



Federal Election 2004

GLBTI Voter Guide

How to vote
queer-friendly
on **October 9**

Essential
information
for both
virgin
voters and
experienced
electors



Guide prepared by:



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Index

Introduction

	Page
Welcome	3
Two votes, two elections	3
Why your vote is valuable	3
Ratings: policies and achievement	4
The rated policy areas	4
From zero to ten: the scores	4
Final ratings	4

Party Analysis

	Page
Australian Democrats	5
The Greens	6
Australian Labor Party	7
Liberal-National Coalition	8
One Nation Party	9
Christian Democratic Party	10
Family First Party	11

About GALE

Gay and Lesbian Equality is the peak gay and lesbian equal rights lobby group.

GALE was instrumental in pushing for wide-ranging equality law reforms in WA during the past four years.

Our aims and objectives are to achieve equal rights for gays and lesbians in WA within a legislative, regulatory and broad community context.

Our tasks include encouraging governments, institutions and other organisations to have positive policies towards people

of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities.

GALE also aim to promote positive community attitudes towards people with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities, and also seeks to promote equality and solidarity within the GLBTI community.

As part of that promotion, GALE has produced this election voter guide to assist people in making an informed voting decision.

More information about GALE can be found at our website:

www.galewa.asn.au

Political Authorisation

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The guide was published by Gay and Lesbian Equality (WA) Inc. via website www.galewa.asn.au

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Welcome

Welcome to Gay and Lesbian Equality's 2004 Federal Election voter guide.

GALE has prepared this guide to aid gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, intersex and other queer people — and our supporters — to make an informed choice when voting on October 9.

This guide is designed to assist both existing and new voters in providing a review of all parties

contesting the Federal election campaign.

The guide reviews and rates political parties using a numeric score of gay-friendliness based on each political party's past actions and future promises.

We hope that this guide helps you in your decision to vote queer-friendly on October 9.

Rod Swift, Convenor

"... providing a review of all parties contesting the Federal election campaign."

Two votes, two elections

This Federal election you will be casting two votes in two different elections.

The first election will be for the Senate. The Senate consists of 76 members, 12 of which are elected from Western Australia.

However, the Senate usually only changes half of its members each three years — so six candidates will be elected at this coming election to serve a six-year term.

Everyone in Western Australia votes for in the same Senate election. Senators are elected using a quota system requiring

1/7th of all votes to be elected.

The second election is to elect members to the House of Representatives.

The House of Representatives consists of 150 members, 15 of which are elected from WA.

All House of Representatives seats are elected at each election.

WA is split into 15 geographic electorates. Each electorate's voters elect one House of Representatives member. The elected candidate requires a majority of more than 50% of the votes to be elected.

In each election, votes are cast using a preferential system of voting.

This means that even if your preferred candidate is not elected, your vote passes to your next preferred candidate. This occurs for all votes until all Senators and each House of Representatives member is elected.

Examples of how elections are counted are available through the Australian Electoral Commission's website at:

www.aec.gov.au

Why your vote is valuable

How much parties earned from 2001:

Australian Labor Party —
\$14.917 million

Liberal Party —
\$14.492 million

National Party —
\$2.845 million

Australian Democrats —
\$2.411 million

One Nation —
\$1.709 million

Australian Greens —
\$1.370 million

The Greens (WA) —
\$0.223 million

Did you know your vote on October 9 is worth dollars to the political parties — about \$3.89?

Sometimes people feel their vote is worthless at election time, or that casting a vote for a party that is not likely to win is a wasted vote.

But this is far from the truth. Your two votes — for the House of Representatives and for the Senate — are each worth \$1.94397 to the candidate you give your first preference vote.

Candidates receive this electoral funding after the election if they get more than 4% of the first preference votes in an election.

In the 2001 election, this funding earned the major political parties quite substantial amounts.

The Coalition parties and the ALP collected over \$32 million in public election funding.

When you consider your vote, consider which candidates deserves your support — and the election funding that comes from your giving them your vote.

