

The background of the top half of the image is the New Zealand flag, featuring the Union Jack in the upper left and a red star on a blue field in the lower right. The flag is shown waving against a clear blue sky.

Who Values What You Value?

VALUE YOUR VOTE: Election 2017

As you prepare to vote in the upcoming General Election, this resource will help you vote for the politicians and parties that share your values.

For more details, go to
ValueYourVote.nz



Family First NZ is pleased to present the 2017 *Value Your Vote* resource for families.



Welcome to our resource **Value Your Vote 2017**. This is the fourth election that we have provided this popular voting resource for families.

We believe that the issues of the economy, education, health, housing, and law and order are significant. But focusing on economics and other issues while ignoring social values will actually make society's present problems worse, not better.

Research proves that the strength of marriage and family has a major

impact on the strength of our nation and the rates of child poverty, child abuse, costs of welfare, and an ordered civil society.

Over the past 15 years, there have been a number of law changes voted on by our politicians specifically impacting the welfare of Kiwi families and the role of parents. Marriage has been increasingly devalued.

The moral values of any politician and of any political party will shape our nation's laws. You and I have a duty to hold our politicians to account.

In the upcoming General Election, voting according to our values is the greatest freedom and privilege we have. We should value it – and use it!

This brochure (and the accompanying guide on our website ValueYourVote.nz) allows you to see how your local MP and each political party has voted – and will vote – on these important social issues. Many of them are conscience votes, allowing an MP to vote according to his or her conscience rather than along party lines. However, in many cases there seems to be a 'party conscience'.

Please note that Family First New Zealand does not endorse or oppose candidates or parties for elective

office. This record should not take the place of your own effort to evaluate the parties and candidates. We would encourage all voters to make informed decisions on the candidates' and parties' policies across key issues. This resource offers a limited but nevertheless important perspective on each candidate and party in matters important to families.

NEW FEATURE – This election, we have asked all the major parties what their official party policy is on marriage, the anti-smacking law, abortion, euthanasia, marijuana, 'gender identity', sex education, parental notification and others. In some cases, we have also based their 'policy' on public statements made by the leaders in the media.

Families deserve laws that strengthen and protect them – not ones that redefine and undermine them.

We are pleased to offer this guide as a helpful resource to aid you in making an informed decision when you vote this September.

Bob McCoskrie
National Director - Family First NZ

Want more copies? To order more for your group

>> email: admin@familyfirst.org.nz

>> PH: 09 261 2426

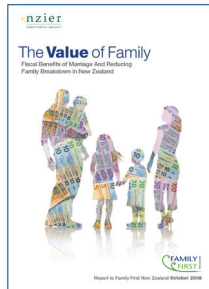
ORDER NOW

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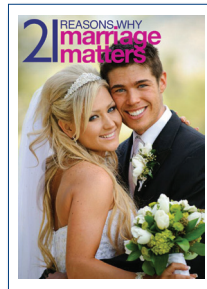
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VALUE YOUR VOTE 2017 is also available online
www.ValueYourVote.nz

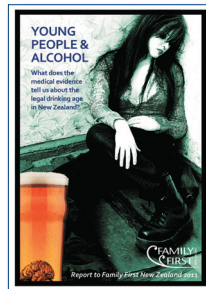
What does a good watchdog do?



Family Breakdown
2008



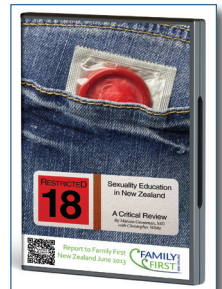
Marriage
2009



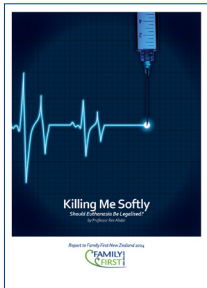
Drinking Age
2011



Daycare
2012



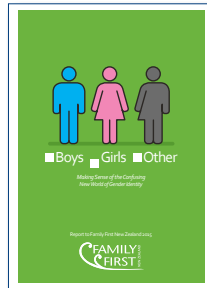
Sex Education
2013



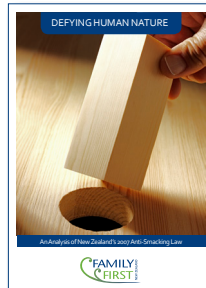
Euthanasia
2014



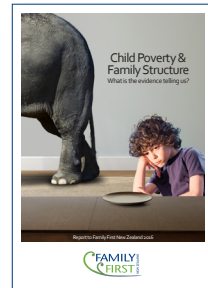
Screentime
2015



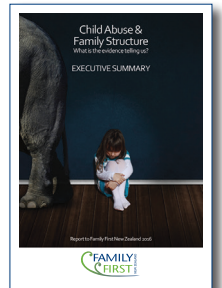
Gender Identity
2015



Anti-Smacking Law
2016



Child Poverty
2016



Child Abuse
2016

The statistics on family breakdown, decreasing marriage rates, suicide rates, family violence, child abuse, alcohol abuse, teen pregnancies, and many other issues are ample proof that some families in New Zealand are struggling. Through our research, education and advocacy, *Family First* will give families a unified voice and a powerful way to be heard. We'll be a watchdog for New Zealand families. For more information go to **familyfirst.nz**

FAMILY FIRST
NEW ZEALAND



CUT HERE

Be part of the family

Join the grassroots movement to promote family, marriage, and the value of life into the public domain, and to give you a voice.

Name(s): *(Include all members of household who wish to be registered as members)*

.....
.....
.....

Address:

.....
.....

Email:

Phone:

POST TO: Family First FREEPOST PO Box 276133
Manukau City 2241 (no stamp necessary)

I WANT TO SUPPORT FAMILY FIRST NZ

DONATION OPTIONS (please tick appropriate box)

Gifts made to Family First NZ are eligible for the Donation Tax Rebate

☐ Please charge my CREDIT CARD:

Credit Card No:

Expiry Date:

□□□□ □□□□ □□□□ □□□□ □□/□□

Name of Card Holder: _____ ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa

Amount: _____ Signature: _____

(For added security, you can make credit card payments via the Family First website)

☐ I will set up an AUTOMATIC PAYMENT

ASB Manukau City
12-3083-0438959-00
Name of Account: Family First NZ
(Please notify us once activated)

☐ I will donate via ONLINE BANKING

ASB Manukau City
12-3083-0438959-00
Name of Account: Family First NZ

☐ CHEQUES

Please make cheques payable to Family First NZ

☐ PHONE Donation

Donate an instant \$30 to Family First NZ by phoning
0900 FIRST (0900 34778). \$30 will be charged to your
phone account.

Donations are tax deductible and receipts are mailed annually.

What have been the key family issues voted on?

MARRIAGE

SAME-SEX MARRIAGE: 2013



Politicians chose to reject the obvious cultural and natural characteristics of marriage and the subsequent creation and care of children and made marriage just about partnership. They did not have the authority to redefine marriage - and their efforts only mask reality. With no clear public mandate, they committed an act of cultural vandalism. For millions and millions of people worldwide, marriage is a culturally-significant and historically-bound institution. The equality cause is not advanced by destroying institutions. Equality should respect difference, not destroy it.



SAME-SEX MARRIAGE – REFERENDUM: 2013



At the same time as politicians were redefining marriage, many of them were also collecting signatures for a referendum on state asset sales – saying that New Zealanders had a right to be heard on this issue and that the government should listen to the public. That same courtesy did not extend to changing the definition of a significant social and cultural institution which the politicians did not have the public mandate to change. The proposal to hold a referendum on the definition of marriage was defeated.



