

## Same-sex marriage

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Same-sex marriage is marriage of persons of the same sex or gender identity.

Same-sex marriage is known as marriage between people of the same sex and this notion has had a long history from the very ancient time.

First of all let us try to understand when this problem got legal coloring.

Some scientists define the marriage as union between a man and a woman recognized by law, their rights and responsibility. Value of this word marriage has changed in the second half of the 20th century and many dictionaries began to explain the notion same-sex marriage. The first law for marriage of people of the same sex in modern times was provided in the Netherlands. [n1]

Nowadays same-sex marriage is recognized in more than 20 countries. Polls show rising support for legally recognized same-sex marriage in USA, Australia and Europe. Nevertheless, South Africa is the only African country where same-sex marriage is recognized. No country in Asia legally recognizes same-sex marriage ceremonies performed under its jurisdiction.

In Russia same-sex marriage is prohibited owing to family law, though gay marriage is under the discussion in our community. For example, in 2004 the member of Bashkir parliament Eduard Murzin attempted to make changes in Family law but the bill was not signed. [n2]

There are supporters and opponents of the same-sex marriage. Let us consider what the advantages and disadvantages of the same-sex marriage are. Those who support them consider they are natural like others there is no psychological difference between the same-sex couples; No same-sex unions undermine marriage, but ban gay marriage. The supporters think the law should follow public opinion leading to the elimination of no equality between men. The opponents of the same-sex marriage are sure state recognition and registration of same same-sex marriage changes the principles of state law where the words “husband” and “wife”, “father” and “mother” are replaced by, a sexual general terms “spouse-1” and “spouse-2” [n3]

It is noticeable that practically all representatives of confessional religions oppose same-sex marriage including the Russian Orthodox Church and the Muslim communities. For the great majority of people in our country same-sex marriage is unmoral, to my mind.

## Источники и литература

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