

Dear Members of the Commission,

We would like to add our voices of support for LGBTQ Anglicans. We all know there are strong theological reasonings for same-sex marriage, so Instead of answering the questions on the website (which have been discussed and debated ad nauseam), we want to share some of our families personal thoughts.

We have two children, 6 and 7 years old, who both wanted to march in the Pride Parade with the Anglicans this year to tell their church-writ-large that it's wrong not to marry same-sex couples. "I might want to marry a girl, so I should probably march in the parade," they said. How sad it will be for them if they can't get married in the church that they love!

We have felt welcomed and at home in the Anglican church. We started attending years ago because of the ordination of women and the forward movement in queer rights, which is a deep-rooted, spirit-led aspect of our faith journeys. But, it's taking too long. It's really embarrassing telling our LGBTQ friends that they're not fully welcome in the Anglican Church of Canada. (We can play semantic games all we want; if they don't have the same rights and privileges, they're not *really* welcome.) We want to belong to a denomination that we're proud to be a part of, not one we have to be apologetic for.

We hope and pray that the Anglican Church of Canada will follow Christ's example of love and inclusion by changing Canon XXI to allow for same-sex marriages of LGBTQ Anglicans.

Respectfully,

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