

# REAL Women of Canada

"Women's Rights Not at the Expense of Human Rights"

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NGO in SPECIAL consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations

## PRESS RELEASE

Ottawa,  
May 31, 2005

Ontario

### **Bill C-38 (Same-sex Marriage) has detrimental effects on Canadian Society**

REAL Women of Canada will be appearing before the House of Commons Committee reviewing Bill C-38 (same-sex marriage) on Thursday, June 2 at 3:30 p.m.

In its presentation REAL Women will outline why Bill C-38 is unacceptable to a majority of Canadians owing to its long range detrimental effects to society, and especially to children.

It is beyond dispute that children thrive best in an opposite-sex family environment. Comprehensive controlled studies indicate that children are at greater risk of harm if raised in same-sex relationships. This is due to the fact that same-sex unions are not equivalent to opposite-sex unions and it is these differences which REAL Women will highlight in its presentation to the Committee as causing harm to children.

Bill C-38, unfortunately, also fails to provide protection for religious groups, despite wording to the contrary in the legislation.

It is obvious that, in its effort to push through this unpopular legislation and make it more palatable, the Liberal government, and Minister of Justice Cotler especially, are misleading the public on several crucial aspects of this legislation. This became very apparent when Mr. Cotler testified before the Committee on May 12, 2005.

Public laws are intended to protect and promote public interests, not private lifestyle preferences. The public good is not served by Bill C-38 which advances private interests only. Legal opposite-sex marriage is a public institution established to provide benefits to society and is not meant to promote these private interests.

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PR-04-0