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## Is same-sex marriage really about marriage?

Mike Griffin, Guest Columnist

“It is also a chance to wholly transform the definition of family in American culture. It is the final tool with which to dismantle all sodomy statutes, get education about homosexuality and AIDS into public schools, and, in short, usher in a sea change...”- Michelangelo Signorile, Out Magazine, May 1996.

If what Mr. Signorile is saying is true, then the whole issue of same-sex marriage is not even about marriage. According to him and other same-sex marriage proponents it's really about furthering the homosexual agenda in America.

Just to further prove this and show where we in America may be heading, listen to the 1972 National Coalition of Gay Organizations in which they stated their support for the “repeal of all legislative provisions that restrict the sex or number of persons entering into a marriage unit...”

The point is that the relaxation of marriage laws has a “dominoes-effect” upon the morals of a society. This is already being seen in Sweden, Norway, and Denmark. These countries are representative of societies who have greatly removed restrictions regarding sexual behavior. These countries are already reporting that as many as 80 percent of children now being born are born out of wedlock. There is even a Dutch law that has lowered consensual sex to twelve years of age!

So, if I were to personally buy in to the logic of the pro-same-sex marriage movement, then I would inevitably have to argue for the right of polygamy, not to mention group marriages! Actually, the sky becomes the limit once you remove the moral absolutes to govern our society. Now granted, this certainly may not be the change that all same-sex marriage proponents are advocating but you need to face the fact that this is the direction in which we are heading!

Already it is being reported that a case has been argued before U.S. District Judge Ted Stewart claiming that anti-bigamy and anti-polygamy laws are unconstitutional. This is nothing more than fall-out from the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in Lawrence vs. Texas where the “right to privacy” was interpreted to include sodomy.

So, what is happening is that the right to have certain kinds of bedroom behavior legalized is not enough for some people.

Before long all of us could have forced upon us social acceptance of behavior that we find to be morally unacceptable. For example, employment practices in our businesses and churches will be affected if the current trend of abandoning moral standards continues in our society.

It's amazing how courts in our day are finding such things as abortion and sodomy morally acceptable when they were once considered to be criminal. We now live in a day that to challenge anyone with those beliefs could be considered criminal. For a pastor to preach against homosexuality, he runs the risk of violating proposed "hate speech laws" that are now pending in Congress. This is exactly what happens when you have a "living and breathing" view of the Constitution, as most notably characterized by judges legislating from the bench.

The good news in all of this is that in the seventeen states that considered amendments to their constitution to protect marriage as between one man and one woman, all seventeen states passed it. Georgia was no exception. It passed in our state with 77 percent for it and 23 percent against it. This is one time when the "main stream" seemed to be the right stream!

Maybe with an informed citizenry and a changing Supreme Court we could see Mr. Signorile's agenda and consequential results never forced upon our society.

So, the question "is same-sex marriage really about marriage?" continues to be a valid one, in my opinion.

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