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## Push for Same Sex Marriage Ban in Mountain State

Posted Monday, March 2, 2009 ; 04:20 AM | [View Comments](#) | [Post Comment](#)

**One man is working to get a constitutional amendment in Charleston.**

Story by Jerry Echemann  
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WHEELING -- There's a controversial move underway for a constitutional amendment in West Virginia.

It would define marriage as between one man and one woman.

West Virginia already has a Defense of Marriage Act, passed by the Legislature about ten years ago.

But Jeremy Dys of the Family Policy Council of West Virginia says it's not strong enough.

He wants a constitutional amendment.

It was no coincidence he visited the area on a Sunday.

Church members are usually a friendly audience for the one-man, one-woman marriage message.

Dys spoke at the Ohio Valley Christian Center on National Road:

“Same sex marriage is a very close reality in WV. Closer than many people think. This is too big of an issue for anyone to decide except the people. Let it go to the people themselves. The Legislature shouldn't be deciding this. Courts shouldn't be deciding this. The people of West Virginia should.”

An amendment ballot issue would need a two-thirds vote of the legislature.

Dys said lawmakers get a lot of pressure from gay rights groups over this issue.

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**dyg**  
3/3/09 at 5:42 AM

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A group of right-wing religious extremists decided DoMA wasn't enough? These are the same people whose idea of "traditional" values looks a lot like subjugation of women, racism, and theocracy.

Enough, already.

Equal rights for all.



**MisC**  
3/2/09 at 10:16 PM

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I am a woman and have been married 17 years to a man!!! Our marriage is a good marriage we

have our ups and downs like most people.. However I have alot of friends who are gay both woman and men. I don't look at them any different than my friends that are straight!! It's how they choose to live their lives and they are happy with the choices they have made.. So I say more power to them.. Just because people are gay doesn't mean that they are "handicapped" so to speak..they still get up everyday like the rest of the world and live their lives!!!



**JJ**  
3/2/09 at 9:19 PM

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They don't tell you that it is actually the heterosexual marriages that have the most to loose if these bans stay in place. "Under Article VIII - Aequalitas Nihil Prorsus (Absence Equality, Nothing At All), Jefferson wrote to Ben Franklin: "There will be those p\*ss\*nts who will want to urinate over everyone else's freedoms and in that doing will use the very document that decrees freedom. To impede any attempt to do so, those who seek to take away the rights of others shall then have those same rights seized from them forthwith."

Eventually, the courts will take the state out of the marriage license business.



**Carla**  
3/2/09 at 6:06 PM

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Let's take it to the people. You might be surprised Mr. Dys! People in the Mountain State believe in freedom for everyone not just the chosen few. What happened to the live and let live as long as you are not hurtung others?



**Deb**  
3/2/09 at 11:22 AM

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I don't see where it is anyone elses concern who marries who, as long as they are in love. Who gives a &\$#@ if they are same sex or opposite. Same sex marriages outlast heterosexual marriages these days anyways. Everyone in the Mountain state needs to M.Y.O.B.



**MikeC**  
3/2/09 at 10:51 AM

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By all means lets keep people from getting married. If you can keep one group from marriage then you can also keep others. It becomes obvious that people are determined to finally kill marriage all together. More and more heterosexual couples that I know are just not bothering any more since they say that if marriage isn't necessary for some couples, why is it necessary for them. Good luck Jeremy, you can finally be proud of your work when marriage is just a quaint idea of long ago.

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