

Bring on the Polygamy!

Introducing polygamy in the wake of **same-sex marriage** might not be such a bad idea, according to a writer who has criticized the “tyranny of the heterosexual couple form.”

Writing in *The Guardian*, Laurie Penny said she “can’t be the only one” who wonders if there are some positives to multi-partner marriage.

And commenting on a recent BBC radio program that predicted monogamy would lose its “moral monopoly” within 10 years, Miss Penny said: “Bring it on.”

She said: “Personally, I started practicing non-monogamy in my early 20s as a statement against the tyranny of the heterosexual couple form and the patriarchal nuclear family.”

Penny mocked warnings from opponents of **same-sex marriage** that **polygamy** could be next, and she remarked: “I can’t be the only one who wondered if that’d be such a bad idea.”

Penny, who describes herself as a “journalist, author, feminist, troublemaker, utopian,” made the comments in the wake of a BBC program on polygamy entitled *Monogamy and the Rules of Love*.

The program featured a number of interviews with people in **polyamorous** relationships, which are intimate relationships between three or more people at the same time.

Presenter Jo Fidgen questioned whether there is still room for sexual fidelity in a “society where choice is everything.”

Fidgen interviewed a “polyamorous family” who share a house in Sheffield, South Yorkshire, England.

Charlie is a woman who has been married to Tom for six years. Tom is also in a relationship with Sarah, with Charlie’s

approval.

Subsequently, Sarah and Charlie also began a relationship. Then Sarah got engaged to a man called Chris. And Charlie tells the program, "Somewhere along the line I fell in love with Chris and now we're all planning to grow old together."

They all admitted that managing a relationship with multiple partners can be exhausting, but they say, "We don't have a choice. We're in love with each other."

In February 2012 a *Guardian* blogger, Martin Robbins, claimed there are some "economic advantages" for children having three parents.

"What's wrong with polygamy?" he commented. "It seems to be that a child brought up by three loving parents would have some quite big economic advantages, and humans have cooperated in child-rearing since the year dot."