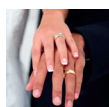
SAME-SEX MARRIAGE – FREEDOM OF CONSCIENCE: 2013



The politicians demanded a conscience vote on the bill to redefine marriage, ironically at the same time as they voted that they would not protect the freedom of conscience of places of faith from having to host same-sex weddings if their facilities are available to the general public, or of some marriage registrars and marriage celebrants to lawfully be able to refuse a request to marry a same-sex couple. As a result of this proposal being defeated, some facilities have been pressured to change their policies or have no longer made their facilities available to the public in order to avoid possible prosecution. Some marriage celebrant applicants have been turned down due to their personal convictions on the definition of marriage, despite assurances from politicians that this would not happen.



DEFINING MARRIAGE: 2005



In 2005, the Marriage (Gender Clarification) Amendment Bill attempted to clearly define and confirm marriage as a union between one man and one woman, in accordance with the common law understanding of marriage. The bill was defeated.



THE ROLE OF PARENTS

ANTI-SMACKING LAW: 2007



In 2007, Section 59 of the Crimes Act was amended, removing legal protection from parents who exercise discipline over their children in the form of light physical punishment. The amendment makes parents who engage in such correction of their children liable for prosecution and unwarranted intervention by police and CYF. Meanwhile the actual root causes of child abuse as identified by UNICEF and CYF reports remain. The law was passed despite 87% of New Zealanders opposing it. Rates of serious child abuse have continued to rise.



DECriminalise NON-ABUSIVE SMACKING: 2009



Just over a week after 87% of New Zealanders voted overwhelmingly in a referendum to change the anti-smacking law, politicians had the opportunity to support a bill that would have decriminalised light and non-abusive smacking for the purpose of correction. This would have removed the fear and uncertainty around the anti-smacking law. This proposed amendment to the law was virtually identical to that aggressively lobbied for by the current National-led government when in Opposition. The bill was defeated, and all National MPs voted against it.



PARENTAL NOTIFICATION FOR TEEN ABORTIONS: 2004



Currently in New Zealand, girls under the age of 16 can have an abortion without their parents being informed. In 2004, an amendment was put forward to prevent this. The amendment would have allowed girls to make the final decision about whether or not to abort, but would have ensured this decision did not happen in isolation from their parents, except in exceptional circumstances. The amendment was defeated.



SOCIAL ISSUES

MEDICINAL MARIJUANA: 2017



The private members bill of Green MP Julie Anne Genter is effectively a grow-your-own-dope bill with very little control or safeguards. And the qualifying medical condition criteria are wide and subjective. Marijuana will simply and easily be diverted from medical programmes to 'recreational' purposes. We support the New Zealand government's caution around this issue, and we also support a compassionate response to those in real need. But this private members bill fails the test in terms of public health, public safety, and protecting our young people.

Awaiting 1st Reading – projected vote on 1st Reading shown



ASSISTED SUICIDE / EUTHANASIA: 2017



The country has undertaken an extensive inquiry into the issue of ending one's life in New Zealand with more than 22,000 submissions and 80% of those submissions opposing assisted suicide / euthanasia. This private members bill from ACT MP David Seymour is offering yet another attempt to try to mitigate the real concerns around so-called 'safeguards'. The bill raises the same massive concerns around issues of subjective definitions, risks to the elderly, the vulnerable, the disabled, and people who are depressed and 'sick of life'.

Awaiting 1st Reading – projected vote on 1st Reading shown



EASTER TRADING: 2016



After a number of attempts, this most recent bill which was passed into law allows trading on Easter Sunday. Based on the arguments used, Good Friday, Anzac Day and Christmas Day will soon be targeted.



BAN AUCKLAND STREET PROSTITUTION: 2015



A number of communities around New Zealand are trying to deal with the problems created by street prostitution: intimidation, noise, litter, and criminal behaviour. The 2004 prostitution law (see below) failed to give local councils the ability to deal with the nuisance and harm of this activity caused to both the prostitutes (many of whom are under-age) and families. The bill would enable prostitutes to be moved out of residential and family shopping areas in Auckland, but would have set a precedent for other councils in New Zealand to tackle the issue. The bill was defeated.



RAISE DRINKING (PURCHASE) AGE: 2012



New medical evidence on accident probability, disease and brain development, along with the Child and Youth Mortality Review and the recommendations of the Prime Minister's chief science adviser, made it absolutely clear that delaying the age at which young people have easy access to alcohol would reduce the level of damage they and society suffer as well as contributing to their future health and well-being. An increase in the drinking age would undo some of the harm which resulted from the previous lowering of the age. The proposal was defeated.



MEDICINAL MARIJUANA: 2009



The Green Party's medicinal cannabis bill in 2009 - which was soundly defeated - allowed for teenagers to cultivate and smoke cannabis with parental permission, created dope 'pimps', and appointed police to be the 'dealers'. It also deemed medicinal purposes to include depression and mental illness, eating disorders, and schizophrenia.



DECriminalising PROSTITUTION: 2004



Prostitution was made legal in New Zealand in 2004, after the passing of the Prostitution Reform Bill by only a single vote majority. In doing so, it made it legal for small brothels to operate in residential areas next to family homes, and failed to protect communities and families from the effects of street prostitution. Decriminalisation has failed to achieve its stated objectives of improving the safety, health and welfare or the conditions of the workers. What it has achieved is greatly improving the conditions for pimps and brothel owners, and ultimately legalised the sexual exploitation of vulnerable people.



DECriminalising EUTHANASIA: 2003





The Death with Dignity Bill would have legalised euthanasia by allowing people who are incurably and terminally ill to request and receive medical assistance to end their lives. The bill was defeated. A similar bill was defeated in 1995.



How did MPs vote on those issues?

We have only included MPs seeking re-election. Refer to page 4 for explanations of these titles.

				MARRIAGE				PARENTING				SOCIAL ISSUES							
SURNAME	FIRST NAME	ELECTORATE	PARTY	Same-Sex Marriage 2013	Marriage Referendum 2013	Marriage Coexistence 2013	Definition of Marriage 2015	Anti-Smacking Law 2017	Decriminalise Light Smacking 2019	Parental Notification Teen Abortion 2014	Assisted Suicide / Euthanasia 2017 (Projected/Vote)	Medical Marijuana 2017 (Projected/Vote)	Easter Sunday Trading 2016	Ban Street Prostitution 2015	Raise Drinking Age 2012	Medical Marijuana 2019	Decriminalisation of Prostitution 2014	Decriminalise Euthanasia 2013	
	Seymour	David	Act								Support	Support	SUPPORT	OPPOSE					
	Genter	Julie Anne	#Mt Albert	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE					Likely Support	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE				
	Hughes	Gareth	#East Coast	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE			OPPOSE		Likely Support	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE				
	Logie	Jan	#Mania	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE					Likely Support	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE				
	Mathers	Mojo	#Raungiatara	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE					Likely Support	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE				
	Roche	Denise	#Auckland Central	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE					Likely Support	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE				
	Sage	Eugenie	#Port Hills	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE					Likely Support	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE				
	Turei	Meitira	#Te Tai Tonga	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	Support	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT		
	Elected at last Election (2014) or later																		
	Coates	Barry	#Epsom	Green								Likely Support	Support						
	Davidson	Marana	#Tamaki Makaurau	Green								Likely Support	Support	OPPOSE					
	Shaw	James	# Wellington Central	Green								Likely Support	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE				
	Arden	Jacinda	Mt Albert	Labour	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE			OPPOSE		Support	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT		
	Clark	David	Dunedin North	Labour	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE					Support	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE		
	Curran	Clare	Dunedin South	Labour	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE		OPPOSE		Support	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT		
	Dyson	Ruth	Port Hills	Labour	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE		SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	Support	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT		
	Faafoti	Kris	Mania	Labour	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE					Support	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE			
	Hipkins	Chris	Rimutaka	Labour	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE			OPPOSE		No response	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT		
	Huo	Raymond		Labour	SUPPORT	NO VOTE	OPPOSE			OPPOSE		Likely Support	Support			OPPOSE	OPPOSE		
	Lees-Galloway	Iain	Palmerston North	Labour	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE			OPPOSE		Support	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT		
Little	Andrew		Labour	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE					Support	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT				
Mahuta	Nanaia	Hauraki - Waikato	Labour	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	Likely Oppose	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	
Mallard	Trevor	Hutt South	Labour	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	Support	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	
O'Connor	Damien	West Coast - Tasman	Labour	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	Likely Oppose	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	
Parker	David	#Epsom	Labour	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	Undecided	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	
Robertson	Grant	Wellington Central	Labour	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE			OPPOSE		Support	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT			
Sio	Aupito William	Mangere	Labour	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT			OPPOSE		Likely Oppose	Undecided	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE			
Trickett	Rino	Te Tai Tonga	Labour	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE					Likely Oppose	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE				
Twyford	Phil	Te Atatu	Labour	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE			OPPOSE		Likely Oppose	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT			
Wall	Louisa	Manurewa	Labour	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE					Support	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT				
Woods	Megan	Wigram	Labour	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE					Support	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE				

