

MARRIAGE AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP (SCOTLAND) BILL

SUBMISSION FROM ROWAN BURN

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

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)?

Neither

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?

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

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

Gay people getting married in Scotland will have no impact on opponents of gay marriage whose 'against' stance is based on religious beliefs. On the other hand, religious opponents want their opinions to have a direct impact on the lives of gay

people and are trying to impose their beliefs on everyone. This is unfair and should not be allowed to happen.

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

Freedom of speech is one thing, allowing nonsense such as Section 28 back in schools to protect those wishing to vocalise religious beliefs is a potential danger. Look at what has happened in France!

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

I am a Scot, living in England who would like to get married - however, the only place my partner and I wish to be married is in Scotland, where we met and lived together for 10 years. We have only been in England for a couple of years and as yet have nowhere as special as Scotland that we'd like to get married. Same-sex marriage is now legal where we live, so it seems ridiculous that less than 200 miles away I cannot be married in my home country.

Are you responding as...

a private individual

Rowan Burn
24 July 2013