



Draft letters to your local Member
and State Senators
against the redefinition of marriage

1. Same-sex couples may want to get married. But what about the children? Same-sex marriage defies the basic biology of mum, dad and the kids. Same-sex marriage would deliberately deprive a child of the chance of a loving relationship with either its mother or its father. American university professor, Robert Oscar Lopez, who was raised by his mum and her lesbian partner loved them both but says "... something precious and important has been taken from a child who is forced to live without a mother or a father, and the state has no business encouraging such a taking." The government should not create another "lost" or "stolen" generation of children. Quote from <http://www.thepublicdiscourse.com/2012/08/6065/>

2. There has been much media reporting on the demand for same-sex marriage but not much about the impact on the children. Same-sex marriage would sever the relationship between the child and his/her biological mum or dad. Katy Faust, raised by her mother and her mother's lesbian partner, has written "... children need both sexes in their immediate world as they develop their own gender identity." And she would understand this as she did not have her father in her life growing up. Quote from <http://www.scribd.com/doc/251078014/Robert-Oscar-Lopez-AmicusBrief#scribd>

3. Same-sex marriage is much in the news with demands that any two people who love each other be allowed to marry. But what about the children conceived for these couples by artificial insemination or surrogacy? This severs the relationship of the child not only to its biological mum or dad but also relationships with brothers, sisters, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, whom the child may never get to know. Same-sex marriage denies the child any possibility of a loving relationship with his/her biological mum/dad and with one entire half of his/her biological family.

4. It is claimed there is no evidence of any harm suffered by children raised by same-sex couples. At the risk of stating the obvious I think a child needs a mum and a dad. Two women can be great parents to a child but neither can be a dad. Two men can be great parents to a child but neither can be a mum. Bronagh Cassidy, who was raised by her mother and her mother's lesbian partner, said: "... there's a clear difference between having same-sex parents and a mum and a dad." The child is the innocent victim here and has no say in being put in this situation. Weighing up the importance to a child of the love of a mum and a dad against homosexual adults' desire to marry, surely the child's needs must be given priority. Quote from <http://www.scribd.com/doc/251078014/Robert-Oscar-Lopez-AmicusBrief#scribd>

5. In the debate over same-sex marriage the impact on children is not being given proper consideration. It is factually incorrect to say a child has two mummies and no daddy or two daddies and no mummy. This is biologically impossible. Every child has a mother and a father. Same-sex marriage breaks the relationship of a child with either his/her biological mother or father. We know from stories of donor conceived children how deep is the need to know one's biological mother and father and how important this is to a sense of identity.

6. Marriage is the union of a man and a woman which provides children with their sexual identity. A child experiences maleness through the relationship with his/her father and the feminine through the relationship with his/her mother. If the law is changed to allow two people of the same sex to marry the child is deprived of any possibility of a loving relationship with either his/her father or mother. American professor, Robert Oscar Lopez, who was raised by his mother and her lesbian partner, both of whom he loved dearly, writes: "I had no male figure at all to follow, and my mother and her partner were both unlike traditional mothers or traditional fathers ... I suffered because of it in ways it is difficult for sociologists to index." Quote from <http://www.thepublicdiscourse.com/2012/08/6065/>

7. The biological unit of the family and the relationships with parents, siblings, grandparents, aunts and uncles are fundamental to human identity. Same-sex marriage if legislated would break that biological unit as same-sex couples cannot conceive a child together. There has to be a third party, a sperm donor or surrogate mother, and that third party who is the child's biological mother or father may not be known to the child and certainly unlikely to have any relationship with the child. Same-sex marriage would sever the relationship of the child and his/her biological mother or father and destroy the familial heritage of the child on one entire side of his/her family.

8. The only way same-sex couples can have children is with the involvement of a third party as a sperm donor or surrogate mother which breaks the deep biological relationships between the children and their biological mother or father and biological brothers, sisters and grandparents. It also means children conceived for same-sex couples may not know their full family medical history. At a time when we are aware of the importance of family history for our sense of identity and Ancestry.com and similar websites are so popular with people wanting to know where they come from and of the importance of knowing family medical history legislating same-sex marriage would be seen as approving a new generation of "lost" children without a full family history.

9. Three separate inquiries in recent years, by the federal senate and the NSW and Victorian governments, have condemned the failure of the law to protect the relationship of donor conceived children with their biological father/mother. These inquiries were demanded by these children wanting to find their biological family and to know their full biological identity. They are a generation who have had their relationship with their family broken. They have been denied their birthright to their biological identity. Why would the federal government pass a same-sex marriage law that would, in a similar way, break the deep biological relationship between a child and his/her biological mother/father, brothers, sisters, grandparents? If same-sex marriage were legislated will the federal government eventually have to apologise for breaking the relationship between yet another generation of children and their biological mother/father and family?