



With the upcoming Marriage Amendment, same-sex marriage has been talked about in many heated discussions in Minnesota. However, most people, especially those opposed to it, are talking about hypothetical situations. I decided to go to Norway and interview citizens on the street for whom same-sex marriage has been a reality for over three years. This is what they had to say:

How do you feel about the Gender Neutral Marriage Bill?

"I like it, I think it's important that we are open to everyone."
-Aurora (Straight)

"I feel it's important if some people want to get married they can get the help they need." -Omar (Gay)

"It's quite natural, I think. Why shouldn't gay people be allowed to get married?" -Peter (Straight)

"I don't care about it. I don't have any problems with it."
-Martin (Straight)

"I feel nothing about it, honestly. I think it's quite alright."
-Benta (Straight)

Some say it will ruin the sanctity of marriage.

"A marriage is a marriage, no matter who you are married to...I can't see the problem with it." -Aurora

"No, of course not. I think marriage is just marriage. Love is the most important thing, and that's it." -Omar

"Basically, I think that's crap. If two people love each other, and they want to stay together, I think they should marry." -Peter

"I understand their viewpoint, but on the other hand [gay] people should still have the same rights." -Martin

"I think if I was married to a woman or a man, it wouldn't make any difference to my regard of marriage." -Benta

How has it affected your life?

"I think it is good that it is legal, but it doesn't affect my life."

-Aurora

"It hasn't. If people are happy, I'm happy." -Peter

"It doesn't affect my life in anyway."

-Martin

"It hasn't at all." -Benta

Some say same-sex marriage would destroy the community. What do you think of that?

"That's stupid. Let people be who they are. It's not our right to restrain others." -Aurora

"Destroy? The community? I think it is a stupid thing to say. Destroy is when men punish women and when children have nowhere to live." -Omar

"How? Explain it to me. I really can't see the problem. Please help me understand how two people that love each other getting married will destroy the community." -Peter

"I don't see how it will destroy society as a whole. But if you don't allow it, people will still live together as they see fit. It can cause some disturbances in some societies, but destroy is maybe too harsh." -Martin

"No, I don't think it would destroy the community, not at all. It depends which community, but here in Norway it won't change much. Maybe in the U.S., in Minnesota, it's a big deal, but here it isn't."
-Benta

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