



Same Same 25 People's Choice Vote Goes To Justice Michael Kirby For 2007.

As voted on SameSame.com.au, Australia's leading Gay and Lesbian community social networking website.

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On October 9th leading gay and lesbian social community website SameSame.com.au announced the list of the 25 most influential gay and lesbian Australians in the inaugural Same Same 25. The list generated vigorous discussion and debate on TV and radio, and was splashed across national press pages, as well as the Same Same forums. After a week of frenzied voting, during which time tens of thousands of people came to the Same Same 25 website to read each member's profiles and to vote, the People's Choice for the Most Influential Gay or Lesbian in 2007 is Justice Michael Kirby.

As one of the seven Justices of the High Court of Australia, the highest judicial level in the country, Michael Kirby's influence is indisputable. "If it helps promote equality in Australia (and not just for gays) it makes me happy," commented Kirby on hearing that he had made the inaugural Same Same 25 list.

When it comes to his judgments, Kirby is considered liberal in his approach, displaying a great degree of compassion, humanity and thoughtfulness. Even his long time partner Johan thinks he is too forgiving. When asked if the struggle of the GLBT community had come to an end Kirby said "[Our] struggle is part of the global effort for human rights in our species. I am against the ghetto. If gays do not learn from their own experience of the need to support human rights for all, they have learned nothing."

Kirby is an outspoken, fiercely intelligent advocate for gay rights in Australia, and has been pushing for change and recognition since he came out publicly in 1999. His answer was simple when asked what he seeks to achieve with his influence through his inclusion of the Same Same 25? "Equality, non-discrimination and human dignity".

For the full story on Justice Michael Kirby, as well as photos and profiles on the Same Same 25 go to:
www.samesame.com.au/25

To request interviews with co-founder of SameSame.com.au Tim Duggan & members of the 2007 Same Same 25 please contact Jay Hemsworth - PR & Communications Manager for Sound Alliance - Tel: 612 2 9282 4026
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Press Release

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