

From: Fiona Chu [REDACTED]
To: bc_52_13@legco.gov.hk

Date: Monday, April 14, 2014 11:44PM
Subject: Opinions on Amendment of Marriage Bill 2014

Dear Sir,

We are writing to express my opinions on the amendment of the Marriage Bill 2014. As a secondary school teacher, we concern much with the development of proper values among teenagers. We are opposed to the acceptance of marriage between a normal person with a person who has full sex re-assignment surgery, as stated in the amendment. Accordingly, we further strongly disagree to the widening of acceptance of those transsexual to have marriage with 'same sex'.

For ages in Hong Kong, or in Chinese society, family is based on marriage between male and female. This is the most natural development of our society and it contributes to sustainability of our harmony. We have different features, abilities, talents and limits, but with self-acceptance, mutual understanding and collaboration, our society is then integrated with full strengths and potentials. This is the central values among people. We are all born with good reasons and our sex is our identity. Artificial surgery doesn't change our genuine existence. Scientifically, or medically, our DNA and inner values do not change no matter what surgeries we take. As an educator, helping teenagers to solve their puzzles in sex identity and life goal is far more crucial than surgery. Therefore, in the first place, I disapprove sex-reassignment and certainly the 'aftermath' sex. In view of that, we disagree with the amendment of the Marriage Bill.

The rush decision or passing of the bill will lead to unpredictable and tremendous worries and disorder. The acknowledgement to change the sex identity on ID cards for people who have full sex-re-assignment is only a practical measure to facilitate their daily life such as in travelling or daily operation in community in order to avoid social disturbances. It doesn't necessarily mean it must be applied to marriage, which is the fundamental value and order of society. It will certainly arouse different conflicts and legal matters. Though I am not professional in this area, I could instantly imagine the amendment will directly encourage more transsexual, especially those lost and puzzled teenagers fancying marriage to have the sex-reassignment surgery without enough consideration, before proper counselling and assistance have been given to help them. Doubts like how to deal with the accusation of husbands who later find being concealed by the wife who has finished sex reassignment surgery are very likely to appear.

What's more irritating and upsetting us is the recent appeal for a even wider acceptance of all kinds of transsexual to the Marriage Bill, whether the surgery has been completed or not. It is quite clear that homosexual marriage is generally unacceptable to our culture and core values. Equality doesn't mean all in the same status or same mode, but to accept individual diversities with different proper measures and practice.

If the Marriage Bill is carelessly amended with the lack of sufficient and all-rounded consultation, no one can bear the adverse and far-reaching impacts to the growth of our teenagers, our culture and social system. Therefore, we urge the government to conduct thorough study on this issue with more time and resources on a more serious and sincere consultation before the proposal on the Amendment of the Marriage Bill.

Yours truly,
Ms. Chu Ling Fung
Chairman of Teacher Concern Alliance for SODO