



We ask you not to force us to choose between the state and the Laws of God.

We the undersigned have joined together to present our unified message and plea to the Justices of the United States Supreme Court regarding the matter of marriage.

We are Protestant, Catholic, and Orthodox Christian pastors, clergy, lay leaders and Jewish leaders, who collectively represent millions of people in our specific churches, parishes, denominations, synagogues and media ministry outreaches. Marriage transcends our various theological differences and unites us together in one voice.

We affirm that any judicial opinion which purports to redefine marriage will constitute an unjust law, as Martin Luther King Jr. described such laws in his letter from the Birmingham Jail.

We are Christians who love America and who respect the legitimate rule of law.

However, **we will not honor any decision by the Supreme Court which will force us to violate a clear biblical understanding of marriage as solely the union of one man and one woman.**

We affirm that Marriage, as existing solely between one man and one woman, precedes civil government. Though affirmed, fulfilled, and elevated by faith, the truth that marriage can exist only between one man and one woman is not based solely on religion but on the Natural Law, written on the human heart.

We implore this Court to not step outside of its legitimate authority and unleash religious persecution and discrimination against people of faith. We will be forced to choose between the state and our conscience, which is informed by clear biblical and church doctrine and the natural created order.

On this choice, we must pledge obedience to our Creator. While there are many things we can endure, any attempt to redefine marriage is a line we cannot and will not cross.

The complete Marriage Pledge can be read in its entirety at <http://www.defendmarriage.org>. It offers a more detailed defense of marriage and further expresses our unified resolve. Tens of thousands of very concerned Americans have signed the Marriage Pledge to date.

An Open Letter to the Supreme Court Justices of the United States

Some of the key signers:

Matt C. Abbott

Catholic Commentator, RenewAmerica, Chicago, IL

Dan Almeter

Counselor, Hope for Wholeness, Spartanburg, SC

Kirby Anderson

Host, Point of View Radio Talk Show, Dallas, TX

Terry Barber

Founder, St. Joseph Communication, Sycamore, IL

Founder, Lighthouse Catholic Media, Sycamore, IL

Pastor Mike Baker

Eastview Christian Church, Normal, IL

Archbishop Foley Beach

Anglican Church in North America, Loganville, GA

David Benham

Benham Companies, Charlotte, NC

Jason Benham

Benham Companies, Charlotte, NC

Ambassador J. Kenneth Blackwell

UN Human Rights Commission
Former U.S. Representative, OH

Pastor Paul Blair

Fairview Baptist Church, Edmond, OK

Mitch Boersma

Associate Editor, The Stream

LTG (Ret.) William "Jerry" Boykin

US Army, Kingdom Warriors, Fayetteville, NC

Dean R. Broyles, Esq.

President & Chief Counsel, National Center for Law and Policy, Escondido, CA

Kevin Burke

Pastoral Associate, Priests for Life, Staten Island, NY, Co-Founder, Rachel's Vineyard, King of Prussia, PA

Dr. Theresa Burke

Founder, Rachel's Vineyard Ministries, King of Prussia, PA

Phil Burress

President, Citizens for Community Values Action, Cincinnati, OH

Rabbi Jonathan Cahn

Pastor, Jerusalem Center, Wayne, NJ

Pastor Barry L. Cameron

Crossroads Christ Church, Grand Prairie, TX

Fr. Dennis Cooney

Saint Raphael's Parish, Lehigh Acres, FL

David Crowe

President, Restore America, Lake Oswego, OR

Katie D'Annunzio

Rachel's Vineyard Ministries, King of Prussia, PA

Steve Deace

USA Radio Network, Washington Times, Conservative Review

The Honorable Tom DeLay

Former Majority Leader of the U. S. House of Representatives, Sugar Land, TX

Dr. Alberto M. Delgado

Pastor, Alpha-Omega Baptist Church, Miami, FL

Dr. James Dobson

Family Talk, Colorado Springs, CO

Elaine Donnelly

President, Center for Military Readiness, Livonia, MI

Pastor Dan Fisher

Trinity Baptist Church, Yukon, OK
Oklahoma State Representative

Deacon Keith Fournier

Common Good, Catholic Online
Chesapeake, VA

Pastor Jim Franklin

Cornerstone Church, Fresno, CA

Fr. Christopher Gaffrey

Franciscan Friar, Catholic Priest, New York, NY

Pastor Jim Garlow

Skyline Wesleyan Church, San Diego, CA,
Founding Director, Pastors Rapid Response Team

Gina Gleason

Executive Director, Faith and Public Policy, Los Angeles, CA

William Franklin Graham III

President & CEO, Billy Graham Evangelistic Association (BGEA), Charlotte, NC

Pastor John Hagee

Cornerstone Church, San Antonio, TX

Very Rev. Fr. Mousa Haddad

St. Peter Antiochian Orthodox Church, Palos Heights, IL

Pastor Jack Hibbs

Calvary Chapel, Chino Hills, CA

Fr. Stephen Imbarrato

Priest Associate, Priests for Life, Staten Island, NY,
Founder, Defending Life, Albuquerque, NM

Bishop E. W. Jackson

President, S.T.A.N.D., Chesapeake, VA

Bishop Harry Jackson, Jr.