MPs that are List MPs are standing in the electorates indicated. Every attempt has been made to accurately represent the voting record of MPs. We welcome any documented corrections.

SURNAME		FIRST NAME	ELECTORATE	PARTY	MARRIAGE			PARENTING			SOCIAL ISSUES								
					Same-Sex Marriage 2013	Marriage Referendum 2013	Marriage Concordance 2013	Definition of Marriage 2005	Anti-Smoking Law 2007	Decriminalise Light Snacking 2009	Parental Notification Teen Abortion 2004	Assisted Suicide / Euthanasia 2017 (Projected Vote)	Medical Marijuana 2017 (Projected Vote)	Easter Sunday Trading 2016	Bar Street Prostitution 2015	Raise Drinking Age 2012	Medical Marijuana 2009	Decriminalisation of Prostitution 2004	Decriminalise Euthanasia 2003
Previously in Parliament																			
Davis		Kevin	Te Tai Tokerau	Labour						OPPOSE		Support	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE		OPPOSE		
Sequihiri		Garned	Kelson	Labour						OPPOSE		Likely Support	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE		SUPPORT		
Elected at last Election (2014) or later																			
Henare		Pemi	Tamaki Makaurau	Labour								Undecided	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE				
Maah		Stuart	Napier	Labour								Support	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE				
Rurawhe		Adrian	Te Tai Hauauru	Labour								Support	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE				
Salea		Jenny	Manukau East	Labour								No response	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE				
Whaitiri		Meka	Kiaora-Rawhiti	Labour								Oppose	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE				
Williams		Peto	Christchurch East	Labour								Oppose	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE				
Wood		Michael	Mt Roskill	Labour								Undecided	Likely Support						
Flavel		Te Ururoa	Waikaiti	Māori	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE		Oppose	Support	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE		
Fox		Marama	# Kiaora-Rawhiti	Māori								Oppose	Support	OPPOSE	OPPOSE				
Adams		Amy	Selwyn	National	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	SUPPORT			OPPOSE		No response	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE		
Bakshi		Kamraj Singh	# Manukau East	National	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT			OPPOSE		Undecided	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE		
Barry		Maggie	North Shore	National	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	SUPPORT					Oppose	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE			
Bennett		David	Hamilton East	National	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	OPPOSE		Undecided	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE		
Bennett		Paula	Upper Harbour	National	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	OPPOSE		Undecided	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE		
Bridges		Simon	Tauranga	National	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	NO VOTE			OPPOSE		Oppose	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE		
Brownlee		Gerry	Itan	National	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	Oppose	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE
Carter		David		National	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	NO VOTE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	OPPOSE		Oppose	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE		
Coleman		Jonathan	Northcote	National	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	No response	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE
Collins		Judith	Papakura	National	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	OPPOSE		Undecided	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE		
Dean		Jacqui	Waikaiti	National	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	Oppose	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE
English		Bill		National	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	Oppose	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE
Finlayson		Christopher	# Rongotai	National	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE		Oppose	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE		
Goldsmith		Paul	# Epsom	National	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	SUPPORT					Likely Oppose	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE			
Guy		Nathan	Orakei	National	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	OPPOSE		Undecided	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE		
Joyce		Steven		National	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE		OPPOSE		Undecided	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE		
Kaye		Nikki	Auckland Central	National	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE		OPPOSE		Likely Oppose	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE		
Lee		Melissa	# Mt Albert	National	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	OPPOSE		OPPOSE		Support	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE		
Macindoe		Tim	Hamilton West	National	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	SUPPORT		OPPOSE		Likely Oppose	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE		
McClay		Todd	Rotorua	National	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	SUPPORT		OPPOSE		Likely Support	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE		
McDevie		Ian	Rangitikei	National	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	SUPPORT		OPPOSE		Likely Oppose	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE		
Mitchell		Mark	Rodney	National	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	SUPPORT				Undecided	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE			
Ngoro		Alfred	# Te Aua	National	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	SUPPORT				Undecided	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	SUPPORT			
O'Connor		Simon	Tamaki	National	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT				Oppose	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE			

Labour

māori

National

For more details, go to valueyourvote.nz

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Ross	Jani-Lee	Botany	National	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE					Support	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE		
Simpson	Scott	Coromandel	National	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	OPPOSE					Support	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	SUPPORT			
Smith	Nick	Nelson	National	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	Likely Oppose	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	
Tolley	Anne	East Coast	National	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	NO VOTE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	OPPOSE		Undecided	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	SUPPORT			
Upston	Louise	Taupo	National	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT			OPPOSE		Undecided	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE		
Wagner	Nicky	Christchurch Central	National	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	OPPOSE		Oppose	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE		
Woodhouse	Michael	#Dunedin North	National	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	NO VOTE			OPPOSE		Oppose	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE		
Yang	Jan		National	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT					Undecided	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	SUPPORT			
Young	Jonathan	New Plymouth	National	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT			OPPOSE		Oppose	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE		
Elected at last Election (2014)																		
Bayly	Andrew	Humea	National								No response	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE				
Bishop	Chris	#Hutt South	National								Support	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE				
Dooney	Matt	Waimakariri	National								Likely Support	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE				
Dowie	Sarah	Invercargill	National								Oppose	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE				
Hayes	Joanne	#Christchurch East	National								No response	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE				
Hudson	Brett	#Otago	National								Support	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE				
Korako	Turehounuku	#Port Hills	National								Likely Oppose	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE				
Kuniger	Barbara	Tairānaki-King Country	National								Undecided	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE				
Muller	Todd	Bay of Plenty	National								Oppose	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE				
Parman	Pammyet	#Mt Roskill	National								Oppose	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE				
Pugh	Maureen	#West Coast-Egmont	National								Oppose	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE				
Reti	Shane	Whangarei	National								Oppose	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE				
Scott	Alastair	Waikato	National								Oppose	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE				
Smith	Stuart	Kaitiaki	National								Support	Undecided	SUPPORT	OPPOSE				
Martin	Tracey	#Rodney	NZ First	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE					Oppose	Oppose*	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT			
O'Rourke	Denis	#Port Hills	NZ First	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE					Referendum*	Referendum*	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT		OPPOSE	
Peers	Winston	Northland	NZ First	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE		SUPPORT	Oppose	Oppose*	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT			SUPPORT
Prosser	Richard	#Waimakariri	NZ First	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE					Oppose	Oppose*	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT			
Previously in Parliament																		
Mark	Ron	#Waikato	NZ First				OPPOSE	OPPOSE		SUPPORT	Oppose	Oppose*	OPPOSE	SUPPORT			OPPOSE	OPPOSE
Parane	Pita	#Whangarei	NZ First				SUPPORT	OPPOSE		SUPPORT	Oppose	Oppose*	OPPOSE	SUPPORT			OPPOSE	SUPPORT
Elected at last Election (2014) or later																		
Bell	Darrach	#Palmerston North	NZ First								Oppose*	Oppose	OPPOSE	SUPPORT				
Bindra	Malchesh	#Mt Roskill	NZ First								Oppose	Oppose*	OPPOSE	SUPPORT				
Bond	Ria	#Invercargill	NZ First								Oppose	Oppose*	OPPOSE					
Mitchell	Clayton	#Tairānaki	NZ First								Oppose*	Oppose	OPPOSE	SUPPORT				
Tabuteau	Fletcher	#Rotorua	NZ First								Oppose	Oppose*	OPPOSE	SUPPORT				

