

Call Your State Representative & State Senator to **Oppose** “**CIVIL UNIONS**” Legislation

1) Civil Unions = “Same-Sex Marriage”

All of the “Civil Union” bills that have been introduced have language similar to this:

“This Act shall be liberally construed and applied to promote its underlying purpose, which is to provide both eligible same-sex and opposite-sex couples the opportunity to obtain the same protection, benefits, and responsibilities afforded by the laws of Illinois to parties to a marriage.”

On July 19, 2009, at a GLBT rally outside the Joliet Courthouse, homosexual activist and lobbyist for Equality Illinois’ Rick Garcia stated, “We are using the civil union bill as a foundation to go for equal marriage. Our right wing opponents say, ‘What you really want is marriage.’ And I look them right in the face and say, ‘You bet your ass! That is exactly what we want!’” www.youtube.com/watch?v=T-aVKzSrV6Y

2) 31 out of 31 States Rejected “Same-Sex Marriage”

Each time voters have been given the opportunity, they have strongly rejected “same-sex marriage”! Thirty states have strengthened natural marriage by amending their constitutions. Thus, every state that has brought a Defense of Marriage Amendment before the voters has passed it. Ten other states including Illinois have Defense of Marriage laws. The Maine legislature passed “same-sex marriage” in May, 2009, but it was over-riden 53% to 47% through the people’s veto in November, 2009.

The people of Illinois are no different from voters in other states, which is why homosexuals and their supporters do not want Illinois citizens to have an opportunity to vote on this important issue.

3) Civil Unions/“Same-Sex Marriage” Will Erode Religious Freedoms

Despite the fact that Illinois’ same-sex marriage bill is titled the “*Religious Freedom and Marriage Fairness Act*,” and the civil unions bill is titled the “*Religious Freedom Protection and Civil Union Act*,” either of these bills (if passed into law) *will* negatively affect religious liberties and freedom of conscience. These bills will not protect our individual religious freedoms to object to homosexuality as public policy. In fact, Georgetown University lesbian law professor **Chai Feldblum** has stated publicly that when same-sex marriage is legalized, conservative people of faith will lose religious rights.

4) Civil Unions & “Same-Sex Marriage” Will Hurt The Family

Advocates of “same-sex marriage” claim it will not hurt real marriage and the family. This is wrong for many reasons.

- A Village Voice article, “The Radical Case for Gay Marriage,” Richard Goldstein notes that adoption of “marriage” by homosexuals will change the institution itself. “Generations of radicals have imagined a world in which the norm-making rules of matrimony are suspended. ...Down the road, we might see groups of people sharing the custody of children. ...” [Village Voice, September 3-9, 2003, p. 34}]
- Homosexual activist Michelangelo Signorile wrote that “gays” should seize marriage “not as a way of adhering to society’s moral codes but rather to debunk a myth and radically alter an archaic institution.” [“Bridal Wave,” OUT magazine, December/January 1994, p. 161]

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- The state would drive a wedge between children and parents as the public schools would teach that religious objections to homosexuality were hateful and bigoted and that same-sex “marriage” is a “norm” as stated by the public policy of the State. In Massachusetts, children are now being taught about same-sex “marriages” ever since that state’s Supreme Court [not the people] ordered the solemnization of same-sex “marriage.”
- Georgetown University lesbian law professor Chai Feldblum presented a paper entitled “Moral Conflict: (Some) Religions and Marriage Equality” in which she writes that when same-sex “marriage” is legalized, which she argues is both necessary and inevitable, conservative people of faith *will* lose religious rights.

5) Marriage is NOT a Civil Right

Civil Rights are very specific rights that are accorded to individuals because of their status as humans. These rights are based on universal characteristics, not feelings, desires, “orientations,” or volitional conduct. Marriage is an institution recognized—*not created*—by the state.

Our civil rights are: freedom of religion; freedom of speech; freedom of press; freedom of assembly; the right to vote; the right to life; freedom from involuntary servitude; the right to equality in public places; the right to due process of law; the right to equal protection under the law.

6) Public Schools Will Have a Duty to Normalize Homosexuality

With the passage of homosexual “marriage”, every public school in Illinois will be free to teach that homosexuality is morally equivalent to natural marriage between a man and a woman.

In 2006, a Massachusetts federal court ruled that because “same-sex marriage” is legal in Massachusetts, the school actually has a duty to normalize homosexual relationships to children and has no obligation to notify parents or let them opt-out their children from class.

7) What’s Next?

Advocates of “civil unions” say that “fairness” is the central issue. The argument of “fairness,” is also being made by those who advocate for multiple “partners”. The legalization of same-sex unions (marriage) lays the groundwork for other types of counterfeit marital unions, including polygamous and incestuous unions.

Contact your state representative and state senator today.

Ask them to vote NO on civil unions.

Call the IFI office if you don’t know who your elected officials are at 708-781-9328.



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