



AIDA

The Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association
ABN: 84 131 668 936

MEDIA RELEASE

Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association

17 October 2017

Supporting marriage equality is supporting health and wellbeing

The Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association today releases our policy statement entitled [Marriage Equality – 2017](#). This statement extends our support and advocacy toward same-sex marriage and calls on the Australian Parliament to legislate change which allows same-sex couples to legally marry under Australian law.

AIDA recognises that lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer/questioning (LGBTIQ) people have experienced a long history of social discrimination in Australia, which we know has a negative effect on mental health.

In line with human rights principles, AIDA calls for all people to be recognised equally under the law, regardless of gender or sexuality, and to be free to participate in society without fear of discrimination, harm or exclusion from services or opportunities. We also insist that the Australian health care system be responsive to the health needs of LGBTIQ people and offer appropriate and discrimination-free care, treatment and follow up.

Legislating for marriage equality is the next logical step for Australia to take towards redressing the systemic discrimination experienced by the LGBTIQ community.

As a peak body for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, AIDA strongly advocates for marriage equality in the broader context of improving outcomes for the mental and physiological health and wellbeing of LGBTIQ people.

END MESSAGE

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