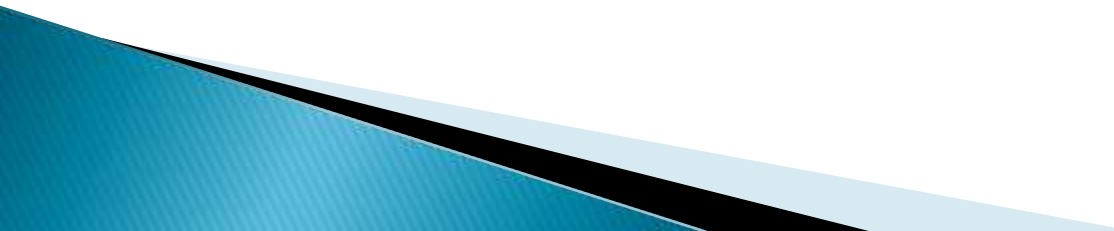


Same Sex Marriage

Presented by: Emily Loving, James Hall,
Steven Renbarger, and Alec Dickson

Mainstream Sexuality

- ▶ 3.5 percent identify as LGBT
 - ▶ 17 States have legalized gay marriage
 - ▶ 1996 to 2013, 27 percent to 53 percent
 - ▶ Limited acceptance of same-sex marriage
- 

Arguments of Mainstream Sexuality

- ▶ Same rights may not be fair
- ▶ Religious reasons
- ▶ Families raised by same sex couples
- ▶ Moral reasons

Figure 1: Same sex couple recently married.



Middle Ground

- ▶ Allow marriage
- ▶ Public recognition
- ▶ Screenings for adoption
- ▶ Understanding of potential limited acceptance



Figure 2: Balance of heterosexual and homosexual marriages.

LGBTQ



Figure 3: “Billy Graham. N.d. Picture. www.Wtfaith.com.”

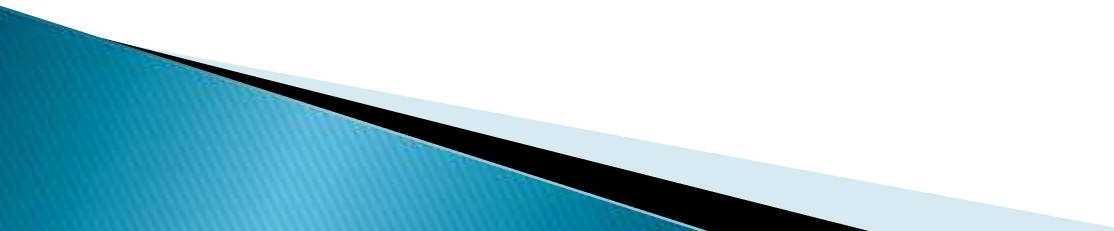
What is the deal with same sex marriage?

- ▶ Politics
- ▶ Religion
- ▶ Values



Figure 4: “–Gay Pride Rainbow Vinyl Decal. N.d. Picture. www.prosportstickers.com”

“Like Cases”

- ▶ “Relational equality” holds that heterosexual and homosexual relationships are equivalent in purpose, function, and commitment, especially when seen from the point of view of the participants, and therefore the two types of relationships ought to be treated by the state as “like cases.” says Jeremy Garrett.
- 

Growing Agreement

- ▶ Though poll data about same-sex marriage are relatively sparse before 2003
- ▶ Two National Opinion Research Center surveys yield a trend that spans 16 years.
 - 1988: 11% of respondents agreed that
 - "homosexual couples should have the right to marry,"
 - 69 percent disagreed
 - 2004: 30% Agreed
 - 54% Disagreed
 - According to Brewer and Wilcox.

Government Alternatives

- ▶ Holds control over the recognition of marriage on the state level

Pros

- ▶ Financial Gain to State and Local Governments
- ▶ Same-sex marriage is a civil right
 - 1967 Loving vs. Virginia

Cons

- ▶ People pay tax dollars to something they believe is wrong
- ▶ Same Sex Marriage is not a Civil Rights issue
 - Civil Rights Act 1964
- ▶ Higher Crime Rates

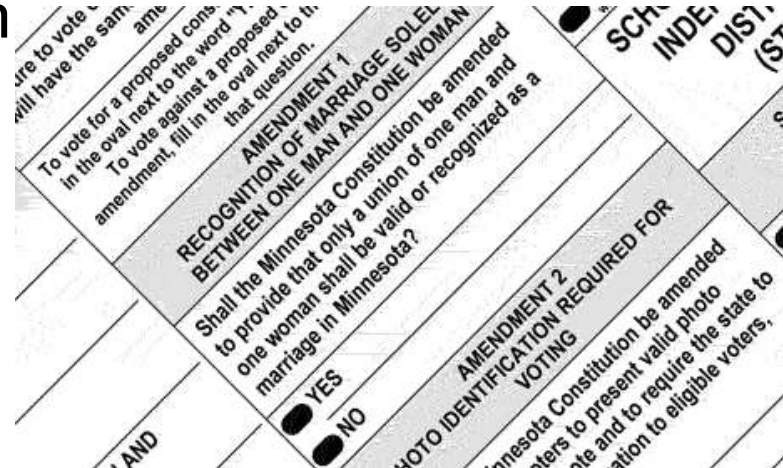
Government

- ▶ 2 Ways Same Sex Marriage is banned:
 - Constitutional Amendment & State Law
- ▶ 3 ways to legalize same sex marriage:
 - Court Decision, State Legislature, & Popular Vote
- ▶ Process of a State making same sex marriage legal:
 - Current ban on same sex marriage
 - Recognition of legality of other states
 - Vote to legalize marriage in home state

