

**Terry and Barbara Caster
Brian and Denise Caster
The Caster Family**

Cordially Invite You to Attend a Special Presentation to

SAVE MARRIAGE IN 2008

On Thursday, January 24, 2008
5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

The University of San Diego
Joan Kroc Institute for Justice and Peace
5998 Alcalá Park

The future of marriage as we know it and the protection of children is at stake. Speakers include Bishop Salvatore Cordileone, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of San Diego, Maggie Gallagher, President of the National Organization for Marriage, Brian Brown, Executive Director of the National Organization for Marriage, and Charles LiMandri, an attorney and advocate. More information can be found at www.nationformarriage.org and www.protectmarriage.com

Please attend this event to learn more and support this worthy cause.

Refreshments and Appetizers will be served.

Please RSVP by e-mail to Patti Garcia at pgarcia@castergroup.com or (619) 287-8893, ext. 106 no later than January 21, 2008.



WHY DOES MARRIAGE NEED PROTECTION IN CALIFORNIA NOW?

Prepared for the National Organization for Marriage (NOM) California (www.nationformarriage.org/california)

By the Law Offices of Charles S. LiMandri.

What is the issue?

The California Supreme Court is expected to render a decision next spring in a case currently before the Court determining whether Proposition 22 is unconstitutional. If the Court decides that Prop.22 is unconstitutional, this will clear the way for same-sex marriages to begin taking place in California.

What are the consequences for churches if the Court decides that Prop.22 is unconstitutional?

- Same-sex marriages would be legally sanctioned by the government. Same-sex marriages will begin taking place all over California.
- **Risk of Civil Liability**
 - i. Religious institutions will have to hire and retain people in same-sex marriages, even if this behavior is contrary to their religious beliefs, e.g. a married homosexual teaching at a religious school.
 - ii. Same-sex cohabitation suits will arise under Fair Housing laws. For example, if a religious college or university refuses to rent graduate student housing to a same-sex couple, the university could be sued.
 - iii. Services or facilities suits under public accommodation laws. For example, if a church refuses to rent a church hall to a same-sex couple for a wedding ceremony, the church could be sued.
 - iv. “Hate-Speech” or “Hate Crimes” liability. For example, if a priest or pastor states to a congregation that homosexual marriage is immoral or wrong, that person could be subjected to a lawsuit for engaging in “hate-speech”.
- **Denial of Government Benefits and Privileges**
 1. Traditional tax-exempt status may be lost if churches refuse to teach that same-sex marriages are normal and/or allow them to take place in church sanctuaries and halls.
 2. Churches and religious institutions may be excluded from government social service contracts, e.g. inability to place children for adoptions.
 3. Churches and organizations may be excluded from government facilities and property, e.g. Boy Scouts removed from Balboa Park in San Diego.
 4. Churches and religious institutions may be excluded from licensing of marriages
- **Curriculum changes at religious schools.** Religious schools would have to teach that homosexuality is normal. Curriculum changes would be required to reflect the idea that homosexual marriages are the same as heterosexual marriages. This poses a threat to the curriculum of the whole religious school system, from elementary school through college.
- **Operations at Catholic hospitals.** Catholic hospitals would have to perform sex-change operations contrary to Church teaching because not to do so might be considered discriminatory.
- **Christian adoption organizations** will have to allow same-sex couples to adopt children or cease operations as they did in Massachusetts.

It boils down to this: Our faith will be perceived as “discriminatory” and people of faith will be treated as bigots under the law for upholding the traditional view of marriage.

What do we need to do?

- Adopt a marriage amendment to the California constitution to define that the only valid marriage in California is between a man and a woman. The National Organization for Marriage California chapter (NOM California) and protectmarriage.com are working to place a constitutional amendment to protect marriage on the November 2008 ballot. This effort is the California Marriage Initiative.
- **Obtain 1.1 million signatures by April 1, 2008** to put this issue on the November 2008 ballot.
- Write a check to help support the signature gathering campaign. We need to raise \$1.5 million by January 31, 2008 to fund this first phase of the California Marriage Initiative campaign. Once the signatures have been collected and the Marriage Initiative qualifies for the November ballot, a multi-faith coalition will raise an additional \$8-10 million to fund the statewide awareness campaign in preparation for voting in November.
- **Vote yes** to protect marriage in California in the words of Proposition 22: “Only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California.” Once this language is enshrined in the State Constitution, the courts will no longer have the power to re-define marriage under state law.