

8 Good Reasons to Vote NO November 6 on Question 6 Maryland's Same-Sex Marriage Law

1. Gays and Lesbians have a right to choose—but they don't have a right to redefine marriage for all of us.

Spin a globe and pick virtually any place on earth at any time in human history: every society has had *some* form of marriage but with one thing in common—marriage was *always* between a man and a woman.

2. Societies of all faiths and cultures have defined marriage as a union between a man and a woman for one reason: to protect children.

Protecting the welfare of children is the primary reason that societies and governments regulate and license marriage. The United States Supreme Court has said that marriage is “fundamental to the very existence and survival of the human race.” The noted British philosopher Bertrand Russell said, “But for children, there would be no need of any institution concerned with sex...It is of children alone that sexual relations become of importance to society.”

3. For Christians, marriage between a man and a woman is part of God's original order.

God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a help mate.” (Genesis 2:18) Jesus Christ affirmed that marriage between a man and a woman is basic to God's plan for us: “From the beginning of creation, God made them male and female. For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother, and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” (Mark 10: 6-8) The institution of marriage originated from the design of the Creator—from “the laws of nature and nature's God”—and the definition of marriage, because it is from nature, cannot change.

4. Same-sex marriage would cause the needs of children to take second place to the desires of adults.

Redefining marriage shifts the focus of our marriage laws away from the interests of children and society as a whole, and onto the desire of the adults involved in a same-sex relationship. Such a drastic shift says to children that mothers and fathers don't matter—any two “parents” will do. It proclaims the false notion that a man can be a mother and a woman can be a father—that men and women are exactly the same in rearing children. But common sense and experience tell us that having a mom and a dad is the best way to raise and nurture children.

5. Reliable studies show that children raised by same-sex couples fare worse than children raised by heterosexual married parents.

The New Family Structures Study Project, conducted by Professor Mark Regnerus of the University of Texas, conducted surveys of 15,000 children raised by lesbian mothers, homosexual fathers, and heterosexual married couples who were screened by participation, allowing for statistically relevant measurements. The study found that children of lesbian mothers or homosexual fathers, contrasted to children raised by their heterosexual married biological parents, receive welfare more often, have less education, believe themselves to be less safe or secure in their family, have more negative impacts, suffer more from depression, were arrested more often, and, if female, had more male and female sexual partners.

6. Same-sex marriage is not a civil right.

Gay activists have worked hard to compare the same-sex marriage movement to the civil rights movement. Such a description gives same-sex marriage a kind of immunity to criticism. It subtly paints defenders of real marriage as “bigots” or intolerant. But the behaviors sought to be legitimized by same-sex marriage are not rights which the founders of our country fought for or ever recognized. Many African-Americans, 60 percent of whom oppose same-sex marriage, find the equation of same-sex marriage with the civil rights that they fought for to be offensive and insulting.

7. Redefining marriage will undermine religious freedom and freedom of conscience.

If same-sex marriage becomes legal in Maryland, people who don't agree with this new definition of marriage will be treated under the law just like racists and bigots, and will be punished for their beliefs. In states that have legalized same-sex marriage, photographers and bakeries opposed to furnishing services for same-sex marriage have been sued and penalized for refusal to enter such a contract. Catholic Charities in Massachusetts, Illinois and Washington, D.C., have closed their adoption agencies because they declined to place children with same-sex couples as required by equal treatment laws. In Massachusetts, kids as young as second grade were taught about gay marriage in class. The court ruled that parents had no right to prior notice, or to opt their children out of such instruction.

8. Preserving traditional marriage is not a Republican issue.

Democrat State Senate President Mike Miller gave Maryland voters some excellent advice. He urged Evangelicals, Catholics, and African-Americans to come together to stop same-sex marriage in Maryland: “I'm a historian and I look at civilizations. I study civilizations, I read history every night. And I see it's an attack on the family. It think it's an attack on traditional families.”



Vote NO on Question 6 on November 6!