

# SAME SEX MARRIAGE ACT 2013

## LGBTQ+ HISTORY MONTH



Until the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013, same-sex couples could only enter into civil partnerships and so still did not have same marriage rights as heterosexual couples.

The Same Sex Marriage Act was passed on 17th July 2013 and changed this. It means that that marriage between same-sex couples is legal and can take place in both non-religious and religious settings, providing that the religious organisation has 'opted-in' to solemnising same sex marriages. It also means that, after a legal transition, transgender people are still considered married to their partner.

The first same sex marriage in the UK took place on 29 March 2014.



## IS CHANGE STILL NEEDED?

Although we are very lucky to have legal marriage equality in the UK, the views of many religious groups and organisations still don't align with this. For most same sex couples, this means that they can only marry in non-religious settings.

There are still 165 countries that do not allow same sex marriage. This is over 4/5 of the world.

## TIMELINE OF SAME SEX MARRIAGE LEGALISATION

<b>2000</b>	<b>2003</b>
The Netherlands	Belgium
<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
Canada, Spain	South Africa
<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
Norway	Sweden
<b>2010</b>	<b>2012</b>
Iceland, Portugal, Argentina	Denmark
<b>2013</b>	
Uruguay, New Zealand, France, Brazil, England and Wales	<b>2014</b>
<b>2015</b>	Scotland, Luxembourg
Finland, Ireland, Greenland, USA	<b>2016</b>
<b>2017</b>	Colombia
Germany, Malta, Australia	<b>2019</b>
<b>2020</b>	Austria, Taiwan, Ecuador, Northern Ireland
Costa Rica, Thailand	<b>2021</b>
	Switzerland