

14 April, 2013

Committee Secretary,
Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee,
PO Box 6100,
Canberra,
ACT 2600.



Dear Secretary,

I write to make the following submission to the above-named Committee:

The proposed substitution of the words “sexual orientation, gender identity, intersex status and marital or relationship status” in the Title and Preamble seeks to equate acquaintances of various degrees of commitment (does it include a 'one-night stand'?) with the generally recognised and ideally life-long marital union.

A registered same-sex relationship is not the equivalent of marriage regardless of how much some homosexual pairs may seek equivalence before the law.

Has any statistically valid and published survey been conducted to determine just how widespread support for these changes is found in the community?

If not, why was this minimal preparation ignored?

If, as I believe, the vast majority of homosexuals do not want to 'marry' their partner, is then the time, effort and expense to drive the enactment of these proposed changes being conducted for a minority of a minority in the community when there are far more important issues of family support being ignored (for example, are sufficient efforts being made to employ and accommodate the homeless or are many of them semi-permanent street-dwellers?)

Yours,

Klaus Clapinski