

'Equal Love should not be Treated Unequally' Petition - Comments

All couples should be treated the same!!

Aside from the existing provisions allowing churches to discriminate according to their religion, there is no requirement nor need for expanded discriminatory provisions - which are a slap in the face for all LGBTI people. Either we are treated equally or we are not; and not is not an option!

Equality cannot be conditional: that means we must have the same laws and the same language for everyone.

As an Australian citizen I believe that is Every One's right to marry WHOMEVER they choose.

All love is equal, & all marriages should be equal!!!

Why are we treating good people in such a terrible way.

Dear PM - its pretty outrageous that the Liberal Party should continue to discriminate against 10% of the population. Our hope is in you to bring this matter to an end- thank you.

The draft exposure Bill is not a marriage equality bill. It is a marriage INEQUALITY Bill and shockingly extends unacceptable discrimination against LGBTI people and continues placing us as second class citizens before the law. It's completely unacceptable, discriminatory and can only be coming from a position of the government being hypocritical in 'giving partial equality' and abetting bigoted views. I will never support such discrimination.

Equality means equal treatment, the Bill as written specifically provides for added discrimination for couples that are not man and woman.

Love is equal and you should not be enshrining discrimination in our society

This Bill enshrines inequality for gay people into law. I will never accept second class status in Australian laws for some citizens in contrast to others.

Equality is equality, no compromise.

The defence force has a strict anti discrimination policy they have worked very hard to change the culture of discrimination, particularly against lgbti individuals... This bill is more than one step backwards

Just make marriage legal for all. How hard is it. Bigots shouldn't be able to discriminate in any way.

The existing marriage laws are discriminatory and Australia should not allow discrimination in any form

For goodness Mr Turnbull get real about this . It's a serious matter for people in love.

You must have been in love at sometime during your life. Let gays marry. Love is love.
I'm 74 yrs of age.

Love is love regardless of gender

I want my gay daughter to be exactly equal under the law, not almost equal!

EVERYBODY should have the same right to marry!

I am signing because its important to keep reminding this govt about the importance
of marriage equality

I'm signing because I believe in equal rights for EVERYONE.

Just do it!

Love should not have boundaries

LGBTI couples should be treated equally under the law. There must be no room for
continuing prejudice and discrimination.

this is 2016 and I am ashamed that this remains an issue in Australia. And ashamed
that our secular government is pandering to the far right fundamentalist Christians
and their hypocritical bigotry .Why are LBGT Australians not afforded the same rights
as every other Australian in terms of right to marry and yet still forced to declare their
relationship for financial purposes through centrelink and tax. Let's move into this
century

It's so time Australia did the right thing.

Enough playing around with people's rights. Get it done.

this bill is so discriminatory.

It's basic Human Rights 101. We're not in the Dark Ages anymore!

It is all about equality.

because 2016 isn't the dark ages

I'm married under British law & as an Australian being a second class citizen in my
own country is wrong on so many levels.

Love is not dictated by gender, but by the feeling of making your heart be fulfilled and
your soul connected with joy.... equal rights, equal love. Xxxxxx

Equality is for everyone or should be. No one should be more equal!

I'm gay so no way!

Equality with special provisions is not equality.

I believe everyone has a right to happiness. And I believe in marriage equality

There should be no special rights that would discriminate any two people that love each other and want to marry! Wake up Malcolm and do the right and only fair thing for our sons and daughters!

Equality means being equal. Will you now allow commercial enterprises discriminate against people because of colour or religion. Why set LGBTI people apart from the rest of Australia?

In this generation, humans should be accepting of one another. Promoting an equal society, one that is full of love and support. And this is no different. Love is Love. And love should be given the due respect it deserves.

There's no reason to make marriage unequal.

I'm signing this because I want to be treated equally with other Australians. I should not be a second rate citizen.

I am sick of seeing the LGBT community being treated like second class citizens when they are just as human as the next straight person!

