

National Human Rights Consultation Submission

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Submission Text:

The Australian government's position on discrimination is ambiguous and hypocritical. The Commonwealth prohibits discrimination against people based on their sexuality, yet provides legislation prohibiting same-sex couples from getting married. How does the government expect its anti-discrimination legislation to be upheld by the general public when it can't uphold the legislation? This hypocrisy provides the Australian community with an ambiguous view on discriminating against homosexual people. The government is basically saying, "you can't discriminate against them, but we can". The vilification and victimisation of homosexual people in the general community will never be eradicated if the Commonwealth refuses to lead by example. I would like to take this time to urge the Commonwealth to admit its inexplicably hypocritical position on discrimination, and to fix it.

The Commonwealth claims it is taking measures to eliminate homophobic notions. The only way homophobia will be successfully eradicated is if same-sex couples are afforded the same basic human rights as everyone else. A community will not uphold values of equality when the law doesn't even uphold it. Allow same-sex couples to get married and actually get the ball rolling with eliminating discrimination and bigotry in Australia.