

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a school teacher and witness the daily struggles that same sex attracted youth face. We still live in a society where homophobia and prejudice are rife. I believe attitudes are slowly changing as a result of leadership taken by individuals, groups and government who believe in, advocate for and legislate equality. We particularly need our government to send a clear message that discrimination will NOT be tolerated.

I have heard first hand tragic stories of students self harming because they are ashamed of who they are, yet know that they have no control over their sexuality. Please don't let this continue. Please show leadership on this issue and send a clear message to all Australians. I support the definitions of "Sexual Orientation" and Relationship Status" and recommend you include and use the Tasmanian 2012 definition of "Gender Identity" and "Intersex".

I hope that a Commissioner responsible for Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Discrimination will be appointed.

Thank you for your time.

Yours faithfully,

Sianon Daley