

Marriage is foundational

Throughout history and in virtually all human societies, marriage has always been a union between men and women. Marriage predates both the organised church and the state. The state should not presume to re-engineer a natural human institution.

Nature's way

Marriage combines the complementary characteristics of men and women as defined by nature. Nature is exclusive and discriminatory in that only the union of a man and a woman can produce another life.

The 'right' to marry?

Marriage rightly discriminates. A 14 year old cannot get married. Three people cannot get married to each other. A person who is currently married cannot marry another person. A father cannot marry his adult daughter. A woman cannot marry her adult son. Even some of those wanting 'equality' believe there should be restrictions.

No need to redefine marriage to achieve equality

It is perfectly possible to support marriage as it has always been defined, while also recognising and respecting the rights of others. There is no need to redefine marriage to provide legal recognition and protection for same-sex relationships. In 2004, the government introduced Civil Unions and changed over 150 pieces of legislation to achieve this very thing.

How does it affect your marriage?

Nobody is arguing that their marriage will be directly affected. But we do need to be concerned with more than what merely affects us personally. Changing the definition of something changes the way society and future generations view it and the important role it plays.

Gender matters

Two men might each be a good father, but neither can be a mum. Two women might each be a good mother, but neither can be a dad. While a compassionate and caring society always comes to the aid of motherless and fatherless families, a wise and loving society never intentionally creates fatherless or motherless families.

Mum and Dad matter

Marriage between a man and a woman says to a child that mum and dad who made you will also be there to love and raise you. Although death and divorce may prevent it, the evidence shows that children do best with their biological mother and father who are married.

For marriage - not against people

Many people in the homosexual community also do not agree with same-sex marriage. They are not 'homophobic' or 'bigoted' either. Everyone may love who they choose, but nobody has a right to redefine marriage.

Jury still out on same-sex parenting

Studies which purportedly show that children of homosexuals do just as well as other children are, so far, methodologically weak and thus scientifically inconclusive.

An ideology forced on all

If marriage is redefined, everyone would be subject to the new definition. Anyone who disagrees with it will be at odds with the law. This will directly affect ministers, faith-based organisations and marriage celebrants, amongst others.

What next?

If marriage is redefined once, what is to stop it being redefined again? Allowing only same-sex marriage on the basis of love and commitment would then open the door for those arguing for polygamous, polyamory (group), and consensual adult incest-type marriages. On what basis could we then discriminate against these types of arrangements? They may be illegal now, but it wasn't that long ago that nobody had contemplated allowing same-sex marriage.

Same as banning interracial marriage?

No - these bans were unjust, and were designed to keep races apart. Marriage is rooted in bringing the genders together. Overturning the ban on interracial marriage did not mean a redefinition of marriage but an affirmation of it.

Political U-Turns

During the Civil Unions debate, NZ politicians (including gay politicians) argued that the Civil Union Bill was an acceptable alternative, and that marriage should only be for heterosexual couples. We agree.

SPEAK NOW. Or forever hold your peace.