



MARRIAGE EQUALITY
Are These the Most Antigay Governors in America?



ART
In The Studio: Artists and Nude Models



CRIME
WATCH: Texas Airline Crowd Tackles Antigay Attacker



31 DAYS OF PREP
35 Activists, Doctors, and Orgs Speak Out for PrEP



POLITICIANS
Alaska Student: GOP Rep's Apology 'Doesn't Mean Crap'



HOT SHEET
Hot Sheet: Divas and Demons

POLITICS [MARRIAGE EQUALITY](#)

Arizona: Marriage Ban Wasn't Meant to Harm Gay Couples

The lawyers say the laws barring same-sex couples from marrying in Arizona were not made out of malice, but to protect children and the sanctity of marriages.

BY MICHELLE GARCIA JULY 27 2014 1:34 PM ET

[PRINT](#) [EMAIL](#) [Tweet](#) 79 [Like](#) 1.2k [+1](#) 3



Lead plaintiffs Joe Connolly and Terry Pochert marry in San Francisco.

last week.

The ADF lawyers say the marriage bans reinforce the strength of marriages for straight couples, and their children. The lawyers' arguments claim the state "regulates marriage for the primary purpose of protecting relationships that would produce children, and let those children grow up with a biological mother and father," *The Republic* reports.

"That's been the understood definition of marriage," Caleb Dalton of the ADF said to *The Republic*. "The recent laws that the plaintiffs have challenged didn't change anything. They merely reaffirmed that definition."

They also say that in five states where marriage equality had become legal, marriage rates dropped from 2010 to 2011, and the divorce rate went up in Massachusetts (which established legal marriage equality in 2004).

Meanwhile, 15,000 same-sex couples lived in Arizona as of the 2010 Census, according to [Freedom to Marry](#).

The plaintiffs in the case filed last week, *Connolly v. Roche*, include two same-sex couples seeking

Attorneys defending Arizona's marriage ban for same-sex couples claim the law was not instituted out of malice, but as a means to protect the marriages of heterosexual couples and their children.

The state hired lawyers from the antigay organization, the Alliance Defending Freedom, to defend the marriage ban in two lawsuits. The organization has led the defenses in other marriage cases in Oklahoma and Virginia, according to [The Arizona Republic](#). They filed the final arguments for one case



SUBSCRIBE TO THEADVOCATE
ONLY \$5 for one year
ORDER NOW
LIMITED TIME OFFER. NEW SUBSCRIBERS ONLY.

MOST POPULAR



WATCH: Texas Airline Crowd Tackles Antigay Attacker



In The Studio: Artists and Nude Models



#TBT: They Died in the Closet



EXCLUSIVE: Bette Midler Covers TLC's 'Waterfalls'



Are These the Most Antigay Governors in America?

Alaska High Schooler:

recognition of their marriages, which took place in states with marriage equality laws, and two others who wish to marry in their home state. Two of the couples have adopted children through Arizona's foster care system, according to Freedom to Marry.

The other case, *Majors v. Horne*, involves seven same-sex couples, and the surviving spouses of two other couples. Those couples are also seeking relationship recognition by challenging the state's laws barring marriage for same-sex couples. Summary judgement in that case is due August 1, the state must reply by September 5, and the final reply is due October 6.

TAGS: [MARRIAGE EQUALITY](#), [ARIZONA](#)

Sponsored Links by Taboola



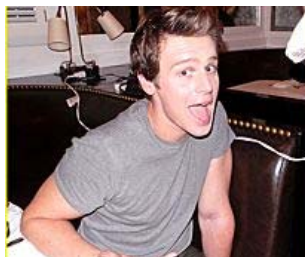
Celebs You Didn't Know Were Bisexual Some of these you would never guess- especially #6!

[Pressroomvip.com](#)



10 Players Drafted Before J.J. Watt In 2011

[ThePostGame](#)



These 17 Actors Are Gay, But Play Straight Characters

[POPnHOP](#)



America's Next 25 Years Could Look Like This...

[Money Morning](#)



8 Reasons Why You Need to be Online Dating

[Better by the Minute | Zoosk](#)



Hemoglobin A1c Guidelines: Latest American Diabetes Association® Recommendations - A1C

[HealthCentral](#)

MORE IN MARRIAGE EQUALITY



Are These the Most Antigay Governors in America?



Utah Finally Lifts Stay on Adoptions By Same-Sex Parents



Florida's Twice-Divorced AG Opposes Lesbian Divorce



Op-ed: No, You Shouldn't Raise \$150K for Homophobes

READER COMMENTS (79)

79 comments



Add a comment...

