

marriage =

Have you thought... many believe marriage = one man + one woman?

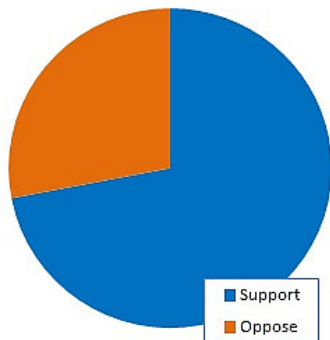
We often hear about the overwhelming support for the redefinition of marriage. But is that accurate?

How many Australians support the redefinition of marriage?

We hear all the time that there is overwhelming support for "marriage equality" in Australia. We hear that Australia is "lagging behind" the rest of the world, particularly the English speaking world. But is this accurate?

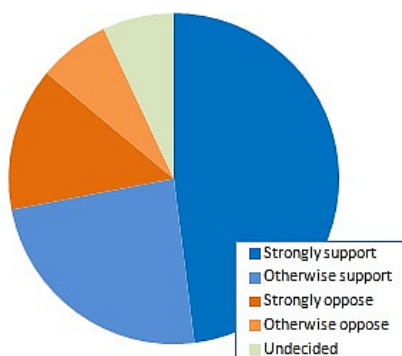
A recent survey of attitudes towards the redefinition of marriage in Australia was conducted by Crosby/Textor at the request of Australian Marriage Equality. Australian Marriage Equality reported that "support for marriage equality is at its highest level ever at 72%."

If we put the 72% onto a graph of support v oppose, it would look something like this.



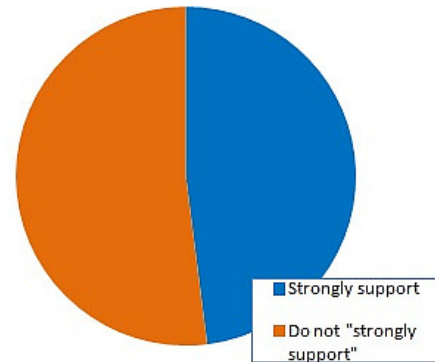
But the Crosby/Textor poll did not give respondents the options of "support" or "oppose". It gave them 5 options to indicate how strong their support was. Less than half said they "strongly supported" allowing same-sex couples to marry in Australia.

Graphically, it looks something like this:

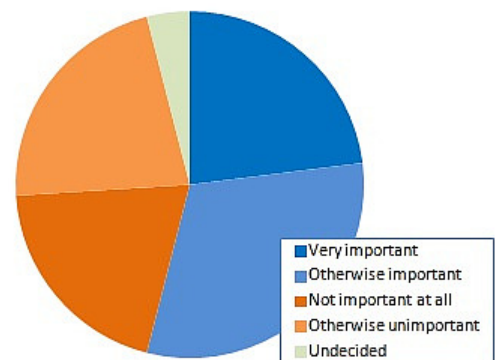


Surveys about Australian attitudes towards marriage redefinition show that less than half of the population "strongly support" redefinition, and many don't consider it to be an important issue

Or, if we just split this into those who "strongly support" and those who do something other than strongly support, and it looks like this:



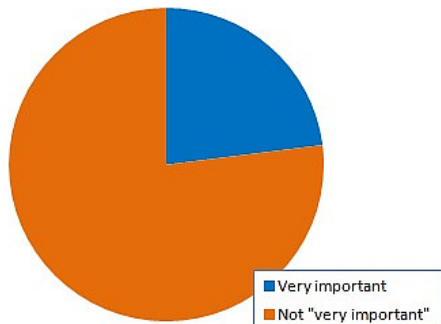
The poll also asked respondents how important the issue was to them. Just over half (54%) indicated that same-sex marriage held any importance at all, and less than a quarter (23%) said it was "very important".



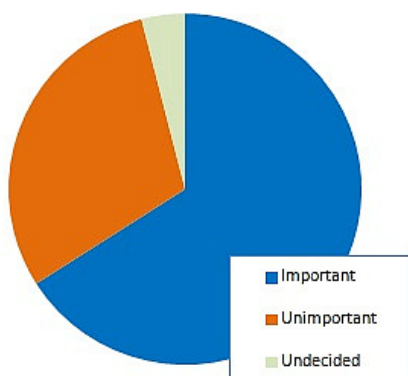
If we only look at those who indicate this as a very important issue, then we see that 77% of people see this issue as not "very important". If we are told that 72% indicating support for same-sex marriage is an "overwhelming" number, then 77% of people considering

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this issue to be not "very important" is even more overwhelming!



Even amongst those who responded to the survey by saying that they supported the redefinition of marriage, the importance they attached to it was not as high. Only 28% of supporters said that it was a "very important" issue, and two-thirds said it held any importance at all.



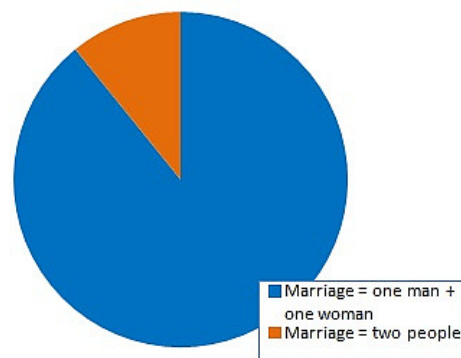
What all of these statistics and images tell us is that the overwhelming push for marriage redefinition about which we so often hear is not really that overwhelming if you consider how many people strongly support same-sex "marriage" and how important they consider the issue to be.

In fact, the recent Sexton poll confirmed that redefining marriage is a low priority for voters in Australia, as did GetUp's June survey, in which respondents rated the issue only 16th in importance.

Source: The Australia, 12 August 2015

Support around the world

It is important to note that on a worldwide scale, Australia's current law accords with laws in the overwhelming majority of countries around the world. 172 out of the 193-member countries of the United Nations currently define marriage as being between one man and one woman.



Even so, this is not a "majority rules" decision

The purpose of showing these statistics is simply to show that the push for marriage redefinition is not as strong as is sometimes portrayed. And even if it was, this should not be a "majority rules" decision. Marriage is too important to be decided by a show of hands.

KEY POINTS

Less than half of Australians surveyed in the Australian Marriage Equality survey "strongly support" the redefinition of marriage.

Only 28% of those who support the redefinition of marriage consider it to be a "very important" issue.

The strength of support for the redefinition of marriage is not as overwhelming as we are sometimes led to believe.

Marriage is too important to be decided by a show of hands.