

Committee Secretary
Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Australia

6 April 2013

Dear Committee Members,

Human rights pertain to humans on the basis of their humanity only, not on any other grounds. These rights become indefensible if sub-sections of the population claim special consideration on the basis of a behaviour. If this were the case a convicted murderer always would be regarded as such, never having opportunity to demonstrate a reformed lifestyle. Behavioural preference or lifestyle choice is no grounds for permanent identity classification requiring specific legislation. Further, to be labelled by one's abnormal sexual practices is dehumanising for the individual, and detracts from human dignity. To be identified at law by one aspect only of the myriad qualities afforded by "humanness" is to sell oneself short. Nor is the rewriting of existing functional legislation of benefit to society, when it undercuts the very structure of that society by blurring and confusing the roles and responsibilities of individuals and their families.

I therefore submit that the Sex Discrimination Amendment Bill 2013 has no merit, and that the Sex Discrimination Act 1984 should remain unchanged. Human rights are sufficiently protected by legislation in Australia, which is the reason that this country attracts immigrants and asylum seekers from countries which are known for their human rights abuses.

In fact to use a person's body, whether one's own or another's, in a manner for which it was not designed, is an abuse in itself, as is the case also with misuse of any item apart from the intended purpose. Abusive behaviour should not be sanctioned by Federal legislation.

To quote from a document which provides a research perspective:

"Change: The huge amount of change in sexual orientation is one of the clearest evidences that homosexuality is not hard-wired by genes or anything in the biological environment.

Large studies now show that:

For adults:

- About half of those with exclusive Same Sex Attraction move towards heterosexuality over a lifetime. Put another way, 3% of the practising heterosexual population (both men and

- women) claim to have once been either bisexual or homosexual.
- These changes are not therapeutically induced, but happen “naturally” in life, some very quickly.
 - Most changes in sexual orientation are towards exclusive heterosexuality.
 - Numbers of people who have changed towards exclusive Opposite S A are greater than current numbers of bisexuals and exclusive SSA people combined. In other words, “Ex-gays outnumber actual gays.”
 - Exclusive OSA is 17 times as stable as exclusive SSA for men, and 30 times as stable as exclusive SSA for women. (Women move about more in their sexual orientation than men.)

For adolescents:

- Most teenagers will change from SSA. In fact, in the 16 to 17 year age group, 98% will move from homosexuality and bisexuality towards heterosexuality.
- 16 year olds saying they are SSA or Bi-attracted are 25 times more likely to say they are opposite sex attracted at the age of 17 than those with a heterosexual orientation are likely to identify themselves as bi-sexual or homosexual.
- 16-year olds who claim they are opposite sex attracted will overwhelmingly remain that way.
"

(Source: <http://www.mygenes.co.nz/index.html>)

To give credence through legislation to identity confusion is not in anyone's best interests. To be truly humane each individual should be respected through the ethos of our society, not by legislating for vocal minority lobby groups with a destabilising agenda, which is a detriment to the wider population.

Let's "Advance Australia Fair" not "Fall into Despair" from individual identity confusion and social dysfunction.

Yours Faithfully,

R Hainsworth.