



Gay & Lesbian Rights Lobby

At least 58 federal laws discriminate against same-sex couples and their children.

This includes discrimination in employment, workers' compensation, tax, social security, veterans' entitlements, Medicare, superannuation, aged care, migration and family law. In 2008, the Gay & Lesbian Rights Lobby is calling on the Federal Government to remove discrimination from 58 laws by the end of 2008.

You can help the campaign and join the fight for equal rights.

Lobby Achievements:

- 1990 = GLLOs across NSW police stations
- 1991 = Establishment of Anti-Violence Project
- 1993 = Homosexual anti-vilification legislation
- 1999 = Property, hospital, next of kin, inheritance & relationship rights in NSW
- 2003 = Equal age of consent
- 2004 = 1st recognition of super rights
 - ? / Parenting and adoption rights
 - ? / Equality in 58 federal laws

Equality... Bring it on!

YES! I want to help the 58 '08 campaign by applying to become a member of the Gay & Lesbian Rights Lobby (NSW) Inc.

I support the objectives of the Gay & Lesbian Rights Lobby and agree to abide by the GLRL constitution (available at our website).

Name: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ Postcode: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Tel: _____ Mobile: _____

Email: _____

- \$25 full member \$10 concession member (student/concession card req.)
 \$50 associate member (gay & lesbian community group) \$150 associate member (organisation or business)

Name of group or business: _____

Please do not add me to the GLRL contact list for campaign news and updates.

Donation: \$ _____

TOTAL (donation & membership): \$ _____

PAYMENT METHOD: Credit card Cash Cheque

I, _____ authorise the Gay & Lesbian Rights Lobby to debit my credit card the total shown.

Card No: _____ - _____ - _____ - _____ Expiry: ____ / ____ Visa Mastercard AMEX

Signature: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____

At least **58** federal laws discriminate against same-sex couples and their children.

In 2007, the Australian Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission found that same-sex couples and their children are denied many everyday entitlements and benefits available to heterosexual Australians.

Here are just a few examples:

Employment: Same-sex couples and families are not guaranteed carer's leave, compassionate leave, parental leave or equal travel entitlements. Same-sex partners are not eligible for workers' compensation under ComCare if their partner is killed at work.

Taxation: Same-sex couples are not entitled to a range of tax concessions, including the dependent spouse tax offset, capital gains tax concessions, and fringe benefits tax exemptions. Same-sex couples may pay a higher Medicare levy and surcharge and do not get equal access to the baby bonus, child care tax rebate and medical expenses tax offset.

Health Care Costs: A same-sex family cannot access the Medicare Safety Net or Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme as a family, meaning a family must spend more to qualify for health care subsidies.

Veterans' and Defence Entitlements: The same-sex partner of a veteran is not eligible for many entitlements, including the war widow/widower's pension and bereavement entitlements. Employees with same-sex partners in the Australian Defence Force may be denied low-interest home loans.

Family Law: Same-sex couples cannot access the Family Court. A child living in a same-sex family may be denied equal rights to child support and definitions of a 'parent' in family law create uncertainty for a child following the separation or death of parents.

Superannuation: The surviving same-sex partner of a federal public servant cannot access superannuation death benefits and same-sex couples cannot take advantage of superannuation contributions splitting and super tax offsets.

Social Security: Same-sex couples are treated as 'individuals' under social security law meaning that some may be advantaged, but others will not be entitled to a range of benefits including the partner allowance, bereavement benefits and concession card benefits. A young same-sex couple will have to pass more rigorous income tests to qualify for Youth Allowance.

Aged Care: A person in a same-sex couple will generally pay more for residential aged care than a person in an opposite-sex couple, due to discriminatory assets and income tests.

Migration: With the exception of two visas, same-sex couples are denied equal access to a full-range of work, study, protection and other visas available to opposite-sex couples.

Find the full list of legislation in the *Same-Sex: Same Entitlements* report by the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission: www.humanrights.gov.au/human_rights/samesex



Equality...
Bring it on!


Gay & Lesbian
Rights Lobby