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

How would you characterise your views on the introduction of same sex marriage, so that same sex couples can marry each other?
In support
It is a step in treating heterosexuals and homosexuals equally. Additionally, it will help 'normalise' homosexuality within society.

How would you characterise your views on putting belief celebrants on the same footing as religious celebrants?
In support
The overall legal effect is the same regardless of the nature of the marriage - and the belief organisations operate similarly to religious ones - so there should be an equal footing.

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)?
In support
The opt-in procedure is probably the best way to allow some religious/belief celebrants to celebrate same-sex marriage, while will allowing others not to. The same procedure, however, should not be available to Civil Registrars, since they are servants of the state, not an private organisation.

How would you characterise your views on civil partnerships changing to marriages?
In support
I think it is the best and simplest idea - but it must be uniform. Either Civil Partnerships must be abolished, or they must be available to all people. The objective of the Bill is to promote Marriage equality.

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?
In support
If it is possible and costed, it should be an option.

**How would you characterise your views on allowing the religious and belief registration of civil partnerships?**

In support

If Civil partnerships must continue, R&B Orgs should be allowed to register them as well as Civil Registrars.

**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?**

In support

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

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

People should still be allowed to say what they feel (i.e Same-Sex marriage is right.wrong/and abomination etc.). However, as part of that, they must allow opposition to their stance. If that opposition heavily outweighs their proponents (as it often does

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

**Are you responding as...**

A private individual
4th year law Student

Paul Cruikshahnk
15 August 2013