☒ Also post on Facebook

Posting as Terry Pochert ([Change](#))

[Comment](#)



Joe Connolly · Following · Top Commenter · Rochester Institute of Technology

Here's my take on Alliance Defending Freedom.... <http://www.arizonaequality.org/doc-6485.html>

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [Follow Post](#) · July 27 at 3:32pm



John Bickford · Top Commenter · UMass (Amherst)

This is like saying that Jim Crow laws were not malicious to black people--they were just intended



Congressman's Apology 'Doesn't Mean Crap'

FOLLOW US



FACEBOOK



TWITTER



RSS FEEDS

SIGN UP FOR **ADVOCATE** EMAIL UPDATES

TWITTER



to "protect" white people.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · 72 · [Follow Post](#) · July 27 at 11:02am



Da Donald · Top Commenter · Huntsville, Alabama

Fantastic and point on - never looked at it that way.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · 9 · July 27 at 5:02pm



Christopher Bubb · [Follow](#) · Top Commenter · Aquinas College

Not only that, white Southerners in the '50s and '60s also tried to twist it around and claim that Jim Crow laws benefited black people too! Watch the PBS "Freedom Riders" documentary and you'll see a guy saying something to the effect of "I have no doubt that the Negro knows that the best friend he has in the world is the Southern white man." And going even farther back, white Southerners defended slavery by saying it brought black people to Christianity and gave them steady work. Conservatives are geniuses when it comes to rationalizing their hate.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · 3 · July 28 at 2:46pm



Da Donald · Top Commenter · Huntsville, Alabama

Christopher Bubb - Hand to God - Scouts honor - I was working on a project in Selma, Alabama on the Voting Rights movement of 1965 and an elderly white man comes in to look at the installation. He looks around and says to me with a straight face, "What we did for those colored folk was the best thing that ever happened to them. If we hadn't brought em' over they would never of found Jesus." - I was gobsmacked.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · 2 · July 28 at 3:19pm

[View 1 more](#)



Jeremiah Policky · [Follow](#) · Top Commenter · Tucson, Arizona

"The lawyers' arguments claim the state "regulates marriage for the primary purpose of protecting relationships that would produce children, and let those children grow up with a biological mother and father,"...so i assume they are also trying to ban divorce, single motherhood, sterile marriages, and all marriages over a certain age past childbearing years?

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · 45 · [Follow Post](#) · July 27 at 10:46am



Steve Wieman · Top Commenter · Univ. of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Plus sdoption

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · 8 · July 27 at 2:57pm



Jesse Pelayo · Product Manager at CyberCoders

And criminalize infidelity...

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · 12 · July 27 at 3:19pm



Dan Mauler · Top Commenter · Dominican

Steve Wieman Yes, please let them argue against adoption in front of Chief Justice Roberts. I'm SURE he'll be able to put his own adopted children out of his mind.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · 11 · July 27 at 5:38pm

[View 2 more](#)



David Grossman · Top Commenter

The lawyers' arguments claim the state "regulates marriage for the primary purpose of protecting relationships that would produce children, and let those children grow up with a biological mother and father..."

The state does no such thing. The state allows the elderly, the infertile, and those not wanting children, to marry. Also, banning same-sex couples from being able to marry does NOT guarantee that children will be raised by their biological parents. Those bio-parents can still get divorced, or give their children up for adoption. Same-sex couples have absolutely nothing to do with that. As usual, the ADF is lying through their teeth.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · 25 · [Follow Post](#) · July 27 at 11:12am



Jane Alana Ross · [Follow](#) · Top Commenter · Works at Being a Badass

And also I'm yet to hear any argument as to why they SHOULD guarantee biological parent raising, even if they could do such a thing. Like, um... why?!

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · 3 · July 28 at 1:55am



Joe Cos · Top Commenter

When will the taxpayers demand that their Republican representatives stop wasting millions of tax dollars on their stays, appeals, and "defenses" of these bans that so many federal courts have ruled unconstitutional?

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · 19 · [Follow Post](#) · July 27 at 10:50am



Nathaniel Brown · Top Commenter

And yet polsters are predicting that the GOP may take back the Senate in the fall...

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · 1 · July 27 at 3:13pm



Henry Ransom Batten · Top Commenter · President & CEO at Lindbergh LaVista Corridor Coalition Inc.

Has anyone not picked up on the fact that Republicans love to waste "other people's money"?

Advocate Staff

Tweets from a list by The Advocate

Members of our reporting and editing team.



Matt Baume

@MattBaume

7h

Applause. @ Seattle Eagle Tavern

[instagram.com/p/ukRLoqt_bF/](https://www.instagram.com/p/ukRLoqt_bF/)

[Expand](#)



Thom

@Tszenze

12h

#TSA allbut hogties #Homophobe who attacks guy in pink shirt cuz this 'Merica & cause well cause just uno "#faggot!"

[advocate.com/crime/2014/10/...](https://www.advocate.com/crime/2014/10/...)

Paramount, CA, United States



The Advocate Comedy

@gaysayer

13h

Ellen's scientific method of predicting the World Series involves male strippers. bit.ly/12u519E



The Advocate Comedy

@gaysayer

13h

WATCH: Ellen Predicts the World Series With Male Strippers | [Advocate.com](https://www.advocate.com):

[advocate.com/comedy/2014/10...](https://www.advocate.com/comedy/2014/10...)

