

Good afternoon. My name is David Pickup, and I am a licensed psychotherapist from Houston, Texas. I represent, and am President of, The Alliance for Therapeutic Choice and Scientific Integrity, a 30-year-old psychological association. The Alliance is in complete support of HCR 3013 for reasons that should be obvious to all people of North Dakota. The following reasons being:

1. The Judeo-Christian historical record of Western Civilization has recognized for millennia the man/woman-only pairing in marriage as the basis for all societies through history.
2. The Supreme Court, primarily per Justice Kennedy's opinion that homosexuality is inborn and can't be changed, has made a deleterious mistake since there is no research anywhere that proves genetic certainty of homosexuality. The court evidently concurred with most major psychological associations that simply made a decision without any profound research that supposedly there is inborn causality.
3. There is strong evidence that has been politically put aside that homosexuality is malleable and can in fact change over time either developmentally or using sound anecdotally proven therapies that respect a client's right to change.
4. Gay marriage has never been about marriage. Everyone in the LGBT community knows there is almost no such thing as sexual fidelity in same-sex marriages, and the actual goal of Obergefell was to codify homosexuality into acceptance within every state of the US and within every society on earth.
5. Given the above, Obergefell, especially now that gay marriage has been in force for many years, has proven to be a mockery of the specialness and civilization founding institution of eons of history.
6. Statistics show that there is a much higher rate of divorce, emotional issues, drug use and dysfunction within the Gay population, which translates easily into the demise of marriage as an institution if not based on heterosexuality.

No one here is saying a person can not be Gay. In fact, within the Alliance, we believe that persons experiencing homosexuality deserve some of society's deepest compassion because of the issues and harassment they face and because of the very difficult issues they have experienced that created these feelings and behaviors in their formative years. However, compassion cannot go so far to deny or repel the truth of marriage and sexual issues lest society at large will eventually decline. The Alliance encourages you to vote yes for this bill, and that you take courage, compassion and truth in support of HCR 3013.



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