

National Human Rights Consultation Submission

AGWW-7RDETC

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Submission Text:

Human Rights submission – Australian Marriage Laws

My belief is that the Marriage Act (Cth) does contravene anti-discrimination laws and is contrary to the human right to have one's relationship recognised within the law, with all its attendant rights, obligations and implications. It appears that under Australian law it is still okay to discriminate against people on the basis of their sexuality, particularly in the area of marriage, despite the fact that under other areas of the law one's sexuality has ceased to be relevant. Discrimination on the basis of sexuality is not appropriate in a modern, advanced democracy such as Australia. By denying a significant proportion of the Australian community the right to have authorised, recognised legal unions, Australia shows itself to hold in low regard the human rights of ALL its citizens. Denying people the right to marry on the basis of their sexuality denies them their dignity as well, and legitimates one type of family construct above all others. Furthermore recognising diverse unions does not destroy any of the rights and freedoms of anyone else, thus there should be no impediment to recognition of such unions.