

**FPQ SUPPORTS CALL FOR GOVERNMENT ACTION ON
RELATIONSHIP RECOGNITION**

Findings of state-wide research released today show two out of three survey respondents agree children in same sex headed families should have both parents recognised by Queensland law.

Over 50% of respondents also believe same sex couples should be able to marry.

Family Planning Queensland (FPQ) welcomes the results of the survey and supports the call for the Queensland Government to enact the changes required to recognise families in all the ways they are created.

FPQ Director of Education Services, Cecelia Gore, is pleased the true feelings of Queenslanders have been revealed.

“This survey shows that the majority of Queenslanders do not support discrimination, and fears that are expressed about community acceptance of change are unfounded.” Ms Gore said.

“The lack of legal recognition of same sex relationships negatively impacts on the children from those families, and also on how young people growing up may think about their own sexuality.” Ms Gore said.

Action by the Queensland Government to catch up with recognition initiatives in the rest of Australia could also positively change unacceptable levels of bullying of gay and lesbian students in schools.

96% of survey respondents also agreed schools should actively try to prevent bullying of gay and lesbian students

“Engaging young people in comprehensive programs to develop skills in relationships and decision making, acceptance of diversity and valuing of themselves and each other, is a key task for parents and school communities.” Ms Gore said.

“These objectives are undermined by a failure to recognise same sex relationships in Queensland law.”

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For further information, or to arrange an interview please contact:
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The report from the Galaxy Poll is available at www.qahc.org.au/election09