

What should I expect, in light of the U.S. Supreme Court ruling on marriage?

If the Court rules in favor of same-sex marriage, we will continue to see religious freedom taking a back seat to sexual freedom in many facets of society: <http://www.focusonthefamily.com/socialissues/promos/supreme-court-marriage-decision>

- **Education:** Public education will incorporate messages about same-sex marriage, homosexuality and transgender issues. Parental rights to "opt" their children out of teachings about sensitive, sexual topics presented in sex-education courses may not be extended to curricula in other areas, such as history and social studies.
- **Voter Disenfranchisement:** Millions of voters, who civically engaged to overwhelmingly support traditional marriage via state marriage amendments in more than 30 states, will be superseded by liberal judges within the federal judiciary system.
- **Business:** Christian-owned businesses are likely to see a continued push to embrace and celebrate homosexuality through same-sex marriage. A number of believers have already politely declined to participate in same-sex ceremonies and were penalized for doing so.
- **Counseling:** There will be a continued push to ban counseling for teenagers who struggle with unwanted same-sex attraction and desire therapy to address this. Eventually, opponents of these types of counseling will try to ban all such therapies.
- **Culture:** Those who adhere to a biblical view of sexuality, marriage and family will need to increase efforts to share this truth with love as opponents of God's design push to silence and penalize supporters of one-man, one-woman marriage.
- **Religious Institutions:**
 - **Church:** Risk losing tax-exempt status, which could lead to loss of donations/income.
 - **Pastors/Leaders:** Risk fines/jail time for refusing to perform same-sex marriages.

In addition to the above list compiled by Focus on the Family, the following progression can also be expected from a bad U.S. Supreme Court decision.

- **Freedom of Speech:** Like Canada, government would begin to categorize speech against homosexuality as "hate-speech," and such speech could then lead to various consequences such as loss of employment, government prosecution, and various levels of censorship.
- **Non-Profits:** Christian organizations and schools may be under threat of losing their non-profit status if they refuse to acknowledge same-sex "marriage." Adoption agencies that refuse to place children with same-sex couples could face penalties or even have to close their doors as Catholic Charities has already had to do in Illinois.
- **Employment:** Already, \$25 million has been pledged toward political efforts that would create a special civil rights class for members of the LGBT in federal law and in the 28 states where civil rights statutes do not include sexual orientation as a protected class. Georgia will be one of the targeted states.
- **Increasing Confusion in Gender-Related Policies and Other Marriage Policies:** Already, federal government threats of withholding \$47 million in Title IX funding from the Fairfax County School system in Virginia has coerced the school board to approve a policy to allow gender-confused teachers and students to use bathrooms and locker rooms of their choice. Expect polygamy to be the next "marriage" frontier if *Obergefell v. Hodges* is not overturned.
- **Higher Education:** Students in public universities who express views against homosexuality will face increasing hostility and even risk expulsion from some programs of study, such as counseling. Private institutions may be forced to accommodate same-sex marriage policies or risk losing non-profit status.