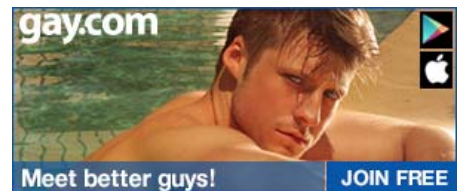


Matt Baume

@MattBaume

14h

Waited an hour for @comcastcares technician; called to confirm time. was told the appointment



[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · 16 · July 27 at 4:15pm



Gene Bivins · Top Commenter

Nathaniel Brown - Which pollsters? And how did they phrase their questions? You can get any results you want by using the right words.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · 3 · July 28 at 1:02pm



Markus Hayden Sutherland · Top Commenter · University of Mississippi ~ Ole Miss

Hiring the Alliance Defending Freedom (AKA the Alliance Defense Fund) in and of itself demonstrates anti-gay malice and animus. The ADF has been one of the most extreme anti-gay groups in the country. It's about like Mississippi hiring the KKK to defend Jim Crow laws and having them submit a brief claiming that Jim Crow laws weren't about anti-black malice but about upholding tradition and protecting white people and their children.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · 14 · [Follow Post](#) · July 27 at 11:18am



Rachel Lighter · Lead Engineer at Hyatt Regency Louisville

They more or less did back then too.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · 1 · July 28 at 9:51am



Dan Downing · Top Commenter

but as a means to protect the marriages of heterosexual couples and their children.

WHAT A LOAD OF BS, THE END RESULT IS THE SAME: GAY COUPLES ARE HARMED. Further nobody has ever presented a convincing argument as to exactly how a same-sex couple's marriage will cause harm.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · 13 · [Follow Post](#) · July 27 at 11:06am



Michael Lombardi-Nash · Top Commenter

It causes harm because it's harmful, because we think it's harmful, it is harmful, causing harm all over the place. Just see how much harm it has already caused. It's just plainly and simply harmful, to all men, women and children, all of them harmed, so terribly, awfully and horribly harmed LOL

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · 4 · July 27 at 3:35pm



Gene Bivins · Top Commenter

Michael Lombardi-Nash - It's easy to play with words, isn't it? Actually, your post isn't far from wrong. Inequality does harm all of us.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · 1 · July 28 at 1:08pm



James Greuber · Falling Waters, West Virginia

They have no legal reason left. Their hypocrisy has had the light shone on their fear and ignorance.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · 10 · [Follow Post](#) · July 27 at 1:33pm



Da Donald · Top Commenter · Huntsville, Alabama

Dear Gay Population,

We have two weapons, and two weapons only, upon which we can build and truly viable position in this world - our voices and our money – the latter being the most powerful. When a company, state or institution decides to hide behind the false facade of religion or coodies to discriminate against Gay People the only mechanism that has ever worked is to respond fully. The struggle of African-Americans wasn't a march of convenience but a necessity to make a clear and concise statement – discriminate and go out of business. We have greater economic power and far less backbone.

Arizona wants to ban the right of consenting adults to marry then they are well within their rights. But Gay People are within their rights to bring their full economic might to bear and make every industry in Arizona and every corporation with operations in the state very uncomfortable.

Hate to be the bearer of reality but less than 10% of all laws are passed for moral reasons – the rest are for economic purposes. Make Arizona a pariah and launch a full-throated polemic response in the media and with our dollars. Then see how long they cling to their moral high ground.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · 9 · [Follow Post](#) · July 27 at 11:14am



Kent McCoy · Top Commenter

Same sex marriage bans still violate the 14th Amendment of the US. Constitution.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · 11 · July 27 at 3:08pm



Joe Connolly · Following · Top Commenter · Rochester Institute of Technology

And it violates Freedom of Religion in my opinion.. Some denominations allow same sex marriage. States that are preventing gay and lesbians from marrying are also denying us full freedom of religion within their faith by preventing them from the sacrament of marriage in their denomination.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · 6 · July 27 at 3:21pm



Dorin Anghelescu · Follow · Top Commenter

Joe Connolly , Religios Freedom means you are free to worship how you choose on your own time, not free to control others with your religion!

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · 5 · July 27 at 11:23pm

[View 3 more](#)



Nathaniel Brown · Top Commenter

Oh for God's sake! HOW does is this sort of garbage supposed protect the children? And why aren't the kids of same-sex marriages worthy of the protection marriage should give to ALL families. These people should at least come up with something less shop-worn and empty.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [8](#) · [Follow Post](#) · July 27 at 3:12pm

[View 37 more](#)

Facebook social plugin



DAILY NEWS UPDATES | STAFF | CONTACT | SUBMISSIONS | CAREER OPPORTUNITIES | SUBSCRIBE | SUBSCRIBER SERVICES
VISIT OUR WEBSITES
GAY.NET | GAY.COM | OUT.COM | ADVOCATE.COM | HERETV.COM | OUTTRAVELER.COM | SHEWIRED.COM | HIVPLUSMAG.COM
PRIVACY POLICY | USER AGREEMENT | COMMUNITY GUIDELINES | LEGAL NOTICE | ADVERTISE WITH US

© 2014, HERE MEDIA INC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED