



Vote Yes Background Info & Talking Points

Read through these and discuss before you start calling, choose the most relevant to use in each conversation.

Key points:

- This is a get out the vote campaign. **We're not trying to change people's minds, just trying to make sure those who want marriage equality vote.**
- Research shows that people need to vote within 24-48 hours of getting their ballot, otherwise they're unlikely to complete it. **We're saying "return your ballot the day you receive it."**
- We want people to commit to vote "YES" and make a plan of how they will post their ballot.

Campaign background:

- **We believe in an Australia that values love and inclusion**, where everybody can marry the person they love. Polling shows that the majority of Australians want marriage equality too - but we can't take it for granted that love will win.
- In order to win marriage equality, it's going to take hundreds of thousands of Australians stepping up for their friends, family members and neighbours.

Key dates

- **Week ending 22nd September:** postal ballots start arriving at voters' registered addresses. The aim is that all ballots will arrive around the same time
- **6pm 18th October:** if you misplace your ballot or need it sent to a different address, you can request a new one from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) up until this time (more info below)
- **27th October:** everyone is strongly encouraged to post their ballots by this date.
- **6pm 7th November:** ballots must be received by the ABS by this time in order to be counted. Any ballots received after this will not be counted.
- **15th November:** result declared.
 - A "yes" result for marriage equality means that the government will allow a private member's bill to be introduced in the last week of November or the first week of December. Members of parliament will be given a free vote on the bill, and it's expected to pass.
 - A "no" result from the plebiscite means that no bill will be introduced.

Key frames and talking points

It's about equality

- Everybody should be allowed to marry the person they love.
- We want to live in an Australia that values fairness and equality – where everybody is treated equally under the law.
- We believe every parent and grandparent has the right to see their child find happiness in marriage. This is for the grandma who wants to see her grandson married, the father who wants to dance with his daughter at her wedding, and every couple who wants to celebrate their life-long commitment to each other.

Postal ballot details

- The postal plebiscite will ask you to vote “yes” or “no” to the question “do you support a change in the law to allow same-sex couples to marry?”. You must tick the corresponding box on the ballot clearly or it might be counted as an invalid response.
- Not at home when the ballot will be posted to your address? You can ask for the ballot to be sent to a different address by calling the Australian Marriage Law Survey Information Line.
 - **The information line is 1800 572 113 and it's open seven days a week, 8am to 8pm.**
- When the ABS post the ballot to you, they'll also include a reply-paid envelope. So it'll be as easy as:
 1. Placing a tick next to Yes on the ballot.
 2. Sealing your ballot in the reply-paid envelope (no need to buy stamps to send this). Do not put anything else in your envelope (like glitter) as it may make your answer invalid.
 3. Posting it in your nearest post box as soon as you can.
- Not sure where your nearest post box is? You can look this up online at the Australian Post website: <https://auspost.com.au/locate>

The plebiscite is unnecessary , but let's win it

- This postal plebiscite is expensive, non-binding, non-compulsory and unnecessary. But it's happening, so let's show the Australian Government, and the LGBTIQ community that love always wins with a convincing Yes result.
- A postal plebiscite preferences the “No” vote, so we need to make sure our friends, family and community are ready to vote yes.
 - Are you interested in joining the Yes campaign to make sure marriage equality wins? You can doorknock your block, make calls, collect ballots and post them on behalf of your family and friends or SMS your mates. Sign up here: **yes.org.au**
- Together, we can create an Australia where everybody is treated equally. Where all couples who want to get married can celebrate their love with family and friends.

