MARRIAGE AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP (SCOTLAND) BILL
SUBMISSION FROM KENNETH MARTIN MCBRIE

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

In opposition

I object to the term marriage being used for anything other than the union between an individual man and an individual woman.

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

In opposition

This redefinition of marriage is destructive, not simply to the nature of marriage, but also to the nature of society, and family life. I understand sexual activity to be essentially directed towards the good of society and not merely the pleasure of the individual.

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

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 opposition

There has not been sufficient time to consider the effects of civil partnerships.

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?

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

In opposition

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 opposition
My understanding is that any transgender activity would render the marriage null. It seems to me that this is an aspect of the bill which requires a great deal more reflection. Has any consideration been given to the possible resultant anguish on the marriage partner?

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

This whole subject has engendered an atmosphere of fear and intimidation amongst those who support the traditional understanding of marriage; such a state of affairs is so undemocratic as to be unworthy of any legitimate government.

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

I would certainly not support any denigration or name-calling of any member of the LBGT community all of whom should be treated with respect: however, it is amply evident that any effort to have a rational, non-confrontational discussion on same-sex matters seems to render those who propose the traditional definition of marriage automatically exposed to accusations of homophobia.

**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 celebrant

Kenneth Martin McBride
22 August 2013