MARRIAGE AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP (SCOTLAND) BILL

SUBMISSION FROM IAIN FREW

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

In support

It is time that Scotland changed the existing laws to let same sex couples marry if the wish and if certain religions want to conduct these services they should not be stopped by law from doing so.

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

In support

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

In support

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

See previous answers

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

In support

I think for those who have already had civil partnerships they should have the option if they want to change these to marriages.

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

I agree with this as some people want to marry in places which are special to them.

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

In support

Again if this is what people wish they should not be barred by law from doing so
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

If both partied still wish to remain married then this should be allowed as it would then be the same as a same sex marriage and should not automatically mean they are no longer married.

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

As mentioned before I would not like to see any backward looking/thinking religion from being 'forced' to perform these marriages against their wishes, peoples beliefs however warped should be respected even if they are out of tune with society. I do not believe however that they have the right to dictate to other religions on what is 'right' or 'wrong' and should not be able to lobby against the changes unless they directly affect them which these proposals do not.

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

I believe that everyone has the ability to speak out for or against these proposals as long as they accept the outcome of the majority with good 'faith'. Much as I disagree with the majority of the arguments against and some have been particularly vulgar to say the least, I would still fight for the right for them to be expressed. If anything it just shows these small minded people for what they are and is doing them more damage than good in the most part.

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

Iain Frew
14 August 2013