MARRIAGE AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP (SCOTLAND) BILL
SUBMISSION FROM SUNIL HUTCHIN-BELLUR

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
I absolutely believe that same sex couples should have equal rights to marry under law.

How would you characterise your views on putting belief celebrants on the same footing as religious celebrants?
In support
Belief celebrants should be on the same footing as religious celebrants. In fact, if a couple wished to marry each other in a self-uniting ceremony (as per Quaker belief), I would support this also.

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)?
Neither
I would like to see the individual celebrant able to opt-in to solemnise marriages with protection under the law so that in cases where the celebrant's organisation did not opt-in, there could be no negative consequences for the individual opting in.

How would you characterise your views on civil partnerships changing to marriages?
In support
I support the ability to convert civil partnerships to marriages. However, I would also like to see the opposite conversion available and would not condone an automatic conversion of civil partnerships 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
How would you characterise your views on allowing the religious and belief registration of civil partnerships?

In support

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?

I am unclear about what 'protection' is required for those who have concerns about same sex marriage. If these people are part of an organisation/group that decides to participate/accept this change and these individuals do not wish to comply or be part of an organisation that participates, they should feel free to find like-minded people in another group/organisation. The legal marriage of two consenting adults should be of no consequence to anyone else other than the two consenting adults.

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

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

Sunil Hutchin-Bellur
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