

Dear

"GetUp!" has invited me to address a question which to me, in 2012, forty-odd years after the introduction of the Family Law Act, should not still have to be discussed, far less debated and enacted.

I have found it extraordinary and almost unimaginable that I am a citizen of a country which, in so many different respects, has generally so excellently enshrined democracy and the inalienable rights of ordinary people and yet to date has been refusing to end simple and resentful, manifest and declared, discrimination against a substantial demographic minority.

The political fact that I have to send you this missive makes me angry.

I am indeed referring to the Marriage Equality Amendment Bill 2010.

I am appalled that some Parliamentarians are being subjugated into a linearity of thinking, itself being driven by a perceived need to act upon the dictates of those who profess, as a fundamental cosmological belief, credence in some sort or another of a legitimacy of paternalistic authority - those who represent Abrahamic belief.

Such Parliamentarians - representative as they may well be - need to put their own sense of self-esteem ahead of behaviours which betray a pre-adolescent identity.

(The fact that they have remained so accusable is partly due to the lack of time and dedicated effort on the part of people such as myself.)

You may well imagine that I would uphold the right of celebrants to conscientiously refuse to marry same-sex couples - and I do.

Equally you can imagine that I am asking Parliamentarians for a global judgement - cosmological equity and equality: nothing less (including civil unions).

I am effectively demanding that Parliamentarians unambiguously and proclaimedly stand up for the fundamentality of everyone's ownership of simple human rights. It seems to me - and to the hundreds of different people I speak with in driving a taxi for 40+ hours/week each week for some 15 years in a large NSW Regional town - that this is the Parliamentary capacity that is most desired - and most often lacking. Weasel words, excuses, backtracks and obfuscation remain the order of the all-too-predictable political agenda.

As pristinely exemplified by Abbot's refusal to allow Coalition MPs a conscience vote.

Please urge your colleagues, particularly your Coalition colleagues, to pass this Bill with an overwhelming affirmatory majority.

Yours in exasperation,

Charles Lowe