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

In support

This change to the law is long overdue and very welcome, and is an important step in continuing to give equal validity to gay relationships.

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

In support

That this is a legal issue and not a religious one. Everyone, religious or not, should be allowed to marry and this is about equality before the law.

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

In support

This is the other side of the coin. Why should only religions be able to supply celebrants/ministers for relationship ceremonies. To the couple the celebrant is their choice and the way I understand this part is to cater for those of alternative belief

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

There are those who want to so why should they not?

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

In support

This was not an option for those signing civil partnerships so should be automatic for those who want it.

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

Absolutely. Good grief, why not?
How would you characterise your views on allowing the religious and belief registration of civil partnerships?

In support

I would not understand the objection to this.

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

Social justice issue. Overdue. Gender recognition is a personal issue and the relationship is separate. If this is the wish of the couple it should be possible.

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

No-one will be forced to attend such a ceremony if they don't want to be there, no-one will be forced to conduct them I understand (but I think there should be an obligation for the objector to provide a replacement, except registrars who are conducting a contractual duty to apply the law and may need to consider a new career if they object).

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

Have a right to protection from hate and bigotry. People will disagree and it is their right to do so, but some of the debate from those who do so has fuelled anti-gay sentiments and violence and this is not acceptable in a modern society.

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

Please get on with it and follow England's lead. It would be shameful beyond words if we don't. For some Scotland has aspirations of independence. Would missing this opportunity for better equality in our society be our first ignoble act?

Are you responding as...

a private individual

Sam King
21 August 2013