I believe in equality.

Belief in imaginary friends is no basis for any law.

People are as they are and all should be valued and free

Equality is important. Simple as that.

This is discrimination there is no reason to stop LBGT couples getting married

My same-sex partner and I have been together in as loving and happy relationship for 32 years. WHY can't we choose to be married?

politicians becoming overly involved in private lives of other humans - good grief no! and those that discriminate - should be prosecuted!

I'm signing this because 'equality' doesn't have special considerations. australia doesn't need to pass laws that allow discrimination.

Everyone equal, no discrimination

I don't think it is anyone else's personal business should I choose to marry the man I love, it won't make the sky fall down if we do. My neighbours will still go to work the next day. It is absolutely gut wrenching that we don't acknowledge that love is love. The amount of joy that would come to so many LGBTIQ people's lives is tremendous, but not only them, also their heterosexual families and friends. Xx

If you can feel love because you can simply breathe, then why are you so afraid to let others have theirs legally recognised?

It's fair & right!

It is right.

I believe that love cannot be discriminated against. This is a law which will acknowledge human rights for all without affecting the rights of any other person. Australia says yes so why doesn't Parliament, the people who represent all Australian's, do the same.

I'm signing this because equality is that with no exclusions. I am not less than any other human because I am a woman. Nor am I less because I'm gay. And you are not less than me because you are a politician. I still pay your wages! Anything other than a law that allows two consenting adults to marry and have equal rights and responsibilities as all married people is required. No exceptions!

Every Australian should be Equal under the law. Everyone.

Stop trying to out caveats on equality!

I just want to be able to marry someone I love without people being horrible about that fact? Straight couples don't have to worry, why do I have to?

I should not be disrespected against by my government.

I am gay and I am affected by homophobia everyday. I should not be subjected to even more from my own government. Please fix this

I'm signing because discrimination should not be made legal.

I am appalled at this draft Bill that authorises discrimination in areas that require no protection. This is an act of betrayal and I am sure contravenes other legislation

Love is love

Everyone is equal.

Unbelievable!

Marriage equality is the right for everyone to marry the person they love!!! It should be illegal to refuse this right to anyone!!!

Equality means no one is above another.

Marriage should be available to any couple that love each other. That's all.

Equality for everyone. Parliamentary decision. Immediately.

Love between consenting adults is love between consenting adults. We celebrate a male and a female choosing a life together by allowing them to marry. We accept that as adults, both genders are capable of making that decision, the only reason the choice of two same gendered people is treated differently, is Malcolm Turnbull.

Everyone has the right to marry regardless of their sexual orientation

I just want EQUAL treatment

Marriage should be a choice that all can make not only heterosexual can make.

This is discrimination of the highest order and no person should give this right. Aus is a secular country and religion or people's beliefs should not impact on the law of the land.

I'm signing this because most politicians are biased, ignorant or just plain stupid.

I believe that there is nothing special about me and yet by my governments standing, I can marry whom ever I choose within their guidelines and yet people I've worked with have been in long term relationships and cannot have that same right. Then add the fact that the current civil unions are not providing the same legalities as those within married relationships.

This is something I believe should have already happened and it's time to move with the cultural future of the world.

We don't make racists exempt from anti-racism laws, we shouldn't make homophobes exempt from anti-homophobia laws.

they are no different and they should have the same rights as straight people

It's time to end the last of the legal discriminations against LGBTI people, and it would be beyond hypocritical to then add a new one whilst doing that.

Equality is not a Privilege, it is a human right which must be applied equally and not be the subject of a vote.

I'm signing I believe in equal rights for all

If you want civil celebrants to be able to say no to a service then it should not be limited to LGBTI couples. However, any public business that wants to avoid service to certain groups should be required to advertise it. A sign in the window or on their webpage, for example, so all potential customers can see what they object to.

Its so wrong. Everybody deserves to be treated the same.

Discrimination against anyone is not acceptable!