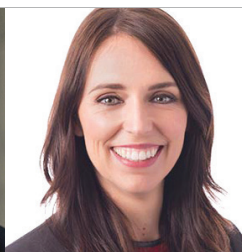
For more details, go to valueyourvote.nz

For more details, go to valueyourvote.nz

Where do party leaders stand on family issues?



BILL ENGLISH
NATIONAL



JACINDA ARDERN
LABOUR



WINSTON PETERS
NZ FIRST



JAMES SHAW
GREEN

MARRIAGE

1. Define marriage as one man and one woman	PARTIAL	SUPPORT *	OPPOSE *	SUPPORT	OPPOSE *
2. Redefine marriage to allow polygamy, group marriage	OPPOSE *		NO RESPONSE	OPPOSE	NO RESPONSE
3. Policies promoting marriage	OPPOSE *		NO RESPONSE	SUPPORT	NO RESPONSE
4. Same sex adoption by non-biological adults	NO RESPONSE		SUPPORT *	OPPOSE	SUPPORT *

ABORTION

5. Decriminalisation of abortion	OPPOSE *		SUPPORT *	OPPOSE	SUPPORT *
6. Unborn child has right to life	SUPPORT *		NO RESPONSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE *
7. Informed consent for women seeking abortion	SUPPORT *		NO RESPONSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE *

EUTHANASIA

8. Decriminalisation of euthanasia	OPPOSE *		SUPPORT *	UNDECIDED	SUPPORT *
9. Full resourcing of palliative care	SUPPORT *		NO RESPONSE	SUPPORT	NO RESPONSE

ANTI-SMACKING LAW

10. Decriminalise non-abusive smacking	OPPOSE *		OPPOSE *	SUPPORT	OPPOSE *
11. Independent Oranga Tamariki Complaints Authority (CYF)	PARTIAL	SUPPORT *	PARTIAL	SUPPORT *	SUPPORT *
12. Binding Citizens Initiated Referenda	OPPOSE *		NO RESPONSE	SUPPORT	NO RESPONSE

PARENTING & FAMILY

13. Parental notification for teen pregnancies	SUPPORT *		OPPOSE *	SUPPORT	OPPOSE *
14. Abstinence and parental-based sex education	NO RESPONSE		NO RESPONSE	UNDECIDED	OPPOSE *
15. Expert panel to investigate harms of pornography	OPPOSE *		NO RESPONSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT *
16. Parental choice for education and ECE arrangements	NO RESPONSE		NO RESPONSE	SUPPORT	NO RESPONSE
17. Parents as primary responsibility - not government	NO RESPONSE		NO RESPONSE	SUPPORT	NO RESPONSE

'GENDER IDENTITY'

18. 'Gender identity' separate from biological sex	NO RESPONSE		NO RESPONSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT *
19. Toilets/changing rooms based on biology, not 'gender identity'	NO RESPONSE		NO RESPONSE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE *

DRUGS

20. Decriminalisation / legalisation of marijuana	OPPOSE *		SUPPORT *	OPPOSE	SUPPORT *
21. Decriminalisation of medicinal marijuana (strict controls)	SUPPORT with strict controls *		SUPPORT *	SUPPORT with strict controls	SUPPORT *

PROSTITUTION

22. Repeal of prostitution law - prosecute buyer	NO RESPONSE		NO RESPONSE	SUPPORT	NO RESPONSE
23. Ban on brothels in residential areas	NO RESPONSE		NO RESPONSE	SUPPORT	NO RESPONSE
24. Ban on street prostitution	OPPOSE *		OPPOSE *	SUPPORT	OPPOSE *

ALCOHOL

25. Raise drinking and purchase age to 20	OPPOSE *		OPPOSE *	PARTIAL	SUPPORT	OPPOSE *
26. Alcohol law reform (5+ Solution)	OPPOSE *		NO RESPONSE	PARTIAL	SUPPORT	NO RESPONSE

TAXATION OF FAMILIES

27. Income splitting for parents	OPPOSE *		NO RESPONSE	SUPPORT	NO RESPONSE
28. Paid parental leave (6 months)	PARTIAL	SUPPORT *	SUPPORT *	SUPPORT	SUPPORT *

BIOETHICS

29. Legalisation of surrogacy	OPPOSE *		NO RESPONSE	UNDECIDED	NO RESPONSE
30. Destruction of embryos for stem cell research	OPPOSE *		NO RESPONSE	OPPOSE	NO RESPONSE

OTHER ISSUES

31. Raise levels of broadcasting standards	NO RESPONSE		NO RESPONSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT*
32. Prevent sexualisation of children in media	NO RESPONSE		NO RESPONSE	SUPPORT	NO RESPONSE
33. G-rated billboards	NO RESPONSE		NO RESPONSE	SUPPORT	NO RESPONSE
34. Liberalisation of Easter trading laws	SUPPORT *		OPPOSE*	OPPOSE	OPPOSE*
35. Stricter regulations and monitoring of loan sharks	PARTIAL	SUPPORT *	SUPPORT*	SUPPORT	SUPPORT*
36. 'Sinking lid' policy on gaming machines	PARTIAL	SUPPORT *	SUPPORT *	SUPPORT	SUPPORT*
37. Welfare payment vouchers where children at risk	NO RESPONSE		NO RESPONSE	OPPOSE	OPPOSE *
38. Three strikes legislation	SUPPORT *		OPPOSE *	PARTIAL SUPPORT	OPPOSE *

Bill English did not complete the questionnaire, but did attend the recent *Forum on the Family* hosted by Family First NZ where he responded to some of these questions. At time of going to print, **Jacinda Ardern** and **James Shaw** had not responded to our Questionnaire. Check our website ValueYourVote.nz for updates.

Where do party leaders stand on family issues?



