



MARRIAGE AND THE SUPREME COURT



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The **Supreme Court** is now considering whether states can define marriage as the union of one man and one woman, and whether a state that does so must recognize a “marriage” contracted out-of-state by two persons of the same sex.

The Court is expected to rule on both questions by the end of June. A broad, adverse ruling would redefine marriage in the law throughout the entire country, changing thousands of laws regarding marriage, family and children and threatening religious freedom in numerous ways. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has urged the Supreme Court to *uphold* the right of states to define marriage as the union of husband and wife and to recognize only such unions, all for the good of society and particularly for children.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

PRAY, FAST, SACRIFICE

The Bishops have encouraged Catholics to participate in a **Call to Prayer for Life, Marriage, and Religious Liberty**. Visit www.usccb.org/pray to learn more and commit to praying and fasting for life, marriage, and religious liberty.



The Bishops have also called for a **Fortnight for Freedom** from June 21-July 4 focusing on the **Freedom to Bear Witness**. Visit www.FortnightforFreedom.org.

ADVOCATE FOR MARRIAGE

Don't be afraid to talk about it.

Be a witness for the truth of marriage. Take advantage of opportunities to speak about it kindly with family, friends, neighbors or co-workers. Be prepared for false charges of discrimination and to respond with the following truths in charity.

What is marriage?

Marriage is the permanent and exclusive union of one man and one woman, for the good of the spouses and for the procreation and education of children. **One man, one woman, for life.**

The difference is the difference.

Men and women are equal and different. Sexual difference is essential to marriage and raising children. Ignoring or removing “the difference is... the problem, not the solution” (Pope Francis).

Mothers and fathers matter.

They aren't interchangeable. While single parents and others raising children often make heroic sacrifices and deserve support, society should also affirm every child's basic, natural right to come from and be raised in the loving marital union of his or her own father and mother.

Protecting marriage matters to everyone.

Law is a teacher, and redefining marriage in the law teaches that one sex is interchangeable with the other, and that either a mother or a father is dispensable as a parent. It teaches that marriage is whatever “consenting adults” say it is, and that adults have a “right” to children they did not conceive. These are simply false.

LEARN MORE

Visit www.MarriageUniqueForAReason.org for more resources on the authentic meaning of marriage. For resources for engaged couples and married couples, visit www.ForYourMarriage.org and www.PorTuMatrimonio.org.