

**“Changing the definition of marriage affects every Australian.
It affects not just LGBTI Australians, it affects everybody.”**

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull, 18 Oct 2016, ABC RN Breakfast

Freedoms

- **Freedom of speech.** Anti-discrimination laws have been used to restrict speech on issues relating to marriage. The case of Archbishop Julian Porteous being brought before the Tasmanian Anti-Discrimination Commission for distributing the Bishops Pastoral letter about Catholic teaching on marriage is a matter of free speech more than freedom of religion. Consider the case of the Deputy Chief Psychiatrist of Victoria who in 2012 was forced to resign his position on that state’s Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission. His crime: he had told a Senate Inquiry that children do better on average with a Mum and Dad rather than being in a single or same-sex parent family.
- **Freedom of belief.** The Senate Select Committee was told that largest-ever survey of LGBTI Australians showed that 59 per cent of respondents didn’t want exemptions even for ministers of religion let alone ordinary believers. The Bills presented so far offer little or no comfort on this matter. In June 2017, Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Lofven said his party was working towards compelling priests to perform same-sex weddings. Lay people in most countries that have legalised same-sex marriage are being bullied and harassed into assisting eg through supplying services to weddings and events in favour of same-sex marriage.
- **Freedom of association.** Even in Australia, people have been made to resign from voluntary roles performed outside of work if deemed incompatible with “equality.” Former PwC executive Mark Allaby was forced to step down from the board of the Australian Christian Lobby because it conflicted with “the best interests of PwC.” He moved to IBM, and was there made to step down from the board of another group, the Lachlan Macquarie Institute, which was deemed to not have a pro-LGBT stance.
- **Freedom of conscience.** In countries where marriage has been redefined, examples abound of wedding services providers who have been sued or fined for declining to participate in same-sex wedding ceremonies. Bill Shorten once indicated that a future Labor government will remove any protections provided for those service providers who

do not want to participate in same-sex weddings. Some Greens and other MPs have been even stronger on disallowing any dissent in this matter.

Gender

- **De-gendering of society.** Transgender issues have closely followed marriage redefinition in other countries because removing gender from marriage is a big step towards making gender irrelevant. In July 2017, the UK Government Equalities Office called the ability to change gender legally by simply filing in a form “building on the progress” of marriage redefinition. In Canada, referring to a person other than their preferred gender pronoun is punishable by law.
- **The removal of mothers and fathers.** A natural consequence of the de-gendering is a diminishment of the difference between, and importance of, mothers and fathers. In Ontario, Canada, the *All Families Are Equal Act 2016* has replaced all references to “mother” or “father” in the law to “parent,” and birth certificates now allow up to four “parents” with equal rights to the child to be included.

Education

- **Changes to sex education.** Once the law on marriage is changed, sex education changes to include all forms of sexual activity. In Canada, such lessons were optional before same-sex marriage was legalised (like the Safe Schools program) but have now become compulsory, even for faith-based schools. Homosexuality is introduced as an option in Year Three.
- **Increase in gender dysphoria.** Programs like Safe Schools have been linked with an increase in gender dysphoria cases in children. In the year that Safe Schools was introduced in Victoria, the Royal Children’s Hospital treated six children for gender dysphoria. Six years later, that number was 250.
- **The removal of parental rights.** Canadian parent Steve Turloukis’ request to remove his children from these lessons was refused by the school because LGBTI ideas were embedded throughout the curriculum, and school administrators considered traditional views of sexuality and marriage it to be a form of bullying. The Ontario Supreme Court acknowledged his parental rights were being infringed upon, but sided with the school.
- **The closing of “non-compliant” schools.** Faith-based schools which refuse to teach in favour of same-sex marriage and the current ideology on homosexuality and gender

identity issues are being faced with closure. In the UK, Vishnitz Girls School, an orthodox Jewish school has failed two education authority inspections and now faces closure for refusing to teach girls between the ages of 3 and 11 years about sexual orientation and gender re-assignment. In Canada, the Law Society of Upper Canada refuses to recognise the law degrees of graduates from Trinity Western University because the students sign a personal agreement to reserve their own sexual activity for heterosexual marriage.