Arguments Against Same-Sex Marriage

People who choose to be gay know that their choice means they cannot get married (-28)

30% Agree 12% Undecided 58% Disagree

It is fine for same-sex couples to have a ceremony, but it should not be called ‘marriage’ (-33)

30% Agree 7% Undecided 63% Disagree

The recognition of de facto relationships and civil unions is enough; we don’t need same-sex marriage too (-34)

29% Agree 8% Undecided 63% Disagree

Children need both a mother and a father, and legalising same-sex marriage could break that down (-36)

29% Agree 6% Undecided 65% Disagree

The institution is already under threat and should not be further undermined by this (-43)

24% Agree 10% Undecided 67% Disagree

Marriage is only meant to be between a man and a woman, so this is wrong and should not be encouraged (-44)

24% Agree 7% Undecided 69% Disagree

Marriage is a religious institution and no changes should be made to it against the wishes of religious groups

23% Agree 7% Undecided 70% Disagree

Same-sex marriages could devalue traditional marriages (-51)

22% Agree 6% Undecided 73% Disagree

Allowing same-sex marriage will lead to some people losing their religious freedoms (-55)

16% Agree 12% Undecided 72% Disagree

Allowing same-sex marriage is a slippery slope and could lead to issues like polygamy (-57)

17% Agree 10% Undecided 74% Disagree

N.B. Sorted by net agreement (given in brackets) = % Total agree - % Total disagree

Q36) I’m now going to read you out some arguments that other people have given us for and against same-sex couples being able to marry and, regardless of your overall opinion, I would like you to tell me whether you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with what’s being said.