

# Ricky Gervais

Same sex marriage is not a gay privilege, it's equal rights. Privilege would be something like gay people not paying taxes. Like churches don't.

Ricky graduated from London University with a degree in philosophy, then went onto work at the University as entertainment manager for the Students Union. It was here that he first started developing material for *The Office*.

He took a desk job at London radio station, XFM, where he was later offered his own show. Stephen Merchant worked as his assistant until he went to the BBC to undertake a production training course. As part of the course, Stephen collaborated with Ricky to produce a film set in Ricky's old office that they gave to the BBC.

Ricky went on to be a regular contributor to Channel 4's The Eleven O'Clock Show and was soon presenting his own chat show, Meet Ricky Gervais.

His first live stand-up tour, *Animals*, was based around his fascination with the animal kingdom. His follow-up show was called *Politics*.

He has co-written and featured in an episode of *The Simpsons*. Ricky's BBC sitcom *Extras* starred Ben Stiller, Samuel L. Jackson, Patrick Stewart and Kate Winslet. His latest show, written with Stephen Merchant is *Life's Too Short*.