DAVID SEYMOUR
ACT



MARAMA FOX
MAORI / MANA



LEIGHTON BAKER
CONSERVATIVE



GARETH MORGAN
TOP

MARRIAGE

1. Define marriage as one man and one woman	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	NO POSITION
2. Redefine marriage to allow polygamy, group marriage	NO POSITION	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	NO POSITION
3. Policies promoting marriage	NO POSITION	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	NO POSITION
4. Same sex adoption by non-biological adults	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	NO POSITION

ABORTION

5. Decriminalisation of abortion	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	NO POSITION
6. Unborn child has right to life	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	NO POSITION
7. Informed consent for women seeking abortion	NO POSITION	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	NO POSITION

EUTHANASIA

8. Decriminalisation of euthanasia	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT*
9. Full resourcing of palliative care	NO POSITION	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	NO POSITION

ANTI-SMACKING LAW

10. Decriminalise non-abusive smacking	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	NO POSITION
11. Independent Oranga Tamariki Complaints Authority (CYF)	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	NO POSITION
12. Binding Citizens Initiated Referenda	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	NO POSITION

PARENTING & FAMILY

13. Parental notification for teen pregnancies	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	NO POSITION
14. Abstinence and parental-based sex education	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	NO POSITION
15. Expert panel to investigate harms of pornography	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	UNDECIDED
16. Parental choice for education and ECE arrangements	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	NO POSITION
17. Parents as primary responsibility - not government	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	NO POSITION

'GENDER IDENTITY'

18. 'Gender identity' separate from biological sex	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	NO POSITION
19. Toilets/changing rooms based on biology, not 'gender identity'	NO POSITION	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	NO POSITION

DRUGS

20. Decriminalisation / legalisation of marijuana	SUPPORT *	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT
21. Decriminalisation of medicinal marijuana (strict controls)	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	SUPPORT with strict controls	SUPPORT

PROSTITUTION

22. Repeal of prostitution law - prosecute buyer	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	NO POSITION
23. Ban on brothels in residential areas	NO POSITION	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	NO POSITION
24. Ban on street prostitution	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	NO POSITION

ALCOHOL

25. Raise drinking and purchase age to 20	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	SUPPORT*
26. Alcohol law reform (5+ Solution)	PARTIAL SUPPORT	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	NO POSITION

TAXATION OF FAMILIES

27. Income splitting for parents	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	NO POSITION
28. Paid parental leave (6 months)	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	NO POSITION

BIOETHICS

29. Legalisation of surrogacy	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	NO POSITION
30. Destruction of embryos for stem cell research	NO POSITION	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	NO POSITION

OTHER ISSUES

31. Raise levels of broadcasting standards	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	NO POSITION
32. Prevent sexualisation of children in media	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	NO POSITION
33. G-rated billboards	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	NO POSITION
34. Liberalisation of Easter trading laws	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	OPPOSE	NO POSITION
35. Stricter regulations and monitoring of loan sharks	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	NO POSITION
36. 'Sinking lid' policy on gaming machines	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	NO POSITION
37. Welfare payment vouchers where children at risk	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	NO POSITION
38. Three strikes legislation	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	SUPPORT	NO POSITION

Go to valueyourvote.nz for additional comments made by the leaders in response to some of these questions.

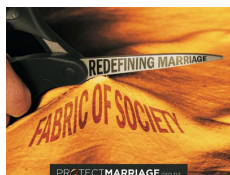
* We have analysed ALL the leaders' voting records and public statements made on these issues to determine their position. We welcome any documented corrections.

What is each party's policy on key family issues?

Detailed responses were received from **NZ First, Greens, ACT, United Future, Maori** and **Conservative** parties. **Labour** responded saying only that the issues were "conscience issues". **National** said they would set out their "key policies" closer to the election. The **Opportunities Party** said they have a policy only around the marijuana issue. We have also taken into consideration media and public comments that the parties or party leaders have made to try to determine the party's position.

REDEFINING MARRIAGE









ProtectMarriage.nz



The redefinition of marriage has been one of the most significant political issues of our time. A politician's position on this issue exposes his or her worldview and gives a clear indication of how he or she understands the role of family in civil society. In 2013, Parliament chose to reject the traditional and natural union of one man and one woman as the basis for marriage, thereby side-lining its cultural and traditional significance and its fundamental role in the care of children. Marriage has been redefined principally as a contractual partnership. It is not an exaggeration to claim that, with no clear public mandate, politicians were guilty of 'cultural vandalism'. The 'equality' cause is not advanced by destroying institutions. Marriage 'equality' was never about equality because there are people who are still not able to marry. It's hardly surprising there are now attempts to extend the definition of marriage to allow for polygamy and group marriage, and to punish people who hold to the traditional definition of marriage. The redefinition of

marriage has deconstructed and weakened the meaning and purpose of marriage as a specific cultural and historical institution. In 2004, the government introduced Civil Unions and changed over 150 pieces of legislation to provide legal recognition and protection for other forms of relationships. The State should not have presumed to re-engineer a natural human institution.

The parties were asked if they have an official policy on supporting or opposing the definition of marriage being restored to one man and one woman only, and for their policy on the potential for the Marriage Act being expanded to allow polygamy and group marriage.

	Conservative Party believes that marriage should be between 1 man and 1 woman. Conservative Party does not believe that bigamy or polygamy are relationships that would benefit New Zealand or the children brought up here so would not support anything other than 1 man, 1 woman marriage.
	This issue should be left to a binding government or citizens initiated referendum after a period of public debate. Polygamy & group marriage – No official policy
	Our policy is not to restore the Marriage Act to one man and one woman only. ACT does not have a policy on (polygamy or) group marriage
	We strongly oppose the reducing of the definition of marriage to being between one man and one woman only. We don't have policy on (polygamy & group marriage) and we have no intention to extend the law to these types of relationships.
	The Māori Party does not have an official policy on supporting or opposing the definition of MARRIAGE being restored to being one man and one woman only. However, we do believe that individuals should have the right to choose. The Māori Party does not have a position on polygamy or group marriage. However, we do support the law of the land and its position on polygamy or group marriage.
	This is a matter of individual conscience.
	No response received
	No response received




DECRIMINALISING ABORTION







ChooseLife.nz



The good news is that abortions are at the lowest rate since 1990. But some political parties want to 'decriminalise' abortion and consequently diminish safeguards that exist for vulnerable women. Decriminalisation will pave the way for late term and partial birth abortions, and 'gendercide' (abortion based on the sex of the unborn child, usually targeting female babies). Terminations could be possible up-to-birth, and not only because of 'severe foetal abnormality'. Women's health and the rights of the unborn child would be threatened. Coercion to have an abortion is a major issue and the current law goes some way to putting safeguards around that. A sound law should not leave women exposed to harms such as those recently witnessed in the US trial of Kermit Gosnell who operated a dangerous legal abortion facility resulting in a client's death. A good law should promote informed consent and complete information

about abortion and related risks, and provide women with independent pregnancy counselling. Abortions can harm women – a fact acknowledged by half of New Zealanders according to a survey in 2017. The abortion rate is likely to drop as knowledge of the prenatal development of the unborn child increases, and as an increasingly pro-life younger generation become parents themselves. The 'bunch of cells' argument which has driven the 'right-to-abortion' argument has now been exposed as simply poor science.

	"I think what (the Abortion Supervisory Committee) mean is liberalise it, and we wouldn't do that." Bill English – PM (Mar 2017) ¹ "Wholesale reform of abortion law is not something I'm currently looking at." Amy Adams – Minister of Justice (Dec 2016) ²
	Conservative Party opposes the decriminalisation of the abortion.
	"I support women's choice... It does need to be reviewed and upgraded, and I agree with (Leader) Jacinda (Ardern) - we should not have it in the Crimes Act; it is not a crime..." – ex-leader Andrew Little (March 2017)

	Our full policy on this is a part of our Women's Policy. In short, our policy is to decriminalise abortion.
	"Our abortion laws are archaic, and should be modernized. I have always believed in personal choice, and that extends to the issue of abortion. Morally, abortion is about a woman's body and her choice... The right thing to do is reform abortion law to reflect what actually happens: women exercise choice for their own reasons. If I did not already have a bill on an important moral issue in the Members' ballot I would seriously consider a bill on this issue." - Media Release – David Seymour (Mar 2017) ⁴ ACT does not have a policy on decriminalisation of abortion. (Official response)
	We believe that in matters pertaining to life and death, decisions are best made in the context of Whānau Ora – the whānau determining the best outcomes for their whānau. We place high value on whakapapa - the sacred genealogical lines of one's descent. As Māori, we need to be confident that the respect we have for whakapapa, for whanaungatanga, and for tikanga are fully understood by ourselves and others. The Māori Party believes the current law in relation to abortion needs to be reviewed. There are a range of issues concerning abortion laws, including cultural issues. We recognise there is a conversation to be had as a nation about the extent to which abortion should be treated as a crime or a health issue. We welcome the debate and the need for a rethink of the current law.
	"Prohibition and complicated hoops to jump through doesn't work. Abortion is healthcare and it shouldn't be a crime, it should be a matter for a person with a uterus and their doctor." – Dr Jenny Condie (List Candidate)
	New Zealand First believes abortions should be safe, legal and rare. Any change must be subject to a binding government or citizens initiated referendum after a period of public debate.
	United Future sees abortion legislation as a matter of conscience and so does not have a party position.










