



To Sex-Discrimination Amendment Bill 2013
Re Sexual orientation, Gender Identity and Intersex Status

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 equivalent of marriage or to be treated the same way as marriage.This is contrary to the Marriage Act which acknowledges "marriage" is between one man and one woman.

The proposed substitution of the words "sexual orientation,gender identity,intersex status and marital or relationship status" in place of "marital status" by the proposed amendment of Section 3(b) also identifies "relationship status" with "marital status" The two should be treated as distinct and seperate.

Again 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.

The proposed definition of "gender identity" is vague because it does not provide a clear indication of what it is.For example how is a person to know that another person has a "gender identity"that is different to a third person's "gender identity" and therefore cannot be treated less favourably than third person? And so on and so forth. "Gender identity" would be whatever a person chose as the "gender" (ie sex) that he/she identified with,— which could change from time to time.
This is a ludicrous situation.

The bill also wants to repeal the definition of "man" and "woman" and replace "de facto spouse" to "de facto partner of another person" (who could be of the opposite or the same sex). The bill wants to change "opposite sex" (which means there are two) to "different sex (which means there are more than two)

These amendments are not merely extending protection from discrimination to new grounds of sexual orientation,gender identity and intersex status, which is claimed to be what they are about. All these changes of definitions are trying to rewrite the language from that which is understood as real,profound and biological (2 sexes male and female) to words that have no definite meaning or whose meaning has been changed.

All this is very disturbing and confusing.How can this be resolved? Easily

Do NOT agree to these amendments.