case.html>), (<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/8283651/Second-BandB-owner-sued-for-turning-gay-couple-away.html>). Also in the UK there has been the closure of all Catholic adoption agencies because they would not comply with anti-discrimination legislation and allow children to be brought up in sinful and damaging homosexual households (<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/7952526/Last-Catholic-adoption-agency-faces-closure-after-Charity-Commission-ruling.html>). Then there are the children as young as eight whose claims of wanting to change 'gender identity' are taken so seriously that they are given sex-change drugs and even surgery (<http://www.news.com.au/world-old/sex-change-treatment-for-kids-on-the-rise/story-e6frfkyi-1226277594051>).

The provisions of this Bill will facilitate bringing all these scenarios to Australia. I hope you will see the dangers associated with recognising such attributes as 'gender identity' and 'sexual orientation' in law. Please recommend the complete rejection of this Bill.

Yours sincerely,

Mr David Forster