Ratings: policies and achievement

The rated policy areas:

CATEGORIES	Effectiveness: rated by points →	POINTS
Relationship Recognition	← Measuring: equal federal treatment for both heterosexual and GLBTI couples	0-10
Marriage Ban	← Measuring: for or against a ban on same sex marriage [Note: either 0 or 10]	0-10
Immigration	← Measuring: equality in immigration laws for same-sex couples	0-10
Tax, Welfare & Social Security	← Measuring: equal treatment in tax, welfare, super and social security benefits	0-10
HIV, Health & Medicare	← Measuring: support for health issues affecting GLBTI citizens including HIV	0-10
IVF, Parenting & Adoption	← Measuring: equal access to IVF and adoption, and equality for GLBTI families	0-10
Federal Employee Benefits	← Measuring: equality in benefits for Federal workers and their families	0-10
Defence Forces & Benefits	← Measuring: allowing GLBTI people in the military and access to ADF benefits	0-10
Anti-Discrimination & Anti-Vilification	← Measuring: the response to anti-queer discrimination and vilification	0-10
Transgender & Intersex Issues	← Measuring: whether Federal laws consider minority genders and identities	0-10
Party Rating	Rating: total effectiveness score →	0-100

The biggest challenge in developing this voter guide was to develop a fair and impartial scoring system to rate the political parties.

It is easy to develop a scorecard for the major parties that form Government — these parties can be fairly scored based directly on their past actions and policies and future promises.

However, minor parties are harder to assess as they can make wide-ranging promises which cannot be assessed in the same way as major parties.

For example, we can mark down a major party for not performing on their promise. Minor parties are largely immune from being able to be scrutinised in this way.

Therefore, GALE has developed a scorecard and points system that reviews past actions and policies, future promises, and the effectiveness of a political party.

For the major parties, we can measure effectiveness based on direct outcomes. For minor parties, we can fairly measure party effectiveness based on minor parties negotiating with major parties to affect legislation through successful amendments.

This provides encouragement to all parties to improve not only their policies, but also how effective they are at getting their policies implemented.

From zero to ten: the scores

To develop a fair scoring system, parties are measured on talking the talk — and walking the walk.

The table to the right describes the general ratings from zero to ten — with zero meaning complete inaction to ten representing implementation pro-GLBTI policies in law.

So if a party is queer supportive, but has not assisted or achieved change, it may only be rated 8.

RANGE	RATING
0	Party has no policy or no intention of acting
1-2	Party policies and actions are limited
3-4	Party policies and actions are mediocre
5-6	Party policies and actions have been fair
7-8	Party has very good policy but limited action
9-10	Party policy has been implemented directly

Final ratings

After adding the numbers, the party gets a final score out of 100 points.

It's a measure of both the party's historic and future policy promises and the party's past effectiveness — to allow GLBTI voters to be informed.



Party Analysis: Australian Democrats

Both of Australia's minority Senate parties have exceptional attitudes to GLBTI policy, but have limited chances to achieve change.

The Democrats' effectiveness in implementing change requires support from major parties.

The Australian Democrats have supported queer human rights since its inception in 1977 — the first political party to support equality for sexual minorities and to have a policy on GLBTI issues.

The Democrats have succeeded in

implementing some progress on federal law reform by amending legislation in the Senate.

The party also introduced in 1995 a law reform bill to remove gender identity and sexuality discrimination. This bill prompted a Senate inquiry and this bill remains in the Senate.

In WA, the Democrats have openly GLBTI candidates including Senator Brian Greig.

In summary, the Australian Democrats are a worthwhile minority party vote to keep GLBTI interests in Federal Parliament.

Party Rating **80**

Key Facts

- ✓ Supports recognising GLBTI couples and families under law
- ✓ Against marriage ban
- ✓ Has proposed and achieved GLBTI-friendly amendments while in the Senate
- ✓ Initiated equality law reform package legislation in Senate
- ✓ Has queer candidates

Queer Achievement Scorecard

CATEGORY	SCORE	NOTES
Relationship Recognition	8	The Australian Democrats support full access to relationship recognition for GLBTI couples.
Marriage Ban	10	The Democrats totally opposed the Howard Government's marriage ban, and fully support same-sex marriage.
Immigration	7	The Democrats gained 'interdependency' immigration and have opposed Coalition attempts to cap this category.
Tax, Welfare & Social Security	9	The Australian Democrats support equal treatment under tax, welfare and social security laws.
HIV, Health & Medicare	10	The Democrats support continuing multipartisan HIV strategies, and GLBTI specific health care services.
IVF, Parenting & Adoption	10	The Democrats opposed the Howard Government's attempt to ban IVF, and support queer parenting rights.
Federal Employee Benefits	7	The Australian Democrats support equal access by same-sex couples to federal employee benefits.
Defence Forces & Benefits	6	The Democrats have been vocal critics of same-sex discrimination and bullying in the defence forces.
Anti-Discrimination & Anti-Vilification	7	The Democrats propose comprehensive anti-discrimination and anti-vilification measures in the federal sphere.
Transgender & Intersex Issues	6	Australian Democrats have proposed full recognition of individuals of diverse genders and gender identities.
Party Rating	80	The Australian Democrats would be one of two suitable minor party choices for voters in the Senate.