DECRIMINALISING ASSISTED SUICIDE / EUTHANASIA

RejectAssistedSuicide.nz



One of the main reasons that politicians in New Zealand have rejected previous attempts to decriminalise assisted suicide / euthanasia is that they realised that 'safeguards', while sounding good, would not guarantee the protection required for vulnerable people including the disabled, elderly, depressed or anxious, and those who feel themselves to be a burden or are under financial pressure. The international evidence backs up these concerns, and explains why so few countries have made any changes to the law around this issue. There are contradictory messages when society rightly wants to take a zero-tolerance approach to suicide, yet at the same time wants to approve assisted suicide. The potential for abuse and flouting of procedural safeguards is a further strong argument

against assisted suicide. The solution is to ensure a palliative care regime in New Zealand that is fully funded and world class. That's where the politicians should focus their attention. The recent inquiry into assisted suicide / euthanasia had 16,000+ submissions (80% of all submissions) opposing assisted suicide / euthanasia.

	No response received "Prime Minister Bill English says he'll vote against any legislation allowing euthanasia in New Zealand." (2017)
	Conservative Party opposes the decriminalisation of Euthanasia.
	No official response "Labour (leader) Jacinda Ardern, also on The AM Show, said she would vote for (euthanasia)." (April 2017)
	Section 15 of our Health Policy outlines our End of Life policy. We support a law change to allow an individual access to medically-assisted dying, providing that, as a minimum, a series of safeguards are included. These specific safeguards are set out in detail on pages 8-9 of our Health Policy.
	Leader David Seymour has a Private Member's Bill changing the law to allow assisted suicide / euthanasia. It would be a conscience vote for ACT MPs.
	This is a misleading term, as no one is advocating euthanasia in the current discourse. What is being talked about is allowing assisted dying for those with terminal conditions. The main issue with this is ensuring that no one is being pressured into taking up assisted dying, which requires appropriate checks and balances including sufficient funding for end of life care. With this in place there is no reason to not allow a person to choose how they end their life. Currently that happens with people going nil by mouth – essentially starving themselves to death. This is a cruel way to manage end of life choices.
	Again, we believe that in matters pertaining to life and death, decisions are best made in the context of Whānau Ora – the whānau determining the best outcomes for their whānau. We place high value on whakapapa - the sacred genealogical lines of one's descent. As Māori, we need to be confident that the respect we have for whakapapa, for whanaungatanga, and for tikanga are fully understood by ourselves and others.
	New Zealand First policy is that the vote on Euthanasia should not be left to temporarily empowered politicians but for the public to decide by a binding government or citizens initiated referendum, after a period of public debate.
	We view it as a matter of conscience. However, we do think it is time for a wider debate in the community about advanced care planning. A discussion that includes not only euthanasia, but other issues like palliative care. If there will be any legislation it should flow after that debate has taken place.

What is each party's policy on key family issues?

DECRIMINALISING MARIJUANA

SayNopeToDope.nz



Supporters of decriminalisation would have us believe that cannabis is a gentle, harmless substance that gives users little more than a sense of mellow euphoria and hurts no one else. But the cannabis now in circulation is many times more powerful than that typically found in the early 1990s with up to a 25-fold increase in the amount of the main psychoactive ingredient, tetrahydrocannabinol (THC). Naturally, growers want to sell marijuana with increased potency because it is more addictive. With increased potency come increased health risks, greater likelihood of addiction, and the potential gateway to other and often more harmful drugs. Drug use is *both* a criminal and a health issue. There is a false dichotomy that criminal sanctions haven't worked so we should ditch them all together and we should focus only on education and health initiatives. We should maintain both. Decriminalising marijuana is the wrong path if we

care about public health and public safety, and about our young people. We will then start sending the message that marijuana isn't that big a deal and that adults got the 'say no to drugs' message wrong.

Regarding medicinal marijuana, Family First supports further quality research into the components of the marijuana plant for delivery via non-smoked forms, and supports the establishment of emergency programmes that allow seriously ill patients non-smoked components of marijuana approved and listed by the Ministry of Health. But New Zealanders need to be aware of the smoke-screen of 'medicinal marijuana'. The strategy of groups who want dope legalised is to promote medicinal marijuana which simply manipulates society's compassion for people with serious pain and health concerns. There should be caution around this issue, but we also support a compassionate, safe and effective response to those in real need.

National	"We don't want an official marijuana industry. We're not going to be legalising it." Medicinal – "There's already a 'compassionate' and legal route for patients to get cannabis products - if they need them. The Minister's just changed the rules so that's a little bit easier, with the Ministry of Health now approving it instead of each one going to the minister. As far as we can see, that's going to work pretty well and we don't want to take it any further." – PM Bill English (Apr 2017) ⁸
CONSERVATIVE	Conservative Party opposes the decriminalisation of the recreational use of marijuana. Conservative Party would only support the use of medical Marijuana if it passed the same strict testing required of other medicines.
NEW ZEALAND FIRST	Any change must be subject to a binding government or citizens initiated referendum after a period of public debate. Medicinal – New Zealand First is not opposed to research into the potential benefits of pharmaceutical marijuana extracts, provided that these benefits are unobtainable elsewhere, and that any benefits are shown to be greater than any potential negative effects such extracts may include. If research into the validity of medical cannabis is completed and Pharmac chooses to make marijuana based drugs available in New Zealand then we would support it being purchased only through a pharmacist with a valid doctor's prescription.
UnitedFuture	New Zealand should move towards decriminalising cannabis over time, Associate Health Minister Peter Dunne says. Mr Dunne said he wanted the country to follow Portugal's model, where the drug was legalised and regulated. The first step would be to treat possession of low levels of cannabis as a health issue, rather than a crime, he said. – Radio NZ (May 2017) We support maintaining the current legal status of cannabis for recreational use. (Official response) We support maintaining the current legal pathway for patients to obtain cannabis for medical use. (Official response)
Green	Our full Drug Law Reform Policy includes a section outlining our position to make cannabis legal for personal use. That includes legalising cultivation for personal use, introducing a legal age limit for personal use, and providing education. Medicinal - Our full Drug Law Reform Policy includes a section outlining our position on the medicinal use of cannabis. While awaiting broader law change for cannabis, we would remove penalties for any person with a terminal illness, or chronic or debilitating condition to cultivate, possess or use cannabis and/or cannabis products for therapeutic purposes, provided they have the support of a registered medical practitioner.
TOP The Opportunities Party	TOP proposes to have make cannabis legal with a minimum age of purchase of 20, allow individuals to grow up to two plants each, create public smoking areas, restrict advertising, and license non-profit charitable trusts to control retail sales of cannabis. – Policy announcement (May 2017)
act	"Personally, I'd (legalise cannabis) tomorrow." – David Seymour, ACT leader (May 2017). ACT does not have a policy on decriminalisation of recreational use of marijuana or medicinal use of marijuana. (Official response)
māori PARTY	The Māori Party has always believed that if we, as a nation, are truly committed to whānau ora, we must address the social hazards that create such havoc on our health such as tobacco and cannabis smoking. The current policy is not to legalise marijuana but we are open to discussion about the decriminalisation of marijuana and feel this discussion needs to take place. Medicinal - We support the decriminalisation of the medicinal use of marijuana. We believe that the decision for the use of medicinal marijuana should be made by health professionals who would be best placed to make these decisions.
Labour	No response received "The student asks (Jacinda Ardern) direct questions about cannabis and gets equally direct responses: Does Labour believe in drug reform? Yes. More than for just medical purposes? Yes." (2016) Medicinal – "...if a medical practitioner considers that you meet the criteria to access approved medicinal cannabis products, then you will be approved. No ifs, no buts." – Jacinda Ardern (2016)

SEX EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

JustTheFacts.org.nz











You're Teaching My Child What?

