

Manukau Ministers Network

27-Aug-2012

Member of Parliament

Louisa Wall,

Manurewa Electorate

Dear Louisa

The Manukau Ministers Network have met and taken some time to consider a response to your Gay Marriage Bill. We want to make it clear that **we oppose this bill.**

Marriage has always been about the union of a man and a woman and is a valued tradition. It is not a human right for a small minority to reinvent marriage to suit themselves.

Marriage is recognised by the state but does not belong to it. God created marriage. He brought Eve to Adam in the first wedding ever. He set the pattern. He holds the copyright. As Christian leaders we hold to the traditional biblical view. Marriage is not just a social custom or a legal contract which can be redefined to suit human thinking.

Nature teaches that to produce offspring we need a man and a woman. Homosexual relationships are different from marriage morally, sexually and reproductively. It makes sense to call different things different things.

The one man and one woman marriage relationship is the best place to raise children. For the sake of our children and society this definition of marriage needs to be strengthened and not diluted.

Social engineering has resultant damage. Laws that are passed send a message to society which often has effects the law makers didn't perceive. For example once the Prostitution Reform bill was passed then our community saw a significant rise in young people involved in street prostitution. This wasn't the purpose of that bill but it was the grass roots outcome to our community. Many warned of this at the time but our MPs failed to listen. The resultant damage of the Gay Marriage Bill will be weaker family units and more at risk youth. This will produce more problems for society and increase the social welfare bill.

The arguments used to justify the case for this bill can be used to justify incest and polygamy. The moral decline of our nation is alarming. While we have heard you say that this will not happen it was only a short while ago that during the vote for the Civil Unions Bill MPs from your party assured us that marriage would remain between a man and a woman.

Over the last decade the Labour Party has passed laws that have weakened the family unit and angered their traditional supporters. This proposed bill would be another blow.

Lastly, this is not what Manurewa wants you focussed on. The issues at hand, we as a community face are alcohol, drugs, prostitution, poverty, lack of education, at risk youth and broken families. We need our MP focussed on these priorities.

For these reasons please withdraw this bill.

Sincerely

Pastor Lui Ponifasio – LifeChurch Manurewa

Pastor Stephen Miller – Manukau New Life Church

Pastor Chris Sola – The Dream Centre Manukau

Reverend Mark Beale - St Elizabeth's Anglican Church Manurewa

Reverend Craig Millar – St Andrew's Presbyterian Church Manurewa

Pastor Michael Nicholas – Faith City Church Manukau

Pastor Barrett Ruakere – Equippers Church Manukau

Pastor Moses Singh – Indian Christian Life Centre

Pastor Boyd Ratnaraja – Elim Church Manurewa

Reverend Peter Benzie - Redoubt North Wesleyan Church

Pastor Jim Shaw – New Life Church

Pastor Brian Paki – Christ for Every Nation

Pastor Tarsem Paul – Christian Outreach Healing Fellowship International NZ

Pastor Karel Botha – Doxadeo Church

Pastor Amosa Kennar – Jesus Worship Centre Manurewa

Pastor Esera Maeataanoa – Every Nation Church

Pastor Julia Amosa – Elim Church

Pastor Steve McWilliams - Papatoetoe Christian Centre

Pastor Martin Profitt – East City Life Church Pakuranga

Pastor Paul Gibson – Otara Baptist Church

Pastor Peter Leota – Peace Chapel Mangere

Pastor Craig Munro – King of Kings Church Manukau

Pastor Stewart Hanna – CityWay Church Manukau

Pastor Michael Loto – House of Grace Otara

Pastor Luka Robertson – Manukau New Hope