

Same Sex Marriage Report

Prepared for:
Australian Marriage Equality
June, 2009





1. Methodology



Methodology

- ▶ This study was conducted on the Galaxy Omnibus on the weekend of 29-31 May, 2009.
- ▶ The sample was 1,100 respondents aged 16 years and older distributed throughout Australia, as follows:
 - NSW/ACT 330
 - Victoria/Tasmania 310
 - Queensland 200
 - South Australia 130
 - Western Australia 130
- ▶ Interviews were conducted using CATI (computer assisted telephone interviewing) with telephone numbers randomly selected from electronic White Pages. All interviewers were personally trained and briefed on the requirements of the study.
- ▶ Age, gender and region quotas were applied to the sample.
- ▶ Following the completion of interviewing, the data was weighted by age, gender and region to reflect the latest ABS population estimates.



2. Main Findings



Main Findings

- ▶ Same-sex marriages are legal in a number of countries, such as the US, Canada, Spain, Belgium and South Africa, however these marriages are not recognised by Australian law. The majority (58%) of Australians agree that Australian law should recognise these marriages in the same way it recognises opposite-sex marriages from these countries (28% strongly agree, 31% agree). Conversely, 36% disagree (20% strongly disagree, 16% disagree).
- ▶ Females (65%) are more likely to agree than males (51%). Australians aged 16-24 years (73%) are more likely to agree than those aged 25-34 years (69%), 35-49 years (66%) or 50 years and over (43%).
- ▶ Those who vote for the Greens (74%) or the ALP (63%) are more likely to agree than those who vote for the Coalition (49%). Amongst Coalition voters, around the same proportion agree (49%) as disagree (47%).
- ▶ Three in five (60%) of Australians agree that same sex couples should be able to marry in Australia (27% strongly agree, 34% agree). This is higher than the 36% who disagree (21% strongly disagree, 14% disagree).
- ▶ Again, females (68%) are more likely to agree than males (53%). Australians aged 16-24 years (74%) are more likely to agree than those aged 25-34 years (71%), 35-49 years (68%) or 50 years and over (45%). Those who vote for the Greens (82%) or the ALP (64%) are more likely to agree than those who vote for the Coalition (50%).



Main Findings *continued*

- ▶ In Queensland (n=200), 56% agree same sex couples should be able to marry in Australia, cf. 40% disagree. This is in line with findings from a previous study conducted by ARCQ in December, 2008 (n=400) where 54% of Queenslanders agreed that same sex couples should be able to marry cf. 41% disagree.



3. Questionnaire

SECTION A – ASK ALL RESPONDENTS

ASK ALL AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER IE CODE 02-13 IN Q1. CODE 01 TO A2

A1a. Can I just check, are you eligible to vote at elections?

Yes..... 1 * A1b
No 2 # A2

ASK IF ELIGIBLE TO VOTE IE CODE 1 IN A1a. CODE 2 TO A2

A1b. If a federal election was held today, which one of the following would you vote for? **READ OUT 1-4 AND ROTATE 1-3**

SR
The ALP 1
The Liberal Party..... 2
The National Party 3
Or, another party or candidate .. 4
Refused 5
Don't know / undecided..... 6

ASK ALL RESPONDENTS

A2. Same-sex marriages are legal in a number of countries, such as the US, Canada, Spain, Belgium, and South Africa. These marriages are **not** recognised by Australian law. Do you agree or disagree that Australian law should recognise these marriages in the same way it recognises opposite-sex marriages from these countries?

SR
Strongly agree 1
Agree 2
Disagree..... 3
Strongly Disagree..... 4
Don't know 5

IF AGREE: Is that strongly agree or just agree?

IF DISAGREE: Is that strongly disagree or just disagree?

A3. Do you agree or disagree that same sex couples should be able to marry in Australia?

SR
Strongly agree 1
Agree 2
Disagree..... 3
Strongly Disagree..... 4
Don't know 5

IF AGREE: Is that strongly agree or just agree?

IF DISAGREE: Is that strongly disagree or just disagree?



4. Detailed Tabular Findings



Tables

▶ The tables of findings are set out such that they include the following details:

1 **BASE: Wght Sample (000's):**

The number of completed interviews has been weighted to reflect the latest ABS population estimates. These estimates are shown in thousands (000's). The percentages in the table are based on these weighted figures.

2 **WEIGHTS:**

This indicates that in order to reflect the latest ABS population estimates the data has been weighted by age, gender and area.

3 **FILTERS (Where applicable):**

If the table is based on a subset of respondents then this will be titled as a Filter and accompanied by a description of the sample upon which the table is based.