Parents have been horrified at groups coming in to schools and undermining the role and values of parents with sex education resources targeted at children as young as five which fail to take into account the emotional and physical development of each child and the values of the family. The government is currently pursuing and promoting a curriculum where children are given dangerous messages that they're sexual from birth, that the proper time for sexual activity is when they feel ready, and that they have rights to pleasure, birth control, and abortion. Most schools, along with parents in that school community, are rejecting the extreme elements of the new sexuality education guidelines released at the end of 2015, including 'gender identity' ideology. In a poll released earlier this year, almost 4 out of 5 parents said they were confident of their ability to teach their own children about sex and sexuality issues, and 2/3rds believed that parents should be determining any school-based teaching, not the government or groups such as Family

Planning and Rainbow Youth. Studies show that the biggest protective factors for coping with puberty and sexual involvement are family values, parental supervision, and parental expectations for behaviour. What happens at home is the greatest determinant of the outcomes for the young person. Parents *can* feel overawed by this issue and the need for 'the sex talk', so resources should be put into giving them the confidence to educate their children.

The parties were asked - does your party have an official policy on sexuality education in schools, and if so, would the curriculum be compulsory or optional for schools, and at what age / level should it begin? And would parents still be able to opt their children out of the classes if they wish to?

	Yes, on the proviso that there is greater parental involvement on the curriculum development. Parents able to opt out? –Yes
	ACT does not have a policy on sexuality education. We are supportive of choice in education. We think parents are best placed to choose the right school for their child, and that the state should fund a variety of schools with different approaches to the New Zealand Curriculum.
	The Māori Party does not have an official policy on sexuality education in schools but we believe it should be the right of whānau to decide whether their child/children should participate in such classes.
	Conservative Party believes that sex education is best done by parents. Any parent should have the right to withdraw their children from sex education. Sex education should not be started in schools until after Year 9.
	<i>"It's proposed Labour enacts a national sex and sexuality education programme. It would see a minimum standard set for sex and sexuality education in the national curriculum – issues covered would include sexual diseases, contraception, consent, sexual orientation and gender identity." (Oct 2013)</i> <i>"Labour will...implement the Ministry of Education's Sexuality Education Guidelines..." – Labour Education Manifesto (2017)</i>
	The Green Party's Youth Policy states that we will ensure the inclusion of comprehensive health and sex education at intermediate and secondary levels. We support the Ministry of Education's sexuality guidelines, and would provide more leadership from the Ministry to inform and upskill schools to be able to deliver them. Parents able to opt out? – We don't have specific policy on this.
	No response, but the National-led government is responsible for the new Sexuality Education Guidelines released in 2015.
	We do not have any comprehensive policy on this matter.









PARENTAL NOTIFICATION FOR TEENAGE ABORTIONS

HillarysLaw.org.nz



The 'parental notification' law for teenage abortions currently means that while a parent has to sign a letter for their daughter to go on a school trip to the zoo or to play in the netball team, they are totally excluded from any knowledge or granting of permission for that same child to be put on the pill or have a surgical abortion. What is so unique about abortion procedures to warrant the prohibition of parental consent? Ironically, if there is a complication from the abortion, the parent's consent is then required for further treatment. Last year, a select committee rejected a petition for a law change (*Hillary's Law*) by a Stratford mother whose teenager daughter attempted suicide after a secret abortion organised by the local school. Governments don't raise children, parents do. If parents don't know, they can't care. Yet politicians have voted to keep parents in the dark. Family First is calling for the law to be amended to allow for parental notification in all cases of medical advice, prescriptions and procedures unless it can be

proved to a Family Court that it would place the child at extreme risk. Politicians concerned about the welfare of young teenagers in a vulnerable and difficult situation should support family involvement.

	<i>(Supported the petition of Hillary Kieft to get the law changed to allow for parental notification)</i> The Māori Party welcomes the opportunity to discuss the issue of parental notification for teenagers seeking an abortion. Under the current system a young woman can get sign off from two doctors, have an abortion and return home without her parents knowing. We believe that whānau need to be informed so whānau can offer support to that child. We also believe that there needs to be an age minimum for an abortion as currently there is not and we do not think this is appropriate.
	<i>(Supported the petition of Hillary Kieft to get the law changed to allow for parental notification)</i> New Zealand First supports the parental notification for teenagers seeking abortion if the minor is in their parents care with an exemption in exceptional circumstances where the young woman could be placed in danger by such a notification.
	Conservative Party believes that parents should be notified for all medical procedures on their children, including abortion.
	<i>(Opposed the petition of Hillary Kieft to get the law changed to allow for parental notification)</i> <i>"Labour's spokesperson for Justice Jacinda Ardern said the law should remain the way it was." (2015)</i>
	<i>(Opposed the petition of Hillary Kieft to get the law changed to allow for parental notification)</i> We do not have explicit policy on this, however we opposed mandatory parental notification on safety grounds. It is important to realise that in most cases young people who initially do not want to tell parents of an unintended pregnancy are supported to do so by health professionals and very few abortions happen without an adult family member being told.
	No response received <i>(Opposed the petition of Hillary Kieft to get the law changed to allow for parental notification)</i>
	<i>(Party leader David Seymour personally opposes parental notification)</i> ACT does not have a policy on parental notification for teenagers seeking abortion – Official response
	We support informed consent for abortion – Official response

What is each party's policy on key family issues?

'GENDER IDENTITY' IDEOLOGY IN SCHOOLS

AskMeFirst.nz











Our children are being indoctrinated with the message "Gender refers to how you identify, someone can identify as male, female, in between, both, or neither." The PPTA has told secondary schools that "Gender identity refers to what a person thinks of as their own gender, whether they think of themselves as a man or as a woman, irrespective of their biological sex", and that schools must not only recognise these forms of diversity, but affirm them. The Human Rights Commission has published guidelines to recognise the rights of children as young as five to use the changing room, play in the sports team, and even share bunkrooms on school camps that match their 'gender identity'. But a recently released report which analysed over 200 peer-reviewed studies in the biological, psychological, and social sciences, concluded:

- The belief that gender identity is an innate, fixed human property independent of biological sex – so that a person might be a 'man trapped in a woman's body' or 'a woman trapped in a man's body' – is **not supported by scientific evidence**.
- Only a minority of children who express gender-atypical thoughts or behaviour will continue to do so into adolescence or adulthood. There is **no evidence** that all such children should be encouraged to become transgender, much less subjected to hormone treatments or surgery.

