

# COALITION TO SAVE MARRIAGE IN NEW YORK

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## THE CASE AGAINST SAME-SEX “MARRIAGE” AND CIVIL UNIONS

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\* **Same-sex relationships are not marriages, and should not be accorded the status, rights, or benefits of marriage.** Marriage serves important social functions, including regulating sexual behavior, establishing paternity, and providing stable homes for children born to a married couple. Same-sex relationships do not fulfill these functions and should not be granted the same legal status.

\* **Same-sex “marriage” and civil unions foster suppression of First Amendment rights.** In places where same-sex “marriage” or civil unions have been legalized, advocates of homosexual behavior have used such laws to restrict the speech and activities of charitable organizations, churches, and individuals who disagree with their agenda.

\* **Legalizing same-sex “marriage” or civil unions would open a Pandora’s box.** The legalization of same-sex “marriage” or civil unions would pave the way for the eventual legalization of bigamy and polygamy. If marriage is redefined to include same-sex partnerships, there is no logical basis to prevent marriage from being redefined to fit the preferences of other special interest groups.

\* **Same-sex “marriage” is not a civil right.** In 2006, New York’s Court of Appeals ruled that New York’s marriage laws did not violate the Constitution, and that there was a rational basis for the state to define marriage as the union of one woman and one man.

\* **Same-sex “marriage” and civil unions are red herrings.** In nations and states that allow same-sex “marriage” or civil unions, few same-sex couples have chosen to obtain them. The ultimate goal of advocates of same-sex “marriage” is not to access the benefits of marriage, but to effectuate the forced social acceptance of homosexual behavior.

\* **It is not in the best interest of children to legalize same-sex “marriage” or civil unions.** Children need both mothers and fathers. Many children already grow up without two opposite-sex, married parents, but our state government should not create or encourage such situations. The State of New York has a strong interest in fostering healthy, well-adjusted children, and sanctioning same-sex “marriage” or civil unions does not serve that interest.