It is outrageous that this government continues to find ways to discriminate against LGBTI people. Marriage equality is simple. There is absolutely no need to add clauses to further discriminate. We don't have clauses to say a chaplain can reject the marriage between a man and a woman based on Colour, race, religion. Let's end discrimination now.

Australia should not be building discrimination against anyone into its laws. Imagine a law that said business owners were legally allowed to refuse service to people of

colour?

Consenting adults should be able to marry, regardless of race, religion or gender.

I want equality

Because the Liberal Party is a political dinosaur.

This is an utter disgrace.

I'm signing because everyone regardless of their sexuality, should be free to marry their partner and treated with equality and have the same rights as traditional marriages in Australia.

I do not want Australia to be segregated on the basis of any religion

Enough is enough

Marriage equality must be equal, without any added clause that would allow discrimination.

I believe it.

Being partly-equal is not equality!

We have waited long enough...

Imagine an Australia where equality for all is enshrined in our laws and psyche...its not that hard to do. It's a shame our elected officials seem to believe inequality and discrimination is better for Australia...are you bringing back the White Australia Policy as well?

I'm 73, and have seen enough homophobia to last another lifetime. I have lived with my partner for 42 years, and lived in the same house for 38 years. During this time we have seen "straight" couples (our neighbours) relationships fail, families meld and re-meld, and they call us "intrinsically disordered" (the appellation the RCC gives to gays and lesbians)!!

Equality means equality all should be treated equally

Some of the most loving, loyal and sensible couples that I know are in a same sex relationship. It's not fair they are not allowed to marry.

Love is a basic human right

Australia used to be a progressive country... used to care about social issues... was at the forefront of human rights issues. Now we lag behind the rest of the world for no good reason, other than the weakness of our leaders. Let's get this done so we can move on from what shouldn't even be an issue... it's basic human rights.

I'm signing because my friends, family and co-workers should not be singled out

because they don't conform to someone else's ideal of "normal".

I believe in equal rights for all Australians and those who love each other should be allowed by law to do so without discrimination

Because it's the right thing to do

Because love is love

We as a nation should offer equality to EVERYONE for EVERYTHING. Not pick and choose who does or doesn't get equal pay, equal access, equal chance. Stop denying adults the right to marry and don't allow bigots the chance to deny them.

There should not be any people more equal than others. And there should definitely not be anyone allowed to discriminate against LGBTI couples. Equal means equal. Full stop.

It is ridiculous that we have not yet embraced equality in marriage. Australia should be better than this. The change in law is being blocked by people who believe it is their right to make choices for other people. Or by people who hold to a religious view and want to enforce this on other people. Or by people who simply don't like Gay people. What are the good reasons for blocking marriage equality? Procreation? Well I am 56 and I still hope to get married - what about me? Safely bringing up children? How many child abusers are heterosexual and male? How many DV cases are perpetrated by heterosexuals? Maybe we've got it wrong and should not let anyone get married? Hrrmph!

I believe in equality and by definition it is exactly that equality - any law that allows discrimination is a law that should not be passed. No one has the right to determine the validity of another's relationship except those in the relationship and it saddens me that Australia continues to lag so far behind our western friends and allies on this issue.

Equality is just that, equal. Do not allow discrimination to flourish hoping no one will notice in their joy at amendments to the Marriage Act

I think it's only fair

Love is love

Equal is only true if every sense of the word is equal

Like Jane Gilmore said: The people advocating for marriage equality in Australia are not attempting to impose their beliefs on to any church, they are simply objecting to churches imposing their definition of marriage onto the rest of us.

Well with this government actually wake up to the fact that discrimination is illegal. Would these organisations be able to say I'm not serving you because you're Muslim, come on Australia

Equality

I am signing because I am an Australian citizen, in a same sex marriage (England and Wales) that is not lawfully recognised in Australia. I believe this current draft does not provide equality. It potentially could cause more distress by providing too many loop holes for organisations and individuals to deny same sex marriages the services needed to facilitate a marriage ceremony.

