

Monday Marriage Message from Freedom to Marry  
Issue #5 | April 30, 2007

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

<http://www.freedomtomarry.org/images/eupdate/mmm5.html>

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1) The Message

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Taking a Stand for Marriage Equality

Last Friday, New York Governor Eliot Spitzer became the first governor in the nation to introduce a marriage equality bill in his state’s legislature. Spitzer’s action, less than a year after New York’s highest court stumbled, reflects the momentum towards marriage equality we have seen thus far in 2007, as a record number of states consider marriage bills and move forward on related measures. [For a list of marriage equality advances in 2007, visit the Get Informed:History & Timeline section of our website.]

In a powerful editorial, the New York Times said, "Mr. Spitzer is right to be fighting for gay marriage...what he calls "a simple moral imperative"...well worth the governor’s full efforts."

LINKS:

New York Times:  
[http://www.nytimes.com/2007/04/24/opinion/24tue1.html?\\_r=3&oref=slogin&oref=slogin&oref=slogin](http://www.nytimes.com/2007/04/24/opinion/24tue1.html?_r=3&oref=slogin&oref=slogin&oref=slogin)  
Get Informed:History & Timeline: <http://www.freedomtomarry.org/node.asp?id=3467>

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2) The Report

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Same-Sex Couples and Same-Sex Couples Raising Children in New York: Data from Census 2000  
(The Williams Institute)  
September, 2005

LINK:

\*The Report:  
<http://www.law.ucla.edu/williamsinstitute/publications/NewYorkCouplesReport.pdf>

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3) The Resource

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The Freedom to Marry: Keep Dancing  
Evan Wolfson's response to the NY state high court's decision  
July 12, 2006

LINK:  
\*The Resource: <http://www.freedomtomarry.org/document.asp?id=4585>

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4) The Number

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63%, supporters of Spitzer introducing a marriage equality bill according to a recent Crain's online poll

LINK:  
\*The Number:  
<http://www.newyorkbusiness.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070426/FREE/70426006/1097>

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5) The Map

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Relationship Recognition in the U.S. (HRC)

LINK:  
\*HRC:  
<http://www.hrc.org/Template.cfm?Section=Center&CONTENTID=26860&TEMPLATE=/ContentManagement/ContentDisplay.cfm>

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6) The Spotlight: New York

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Empire State Pride Agenda, along with 125-plus LGBT organizations, labor unions, congregations, religious groups, and numerous state representatives from all across New York, have been working closely with Governor Spitzer to ensure fulfillment of his campaign promise to introduce marriage equality legislation.

Stressing the work ahead, Alan Van Capelle, executive director of Empire State Pride Agenda, said, "It is important for people to know that the governor's role doesn't end today, but really our work just begins. We want to work with the governor to encourage the Legislature, beginning with the Assembly, to pass this bill this year."

The work ahead begins tomorrow at the LGBT Equality and Justice Day, where the largest number of LGBT New Yorkers to lobby legislators since 1971, 1,000-plus, are expected at a lunchtime rally at East Capitol Park in Albany, New York. For more information, or to register for the event, visit Empire State Pride Agenda.

LINK:  
\*Empire State Pride Agenda: <http://www.prideagenda.org/>

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7) The News  
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National

Pol's Wavering on Marriage Issue  
Newsday; April 30, 2007

John Newsome, a non-profit consultant, comments on how South Africa, Spitzer, mayors have taken stands, but Clinton, Obama and others equivocate.

NJ Civil Unions After Two Months & Why "Marriage" Still Matters  
BLOG:The Huffington Post; April 24, 2007

Civil unions and domestic partnerships may seem fine on paper, but they just don't work in the real world.

Regional

N.H. Lawmakers Approve Civil Unions  
New York Times; April 27, 2007

New Hampshire is set to become the fourth state to offer civil unions for gay couples with legislation approved Thursday and sent to Gov. John Lynch, who has said he would sign it.

Mr. Spitzer and Marriage  
New York Times; April 24, 2007

The news that Gov. Eliot Spitzer will soon introduce a bill to legalize same-sex marriages – what he calls "a simple moral imperative" – is welcome and could give new national momentum to this important cause.

LINKS:

\*Pol's Wavering on Marriage Issue:

<http://www.newsday.com/news/opinion/ny-opnew305192593apr30,0,3514747.story?coll=ny-viepoints-headlines>

\*NJ Civil Unions After Two Months & Why "Marriage" Still Matters:

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/john-bohrer/nj-civil-unions-after-two\\_b\\_46663.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/john-bohrer/nj-civil-unions-after-two_b_46663.html)

\*N.H. Lawmakers Approve Civil Unions:

[http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/us/AP-Civil-Unions.html?\\_r=1&oref=slogin](http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/us/AP-Civil-Unions.html?_r=1&oref=slogin)

\*Mr. Spitzer and Marriage:

[http://www.nytimes.com/2007/04/24/opinion/24tue1.html?\\_r=3&oref=slogin&oref=slogin&oref=slogin](http://www.nytimes.com/2007/04/24/opinion/24tue1.html?_r=3&oref=slogin&oref=slogin&oref=slogin)

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OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST:  
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The Must Sees

Freedom to Marry's newest Voice of Equality, Rt. Rev. V. Gene Robinson.

View entertaining pro-marriage ads shot for Equal Marriage Illinois

LINKS:

\*Rt. Rev. V. Gene Robinson: <http://www.freedomtomarry.org/document.asp?id=5681>