Fellowship of International Church, Washington, DC

Fr. Johannes L. Jacobse

St. Peter Orthodox Church, Naples FL

Pastor Robert Jeffress

First Baptist Church, Dallas, TX

J. Douglas Johnson

All Saints Orthodox Church, Chicago, IL

Rev. Gregory Johnson

Founder and President., Standing Together, Lehi, UT

Dr. Jerry A. Johnson

President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Religious Broadcasters, Washington, DC

Warren Kelley

President, Point of View Ministries, Dallas, TX

Bryan Kemper

Stand True Pro-life Youth Outreach, Troy, OH

Deacon Tim Kennedy

Saint John the Apostle Roman Catholic Church, Linden, NJ, Associate, Deacons for Life

Dr. Alan Keyes

Renew America

Dr. Alveda King

King for America, Priests for Life, Staten Island, NY

Fr. Andrew Kishler

St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Spring Valley, IL

Tim Lee

Tim Lee Ministries, Garland, TX

Pastor Tim Liston

New Hope Church, Manville, TX

Pastor Gregg Matte

Houston's First Baptist Church

Dr. Joseph Mattera

Overseeing Bishop, Christ Covenant Coalition
National Convener of United States Coalition of Apostolic Leaders, Brooklyn, NY

Fr. C. John McCloskey

Catholic Priest, Prelature of Opus Dei
Fellow, Faith and Reason Institute, Washington, DC

Janet Morana

Executive Director, Priests for Life, Staten Island, NY, Co-Founder, Silent No More Awareness Campaign

Pastor Robert Morris

Gateway Church, Southlake, TX

Penny Nance

President, Concerned Women for America, Washington, DC

C. Preston Noell III

President, Tradition, Family, Property, Inc., Hanover, PA

Pastor Carlos Ortiz

Cristo Vive, Miami, FL, South East Vice
President, National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference, President, Hispanics Allied for Israel

Joe Ortwerth

Executive Director, Missouri Family Policy Council, St. Peters, MO

Dr. Paige Patterson

President, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, TX

Fr. Frank Pavone

National Director, Priests for Life, Staten Island, NY
President, National Pro-life Religious Council

Fr. John A. Peck

Preachers Institute, Phoenix, AZ

Rev. Victor S. Potapov

Rector, Russian Orthodox Cathedral St. John the Baptist, Washington DC

Fr. Patrick Henry Reardon

All Saints Orthodox Church, Chicago IL

Jay Richards, Ph.D.

Associate Editor, The Stream

Pastor Steve Riggle

Grace Church, Houston, TX

Fr. Malek Rihani

St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church, Palos Heights, IL

Rev. James Robison

LIFE Outreach International, Fort Worth, TX
Founder, Stream.org

Rev. Samuel Rodriguez

President, Hispanic Evangelical Association
Pastor, New Season Christian Worship Center, Sacramento, CA

Jesse Romero

Catholic Evangelist, Radio Host, Sylmar, CA

Pastor Dudley Rutherford

Shepherd of the Hills, Porter Ranch, CA

Pastor Rick Scarborough

Vision America Action, Nacogdoches, TX

Pastor Steve Smothermon

Legacy Church, Albuquerque, NM

Rabbi Aryeh Spero

Caucus for America, Canton, OH

Mat Staver

Liberty Counsel, Orlando, FL

Pastor David Stone

Southeast Christian Church, Louisville, KY

Vinson Synan, PhD

Dean Emeritus, Regent University School of Divinity, Virginia Beach, VA

Fr. Josiah Trenham

St. Andrew Orthodox Church, Riverside, CA
Founder, Patristic Nectar Publications
Adjunct Professor of Theology, St. Katherine College, Encinitas, CA

Archpriest Alexander F. C. Webster Ph.D.

Rector, St. Herman of Alaska Russian Orthodox Church, Stafford, VA

Pastor Dave Welch

U. S. Pastor Council, Houston, TX

Fr. John Whiteford

St. Jonah Orthodox Church, Spring, TX
President, Houston Orthodox Clergy

Fr. Denis G. Wilde, OSA

Associate Director, Priests for Life, Staten Island, NY

Rev. Don Wildmon

Founder and Chairman, American Family Association, Tupelo, MS

Tim Wildmon

President, American Family Association, Tupelo, MS

Pastor Fred Wolfe

Luke 4:18 Fellowship, Mobile, AL