The problem we have here is the lines between the separation of church and state are being intentionally blurred by the coalition, right wing senators and the church. Marriage is not owned by religion, marriage is the domain of state. Stop fumbling around trying to appease the church and get on with the job you are being paid to do...govern and create law in accordance with the will of the people

It would seem that the authors of this Marriage Amendment (Same-Sex Marriage) Bill are not actually working for the whole of the Australian citizenry: they are clearly only working for those who would deny equality to a small section of our society. The LNP government and those that purport to have in mind the best interest of ALL Australians, are not being honest. Why is it necessary to base our laws on the theological instead of scientific research and common sense? The rights of the few should NOT be decided by the opinions of the many.

Equal love should not be treated unequally

I might not be LGBTQI, but I have quite a few friends who are, and the refusal of this government to treat them as human beings is simply appalling. This needs to be fixed, and it's such a simple, quick and easy thing to do. They could do it tomorrow if they chose.

Where's the absolute equality in the LNP's legislation?

Dare I say that my love and desire for marriage to my partner is even more considered than the usual heterosexual "Will you marry me?". This is something that my partner and I have thought very long about and in depth considering the uphill struggles just to get there in the first place.

No dodgy legislation. Just equality under the law!

There are no grey areas in equality, and these nonsense provisions add far too many of them.

I believe in equal love. My 10 year relationship failed miserably but that doesn't stop me supporting equality.

Equality NOW!

Stop trying a marriage equality bill that pretends to be about marriage equality. Either full equality or don't bother with your insulting bill.

Mr Turnbull, there are many facets of marriage and ALL those should be supported. By supporting the inclusion of provisions you are showing you support the LEGAL

side of marriage equality but some members of our society will NEED PROTECTION if the Bill is passed. IF YOU GENUINELY BELIEVE IN MARRIAGE EQUALITY THE BILL WILL BE PRESENTED AND SUPPORTED WITHOUT PROVISIONS. Anything less will indicate you don't also recognise the spiritual equality of ALL couples who wish to marry.

Marriage equality laws must not discriminate against LGBTI couples.

It affects my relationship

Stop this rubbish and get this legislation sorted out. How long do you people want this country to be stuck in the dark ages. You're allowing yourselves to be bullied by these anal retentive far right people is a disgrace.

My marriage to my partner is as equal as anyone else's!

I'm against a plebiscite. Apart from it being a total waste of \$200 million why should we discriminate against LGBTI couples. If John Howard hadn't changed the marriage act wording it wouldn't be an issue.

I am straight but want ask government clear something up. So any couple has to declare their relationship to tax, centrelink etc and pay said taxes lose money cause of said couples assets/incomes, so everything a man and woman married or not has to do as a legal couple. But they can't get married interesting.

It's the right thing to do and it's about time.

Discrimination against LGBTI people is unacceptable, as is discrimination based on gender, race, nationality, skin colour, religion, medical condition or any other arbitrary factor. Discrimination against minorities is not acceptable and it's about time the government stopped doing it.

Who is the government to decide on a person's choice to commit to each other in a legal right. Allow it now. The people demand it.

Equality should be equal, simple as that. The Bill should make all couples equal, not with some being more equal than others.

It's time to stand by you're beliefs. It's time to be a strong Prime Minister. Malcolm it's time!

Introducing lgbtiq discrimination provisions is not acceptable.

Just vote it through, it's time!

I care

I pay taxes, I'm putting into society on an equal basis and I demand equal treatment since I pay for it!

My rights are human rights and all people deserve equal treatment and to love and be

loved, and because the way we treat others demonstrates how we treat one another and wish to be treated. I pay my taxes, I work and contribute to this great nation of ours where hard work, acceptance and a fair go for all forms an intrinsic part of us individually, as a society and an nation. We pride ourselves on such principles - let's not abandon them now.

