



Love Equality

**The campaign for civil marriage
equality in Northern Ireland**



What is Love Equality?

- Love Equality- equal marriage campaign formally launched April 2016
- Partnership approach across sectors
- Six lead organisations involved



The Political Context



Marriage Equality in the Assembly

- First Assembly vote on equal marriage motion in Oct 2012; 45 MLAs in favour
- A further three motions were debated between 2012 and April 2015, all of these failed to win a majority



Equal Marriage Rally



- Following ROI referendum in May:
- 13 June 2015 : TRP, AI and ICTU-NIC organise a rally in support of marriage equality
- Estimated 20,000 people take to the streets





5th motion: Nov 2015

- 5 Nov 2015: historically the motion passes for the first time with 53 in favour and 52 against-celebration at Stormont
- Despite this DUP use petition of concern and motion fails



Post-election

- More MLAs than ever now support marriage equality
- Next steps: Private Member's Bill
- DUP commitment to block equal marriage for 5 years





Legal Context



Public Engagement



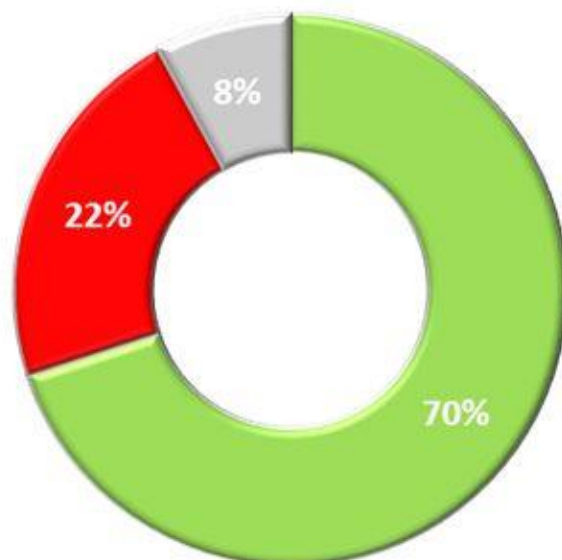
Attitudes towards same-sex marriage

Expand

Q. To what extent do you agree with this statement: Homosexual couples should be allowed to marry each other?

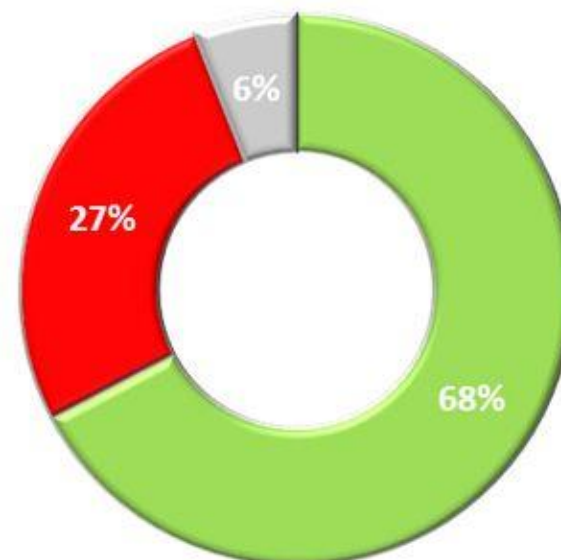
May 2016

Agree Disagree Don't know



May 2015

Agree Disagree Don't know



Base (2016): all adults aged 16+ (1,029), fieldwork 19th May to 12th June 2016
Base (2015): all adults aged 16+ (1,000), fieldwork 20th May to 8th June 2015

Ipsos MORI



Love Equality Relaunches

- April 2016: Equal marriage campaign rebrands as Love Equality
- May 2016 – NI Assembly election campaign: ‘contact your candidate’
- Launched website www.loveequalityni.org
- Prides & events / Culture Night
- All I want for Christmas is Equality



Belfast Pride Lecture

MARRIAGE EQUALITY **FROM SCOTLAND** **WITH LOVE**

Ruth Davidson MSP

Leader, Scottish
Conservative Party
Tuesday 2 August, 7.30pm



AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



DEAR SANTA...



ALL I WANT FOR
CHRISTMAS IS
EQUALITY!



8th December - 6pm to 9pm
Cornmarket - Belfast City Centre





What can you do?

- **Tell Your Story**
- **Organise an event / fundraise**
- **Download our Toolkit**
- **Meet Your MLA**
- **Love Equality Ambassadors**



Any questions

