

Hello,

Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Bill 2022

I wish to make the following comments on the draft bill, and request that you do not publicly disclose my personal details.

My comments are particularly in relation to Part 5 of the bill:

There is no definition of sex. Sex as defined in general usage, is “either of the two main categories (male and female) into which humans and most other living things are divided on the basis of their reproductive functions.” (<https://languages.oup.com/google-dictionary-en>), or other such definitions that usually define sex as binary in terms of gametes – females produce large non-motile gametes, males produce small mobile ones.

The bill is confusing “gender” or “sexual expression” for “sex”. A simple internet search will produce many dozens of gender descriptors ranging from aporgender to two-spirit. Will these be permitted identifiers under the legislations?

I have a number of questions regarding situations that have arisen in other jurisdictions where similar legislation has been enacted. None of these concerns appear to have been addressed in the bill:

- Where are the safeguards that are currently offered to women against male violence by exclusively women’s spaces? EG: How will this bill prevent a self-identified woman (who is actually male) indecently exposing himself in a woman’s changing facility?
- How will women who currently play sex segregated sport be protected from natal male bodies?
- How will male violence against women be reported in crime statistics when males can self-identify as women?
- Will lesbians be able to exclude males who self-identify as women from lesbian spaces?
- Will female only gyms be allowed to continue to operate? Female only schools?
- Will natal males who self-identify as women be able to be excluded from women’s domestic violence refuges?
- Will natal males who self-identify as women be incarcerated in women’s prisons?
- Under the Anti-Discrimination Act, sex (which is undefined) is a protected category. What will happen to discrimination based on sex that currently occurs under the act?

- The Anti-Discrimination Act defines **sexuality** to mean “heterosexuality, homosexuality or bisexuality”. How will this definition be changed to accommodate the plethora of gender identities?

Thank you for your consideration.