Australia, where giving everyone a fair go, is as yet still a lie.

Please don't make discrimination be protected by law. All religions have marriage, atheists and non religious have marriage. The majority support equal rights and not all are so narrow minded that they preach on hating whole groups of society.

The current (and proposed) situation mirrors racial discrimination in the past; both are unacceptable and will be seen in the future as one more source of shame for our society.

Two reasons I support this; 1) It's just bloody common sense, you don't end discrimination by further defining and justifying the rights of bigots to continue to discriminate just in slyer ways! 2)The same as number one but in a louder voice for the hard of hearing and the terminally ignorant.

Equality has no exemption clauses.

Everyone deserves the same rights. It's a no brainer. Pull your head out of the past and lets stop looking like a backwater colony. If Ireland can do it... makes Oz look bloody shameful.

This is illegal, immoral and appalling.

FFS, it's 2016.

I believe that all people are equal.

Laws need to be resistant to loopholes that can exploited for discrimination. This is basically creating a license to discriminate. Get a celebrant licence = you can now refuse service to gay couples.

This proposal will provide the opportunity for vindictive attacks on people unfairly. It is ugly, costly and we elected a government to make a decision not avoid it. Stop wasting money move into this century and approve and move on. It shouldn't be this hard.

I believe in equality

The proposed legislation is very bad and insulting. It must be rejected outright.

I am signing this, because same sex couples should have the same rights as everyone else. and that includes the right to get married.

You don't have equality if you are unwilling to treat all people with equality.

Some things need to change

"No two leaves are alike, and yet there is no antagonism between them or between the branches on which they grow"

I'm signing because I do not see why marriage should be a privilege. It should be (and is) a right.

Because EQUALITY means EQUALITY. Period!!!

the love of two people doesn't discriminate on whether they are same sex or heterosexual. Everyone has the right to marry the person they are in love with

I am a lesbian who pays taxes and works hard in this country and I deserve the same rights as anyone else!!

All Australians should be treated equally

I'm signing because I believe in equality and I'm not against the LGBT+ community, and well I'm a part of it, cause I'm a Biromantic Asexual! If I ever get into a relationship with a girl and I want to marry her and spend the rest of my life with her, I want to have that option of doing so! What's so wrong with same sex marriage? What's so illegal about it? Just hurry up and get your head out of your ass and make it a reality already! Show everyone that we're an accepting, kind and loving country!

Every Australian should have equal laws.

We must not let the government "sell" away tenets of equality in Australia - all for financial support of the Christian lobby and voters from the right.

I'm gay and we have been in a relationship for 9 years and deserve to marry.

Why do these exceptions need to exist? There is no need for them. It's just an excuse to create more hate and fear. If people really need these excuses to discriminate, then they must live sad lives.

Just let people of age who are consenting adults get married.

It's right!

I believe in EQUALITY so to marry the person you love should not come with rules based on gender.

The majority of Australians want this, we have too many politicians in Australia who use their own personal views to prevent change. Ultimately aren't they working for all Australians. With their backward, bigoted views they are working for a very small section of the community. We need a clean sweep of politicians at every level, that's the only way we will get change.

I want to see same love to be treated just like any kind of love ♥

All Australians should be treated as we are. Equals. Just because you love someone of

the different sex does not mean that you are not of equal worth. What will it take to make our politicians stop treating people who are "different" as if they are unworthy of the same rights?

Its what i believe equality is just that equal under the civil law, no more no less. My partner and i have been together for 39 yrs and wish to be treated equal under the law with the choice to marry or not

Marriage equality should be equal for all and free of religious discrimination irrespective of religion or religious denomination

I believe in equality for ALL.

Let's do it now and get it right.

I believe that love is love no matter what gender or sexual orientation you are. All people should be equal in the eyes of the law. Marriage is a commitment between 2 people, it has nothing to do with religion. This is 2017, it hurts no one and is nobody else's business. Stop making it political and just get on with it and join the rest of the Western world!!!!

