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Community Information & Support Victoria supports marriage equality in Australia

Community Information & Support Victoria (CISVic) write to express our support for marriage equality.

We recognise the right of our lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) employees, volunteers, clients and customers to live and work free of prejudice and discrimination. This includes the right to marry the partner of their choice.

Australians are increasingly supportive of marriage equality, with a recent Crosby Textor survey showing seventy-two percent, believe same sex couples should be allowed to marry. We agree. Of the remaining twenty-eight percent only fourteen percent strongly opposed the proposition.

Globally, nineteen countries have passed laws to allow same sex marriage, including countries that are culturally similar to ours like New Zealand and Great Britain and, these countries did so with lower support for marriage equality, than Australia is seeing right now. In The United States, thirty-seven states and The District of Columbia have legalised same sex marriage.

On May 22nd, the Republic of Ireland held a referendum to sanction same sex marriage. A Yes vote was supported by the Government, all major political parties and the voters themselves.

In June of this year the U.S. Supreme court is likely to return a judgement in favour of legalising same sex marriage across that nation.

These two events will see Australia isolated amongst countries with English as a first language. Not only is marriage equality the only the right thing to do, it also helps improve workplaces and service delivery by allowing everyone to be treated with equal respect and feels included. We therefore support marriage equality.

Sincerely,

Kate Wheller, Executive Officer

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Community Information & Support Victoria

