



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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