

TALK TO YOUR NEIGHBORS ABOUT WHY MARRIAGE MATTERS.

Tell your own story.

Contact the leaders of groups of which you are a member.

Contact your elected representatives.

America is engaged in a crucial conversation, a conversation about the basic values of love, commitment, fairness and freedom. In every state, in all types of families, good people are thinking and talking about how **excluding same-sex couples from marriage harms them, their kids, their families, their communities, and our country.**

GET ACTIVE! GET ENGAGED!

Educate yourself.

GET TO KNOW YOUR LOCAL AND STATEWIDE POLITICAL ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS.

Write a newspaper, magazine, TV station, radio station, or other media outlet.

Talk to your religious leaders about how to engage your faith community.

CREATE A VISIBILITY EVENT.

HOST OR SPONSOR A FAMILY PICNIC OR HOUSE PARTY.

Visit www.freedomtomarry.org to learn more about how to get active and get engaged

How can you add your voice to this conversation?

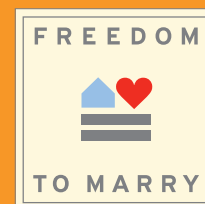
Learn more about the marriage equality movement by visiting www.freedomtomarry.org.

“ At its core, the freedom to marry movement is about the same thing every civil rights struggle has been about, taking seriously our country's promise to be a place where people don't have to give up their differences or hide them in order to be treated equally. ”

— *WHY MARRIAGE MATTERS: America, Equality, and Gay People's Right to Marry* by Evan Wolfson

“ Freedom to Marry - under Evan Wolfson's leadership - has provided the marriage equality movement with a roadmap for a national strategy, a vision for how to succeed. ”

-Anne Stanback, Love Makes a Family (Connecticut)



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WHAT
IS
FREEDOM
TO
MARRY



FREEDOM TO MARRY

is the gay and non-gay partnership working to win marriage equality nationwide.

Freedom to Marry was founded in 2003 by Evan Wolfson, a civil rights attorney and long time leader of the marriage equality movement. The mission of Freedom to Marry is to end discrimination in marriage nationwide. Freedom to Marry guides and focuses this social justice movement by bringing the work of its partner organizations and their many approaches—litigation, legislation, direct action, and public education—into a larger whole.

Together, we are leading a shared civil rights campaign that fosters heightened outreach to non-gay allies as well as the millions of Americans harmed by the continued exclusion of same-sex committed couples from marriage.

Freedom to Marry works alongside partner organizations to solidify base support, secure funding, build coalitions for advancement, and drive public discourse concerning the need to end discrimination in marriage.



At **FREEDOM TO MARRY**, our staff, steering committee, diverse coalition of partners, and predominantly non-gay Voices of Equality enhance progress toward marriage equality by filling four principal roles:

- A **STRATEGY/SUPPORT CENTER** for our partner organizations (see list).
- A **CATALYST ORGANIZATION** that drives and influences the national debate on marriage equality.
- A **PARTNERSHIP AND ALLIANCE-BUILDER** enlisting local, regional, and national non-gay allies and non-gay public support.
- A **REGRANTOR AND ENGINE OF FUNDING** to augment local, state, and national freedom to marry efforts, while advising funders and assisting local organizations' stimulation of their own funding.

Creating a **diverse foundation** of support for marriage equality, our **National Partners** include:

- American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)
- Children of Lesbians & Gays Everywhere (COLAGE)
- DontAmend.com
- Family Pride Coalition
- Gay & Lesbian Advocates And Defenders (GLAD)
- Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD)
- Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund
- Human Rights Campaign (HRC)
- Lambda Legal
- Log Cabin Republicans
- Marriage Equality U.S.A (MEUSA)
- National Association of LGBT Community Centers
- National Black Justice Coalition (NBJC)
- National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR)
- National Gay & Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF)
- National Organization for Women (NOW)
- Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG)
- People for the American Way (PFAW)
- Soulforce
- Stonewall Democrats United
- Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC)

Statewide Partners/Organizations-for a full list go to Equality Federation www.federationlgbt.org

THE MARRIAGE RESOLUTION

One way to voice your support for marriage equality is to sign the marriage resolution today and spread the message by telling your friends and family to join you in support.

Because marriage is a basic human right and an individual choice, RESOLVED, the State should not interfere with same-sex couples who choose to marry and share fully and equally in the rights, responsibilities and commitment of legal marriage.

I/We endorse the marriage resolution. Please feel free to include me/us as a voice in educating the public:

Signature: _____

Name (please print legibly): _____

Organization (if any): _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

* By agreeing to endorse the statement, I understand that I am agreeing to my name being used with this statement in public releases, press materials, brochures, advertisements, and other public formats.

FAX OR MAIL IT IN TODAY OR LOG ON TO OUR WEBSITE TO SIGN UP ONLINE AT WWW.FREEDOMTOMARRY.ORG

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