

**TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

This petition of the parishioners from the Life Church Mooroopna, draws to the attention of the House the Marriage Equality Amendment Bill 2010 which had its second reading on Wednesday 29th September 2010, which states that "The Marriage Equal Amendment Bill 2010 seeks to amend the Marriage Act 1961 to provide equality for same sex couples. The Bill would remove discrimination under the Marriage Act so that while marriage is still a union between two consenting adults, it is not defined by gender"

The parishioners of the Life Church Mooroopna recognize the importance that:-

- Marriage remain an institution centered around ^{the} (he) wellbeing of children, not the 'rights' of adults
- Children have the chance wherever possible to be brought up by a mum and a dad who are married
- Governments recognize the stability of marriage providing benefits for children, adults and for society
- Governments respect long-standing social institutions that provide for strong families and strong communities
- Marriage lines remain clearly defined so as to curtail further changes to its definition including issues such a polygamy

The petitioners believe that there are a variety of domestic arrangements available and recognized within Australia.

We therefore ask the House to protect the unique institution of marriage as traditionally understood and defined by the Marriage Act 1961 as **"the union of man and a woman, to the exclusion of all others, voluntarily entered into for life"**