How would you characterise your views on the Bill in general?

In opposition

How would you characterise your views on the introduction of same sex marriage, so that same sex couples can marry each other?

In opposition

Marriage is if for a man & a woman. Quite apart from any religious beliefs this is plain common sense.

How would you characterise your views on putting belief celebrants on the same footing as religious celebrants?

In opposition

Definitely against. Christianity is based entirely on the message of the Bible. The Bible makes it clear that homosexuality is a sin and therefore also a lifestyle choice (a bad one).

How would you characterise your views on the arrangements for authorising celebrants to solemnise opposite sex and same sex marriage (including the opt-in procedures)?

How would you characterise your views on civil partnerships changing to marriages?

In opposition

Call a spade a spade. Two men in a sexual relationship or 2 women in a sexual relationship is fundamentally different from 2 people of the same sex being in a sexual relationship. Why try to pretend they are the same? It will fool no one and have no beneficial effects on society, in fact all the evidence from other Countries suggests it will have a detrimental effect.

How would you characterise your views on allowing civil marriage ceremonies to take place anywhere, other than religious premises, agreed between the couple and registrar?

Neither

Not sure what the ramifications of this are?
How would you characterise your views on allowing the religious and belief registration of civil partnerships?

Neither

Again I am not sure what the implications are

How would you characterise your views on allowing transgender persons to stay married when obtaining a full Gender Recognition Certificate, which provides legal recognition in the acquired gender?

Neither

I am not sure what the implications are

Would you like to comment on the wider issue of protections for those in society who may have concerns about same sex marriage?

We still live in a democracy and I would like it to stay that way. People have a right to speak their mind and be guided by their conscience. The proposed legislation is likely to have a gagging effect on people so that they no longer feel able to express their views without fear of civil action. This is wrong and a step towards a police state. The Bill will serve to encourage homosexuality and lesbianism in society. Is this what the Scottish Parliament want?

Would you like to comment on the wider issue of freedom of speech?

Covered earlier

Would you like to comment on any other wider issues in relation to the Bill that are not mentioned above?

The Scottish Parliament would do well to learn from the experiences after introducing same sex marriage in Canada for example: http://www.thepublicdiscourse.com/2012/11/6758/ Governments should protect the public at large and not continually pander to the demands of minority groups. It is short sited to think that this Bill will increase the popularity of the Scottish Parliament or help its drive for independence. In England the Bill has seriously damaged David Cameron’s chances of re-election.

Are you responding as...

an academic
a faith/belief local group or congregation
a private individual

Brian Barringer
14 August 2013