

# JOINT STATEMENT

## NATIONAL FAITH AND CIVIL MARRIAGE EQUALITY FORUM

Parliament House, Canberra

17 November 2016

1) As clergy and lay leaders in our faith communities, we believe we are all equal in the eyes of G-d, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity or intersex status. We urge faith leaders to promote equality and inclusion for all people.

2) As people of faith, we understand that marriage is based on the values of love and commitment and we support civil marriage equality, not despite, but because of our faith and values.

3) We support a change to the legal definition of civil marriage to include LGBTI peoples' relationships and families, a change that the majority of Australian society supports.

4) We urge people of faith to exercise their freedom of conscience to stand up for civil marriage equality as a matter of social justice.

5) We call on politicians to unite to make civil marriage equality a reality for every Australian.

