

Conscience clause now

The Government says it is 'lawful to express a belief that marriage should be between a man and a woman'.

But acting on that belief can get you in trouble.

Reasonable accommodation for conscience is needed now. Is that so unreasonable?

"But instead of all the technicalities which EU law has produced, would it not be a great deal simpler if we required the providers of employment, goods and services to make reasonable accommodation for the religious beliefs of others?"

Baroness Hale of Richmond, 7 March 2014

The Government has said that the Equality Act and human rights laws make it unlawful to penalise an individual or an organisation for their beliefs about marriage.

Such assurances have been of little help to those who have found their reputation and livelihood attacked for standing by those beliefs.

PETER AND HAZELMARY BULL

Ordered to pay £3,600 in damages because their B&B had a policy of only allowing married couples to share a double bed.



ADRIAN SMITH Demoted and salary cut by 40 per cent for saying gay weddings in churches would be “an equality too far”.



WORLD CONGRESS OF FAMILIES

Conference about redefining marriage banned by the Law Society and the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre for breaching ‘diversity policies’.



LILLIAN LADELE Pushed out of her job as a registrar at Islington Council for asking her managers to accommodate her belief that marriage is the union of one man and one woman.



MCARTHUR FAMILY Owners of Ashers Baking Company in Northern Ireland threatened with legal action by the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland for declining to produce a cake with the slogan ‘Support Gay Marriage’.

