

TALKING POINTS ON MARRIAGE MATTERS



REASONS WHY CATHOLICS SUPPORT MARRIAGE AS “ONE MAN, ONE WOMAN”

- ~ We don't want to teach the next generation by our actions that one-half of humanity—mothers or fathers, women or men—are dispensable and unimportant. Children are already bombarded with confusing messages about sexuality.
- ~ Marriage is about what kids need, not what adults want.
- ~ It has always been about connecting men and women and uniting them with any children born from their union. That's what marriage is.
- ~ People with same-sex attraction *should* be afforded their basic civil rights, but no one has the 'right' to redefine marriage.
- ~ The MN marriage protection amendment is important to help ensure that politicians and judges don't change the meaning of marriage today and, most importantly, for our children in the future.

Visit the *Unique for a Reason: Why Marriage Matters* blog (marriagematters.mccc.org) to hear from fellow Minnesota “Catholics in the pew” about why they support preserving and promoting marriage.

THEY SAY...

WE SAY...

Responses to popular claims made by those who oppose the amendment.

Marriage is about love and commitment.

Marriage is more. It is about ensuring the well-being of children and society.

If marriage is just a committed relationship for the benefit of adults, then there is no reason for the government to get involved. But marriage has an important public component. It ensures the well-being of children and society. Social trends continuously show that children deprived of married mothers and fathers don't fare as well economically or emotionally as children with a married mother and father.*

You and the Catholic Church are just bigoted.

Do you really think that people who think that both mothers and fathers matter to kids are bigoted?

Marriage is about uniting kids with both moms and dads. Two men or two women cannot produce a child. It's not bigotry to think this because it's not discrimination to treat different things differently.

My marriage doesn't affect your marriage, so what do you care?

How marriage is defined will not only affect how children view the importance of mothers and fathers in the future but also our community's religious freedoms right now—I care about that.

I'm not ready to say to any child, “Hey, it doesn't matter that you don't have a dad. You don't need him anyway.” And really, that's what I would be saying if I supported redefining marriage.

Those who share my beliefs are already facing lawsuits and penalties for following their consciences.** Their rights matter too.

* For specifics, visit SustainableDemographicDividend.org, or read “Why Mothers Matter,” May 24, 2011, Mercator.net.

**Visit MarriageUniqueForAReason.org/religious-liberty-video/ or the media section of ManhattanDeclaration.org for more details.