Quick Quotes

"... this is a clash between sex, politics and religion. It (the marriage ban) is being pushed by religious zealots and deeply conservative MPs."
— Senator Brian Greig, Hansard, 12 August 2004

"... this legislation is disgusting. To say that it defends marriage when it degrades it so much is something I find extraordinarily upsetting."
— Senator Andrew Bartlett, Australian Democrats Leader, Hansard, 12 August 2004

"... (the Coalition) have shown again and again over their 8 years in Government a willingness to discriminate against gay and lesbian couples."
— Senator Natasha Stott Despoja, Hansard, 12 August 2004

Party Analysis: The Greens

Both of Australia's minority Senate parties have exceptional attitudes to LGBTI policy, but have limited chances to achieve change.

The Greens' effectiveness in implementing change requires support from major parties.

Since foundation, The Australian Greens have supported both freedom of sexual and gender identity as a policy.

The party has four core policy areas — social justice, participatory democracy, peace

and non-violence, and economic and ecological sustainability.

Also, in response to the Coalition's marriage ban attempt, The Greens MP Michael Organ introduced a bill in the House of Representatives to allow same-sex marriages.

In Western Australia, The Greens have fielded both openly LGBTI candidates and legislators. Leader Senator Bob Brown is gay.

In summary, The Greens are a worthwhile minority party vote to keep LGBTI interests in Federal Parliament.

Party Rating 80

Key Facts

- ✓ Supports recognising LGBTI couples and families under law
- ✓ Against marriage ban
- ✓ Initiated same-sex marriage bill in House of Representatives
- ✓ Has proposed and supported LGBTI-friendly amendments while in the Senate
- ✓ Has queer candidates

Queer Achievement Scorecard

CATEGORY	SCORE	NOTES
Relationship Recognition	8	The Greens support full access to relationship recognition for LGBTI couples.
Marriage Ban	10	The Greens totally opposed the Howard Government's marriage ban, and fully support same-sex marriage.
Immigration	7	The Greens support full and equal access to immigration rights for same-sex couples.
Tax, Welfare & Social Security	9	The Greens support equal treatment under tax, welfare and social security laws for same-sex couples.
HIV, Health & Medicare	10	The Greens support continuing bipartisan HIV strategies, and LGBTI specific health care services.
IVF, Parenting & Adoption	10	The Greens opposed the Howard Government's attempt to ban IVF, and support queer parenting rights.
Federal Employee Benefits	7	The Greens support equal access by same-sex couples to federal employee benefits.
Defence Forces & Benefits	6	The Greens oppose LGBTI benefits discrimination and bullying in the defence forces.
Anti-Discrimination & Anti-Vilification	7	The Green propose comprehensive anti-discrimination and anti-vilification measures in the federal sphere.
Transgender & Intersex Issues	6	The Greens have proposed full recognition of individuals of diverse genders and gender identities.
Party Rating	80	The Greens would be one of two suitable minor party choices for voters in the Senate.

Quick Quotes

"... this legislation is about hate."

— Senator Bob Brown, Australian Greens Leader, Hansard, 12 August 2004

"... this is a message from both the parties to thousands of wonderful young people who happen to be homosexual — gay or lesbian — that they are different and that they are substandard."

— Senator Bob Brown, Australian Greens Leader, Hansard, 12 August 2004

"... this legislation does not offend just those couples who cannot marry. It offends every Australian who holds dear the values of equality, human rights and decency."

— Senator Kerry Nettle, Hansard, 12 August 2004

Party Analysis: Australian Labor Party

Many GLBTI voters feel alienated after recent actions by the ALP to support a ban on same-sex marriage.

Similarly, while in opposition Labor has mostly avoided support for minor party moves to change legislation to give equal rights.

These fumbles have led criticisms from many GLBTI people and supporters that Labor cannot be trusted on equality.

However, the ALP does have a track record while in government of providing better outcomes for

GLBTI citizens — including areas like HIV and health care and allowing same-sex immigration.

The question is whether queer Australians can trust Federal Labor to fully implement law reforms. The ALP is promising an ‘audit’ of all discriminatory laws on attaining government.