4 **RESPONDENTS:**

These figures show the actual sample size, indicating the total number of respondents who were asked the relevant question.



Tables ... continued

▶ Each question has been analysed by a series of demographic variables as follows:

→ **SEX:**

- Male
- Female

→ **AGE:**

- 16-24 years
- 25-34 years
- 35-49 years
- 50 years or older

→ **MARITAL STATUS:**

- Married (married/de facto/living together)
- Not married (never married/separated/divorced/widowed)

→ **MAIN GROCERY BUYER:**

- Yes/Shared
- No

→ **CHILDREN AT HOME:**

- Children under 18 living in the household
- No children under 18 living in the household



Tables ... continued

→ WORK STATUS:

- Working full-time
- Working part-time
- Not working

→ SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS:

- *Occupation of the main income earner of the household:*
 - White collar (professional/senior management, upper white collar, lower white collar)
 - Blue collar (upper blue collar, lower blue collar)

→ LOCATION:

- NSW / ACT
- Victoria / Tasmania
- Queensland
- South Australia
- Western Australia

→ CAPITAL CITY:

- Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide or Perth
- Rest of Australia



Tables ... continued

→ **HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**

- Under \$40,000
- \$40,000 - \$69,999
- \$70,000 plus

→ **HIGHEST LEVEL OF SCHOOLING:**

- Below Year 12
- Year 12.

→ **VOTING INTENTION:**

- Intends to vote for the ALP
- Intends to vote for the Coalition (Liberal Party or National Party)
- Intends to vote for the Greens
- Intends to vote for another party or candidate

GALAXY RESEARCH
TABLE 1 Standard Banner 1 *BY* B1 Agree Australia should recognise same-sex marriage
BASE: WGHT SAMPLE (000s)
WEIGHTS: Age/Sex/Area

	Total	Sex		Age				Marital Status		Grocery Buyer		Children		Work Status			S.E.S.	
		Male	Female	16-24	25-34	35-49	50+	Marr-ied	Not Marr-ied	Yes /Shared	No	Yes	No	Full Time	Part Time	Not Working	White	Blue
RESPONDENTS	1100	552	548	155	109	388	448	683	417	725	375	457	643	461	249	390	574	526
WGHT SAMPLE (000s)	16817	8203	8614	2603	2805	4773	6636	10174	6643	11148	5669	6863	9954	6882	3899	6035	8750	8067
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
B1 Agree Australia should recognise same-sex marriage																		
TOTAL AGREE																		
Strongly agree	4691 28%	1696 21%	2995 35%	1091 42%	1072 38%	1449 30%	1079 16%	2614 26%	2076 31%	3180 29%	1510 27%	2313 34%	2378 24%	1838 27%	1455 37%	1397 23%	2770 32%	1921 24%
Agree	5130 31%	2505 31%	2624 30%	809 31%	872 31%	1684 35%	1765 27%	3142 31%	1988 30%	3470 31%	1660 29%	2401 35%	2729 27%	2301 33%	1237 32%	1592 26%	2804 32%	2325 29%
**SUBTOTALS	9820 58%	4201 51%	5619 65%	1900 73%	1943 69%	3134 66%	2843 43%	5756 57%	4064 61%	6650 60%	3170 56%	4713 69%	5107 51%	4139 60%	2692 69%	2989 50%	5574 64%	4246 53%
TOTAL DISAGREE																		
Disagree	2702 16%	1414 17%	1288 15%	303 12%	432 15%	578 12%	1389 21%	1706 17%	996 15%	1766 16%	936 17%	796 12%	1906 19%	1032 15%	557 14%	1114 18%	1283 15%	1419 18%
Strongly disagree	3412 20%	2125 26%	1287 15%	225 9%	401 14%	889 19%	1897 29%	2329 23%	1083 16%	2088 19%	1324 23%	1110 16%	2302 23%	1403 20%	590 15%	1419 24%	1493 17%	1920 24%
**SUBTOTALS	6114 36%	3539 43%	2575 30%	528 20%	833 30%	1467 31%	3286 50%	4035 40%	2079 31%	3854 35%	2260 40%	1906 28%	4208 42%	2435 35%	1147 29%	2533 42%	2776 32%	3339 41%
Don't know	882 5%	463 6%	420 5%	175 7%	29 1%	173 4%	506 8%	383 4%	500 8%	644 6%	238 4%	244 4%	639 6%	308 4%	61 2%	513 9%	400 5%	483 6%
TOTALS	16817 100%	8203 100%	8614 100%	2603 100%	2805 100%	4773 100%	6636 100%	10174 100%	6643 100%	11148 100%	5669 100%	6863 100%	9954 100%	6882 100%	3899 100%	6035 100%	8750 100%	8067 100%

