take a stand

a strong effort to defend yourself or to oppose something

***Gay marriage debate - Tony Jones talks to Jim Wallace and Bob Brown*: But it's opposed by bigots, it's opposed by people and their very, very highly organised and unfortunately they've been blocking the will of the majority of people in Australia and it's time the Rudd Government took a stand on this and thank goodness the ACT Government is pursuing the legislation it had which was overridden by the Howard Government and which now should be brought into law.**