



The Betty Letters

My Dear Grandchild,

As with the many problems of the world, I have been forced to take a position in respect of same-sex marriages. Just like US President George W. Bush, the Junior. I have been trying to avoid, getting involved in this sticky matter, but, for the sake of Hongkong and my people, I have decided that I must take a stand. And the stand for Hongkong is that same-sex marriages must be banned. There is, in the German language, the word, 'Mund' – the responsibility for, and the power over, a woman. That, in essence, is what is meant by marriage: A woman becomes economically and legally dependent upon a man; the transfer of the power over a woman from the control of her family to a third person, who becomes her husband. Put another way, we, women, don't have to work any more and may depend on our husbands to support our livelihoods. That means that husbands have to buy us clothes and diamonds and feed us, every day of our lives. The giving away of a woman by her family reflects the transfer of the Mund. In fact, my Dear Grandchild, the word, 'wed', or 'wedlock', is derived from the Anglo-Saxon word, meaning the security given to bind a person to his promise. So you see, historically, it is not possible for gays to get married, in the traditional sense, so it would appear that a new arrangement must be made whereby there is no Mund and there is no giving away of the woman by her family. For Hongkong, I cannot see same-sex marriages, ever being legalised – and Grandpa agrees with me. Here are some of my reasons:

- 1. Marriage is the union of a man and a woman, exclusively. There is no other marriage. Disregarding Judaic-Christian teachings, one has to consider the fructus naturales of a union of a man and a woman: Children. It is the children, you see, who must be protected; and, the law must put the welfare of children above the welfare of those who, by their acts, those by accident and those by design, create a new human life. Today, males are unable to bear children, but who knows about the future: It may be possible, one day, for a man, who is 'married' to another man, to be able to become pregnant and come to term, as they say. I, for the life of me, cannot understand how a man could conceive and, then, bear a child, but I am not a doctor. I have come to realise, during my many years in public life, that, as soon as one opens one door, all kinds of things flood out of and into that open orifice. So, never try to open that door;*
- 2. Talking about orifices, it takes me to the next question: Who would be responsible for the medical treatment of homosexuals/lesbians, whose union has been sanctioned by law? When I get sick 'down there', I go to Dr May Wong, who looks after things that I cannot see but can only feel discomfort. I am normal, of course, but what about specialised doctors for the problems that are bound to spring from 'marriages' of gays? I think that you are old enough to realise how one homosexual achieves sexual gratification with another of his kind, so I will not go into that, but what about little nagging problems that arise from intercourse between one gay and another? I see a new, specialised branch of medicine, springing up in Hongkong, the moment that same-sex marriages are sanctioned by law. Simply put, the Hongkong Government does not have the available funding for the establishment of*

another branch of medicine. Can you imagine a Legislative Council Meeting, convened to consider and, if thought fit, to apportion funding for what might be called: 'Gay medicine'? First of all, there is no money in the Government's kitty for such extravagances and, secondly, heterosexuals will say, on reading the Resolution before the Council Meeting: 'Hey! How about me? What about some money for me and mine?'

3. Then, there is the question about recognition. How would a 'normal' person know when he or she is in the presence of a gay? As it is, only too often, one cannot tell the difference between a man and woman from the rear (with clothes on, I mean) because hair-styles are such that women and men seem to be copying each other: Men are sporting long hair and pony tails; while, some women are cutting their hair very short. Grandpa, you will note, has short hair, called a crew cut (I cut his hair, actually), allowing me to know, in a shot, that he is a man. Otherwise, how would I know that my little fat frog is a male one? You know, he is not able to function as was the case when he was a young man. I have long hair, allowing Grandpa to single me out in a crowd. That is the way that it should be: Men should look like men; and, women should look like women. In that way, one can be certain as to the sexual preference and orientation of a person by a single glance at him or her. But, if Hongkong were to sanction same-sex marriages, some men may start taking on the appearance of women and, in the case of lesbians, some women may start taking on the appearance of men. It would be very confusing, you see;
4. Then, there is the other question: What is morality? I am forced by the power of complaint to do the bidding of my people. The people of Hongkong have spoken: Marriage will be restricted to one man and one woman. I am the spokesperson for my people – and they have spoken, loudly and clearly. We do not allow nudity on television for pure pruriency because I and my people have determined that that is immoral. I agree with my people and I support them; and,
5. Lastly, I have the Civil Service to consider. If the Hongkong Government were to sanction same-sex marriages, then, gays in the Civil Service would come forward and demand all kinds of things. Housing allowance for gay couples, no doubt, would be high on the new gay agenda, followed by medical and hospital benefits, maternity benefits, etc, etc, etc. There would be no end to the demands. And Grandpa has, repeatedly, said that there is little money left in the Government's coffers. In short, Hongkong cannot afford the gay community.

For the homosexuals of Hongkong, I am sorry to come down hard on them, but my answer is that same-sex marriages will not be condoned in my Hongkong. I know that I shall not be popular in taking this stand, but the gays of Hongkong will just have to live with this situation and change their lifestyles. For what reason can they not abandon their lifestyle and accept mine – the normal lifestyle? After all, I cannot be held responsible for the choice of lifestyles of a man, who wants to achieve sexual gratification with another man, can I? Hongkong must, at all times, be normal and pure. Anyway, there are no gays in China, are there? The Motherland has kept the country clear of, what the Bible calls, abominations. With those words of wisdom, I leave you for the day.

Love you,

The Chief Lady of Hongkong

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