In summary, Labor does offer a better outcome for GLBTI people and families. But supporters of GLBTI human rights will also need to keep Labor to the promises it has made in the past and into the future.

Party Rating **70**

Key Facts

- ✓ Supports de facto rights as policy
- ✓ Has policies against discrimination and vilification
- ⓧ Will reveal GLBTI law reforms only after an ‘audit’ of Federal laws
- ✗ Passed marriage ban
- ✗ Supporting GLBTI-friendly amendments rarely in opposition

Queer Achievement Scorecard

CATEGORY	SCORE	NOTES
Relationship Recognition	8	Labor supports de facto rights as policy, but avoided supporting amendments in the Senate to recognise de factos.
Marriage Ban	0	The ALP supported the Howard Government’s bill to ban marriage.
Immigration	7	Labor agreed to provide same-sex immigration, under “interdependency” classification.
Tax, Welfare & Social Security	9	The ALP has promised reforms while in opposition. Heavily pushed for same-sex superannuation rights.
HIV, Health & Medicare	10	Labor has a strong history on supporting HIV strategies. Labor will retain Medicare and the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.
IVF, Parenting & Adoption	10	Labor opposed the Coalition’s attempt to amend the Sex Discrimination Act to ban lesbians from IVF.
Federal Employee Benefits	7	The ALP has supported some equality in federal government benefits for de facto same-sex partners
Defence Forces & Benefits	6	Labor removed bans on queers in the military, but has been hesitant to support same-sex members with partner benefits.
Anti-Discrimination & Anti-Vilification	7	The ALP supports anti-discrimination and anti-vilification legislation.
Transgender & Intersex Issues	6	Previously, Labor made progress while in government on gender issues in departmental administrative areas.
Party Rating	70	Of the two major forces controlling the House of Representatives, Labor is far more gay-friendly than the Coalition — but has been shaky at best in opposition.

Quick Quotes

“... the most comprehensive package of same-sex reforms ever put forward by a major party. We have also committed to legislating anti-vilification and anti-harassment measures.”
— Nicola Roxon, Shadow Attorney-General, Hansard, 16 June 2004

“... my concern is that we are sending a message to gay and lesbian couples in this community — couples who have longstanding relationships — that theirs are effectively 2nd-rate relationships.”
— Dr Carmen Lawrence, MHR, Hansard, 17 June 2004

“... marriage will remain an institution between a man and a woman.”
— Nicola Roxon, Media Statement, 13 August 2004

Party Analysis: Liberal-National Parties

The current Liberal-National Coalition government has demonstrably failed to grant equality for GLBTI citizens.

The Coalition also believes that GLBTI citizens do not need further protection under the law.

In the very minuscule areas of improvement — the Coalition has only granted rights through mean-spirited trade-offs.

For example, the government opposed superannuation rights stridently less than a year ago.

The Coalition then backtracked

on this position to provide super as a trade-off to ban marriage.

Similarly, the Liberal-National Coalition has also deliberately targeted GLBTI citizens' rights in areas like adoption and IVF.

The Coalition consistently ignores queer couples except when it suits them — for example, in new anti-terrorism laws.

The party has an openly lesbian candidate in the seat of Brisbane.

Of the parties that form government, GALE finds the Coalition to be most unfriendly.

Party Rating **12**

Key Facts

- ⊗ Passed marriage ban
- ⊗ Has no intention of passing partnership recognition laws
- ⊗ Has consistently ignored GLBTI people in legislation
- ⊗ Tried to ban lesbians accessing IVF
- ⊗ Tried to ban same-sex couples from overseas adoptions

Queer Achievement Scorecard

CATEGORY	SCORE	NOTES
Relationship Recognition	0	The Liberal-National Coalition claims that recognising same-sex couples will impair so-called traditional family values.
Marriage Ban	0	The Liberal-National Coalition government proposed the ban on same-sex marriage.
Immigration	4	Has retained same-sex couples' access to immigration under 'interdependency' category, but attempted to cap category.
Tax, Welfare & Social Security	1	As a trade-off for the marriage ban, the Coalition approved same-sex super rights after prior objections.
HIV, Health & Medicare	4	General support HIV/AIDS national strategies, but failed to extend Medicare safety net to GLBTI couples and families.
IVF, Parenting & Adoption	0	Attempted to ban lesbians accessing IVF and gay couples from overseas adoption.
Federal Employee Benefits	3	The Liberal-National Coalition has sustained and failed to expand same-sex couples in federal employee benefits.
Defence Forces & Benefits	0	The Coalition has failed to equalise assistance for same-sex couples, and has failed to deal with bullying in the forces.
Anti-Discrimination & Anti-Vilification	0	The Liberal-National Coalition believes that laws are adequate enough to protect GLBTI citizens.
Transgender & Intersex Issues	0	The Coalition, via the Attorney-General opposed the marriage recognition case of Kevin v Jennifer.
Party Rating	12	After eight years controlling the House of Representatives, the Liberal-National Coalition is far from gay-friendly.

