



Australian Family
Association
(SA Branch)

2 April 2012

Secretary
Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee.

Inquiry into the *Marriage Equality Amendment Bill 2010*

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to put on the record the Australian Family Association's opposition to same-sex marriage laws.

Marriage is the union of one man and one woman; a basic unit of society that is fundamental to our existence. This union is a contract entered into freely, and for life, that should be supported by the state.

The state does not have the right to regulate relationships nor does it have the authority to change the definition of marriage; an institution which predates national governments and civil authorities.

The union of a man and woman in marriage not only allows children to grow up knowing their biological mother and father, it also provides a stable environment for the child's development and growth.

A Galaxy Poll conducted in 2009 demonstrated that 86% of the Australian public believe that children should ideally be raised by their biological mother and father. The legalisation of same-sex marriage clearly dismisses the view of the Australian public. The state cannot ignore the views of citizens when, should homosexual marriage be legalised, children will invariably be born via surrogacy and IVF to more same-sex couples.

Homosexual partners cannot fulfil the ideal right of children to know and be raised by both their biological parents, a right enshrined in article 7 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Alstin
State Officer
Australian Family Association (SA Branch)