

Monday Marriage Message from Freedom to Marry
Issue #10 | June 11, 2007

To view the online HTML version of the Monday Marriage Message, click here -

<http://www.freedomtomarry.org/images/eupdate/mmm10.html>

Contents:

- 1) The Message
- 2) The Report
- 3) The Resource
- 4) The Number
- 5) The Map
- 6) The Spotlight: Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of Loving
- 7) The News

~~~~~

1) The Message

~~~~~

40 Years After Loving V. Virginia

Tomorrow, June 12, 2007, marks the 40th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court decision in Loving v. Virginia, which ended race discrimination in marriage in this country.

On this anniversary, we remember the lessons learned from Loving which apply to the ongoing struggle to end discrimination in marriage for same-sex couples and their families:

* People have to work for change. The Lovings had the courage to speak out and organizations like the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, ACLU and Japanese-American Citizens League worked hard on their behalf.

* Courts must have the courage to uphold basic rights and protections when legislators or executive officials fail to obey the Constitution's mandate of equality. In the end, the Court spoke with courage and clarity in the Loving v. Virginia decision and upheld American values, even against the prejudices of the majority and the passions of the moment.

Keep reading to find out more about the Loving decision and how we can move forward on and beyond this Anniversary!

~~~~~

2) The Report

~~~~~

Love Counts: The Economic Benefits of Marriage Equality for New York
(Office of the New York City Comptroller and the Office of Fiscal & Budget Studies)

LINK:

*The Report: <http://www.prideagenda.org/pdfs/Love%20Counts%20final.pdf>

~~~~~

3) The Resource

~~~~~  
Why the Unamerican Attacks on so-called Activist Judges Must Stop
(Freedom to Marry)

LINK:

*The Resource: <http://www.freedomtomarry.org/images/pdfs/Judges.pdf>

~~~~~  
4) The Number

~~~~~  
Today, 50% more Americans support ending discrimination in marriage for same-sex couples than supported ending race discrimination in marriage in 1967.

LINK:

*The Number: <http://www.freedomtomarry.org/node.asp?id=3730>

~~~~~  
5) The Map

~~~~~  
States Banning Interracial Marriage in 1967

LINK:

*The Map: <http://www.freedomtomarry.org/node.asp?id=3729>

~~~~~  
6) The spotlight: Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of Loving

~~~~~  
Freedom to Marry has joined with many other civil rights groups to celebrate the Loving 40th Anniversary:

- * for its meaning as a milestone in the fight against racial inequality,
- * for its importance in securing the freedom to marry as a civil right,
- * for its embodiment of the importance of social justice activism and independent courts, and
- * for its relevance to today's ongoing battles against unfair exclusion from marriage.

The celebration has included print ads in Roll Call and The Politico, blog ads by Freedom to Marry (see here), and other efforts to spark discussion about couples and lessons from history. The organizations will hold a press conference and a reception on Capitol Hill to mark the historic day, June 12th. Visit Freedom to Marry's Loving webpage to learn more about the decision, our celebration, and how we can work in the spirit of Loving to continue the fight against marriage discrimination today.

LINKS:

*Loving ads:

http://www.freedomtomarry.org/images/pdfs/press_releases/FIA_F2M_politico-proof.pdf

*Freedom to Marry webpage: <http://www.freedomtomarry.org/node.asp?id=3729>

~~~~~  
7) The News  
~~~~~

National

Arguing for Marriage Equality for Everyone
Newsweek; June 8, 2007

Mitchell Gold hopes that reminding people about the Loving decision—and how social arrangements considered morally unacceptable just a few years ago are acceptable today—will help them see it's wrong to make policy decisions based on some individuals' interpretation of the Bible.

The Inadequacy of Civil Unions
New York Times; June 7, 2007

In establishing civil unions two years ago, Connecticut lawmakers created a separate and inherently inferior institution that continues to deny gay couples the equality they seek and deserve.

Regional

Get to the MA ConCon June 14!
EDGE Boston; June 1, 2007

Lawmakers and marriage equality activists have given every indication that a second vote will be held June 14 on an amendment that would take away civil marriage rights from same-sex couples.

CA Marriage Equality Bill Advances
Sacramento Bee; June 6, 2007

California's gay and lesbian couples could legally marry in the state under legislation approved Tuesday by the Assembly for the second time in two years.

LINKS:

*Arguing for Marriage Equality for Everyone:
<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/19121716/site/newsweek/>

*The Inadequacy of Civil Unions:
http://www.nytimes.com/2007/06/07/opinion/7thu3.html?_r=4&oref=slogin&oref=slogin&oref=slogin&oref=slogin

*Get to the MA ConCon June 14!:
<http://www.edgeboston.com/index.php?ch=news&sc=glbt&sc2=news&sc3=&id=20959>

*CA Marriage Equality Bill Advances: <http://www.sacbee.com/111/story/207570.html>

~~~~~  
OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST:  
~~~~~

The Must Sees

Listen to Evan Wolfson discuss Loving v. Virginia on WBAI's TalkBack! with Hugh Hamilton.

Visit MassEquality's website to learn how to help defend equal marriage rights in MA at the Constitutional Convention on June 14th.

LINKS:

textversion_mmm10

~~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*

Sign our Religious Endorsement:
Endorsements are only accepted from ordained clergy, professional religious educators, theologians, and staff of religious institutions.

To sign, visit: http://www.freedomtomarry.org/religious_institute.asp

~~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*

~~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*

SIGN-UP:
If you received this Monday Marriage Message from a friend or family member and find it a useful resource on marriage equality, sign-up on the Freedom to Marry website to get Monday Marriage Messages, visit:

http://www.freedomtomarry.org/e_update.asp

Pass it on!

~~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*

Let us know what's going on in your community to advance the cause. Email the editor at editor1@freedomtomarry.org.