

*The Committee Secretary*

*Senate legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee*

*PO Box 6100*

*CANBERRA*

*Dear Sir:*

*Please accept my submission regarding the Anti Discrimination legislation.*

I wish to affirm that the use of the words "sexual orientation, gender identity , intersex status and marital or relationship status in the Title and Preamble is absolutely contrary to the Marriage Act which acknowledges that marriage is the union of one man and one woman. The substitution of these words in the Objects clause also brings a confusion between relationship status and marriage status. These are two distinct and separate concepts and for order and clarity and protection of this basic Nation Building institution the institution must remain clearly defined and separate from all other relationship states.

The proposed definition of "gender identity" is unclear and damaging to healthy communication and relationships within any organisation or place of employment.

To repeal the definition of "man" or "woman" is not extending protection against discrimination- but is actually rewriting a language in a regressive format which denies the biological and significant characteristics of these genders. This then removes the clear definers in communication and , invites unhealthy communication and lack of understanding without even the consent of the people the government was elected to represent.

Again changing words such as opposite with different is changing the meaning of states by using language. opposite means that there are two distinct entities.

Different may express lack of sameness with two or more entities- which may not or may not be inherently separate.

Thus the biological realities are being redefined and even allowed to take on a transient state at the whim of a person at any time. Society has always accommodated the rare occasions of gender confusion which have occurred naturally - but that is not the issue- It is unwise and unhealthy, damaging to relationships , to children's learning and development to allow definitions of observable biological realities, to be denied , and people coerced into the falsity of accepting that they do not occur.

*Thank you for considering these points as you review the proposed legislation.*

*Sylvia Huxham*