



雪梨華人基督教聯會

Sydney Chinese Christian Churches Association

華福澳洲紐省區委會 CCCOWE - New South Wales Committee of Australia

The Sydney Chinese Christian Churches Association (SCCCA) is the peak body representing Chinese Christian churches and Christian organisations in Sydney. It currently consists of members including 46 Chinese Christian Churches and 30 Christian organisations. It represents over 15,000 Chinese Christians. The Executive Committee of SCCCA wishes to make the following statement in relation to the current Federal election.

We are thankful to God for Australia and her people. We are thankful for the electoral process and the freedom to choose our leaders without threats. We are thankful for those who serve us in parliament.

We encourage all those in the Chinese community in Sydney who are eligible to vote to exercise their rights by voting on 2 July 2016.

There are many issues of great importance at this election. There are policies that will go beyond the immediate time frame and result in significant long term impact on our families and our children, their education and their future. One issue that will have this sort of impact is the redefinition of marriage from a being lifelong union between a woman and a man to include same-sex relationships.

The current definition of marriage as between a man and a woman has been long recognised in Chinese culture as well as all other cultures, religions and communities. For the sake of families and to encourage men and women to commit to one another and to their offspring; marriage between a man and a woman has always been given the special recognition and support of the state. To change this definition of marriage will undermine the fundamental structure of family and society.

The policies of the major parties are:

Coalition – will hold a plebiscite after the election to give all Australians the right to have their say about whether to change the definition of marriage and family. This is the only party that will allow the Chinese community to have their say on this important national issue.

Labor – will legislate to change the definition of marriage within 100 days of taking office.

Greens – will legislate to change the definition of marriage immediately, and also change the anti-discrimination law so that those who continue to believe that marriage is between a man and a woman may be liable to prosecution.

We along with all Chinese people everywhere believe that family is important and is the core of all societies. We therefore encourage our fellow Australians in the Chinese community to support the policy that will give all Australians the right to have their say about their views on marriage and family.

SCCCA Executive Committee June 2016