



TASA The Australian
Sociological Association

An open letter from The Australian Sociological Association.

The executive of The Australian Sociological Association (TASA) writes to express our support for Marriage Equality.

Sociology has an important role to play in promoting inclusion and tolerance. We support diversity in the higher education sector and recognise the rights of our lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) students, members, colleagues, and employees to learn, live, and work, free from prejudice and discrimination, with all the essential freedoms enjoyed by other members of the community.

Equal rights are essential in the creation of a healthy, harmonious, and open society. An equitable society, free of discrimination, allows all members to function at their best. Legalised discrimination in one area allows discrimination to flourish in all areas.

Australia is a robust democracy with a proud history of social reform. We believe this should continue, with all citizens being treated equally, including those who are currently excluded from the institution of marriage.

Australians are increasingly supportive of marriage equality, with a recent Crosby Textor survey showing seventy-two per cent of Australians are in favour of same sex couples marrying. We believe this overwhelming level of support should be reflected with legal change.

Learning and academic achievement flourish when all members of our community have their dignity and equality recognised. Equal rights are the only way forward and are needed to ensure a climate where knowledge, achievement, and intellectual output can flourish.

In light of these considerations TASA supports both marriage equality and the formal recognition and valuing of the many types of family and intimate relationships that are the foundation of a vibrant and healthy Australia.

Yours faithfully,

The Australian Sociological Association