

For the attention of Miss Betty Ma, Clerk to the Legco Panel on Welfare Services

Dear Miss Ma,

I am putting in, as a private citizen, my submission on the proposed amendments to the Domestic Violence Ordinance (DVO), which I understand is the subject of a special meeting of the Panel to be held on 10 January.

In my view, extending the scope of the DVO to include same-sex cohabitants will bring about the undesired (and undesirable) effect of recognising same-sex marriage. I trust it remains a generally-accepted value of our society that marriage is the voluntary union for life of one man and one woman to the exclusion of all others. This value is fully recognised and firmly embedded in our statutes as the foundation of our Marriage Ordinance.

For this very reason, I cannot support extending the scope of the DVO to include same-sex cohabitants. The Administration should be requested to explore alternative ways in addressing the issue of protecting same-sex cohabitants against acts of violence committed against each other.

I shall be grateful if you would pass this submission to the Honourable members of the Panel.

With best regards,
Louis Loong