



Dr. Bradley King of Bismarck, Born and raised here. Stayed here because I thought it was a good place to have children and raise a family.

I'd like to introduce you to my daughter, Amanda. Graduate of Bismarck High, Merit Scholar, Received her Masters in Education from Northwestern in Chicago. She teaches Science to Middleschoolers. She is the type of professional that North Dakota should attract. Her spouse Amy teaches elementary students with behavior issues. She is gay, married and happy.

Right now you are looking at one very angry father. I personally feel this is an attack on my daughter. If you vote in favor of this resolution it tells me and her that you believe she has no place in our state. That she should be ashamed of where she came from. That I should be ashamed of where I was born and raised. That the fact that I walked her down the aisle was a fraud. That freedom of religion exists---- but not for her. The resolution quotes the Declaration of Independence that people are endowed with Life Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness. However, No Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness for her. Not for my daughter.

Thomas Jefferson said "The legitmate powers of government extend to such acts only as are injurious to others." Tell me how my daughter's marriage has hurt you personally? Has it hurt anyone? It's been 10 years! How have the people in this room have injured you or the state by having this basic right?

This resolution says the Supreme Court was wrong in interpreting the 14th amendment in allowing same sex marriage. That it was making law. You know what else is not in the Constitution, what else is not historically American? Equality for women. It was the Supreme Court interpreting the same 14th amendment in Reed v Reed that allows the women here to be considered equals under the law. If Obergefell is wrong so is Reed v Reed. That equal rights for women was the wrong decision. You know who argued before and convinced the Supreme Court that gays should be allowed equality under the law? Ted Boutros, a graduate of Bismarck High.

Our definitions of marriage has changed though out history. Once women were basically owned by her husband and he was free to beat her. Even my mother, as recently as in the 1960s couldn't have her own bank account credit card, take out a loan or mortgage on her own. She was the lesser partner. Is it too much to believe that marriage evolves and changes. It is in society's best interest to have people in stable supportive committed relationships. That is why married couples have privileges that unmarried couples don't.

This exact resolution was written by and is being put forward in several states by a group from Massachusetts called Mass Resistance. It is a small anti gay political organization that has been labeled a "hate group" by the Southern Poverty Law Group. Nothing good can come of this resolution. Even if you pass it the Justices will never see it. They get millions of legal documents a year. However if you vote in favor of it you are telling our young people don't come here. If you are gay you are not safe here. That your beliefs and religion will not be respected here. It will make the national news and it will go viral and make us all look ugly. Don't pick a Massachusetts hate group over my daughter and her rights to Life Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.

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