Quick Quotes

"... but, basically, we do not seek to be discriminatory in our legislation and as we approach our legislative task that guides us in that direction."

— Senator Robert Hill, Hansard, 19 March 2002

"... the government has reiterated its fundamental opposition to same sex couples adopting children."

— Attorney-General Philip Ruddock, Hansard, 27 May 2004

"... Play School should be about Jemima and Big Ted and not include social political messages about what is right or wrong in matters of gender."

— Robert Baldwin, MHR, Hansard, 17 June 2004

Party Analysis: One Nation Party

Since the departure of founder Pauline Hanson, One Nation's fortunes has continued to slide Federally.

One Nation is characterised as being more conservative than the Liberal-National Coalition and appeals to populist voters with extremist solutions to problems..

Notably, One Nation speaks rarely about GLBTI rights, but their past history in Federal and State parliaments allows us an insight into their views.

One Nation — like other extreme

right-wing parties — supports 'traditional family values' and heterosexual-only 'marriage'.

One Nation Senator Len Harris also does not support the federal Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission

During Western Australia's queer law reform in 2001-2002, One Nation MPs in the WA Legislative Council consistently opposed areas of law reform including IVF, families and the age of consent.

GALE recommends GLBTI voters place this party after the Liberal-National Coalition..

Party Rating **0**

Key Facts

- ☒ Supported marriage ban in Senate
- ☒ Does not support relationship rights
- ☒ Does not support the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission
- ☒ Has opposed queer family rights in state parliaments
- ☒ Does not support IVF

Queer Achievement Scorecard

CATEGORY	SCORE	NOTES
Relationship Recognition	0	Does not support GLBTI couples being treated equally under federal law.
Marriage Ban	0	Supported Coalition marriage ban in the Senate.
Immigration	0	No stated policy.
Tax, Welfare & Social Security	0	Did not support Australian Democrats amendments to provide superannuation choice for same-sex couples.
HIV, Health & Medicare	0	No stated policy.
IVF, Parenting & Adoption	0	Has opposed queer parenting rights in state parliaments.
Federal Employee Benefits	0	Opposed amendments to provide equal partner treatment under the Governor-General Legislation Amendment Bill 2001
Defence Forces & Benefits	0	No stated policy.
Anti-Discrimination & Anti-Vilification	0	One Nation does not support the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission.
Transgender & Intersex Issues	0	No stated policy.
Party Rating	0	It is recommended that the One Nation Party be placed effectively last by GLBTI voters and supporters.

Quick Quotes

"... the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission is not supporting the Australian people but creating a victim mentality and industry."

— Senator Len Harris, Hansard, 20 September 1999

"... One Nation is absolutely opposed to any moves to have homosexuality or lesbianism placed on the same level as the institution of marriage."

— Senator Len Harris, Hansard, 9 December 1999

"... if the purpose is to provide for either same sex couples, lesbians or gays to be the Governor-General, I find that totally unacceptable and offensive."

— Senator Len Harris, Hansard, 21 June 2001

Party Analysis: Christian Democratic Party

One of the easiest parties for GALE to score was the Christian Democratic Party — headed by anti-gay crusader Reverend Fred Nile.

While it has fielded candidates at Federal and State elections, the Christian Democratic Party has achieved electoral success in the past the NSW Legislative Council.

Analysis of the party's policies and actions in NSW gives GLBTI voters a disturbing look at how politics and religion mix.

As well as being anti-GLBTI

rights, the Christian Democratic Party is also against embryonic stem cell research, abortion, non-violent erotica, euthanasia, media censorship and heroin trials.

The party also supports repealing anti-discrimination and anti-vilification legislation where such laws deny 'freedom of speech and religion'.

In WA, the Christian Democratic Party opposes legislation which condones homosexuality.

GALE recommends GLBTI voters place this party after the Liberal-National Coalition.