GALAXY RESEARCH
TABLE 2 Standard Banner 2 *BY* B1 Agree Australia should recognise same-sex marriage
BASE: WGHT SAMPLE (000s)
WEIGHTS: Age/Sex/Area

	Total	State				Capital City		Household Income			Schooling		Voting Intention				
		NSW Vic/Tas	Qld	SA	WA	Yes	No	< \$40K	\$40K-\$69K	\$70K+	Below Year 12 Year 12	ALP	Coal -ition	Green	Other		
RESPONDENTS	1100	330	310	200	130	130	700	400	294	254	400	379	721	415	365	108	49
WGHT SAMPLE (000s)	16817	5880	4654	3301	1317	1665	10360	6457	4561	4062	5829	5812	11005	6163	5592	1703	829
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
B1 Agree Australia should recognise same-sex marriage																	
TOTAL AGREE																	
Strongly agree	4691 28%	1720 29%	1241 27%	932 28%	389 30%	408 24%	3136 30%	1555 24%	900 20%	999 25%	2041 35%	1079 19%	3612 33%	1808 29%	1140 20%	812 48%	280 34%
Agree	5130 31%	1878 32%	1413 30%	952 29%	375 28%	512 31%	3373 33%	1756 27%	1241 27%	1419 35%	1722 30%	1788 31%	3342 30%	2086 34%	1623 29%	450 26%	67 8%
**SUBTOTALS	9820 58%	3599 61%	2654 57%	1884 57%	764 58%	920 55%	6509 63%	3312 51%	2141 47%	2418 60%	3762 65%	2866 49%	6954 63%	3893 63%	2763 49%	1262 74%	348 42%
TOTAL DISAGREE																	
Disagree	2702 16%	1024 17%	760 16%	423 13%	244 19%	251 15%	1587 15%	1115 17%	822 18%	537 13%	949 16%	1094 19%	1608 15%	880 14%	1114 20%	225 13%	108 13%
Strongly disagree	3412 20%	975 17%	975 21%	776 23%	267 20%	420 25%	1731 17%	1682 26%	1315 29%	941 23%	849 15%	1463 25%	1949 18%	1006 16%	1491 27%	181 11%	345 42%
**SUBTOTALS	6114 36%	1999 34%	1735 37%	1199 36%	511 39%	671 40%	3317 32%	2797 43%	2137 47%	1478 36%	1798 31%	2557 44%	3557 32%	1886 31%	2605 47%	407 24%	453 55%
Don't know	882 5%	282 5%	265 6%	218 7%	42 3%	74 4%	534 5%	348 5%	283 6%	166 4%	269 5%	389 7%	494 4%	384 6%	224 4%	34 2%	29 3%
TOTALS	16817 100%	5880 100%	4654 100%	3301 100%	1317 100%	1665 100%	10360 100%	6457 100%	4561 100%	4062 100%	5829 100%	5812 100%	11005 100%	6163 100%	5592 100%	1703 100%	829 100%

GALAXY RESEARCH
TABLE 3 Standard Banner 1 *BY* B2 Agree same-sex couples should be able to marry
BASE: WGHT SAMPLE (000s)
WEIGHTS: Age/Sex/Area

