

From: Y.F.Sally Chan
Date: Tuesday, December 30, 2008
Subject: My opinion on Family Violence Ordinance to be discussed on Jan 10

Dear Legco members,

I write to express my concern on the possible modification of "Family Violence" ordinance which is being considered to include homosexual partners (man and man ; woman and woman living together with intimate relationship) in the definition of 'family'.

I do not discriminate against gays or lesbians. However, including them in the concept of 'family' may lead to the ultimate acceptance of homosexual marriage in the society. Homosexual marriage has been a controversial topic for years and legalising it may lead to a series of anti-discriminatory regulations that are likely to be abused by those with the 'rights'. The implications are too costly for our society.

However, I do agree that we need to protect anyone who is being violently treated or abused. In light of this, I would suggest setting up a new law to protect victims of violence caused by "flatmates", without using the name of "Family". "Family" has the connotation of husband and wife with legal binding. This term should be treated with caution; or else Hong Kong has a high price to pay.

Chan Yuk Fun
A school teacher