



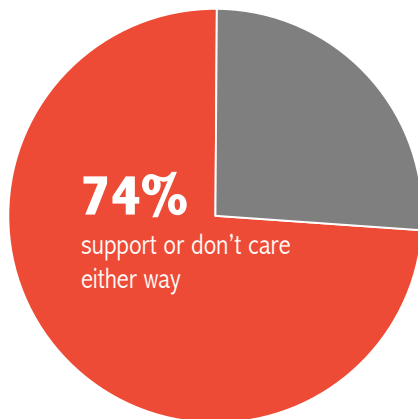
Public support in Higgins for marriage equality

Higgins strongly supports marriage equality

Polls show that the electorate of Higgins in urban Melbourne, Vic., strongly supports marriage equality.

A News Ltd poll in December 2010 surveyed every federal electorate in Australia and found that **74 percent** of respondents within Higgins either support marriage equality or don't care either way.

Support for marriage equality in Higgins (Vic)



Higgins in Top 10% of electorates in support of marriage equality

The News Ltd poll showed Higgins was the electorate 15th most supportive of marriage equality overall, putting it within the **top 10%** of federal electorates in terms of its support for the issue.

This also means support in Higgins for marriage equality was higher than that of 90 percent of other federal electorates.

Fourth most supportive Coalition electorate

The News Ltd poll showed that Higgins ranked **fourth** most supportive Coalition electorate in Australia on the issue of marriage equality, just behind Wentworth (NSW), Brisbane (Qld), and Curtin (WA).

Higgins is also the most supportive Coalition-held electorate in Victoria on the issue of marriage equality.

Top 10 Coalition electorates in support of marriage equality

1. **Wentworth** (NSW)
2. **Brisbane** (Qld)
3. **Curtin** (WA)
4. **Higgins** (Vic)
5. **Goldstein** (Vic)
6. **Kooyong** (Vic)
7. **Ryan** (Qld)
8. **Stirling** (WA)
9. **Swan** (WA)
10. **Warringah** (NSW)

Higgins candidates who support marriage equality

At the federal election of 2010, the following candidates in the seat of Higgins openly supported marriage equality:

- **Tony Clark** (ALP)
- **Samuel Hibbins** (GRN)
- **David Fawcett** (IND)

Only Kelly O'Dwyer (Lib) and Ashley Truter (Family First) opposed marriage equality.

Nothing to lose by supporting marriage equality

The declared support for marriage equality by the ALP and Greens candidates in the 2010 federal election suggests that the incumbent Liberal MP, Kelly O'Dwyer, would **not lose support** on a two-party preferred basis if she openly supported marriage equality – because of the distribution of preferences.

In fact, Ms O'Dwyer is only likely to gain more votes from the centre if she supported marriage equality, with many Labor and Greens voters reconsidering their vote.