

To the Secretary,  
Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee.

SUBJECT: SEX-DISCRIMINATION AMENDMENT (SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY AND INTERSEX STATUS) BILL 2013.

The proposed substitution of the words 'sexual orientation, gender identity, intersex status and marital or relationship status' in the Title and Preamble, introduces the idea of relationship status, which would include a registered same-sex relationship, as the equivalent of marriage or to be treated the same way as marriage. *This is contrary to the MARRIAGE ACT which acknowledges marriage between ONE MAN and ONE WOMAN.*

Replacing marital status with marital OR relationship status is introducing confusion and could be taken as paving the way for same-sex marriage legislation when such legislation *was voted down by the parliament only a few months ago.* Marital and relationship status must be separately defined.

Rewriting language and deleting words that have real and profound *biological (scientific)* meaning and significance, and replacing them with words that have either no definite meaning or whose meaning has been changed, is very disturbing. This amounts to removing signposts of communication of meaning in society without the consent of society!

Sincerely yours,

Mr L Voesenek,