

Salt Shakers – Briefing Paper – (Updated April 2007)

Why should we oppose ALL legal recognition of 'same-sex' and 'other' relationships?

This will create a form of 'marriage lite'.

This will directly undermine marriage BECAUSE it allows heterosexual couples to register their 'relationships as well as same-sex couples.

This will encourage heterosexual people AWAY from a 'life long formal marriage commitment'. 20% of couples using the Tasmanian and NZ registers are heterosexual couples. This is seen as better than 'de facto' and not as restrictive as 'marriage'

In Sweden, where heterosexuals have been able to 'register their partnerships' for some years, there has been a major decline in marriage. Due to this decline, gender neutral 'marriage' is now being considered by the Swedish government.

The marriage model of 'life long commitment' will gradually cease to be the example given to the next generation - this will promote, create and encourage a less stable society.

A ceremony

Like the recent proposals by the MCC, the Victorian Relationship Relationships will need to be 'registered' by the signing of documents in front of witnesses - either a registrar or JP. Some form of 'ceremony' or 'celebration' could easily be associated with such a signing process. This happens in Tasmania.

It has now been stated that The Victorian Department of Justice's Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages will manage the register – therefore bring this 'arrangement' into the same office that administers marriage'.

No evidence – just biased rhetoric

There is no evidence that giving relationship rights to same-sex and other couples will benefit society in any way.

Openly homosexual Deputy Lord Mayor Gary Singer led the charge in the recent MCC relationship proposals and it was clear that this was a deliberate attempt to force the State to act - the subsequent involvement of other Councils, such as Yarra, would create a hotch-potch of pseudo 'registers'.

The Sydney City Council same-sex register (for all NSW 'couples') has also created confusion.

This has no doubt added to the pressure on State governments to act.

The homosexual lobby openly stated at the MCC meetings that, "This is just the first step toward social equality for all relationships..."

All 'relationships' are NOT EQUAL.

Same-sex relationships can NEVER be 'equal' with heterosexual relationships.

Firstly they are unproductive - they can **never** naturally produce offspring. They are all about self and self leads to selfishness, hence the promiscuity and unfaithfulness inherent with same-sex relationships.

The greatest joy most heterosexual marriage relationships experience is the conception and birth of a child that is theirs. They conceived it, they nurtured it, and they (with God) bring this new human into the world together. That can never be the fulfilling experience of a same-sex couple. No child can be 'jointly' theirs through nature, only through nurture.

Secondly, they are unsatisfying. It is the 'differences' that matter in heterosexual relationships. Statistics show that there are very few long term same-sex relationships and that few of those are monogamous. The key to the stability of most heterosexual relationships is that the 'differences' hold them together. That is why the majority are faithful, monogamous and last until 'death do us part'.

A homosexual man wrote to me a few weeks ago and said, "Thank you for taking a stand against it [Melbourne City Council's same-sex register]. I want you to know I wrote a letter to the Melbourne city council opposing it. There is nothing happy or fulfilling about a gay lifestyle. Everywhere I look in the gay community

there is brokenness and hurting because they are all cheating on each other and bed hopping all over the place. There is such a spirit of lasciviousness over this community I can see why God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah."

Few homosexuals actually use such registers or civil union schemes.

* **Sydney** - only 22 couples registered their relationships in the first year!

* **Tasmania** - Only 65 relationships were registered in the first 2 years (to 1 April 2006.) - 13 were heterosexual (20%)

* **New Zealand** - there were only 458 civil unions in the first 12 months - 81 were heterosexual. (18%)

These figures represent a very small percentage of homosexual 'couples' acknowledged in recent national census data.

The same lack of registrations has occurred in Europe and the US.

CHILDREN - IVF & ADOPTION for single women lesbians etc.

At a joint meeting of State and Federal Attorney Generals this month, (April 07) the Federal Attorney General agreed to wait for a report from the Victorian Law Reform Commission (VLRC) before instigating 'uniform national legislation' regarding surrogacy adoption and IVF.

We already know that that the VLRC SUPPORTS giving lesbians and single women IVF and adoption rights. The hope of giving 'couple recognition' without the right to adoption surrogacy and IVF would undoubtedly be extremely short lived.

If these 'relationships deserve all the rights of married couples, WHY NOT THE RIGHT TO HAVE CHILDREN – After all our CHILDREN are going to be told homosexuality is natural and acceptable.

How can we tell children that they must accept a relationship and then stop those very relationships having a 'right' to children?

National Same-sex endorsement

Once we have a number of State-based Relationship Registers, or any other form of legal formal recognition such as a 'civil union' or 'civil partnership', there is little doubt that a Labor federal government, with Green influence, could soon move to the next step, either a national Civil Unions Act or even possibly moving towards full same-sex marriage by re-amending the Marriage Act.

According to homosexual newspaper Bnews, Mr Beazley had agreed to the ALP supporting a Tasmanian style NATIONAL Relationship Register before being dethroned by Kevin Rudd.

We know Kevin Rudd is sympathetic to homosexuality - On issues of sexual morality he says, "I see very little evidence that this pre-occupation with sexual morality is consistent with the spirit and content of the Gospels. For example, there is no evidence of Jesus of Nazareth expressly preaching against homosexuality. (*Faith in Politics*, by Kevin Rudd. The Monthly, Oct. 2006)

Nicola Roxon (Labor shadow attorney general) has discussed with the homosexual community, during 2006, what sort of 'relationship recognition' and discrimination law they want.