



POSITIVE POLICY Marriage Equality

Labor will legislate for marriage equality within the first 100 days of the next parliament.

At its heart, marriage equality is about removing discrimination from our laws.

It is a recognition that love between two people of the same gender is of equal meaning, equal value and entitled to equal respect.

Marriage equality is a simple, overdue change to Australian law our Parliament could deal with in one day of considered debate culminating in a free vote.

Couples could sit in the Parliamentary galleries and gather on the lawns to celebrate the moment when their love became equal in law.

Since the campaign to decriminalise homosexuality, to the present day, Labor Governments have consistently been at the forefront of removing discrimination and fighting for the equal rights of LGBTI Australians.

Labor opposes Malcolm Turnbull's \$160m dangerous and divisive plebiscite on marriage equality. A plebiscite could act as a lightning rod for the very worst of the prejudice so many LGBTI Australians endure.

The plebiscite will turn into a platform for people to attack, abuse and demean Australians on the basis of who they love. The fact is, casual, unthinking discrimination and deliberate, malicious homophobia are still far too common in our society.

Two out of five young Australians who are gay have thought about self-harm or suicide.

A young Australian who identifies as gay is six times more likely to consider taking their own life, compared to their sibling, classmate, colleague or teammate.

Malcolm Turnbull's plebiscite will give a taxpayer-funded platform and a megaphone to the very worst forms of hateful abuse we will only add to the burden too many Australians have to bear.



**LABOR.
WE'LL PUT PEOPLE FIRST.**

These policies (including where relevant their costings from the independent Parliamentary Budget Office) were accurate at the time they were announced. Labor will publish the updated final cost of all policies and their combined impact on the Budget prior to election day.

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