

PRESS RELEASE ON SAME SEX MARRIAGE VOTE 29.9.17

By Pastor Norman Miller Ph 0407128199

“It is important that we don’t give the government a blank cheque with a yes vote on same-sex marriage when we don’t know what protections there will be for religious freedom, freedom of speech, freedom of conscience and parental rights,” said Pastor Norman Miller of Cairns.

“It is not good enough to expect people to vote when they don’t know what the unintended consequences of the vote will be and they are expected to trust the government to legislate these protections after the vote when it is difficult enough now to get things through Parliament,” he said

“Another issue I have,” said Ps Miller, “with those lobbying for a yes vote is the use of the rainbow. According to Genesis, the rainbow is a sign of God’s covenant with every living creature and the earth that He would not destroy it again. This was a promise to Noah and future generations who were asked to multiply on the earth that had been destroyed by flood because of their sin.

“Revelation says that the rainbow surrounds the throne of God. So, I’m not happy that the rainbow has been hijacked for the LBGTIQ cause. This is the same God that placed Adam and Eve in the garden as the first people of the earth.

“The traditional view of marriage in the West has been based on the Biblical view of marriage in Genesis where God ordained that a man should leave his family and be joined to his wife. That is marriage is between one man and one woman to the exclusion of all others as is the current Australian law.”

Ps Miller continued, “Other traditions besides the Judeo-Christian one have come to the same conclusion which is part of their cultural heritage. We should be wary of trashing centuries of tradition for a change to the Marriage Act as a result of aggressive lobbying from a minority in the community who say it is inevitable and that a majority support it because they want people to believe that.

“I agree with former MP Ted Lapkin (*The Courier Mail* 13/9/17) ‘While acknowledging the inalienable dignity of all individuals as human beings created in the image of God, traditional Jews and Christians nonetheless adhere to traditional sexual mores. Any intellectually honest reading of the Bible reveals irrefutable advocacy in favour of the heterosexual nuclear family as the aspirational norm for human relationships.’”

Miller continued, “We have seen an intolerant campaign by the Yes vote to purge orthodox Christian views and dissent from any quarter from the public square. We have seen yes vote supporters punish those who do not support their views with threats of job loss and business loss. While I do not support discrimination against LBGTI who have the freedom to choose their gender identity and sexual orientation, I do not support changing the current definition of marriage. All discrimination against same-sex couples was legally removed in 2008.”

“The traditional view of marriage has stood the test of time. It is a basic unit of our society. If we now have to go down the path where we can’t say mother and father, son and daughter, bride and groom and he and she without being accused of hate speech, then we are in real trouble as a society. Teaching children in school about gender fluidity and gender reassignment is likely to confuse children unnecessarily and sexualise them too early.

“It is not a question of equality as there is equality between heterosexual couples and same-sex couples. It is not a human right to be able to marry the person of your choice. It is not as simple as marrying the one you love as there are already restrictions in that adults can’t marry children and siblings can’t marry one another. Voting yes will not give this nation more freedom but will restrict freedoms as parents, schools, churches and other organisations will soon find out” said Ps Miller.

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