MARRIAGE AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP (SCOTLAND) BILL

SUBMISSION FROM MARY LOCKHART

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

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

In support

I believe all celebrants should be required to be registered by the State, and in order for the marriages they conduct to be recognised by the State, the ceremony they perform should be accepted by the State as being in accordance with the Law. I believe religious ceremonies are for the Churches to determine, but if not conducted by someone qualified and registered by the State, they should have no more standing than any other ceremony conducted by a club. So, all celebrants should be on the same footing, but should meet the same State requirements, whether or not they are religious.

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 support

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?

Neither

I believe that should be a matter for the Churches and their members who are in Civil Partnerships
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

Providing both partners in a marriage which was formerly heterosexual wish to remain married, and that the partner who has retained birth assigned gender recognises and accepts the acquired gender of the other

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

One day, I hope Churches will accept a range of equality legislation from which they are currently exempt. Currently, some churches are unlikely to do so. I do not think the State should recognise the marriages conducted by these Churches or their celebrants, unless and until the Churches recognise all marriages conducted by the State

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

Mary Lockhart
14 August 2013