Government

- ▶ Legalizing equals more tax money for the government which returns back to the public in the forms of service and benefits.
- ▶ Education is key when finding a compromise
 - Family values alone cannot influence a political decision
 - Rights need to be understood and respected when making an informed decision

Figure 5: Example of a ballot to ban same sex marriage.



Catholicism

- ▶ Who? : Catholicism 78.4% of religious persons in U.S.A
- ▶ What are they saying? :
While the church is open to and are for homosexuality, they are not open to the idea of same-sex marriage.



Figure 6: Peaceful Protest for Same-Sex Equality

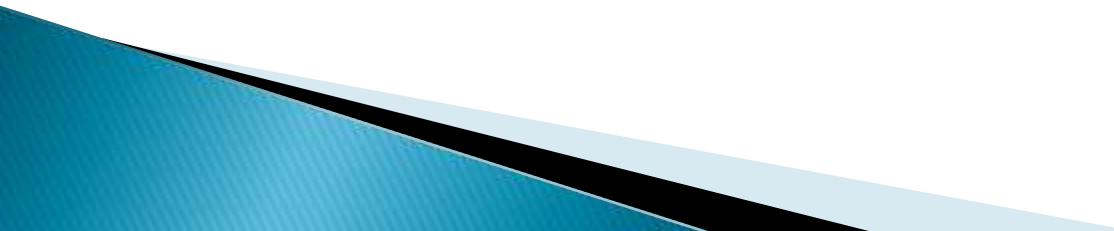
Catholicism



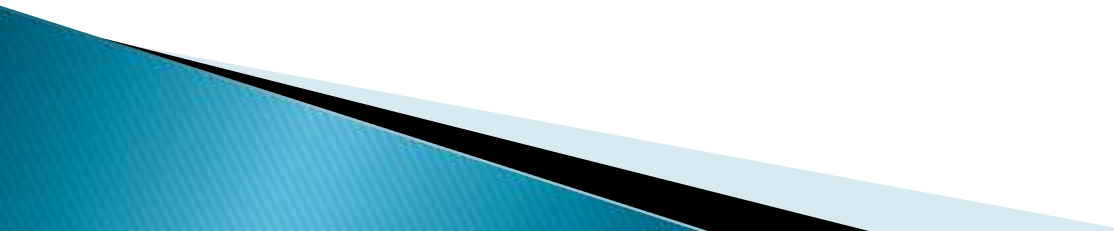
Figure 7: Sign at a rally for Traditional Marriage

- ▶ The main argument for Catholicism: Marriage should strictly be between a man and woman according to The Bible.
- ▶ This affects those involved with the church. Due to the church's stance on same-sex marriage, this can affect politicians and potential voters in future votes on marriage equality.

Catholicism and Compromise

- ▶ American Sociological Review: “The Catholic Church teaches that any sexual act committed outside of heterosexual marriage is sinful and characterizes homosexuality as a disorder”
 - ▶ Data from the 2006 General Social Survey: 34% of Catholics agreed that homosexuals should be allowed to marry, with only 26.3% of the church strongly against this statement.
- 

Catholicism and Compromise

- ▶ Race, Religion, and Opposition to Same-Sex Marriage: “Catholics are markedly more supportive of granting civil liberties to gays and lesbians, including support for same-sex marriages.”
 - ▶ Studies have found that Catholics became more tolerant over the last two decades.
 - ▶ Catholics in the United States tend to be more liberal on issues related to gay rights.
- 

The Compromise

- ▶ A full separation of Church and State:
- ▶ The Catholic Church can reserve the right to not marry Same-Sex couples in the church, however they must recognize legal Same-Sex marriages.

Conclusion and Compromises

▶ Mainstream Sexuality

- Most intermediate on the matter since it covers everyone that is not immediately effected by the legality of Same Sex marriage
- They are the voting public and share different religious and political views that affect same sex couples

▶ LGBTQ

- Opposing View validity: traditional culture suggests that marriage has always been between one man and one woman. Society has functioned for decades on this principal and why should it change?
- Personal opinion is that according to the Declaration of Independence, your natural rights are to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. This means everyone in the United States is entitled to their own happiness which includes marriage equality.

Conclusion and Compromises

▶ Government:

- Opposition comes in the form of banning same sex marriage in certain states. The legalization could begin a downward spiral of other controversial issues such as bestiality and polygamy.
- This has no effect on people of mainstream sexuality but the recognition of marriage strongly effects those of LGBTQ sexualities. This can result in

▶ Religion:

- Separation of Church and State: The church reserves the right to deny the act of marrying same sex couples, but they must recognize on a political standpoint the marriage and I share this opposing view.

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