	Total	Sex		Age				Marital Status		Grocery Buyer		Children		Work Status			S.E.S.	
		Male	Female	16-24	25-34	35-49	50+	Marr-ied	Not Marr-ied	Yes /Shared	No	Yes	No	Full Time	Part Time	Not Working	White	Blue
RESPONDENTS	1100	552	548	155	109	388	448	683	417	725	375	457	643	461	249	390	574	526
WGHT SAMPLE (000s)	16817	8203	8614	2603	2805	4773	6636	10174	6643	11148	5669	6863	9954	6882	3899	6035	8750	8067
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
B2 Agree same-sex couples should be able to marry																		
TOTAL AGREE																		
Strongly agree	4468 27%	1563 19%	2905 34%	959 37%	1041 37%	1481 31%	988 15%	2507 25%	1961 30%	3134 28%	1334 24%	2084 30%	2384 24%	1733 25%	1439 37%	1296 21%	2719 31%	1749 22%
Agree	5699 34%	2764 34%	2934 34%	974 37%	940 34%	1759 37%	2025 31%	3432 34%	2267 34%	3876 35%	1822 32%	2708 39%	2990 30%	2448 36%	1362 35%	1888 31%	3014 34%	2685 33%
**SUBTOTALS	10167 60%	4327 53%	5840 68%	1933 74%	1982 71%	3240 68%	3013 45%	5939 58%	4228 64%	7011 63%	3156 56%	4793 70%	5374 54%	4181 61%	2801 72%	3184 53%	5733 66%	4434 55%
TOTAL DISAGREE																		
Disagree	2421 14%	1263 15%	1158 13%	347 13%	377 13%	503 11%	1194 18%	1560 15%	861 13%	1560 14%	860 15%	780 11%	1641 16%	995 14%	490 13%	936 16%	1148 13%	1273 16%
Strongly disagree	3573 21%	2250 27%	1323 15%	276 11%	400 14%	850 18%	2047 31%	2357 23%	1216 18%	2088 19%	1485 26%	1107 16%	2465 25%	1452 21%	555 14%	1566 26%	1523 17%	2050 25%
**SUBTOTALS	5993 36%	3513 43%	2481 29%	623 24%	777 28%	1352 28%	3241 49%	3917 39%	2077 31%	3648 33%	2345 41%	1887 27%	4106 41%	2447 36%	1044 27%	2502 41%	2670 31%	3323 41%
Don't know	657 4%	363 4%	294 3%	47 2%	46 2%	181 4%	383 6%	318 3%	339 5%	489 4%	168 3%	183 3%	473 5%	254 4%	54 1%	349 6%	347 4%	310 4%
TOTALS	16817 100%	8203 100%	8614 100%	2603 100%	2805 100%	4773 100%	6636 100%	10174 100%	6643 100%	11148 100%	5669 100%	6863 100%	9954 100%	6882 100%	3899 100%	6035 100%	8750 100%	8067 100%

GALAXY RESEARCH

TABLE 4 Standard Banner 2 *BY* B2 Agree same-sex couples should be able to marry

BASE: WGHT SAMPLE (000s)

WEIGHTS: Age/Sex/Area

	Total	State					Capital City		Household Income			Schooling		Voting Intention			
		NSW	Vic/Tas	Qld	SA	WA	Yes	No	< \$40K	\$40K-\$69K	\$70K+	Below Year 12	Year 12	ALP	Coal -ition	Green	Other
RESPONDENTS	1100	330	310	200	130	130	700	400	294	254	400	379	721	415	365	108	49
WGHT SAMPLE (000s)	16817	5880	4654	3301	1317	1665	10360	6457	4561	4062	5829	5812	11005	6163	5592	1703	829
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
B2 Agree same-sex couples should be able to marry																	
TOTAL AGREE																	
Strongly agree	4468 27%	1582 27%	1283 28%	852 26%	370 28%	381 23%	2988 29%	1480 23%	951 21%	884 22%	1987 34%	1002 17%	3466 31%	1707 28%	1085 19%	877 52%	241 29%
Agree	5699 34%	2196 37%	1540 33%	995 30%	363 28%	604 36%	3827 37%	1872 29%	1305 29%	1623 40%	1859 32%	1996 34%	3702 34%	2228 36%	1691 30%	515 30%	174 21%
**SUBTOTALS	10167 60%	3778 64%	2823 61%	1847 56%	734 56%	985 59%	6816 66%	3351 52%	2256 49%	2506 62%	3846 66%	2998 52%	7169 65%	3934 64%	2776 50%	1392 82%	415 50%
TOTAL DISAGREE																	
Disagree	2421 14%	906 15%	726 16%	405 12%	213 16%	171 10%	1401 14%	1020 16%	662 15%	508 13%	901 15%	909 16%	1512 14%	947 15%	971 17%	70 4%	79 10%
Strongly disagree	3573 21%	988 17%	931 20%	910 28%	299 23%	445 27%	1782 17%	1790 28%	1399 31%	925 23%	869 15%	1585 27%	1988 18%	1078 17%	1553 28%	208 12%	306 37%
**SUBTOTALS	5993 36%	1894 32%	1657 36%	1314 40%	512 39%	616 37%	3183 31%	2810 44%	2060 45%	1433 35%	1770 30%	2494 43%	3500 32%	2026 33%	2525 45%	279 16%	385 46%
Don't know	657 4%	208 4%	174 4%	139 4%	71 5%	64 4%	361 3%	296 5%	245 5%	123 3%	212 4%	320 6%	337 3%	203 3%	291 5%	32 2%	29 3%
TOTALS	16817 100%	5880 100%	4654 100%	3301 100%	1317 100%	1665 100%	10360 100%	6457 100%	4561 100%	4062 100%	5829 100%	5812 100%	11005 100%	6163 100%	5592 100%	1703 100%	829 100%



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Research Solutions

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