Dear Sir and Madam,

I am writing to tell you that I completely agree with what many other people have undoubtedly written about discrimination towards LGBTQI in Australia: it is completely unacceptable. I therefore I support the HRAD bill and urge you to as well, as a representative of a fair, discrimintation free Australia.

I also want to make it clear that Government Funding (TAX dollars) should be used to support every human being freely and equally, so Religious Organisations should not be able to discriminate against employees or the disadvantaged and vulnerable people they assist. If they choose to do so, they should lose funding or be forced at the very least to disclose their discriminatory practice so people can choose to support them, or not. LGBTQI people have to eat, live and pay bills too! The idea that a person can be denied care or work because of their biology is revolting, and reminiscent of Apartheid. It has to stop.

I am not a great writer but I strongly believe that in a few decades equality will have been reached for LGBTQI people and we can choose now, whether we are the ones to support them or whether history will look upon us as the last bastions of an antiquated system that rejects people who are just like us, on discriminatory and ridiculous grounds.

Are we like those sticks in the mud that supported racism or are we the flexible, inquisitive and brave minded people who move into a new world of equality, sharing our freedoms with grace and humility?

With hope,

Carli Leah Lewis