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June 05,2014

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Commission on the Marriage Canon  
Anglican Church of Canada  
80 Hayden Street  
Toronto, ON M4Y 3G2

Re: Invitation for submissions to the Commission  
on the Marriage Canon

To my fellow Anglicans,

The following is my opinion on the marriage canon with regard to marriage of same-sex couples in the same way as opposite-sex couples.

I am not in agreement for same-sex marriages being condoned by the Anglican Church. A Church is built upon the Word of God and we believe the Bible to be the inspired word of God and it is a manual for our living. We are told what is good and what is sin. We learn that our God is all loving, but he expects us to be obedient also. It saddens me that the Church wants to go the "way of the World" rather than stand up for the Holy Word. The story of Sodom and Gomorrha (**Genesis chp 19 and 11Peter chp 2:6**), that they be "ensample unto those that after should live ungodly", is very clear to me that God was displeased with their behavior. We are called to love everyone, but that doesn't stop us from despising the sin, and at the same time loving our brothers and sisters. I thought the Church was there to teach and guide us and help us to repent and worship and glorify God to the best of our abilities.

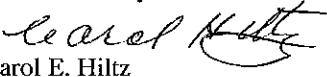
**Leviticus 20:13** describes unlawful marriages. "If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them." **Jude** tells us in verse 7 the same thing. All throughout the Bible there are verses written by the inspiration of Almighty God, **James 4:4, Romans chps 1&2, verses 26 & 27, verse 28-32** says ".God gave them over to a reprobate mind to do those things which are not convenient, being filled with unrighteousness, etc."

The matter of same-sex marriages really upsets me. I have been blessed with a marriage of 47 years to my husband, and more God willing. It has been a gift to love and to be loved. In the beginning (**Genesis**) God made male and female, to become "one flesh". **Ephesians chp.5** tells us how husbands and wives should love each other. **1Corinthians chp.6:9-19** tells who will not inherit the Kingdom of God, and **chp.7 gives us instructions on marriage between a man and a women**, not instructions between same gender people.

If same gender persons wish to have this manner of sexual bond between themselves, let them go outside the Church for civil ceremonies and call it "Palimony" rather than "Marriage". I do not feel it is the Church's place to bless such a union or perform a marriage ceremony, which I see very clearly as contrary to God's instructions, if we are to take the Bible as the Word of God. Laws of the world change continually, but God's law was, is and shall be the same forever. Are we to tear those pages from the Bible so that we don't need to hear God's words? It seems that we are so afraid of "offending" someone that we fail to stand up for what the Lord had taught us. With the help of the Holy Spirit we as a Church can set an example for others to follow. We can certainly love the sinner but despise the sin.

I pray the Anglican Church decides not to degrade the institution of Marriage by allowing the "marriage" of same-sex couples. I pray that God will guide our hearts and minds to love and understand one another and to do His Will. One day He will judge us all. And, I pray that the sacrament of Marriage between a man and a woman remain Holy and Good in His sight, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Yours sincerely,

  
Carol E. Hiltz