Party Rating

0

Key Facts

- ☒ **Hostile to GLBTI equality and rights**
- ☒ **Founder is known anti-gay crusader**
- ☒ **Supports right-wing Christian ideas as law**
- ☒ **Wants government funding ban on GLBTI celebrations like Mardi Gras and Pride**
- ☒ **Wants to 'clean up' indecency on TV/radio**

Queer Achievement Scorecard

CATEGORY	SCORE	NOTES
Relationship Recognition	0	The CDP has stated policies to deny GLBTI relationships.
Marriage Ban	0	The CDP does not support same-sex marriage.
Immigration	0	The CDP supports changing the immigration program to support real families and Christians being persecuted.
Tax, Welfare & Social Security	0	The CDP does not support equal treatment under tax and social security.
HIV, Health & Medicare	0	The CDP supports abstinence or sex-inside-marriage as the best prevention for HIV/AIDS.
IVF, Parenting & Adoption	0	The CDP actively opposes access to IVF to all single persons and all GLBTI couples. The party also opposes GLBTI adoption.
Federal Employee Benefits	0	No stated policy.
Defence Forces & Benefits	0	No stated policy.
Anti-Discrimination & Anti-Vilification	0	The CDP does not support anti-discrimination and anti-vilification laws.
Transgender & Intersex Issues	0	No stated policy.
Party Rating	0	It is recommended that the Christian Democratic Party be placed effectively last by GLBTI voters and supporters.

Quick Quotes

"... laws that assert that marriage is between a man and a woman should be retained and strengthened."
 — CDP 2004 Federal Election Policy, <http://www.cdp.org.au/>

"... withdraw funding for National Condom Day and transfer the funds to a public awareness campaign informing young people of the positive health and social benefits of a chaste unmarried lifestyle."
 — CDP 2004 Federal Election Policy, <http://www.cdp.org.au/>

"... the WA ALP Government is now in political bondage to the pro-homosexual, pro lesbian Green Party."
 — Rev. Fred Nile, NSW MP
 Press Release, 26 February 1999

Party Analysis: Family First Party

Concern should be held by voters considering the seemingly innocently-named Family First Party.

Although new to the Federal election scene — Family First gained a zero score from GALE for their direct association with the Assemblies of God churches Family First espouses ‘traditional family values’, and this usually translates to anti-GLBTI policies.

Founded in South Australia, analysis of the party’s policies demonstrates another mix of politics and religion.

The party opposes school-based sex and sexuality education, voluntary euthanasia and prostitution. Meanwhile, the party supports broad media and internet censorship against so-called indecency.

What makes Family First so appealing is that it hides its religious conservative background under the rhetoric of mothering statements and the guise of being family-friendly.

GALE recommends GLBTI voters place this party after the Liberal-National Coalition.

Party Rating **0**

Key Facts

- ⊗ **Hostile to GLBTI equality and rights**
- ⊗ **Appears to be mainstream but supports right-wing Christian ideas as law**
- ⊗ **Ignores the validity of GLBTI families**
- ⊗ **Supports ban on same-sex marriage**
- ⊗ **Claims children need heterosexual parents**

Queer Achievement Scorecard

CATEGORY	SCORE	NOTES
Relationship Recognition	0	No stated policy.
Marriage Ban	0	Family First does not support same-sex marriage rights.
Immigration	0	No stated policy.
Tax, Welfare & Social Security	0	No stated policy.
HIV, Health & Medicare	0	No stated policy.
IVF, Parenting & Adoption	0	Family First supports children being raised by heterosexual parents.
Federal Employee Benefits	0	No stated policy.
Defence Forces & Benefits	0	No stated policy.
Anti-Discrimination & Anti-Vilification	0	No stated policy.
Transgender & Intersex Issues	0	No stated policy.
Party Rating	0	It is recommended that Family First be placed close to last by GLBTI voters and supporters.

Quick Quotes

“... we called it Family First so non-Christians who believe in family values will vote for us. But to be a member of the party you have to sign to say you oppose abortion, euthanasia, prostitution and so on, so most of our members are Christians.”

— Andrew Evans, SA MLC, quoted in *New Life Magazine*, 20 November 2003

“... we do not recognise that gay marriages are a valid part of the Australian community.”

— QLD Senate Candidate John Lewis, ABC News website, 8 August 2004

“... family grows out of heterosexual relationships between men and women.”

— Family First Party: *Our Values*, [Http://www.familyfirst.org.au/](http://www.familyfirst.org.au/)