To allow this bill to pass in its current form is to give approval to more homophobia. The current religious exemptions are enough- there is NO NEED to allow celebrants, or any business, to discriminate against LGBTI people and in fact to do so is just plain wrong. Change it now.

I would love to be able to Marry the woman I Love and share my life with for the last 14 years. I want the same rights as every other Australian citizen has!

Its time

Make Gay Marriage Legal!!!

Conditional Marriage Is like conditional love: simply not equal. I do not accept that law reform should enshrine discrimination. When push comes to shove most humanists would agree.

I'm signing because it is the 'fair minded Aussie way', and the majority of fellow Australians believe in Marriage Equality for consenting adults, whether LGBTI sexuality/orientation. Inclusion, respect, embracing diversity and equality for citizens in all forms, needs to be embraced by the Leaders of this great Country of ours. Leaders from Government, both National and Local, Religious Organizations, Communities, Work Places, Education role models, and not forgetting for one moment, Families. There is a general feeling of desperate need to feel pride in our Country, and not the current status of shame and embarrassment when Leaders are not leading on humanitarian grounds, human rights, civil rights! A sense of belonging within community as an equal citizen should not remain a dream, it desperately needs to become a reality. There are precious lives in the balance here, no more tragedies we implore our decision makers, make every Aussie citizen fully believe they belong as equal to every other Australian, and not as a second class citizen. Together we can make it happen. Together we can be proud, and not ashamed as currently many of us

feel with the 'political football' that our LGBTIQ community has tragically become. We remain very proud parents of a very beautiful gay gentleman and will do whatever it takes, whenever and however to bring about most sensible change! No discrimination should be allowed under any circumstances towards any group whatsoever within our great communities. Thank you for this opportunity given.
[Names redacted]

We all deserve to love who ever we wish.

Everyone should have the right to marry if they wish. Allowing individuals such as celebrants and organisations that provide goods and services to discriminate is not acceptable. Equality is the aim and should be able to be achieved quite simply and easily.

I'm signing because I refuse to be a second class citizen. Enough is enough. Make Marriage Equality, with no exceptions, a reality now!

It's only right that everyone is treated equally...

Everyone deserves to marry the person that they love.

Equality means equal in all facets of the law, marriage is no exception. Anything different would not be equality. We deserve nothing less than equality under the law.

I believe that everyone should be treated equally.

I was raised by 2 mothers and 2 grandmothers and am living proof that children only need a loving home: the number or sexuality of their parents does not matter to children.

It shouldn't be a parliamentary decision, just equal 'human' rights. No vote should be needed for that

I want to marry the one I love

I believe in equality

It is a human right to marry the person you love. love is love and no one should have the right to tell you how you should feel or who you should love

Love is love

Does this even need to be explained??!

Just do it already.

Equal means equal.

Because it is blatant discrimination to discriminate against LGBTI couple who marry.
#nospecialrights

It is the right and just thing to do. Just pass the law without exceptions and without

wasting millions in money-wasting plebiscite.

Bigotry is not ok Mr Brandis. Putting bigoted discrimination into law is un-Australian Mr Brandis.

Love is love. Same sex attracted couples are over represented in mental health issues, and this could be largely eliminated. Marriage is a protective institution. The government is out of step with public opinion on this matter.

Marriage equality should be exactly that: equality!!!

Malcolm needs to keep his promise from years ago - and there is no logical reason why not

It's giving people a right to openly discriminate!!! And the law to back them up!!!.... Pfff

I'm signing because I believe in equality

Because everyone has the right to do and marry who they love and wish to live with

I'm bisexual, and I would like to marry someone who I love. Without prejudice, without a silly catch or small print. I want to have a special day, I want a cake and a dress and I don't want discrimination. The LGBT community is not asking for much. We want marriage. We want acceptance. That's all.