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 think there should be absolute equality of marriage, without distinction between same-sex and mixed-sex marriage.

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
I also support the additional opt-in of a gender-free form of the ceremony, to be used by any who wish to do so.

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?
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
I think this is an absolutely essential change to the law. Further, gender recognition, where the couple do not want to stay married should absolutely not require the consent of the spouse. There should also be a provision for a simpler gender recognition procedure for those who have been transitioned for some years, where the current evidence requirement can be difficult to meet.

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

I think the provisions in the bill as it exists are fair, and no further protections should be granted.

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

It is not contradicted in any way by the bill.

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

There remains a requirement for mixed-sex civil partnership.

**Are you responding as...**

a private individual

Roushan Martens
21 August 2013