It's time that the Ministry of Education placed priority on scientific evidence and sound medical practice, rather than bowing to ideology and special interest groups pushing their own agenda. In the school setting, girls have a right to privacy, especially in situations where they feel particularly vulnerable, like a toilet, changing room or showers. Gender identity ideology simply confuses and harms children and young people, and ignores biological reality.

The parties were asked – does your party have an official position on 'gender identity' being taught in New Zealand schools? And does your party support or oppose the right of children to choose the toilet, changing room, and camp bunkroom they use and sports team they play in according to their 'gender identity', irrespective of their actual biological sex?

	Conservative Party believes that gender identity issues are psychological and not physiological and therefore should be dealt with as other psychological issues. Gender identity should not be taught in school apart from offering help for those struggling in that area. Children should use the bathrooms of their biological gender.
	No response, but they support the new Sexuality Education Guidelines released in 2015 (which includes 'gender identity' ideology). "Labour will undertake an assessment of the need for gender reassignment surgery as an elective health service. This is a mental health and a suicide prevention initiative, especially for young trans New Zealanders." (our emphasis added) – Labour policy announcement (2017)
	No response, but the National-led government is responsible for the new Sexuality Education Guidelines released in 2015 (which includes 'gender identity' ideology).
	Yes, we support ('gender identity' being taught in schools). Re Bathroom, changing room and sports teams – We absolutely support the rights of transgender people and we are very concerned about rhetoric that suggests people have any cause to be scared.
	The Māori Party does not have an official policy on Gender Identity being taught in New Zealand schools. However, we would be guided by whānau to determine whether their child/children should participate in such classes and support whānau having the option to choose. Re bathroom, changing room and sports teams – Individuals living comfortably outside of typical male/female expectations and/or identities are found in every region of the globe including Aotearoa. We support the right of the child to choose the toilet, changing room and sports team that they play in and expect that the child will be supported and guided by their whānau. This diversity of gender is a normal part of the human experience, across cultures and throughout history and the same can be found within Māori culture.
	ACT does not have a policy on gender identity being taught in schools. Our policy is to leave these (bathroom, changing room and sports teams) decisions to parents and schools to deal with, applying common sense.
	New Zealand First does not have an official policy on gender identity being taught in NZ schools. Re bathroom, changing room and sports teams – no school or local body has contacted us on this.
	We do not have any comprehensive policy on this matter.

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INDEPENDENT COMPLAINTS AUTHORITY FOR ORANGA TAMARIKI (CYF)



Where do families turn when they believe CYF (renamed as *Oranga Tamariki – Ministry for Vulnerable Children*) isn't performing? It is difficult to understand why the government is so apprehensive about independent accountability for an organisation that can make decisions to uplift children and potentially destroy families without even having to produce concrete evidence of abuse. At other times, CYF has not acted when there was clear evidence that it should have. An independent complaints authority would be in the best interests of the social workers as it will provide an independent body to ensure that appropriate policy and procedures have been followed. This will result in public confidence and accountability for actions and decisions. There is a Health and Disability Commissioner,









a Police Complaints Authority, even a Motor Vehicle Disputes Tribunal. We desperately need an independent oversight body to hear complaints about the highly sensitive nature of intervening in families. There must be a mechanism that ensures that families who have been notified as being at-risk are actually monitored in an appropriate way, but also to prevent abuse of families by the State.

	We support an independent agency. There is a lot of potential for things to go wrong in child protection, and just like the police, there really does need to be independent oversight.
	The Māori Party would support the creation of an independent complaints authority or similar mechanism for Oranga Tamariki, the Ministry for Vulnerable Children.
	New Zealand First supports an independent complaints authority for the new Ministry of Vulnerable Children (Oranga Tamariki).
	Conservative Party has called for the formation of an independent CYF complaint authority to be able to investigate all CYF activities.
	<i>(No independent complaints authority included in the legislation for the new Ministry.)</i>
	ACT does not have a policy on an Independent Complaints Authority for CYFS/Ministry for Vulnerable Children. <i>(Party leader David Seymour personally opposes an independent complaints authority – see pg 9)</i>
	We do not have any comprehensive policy on this matter.
	No response received

BINDING CITIZENS' INITIATED REFERENDA



If important issues can pass the very high threshold of firstly obtaining almost 300,000 valid signatures from New Zealand citizens, and then win a majority vote after the public debate, Parliament should be bound by the result. Unfortunately, politicians have been able to simply ignore the views of New Zealanders on issues such as law and order, the anti-smacking law, and the number of MPs. Government accountability should be able to happen regularly and on individual issues where there is high voter interest – not just once every three years at a general election. A poll in 2014 found 2:1 support in favour of binding referenda.

	New Zealand First has long supported citizen-initiated binding referendums for contentious issues. These issues should not be decided by temporarily empowered politicians but by the public.
	Binding Citizens' Initiated Referenda is a core policy of Conservative Party.
	Our policy is not to make Citizens' Initiated Referenda binding. This risks creating mob rule and undermining the right of an incumbent government to make policy.
	While a Citizens' Initiated Referendum is an expression of the will of the people, so are elections. However, Citizens' Initiated Referendums are single-issue votes triggered by the large public petitions. While the Māori Party does not have a policy on supporting or opposing Binding Citizens' Initiated Referendums, we do believe that there are other ways to change the law and do not consider a binding referendum as the best way of doing this.
	We oppose binding Citizens' Initiated Referenda.
	No, we do not have policy on this.
	No response received
	No response received

What is each party's policy on key family issues?

ANTI-SMACKING LAW

ProtectGoodParents.nz

Target real child abuse,
not real parents.



A report last year analysing the 2007 anti-smacking law concluded that there was not a single social indicator relating to the abuse of children that had shown significant or sustained improvement since the passing of the law and that they've continued to get worse - in some cases a lot worse – and that the law has negatively impacted law-abiding parents. The fact that so many social indicators around the welfare of children continue to worsen proves that we simply are not tackling the *real* causes of child abuse. It also proves that the law has been completely ineffective in terms of tackling the problem it was supposed to confront. There is also evidence that the law is doing more harm than good. An analysis of the law in 2014, by

Public Law Specialists Chen Palmer said that statements made by politicians to the effect that the new Section 59 does not criminalise 'good parents' for lightly smacking their children appear to be inconsistent with the legal effect of Section 59 and the cases they analysed. New Zealanders predicted all of this before the law was passed, but their concerns were ignored. The politicians and anti-smacking lobby groups linked good parents who smacked their children with child abusers – a notion roundly rejected by Kiwis. The anti-smacking law assumes that previous generations disciplined their children in a manner that was so harmful that they should now be considered criminals. Family First NZ continues to call for the government to amend the law to allow non-abusive smacking (which the National party had previously lobbied for).

NEW ZEALAND FIRST	New Zealand First will repeal the anti-smacking law (Crimes (Substituted Section 59) Amendment Act 2007).
CONSERVATIVE	Conservative Party supports the repealing of the anti-smacking law.
act	ACT policy is to allow non-abusive smacking for the purpose of parental correction. (Party Leader David Seymour personally opposes decriminalisation of non-abusive smacking – see pg 9)
Green Green Party of Aotearoa New Zealand	It was former Green Party MP Sue Bradford whose law change led to the repeal of section 59 of the Crimes Act to mean that a child could no longer be smacked for the purposes of correction alone. This is still our position.
National	"It's not on our agenda. There was concern when the law came in, but there doesn't appear to have been any misuse of it or overreach, and we would see it as a backward step. Our view is that the smacking law remains in place." – Bill English PM (Mar 2017) ¹⁴
māori PARTY	The Māori Party does not condone smacking and believes that there are more effective and better ways to correct a child's behavior without smacking them.
UnitedFuture	We support the current anti-smacking legislation as it stands and will not support any amendments.
Labour	No response received

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