



# The Liberator

LIBERTY COUNSEL'S MONTHLY ACTION/ALERT NEWSLETTER  
"Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is Liberty." 2 Cor 3:17

MAR  
2013

## A Message from Mat Staver, our Founder and Chairman WHY NATURAL MARRIAGE MATTERS AND WHY IT'S WORTH DEFENDING

*"Putting Every Household at Risk" is the subtitle of my book, Same-Sex Marriage. Redefining natural marriage to encompass people of the same sex will have enormous negative consequences for our culture. Now pending before the U.S. Supreme Court are two cases involving the definition of marriage for which Liberty Counsel filed two major briefs. A wrong decision by the Court on this crucial issue would be catastrophic! There's far more at stake in this battle than most Americans realize.*

The Supreme Court will soon consider two cases challenging the definition of marriage as being the union of one man and one woman. A few weeks ago, we filed two extensive *amicus* briefs in support of natural marriage. The Court is expected to rule on these landmark cases by the

end of June 2013.

One case challenges the federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), which affirms marriage as the union of one man and one woman for federal purposes. Even though New York did

not recognize same-sex marriage at the time the facts of this case arose, a same-sex couple argued that their "marriage" license from Canada entitled each party to U.S. federal benefits as a

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**Liberty Counsel has been at the forefront of the battle for the God-given institution of marriage in America for over twenty years and has successfully defended natural marriage in about 50 court cases since 2004.** Standing up to aggressive pro-homosexual activists is always challenging and sometimes requires special security precautions, as was true for Founder and Chairman Mat Staver's appearance before the California Supreme Court on behalf of Proposition 8 (bottom left) in 2009. In recent months, Liberty Counsel has deployed an online resource at [www.LibertyCounsel.com](http://www.LibertyCounsel.com) to provide a portal to our many activities impacting the culture for good. For instance, you can sign our powerful petition encouraging the Boy Scouts of America to stand strong against bullies demanding they abandon their ban on homosexuals (top left). Liberty Counsel's leadership team speaks in support of natural marriage at scores of meetings, conferences, and other events each year (Mat Staver addresses The Awakening 2012 at top right – also, see ad on page two for The Awakening 2013). We consistently affirm God's design for the family – one man, one woman, and the children He creates and assigns to the couple's loving nurture.

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married “spouse.”

The issue in the case is whether the very definition of marriage violates the Constitution! It’s absurd, I know, but we are dealing with a Supreme Court that has several judicial activists on the bench.

The other case is the “Proposition 8” amendment from California. In 2008, the people of California voted to amend their state constitution to add the

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definition of natural marriage so that judges could not redefine it with mere strokes of their pens.

The California Supreme Court upheld the amendment, but a separate challenge in federal court struck it down. The Federal District Judge who ruled on the case refused to reveal that he had been in a same-sex relationship for years and would personally benefit by his ruling!

Later, in a 2-1 decision, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals upheld his ruling. One of the judges who ruled at the Court of Appeals is married to a woman who filed a brief for the ACLU urging the court to strike down Proposition 8. Frankly, the entire history of this case reeks of judicial corruption!

Now, both of these cases rest in the hands of nine unelected judges, and it only takes five to make a majority.

Liberty Counsel has successfully defended natural marriage in about 50 court cases since 2004. We have applied

our resulting expertise to the two briefs we filed at the Supreme Court, and now we ask that you pray for the Justices to exercise common sense!

If the Court rules the wrong way, the consequences will be catastrophic.

Sociological studies and experience affirm what the Bible and natural law clearly dictate: Marriage is a relationship between a man and a woman, and children need a mom and a dad. *Children fare best in every measurable category when raised by a mom and dad.*

As a policy matter, same-sex marriage declares that children do not need a mom and dad. It says dad is irrelevant. But every honest observer knows that is simply not true.

I challenge anyone to visit the violent offender section of any men’s jail or prison and ask one question of the inmates: “How was your relationship with your dad?” The answer will almost always be, “I had no father.” The “fatherless syndrome” and its consequences are well documented and are crushing our society.

Same-sex marriage permanently removes a mom or dad from children’s lives, and even worse, it distorts the view of the missing gender in a way that single parenting does not.

In the pro-homosexual book entitled *Different Mothers: Sons and Daughters of Lesbians Talk About Their Lives*, the editor wrote that the emotional and public lives of these children “are affected by our lifestyles.”

In the book, one person recounts her experience of being raised in a household headed by same-sex partners: “Men were called mutants,

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and straight women were considered disowned sisters who wasted woman-energy on men...”

One young man revealed his experience: “Lesbians should not fill their children with their own fears and hatreds... We kids would get together and have sex, males or females, in any combination... The end result of all this abuse is that today I don’t trust people. Lesbians who hate or fear men take this out on boy children.”

*Natural marriage between a man and a woman is the foundation of good government and civil society.* Without natural marriage, there is no future for any society. If we destabilize marriage by redefining God’s design of nature, we destabilize society. Strong families mean a strong and stable society. Alexis de

**THE AWAKENING 2013**  
**EL DESPERTAR 2013**  
**Fighting for the Soul of America**  
**April 19-20, 2013**  
First Baptist Oviedo      TheAwakeningUSA.org  
Oviedo, Florida  
Friday, April 19 • 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm  
Saturday, April 20 • 9:00 am – 5:00 pm  
Register online or by calling  
**877-810-1776.**  
Space is limited!

Tocqueville, one of the most important sociological observers of American culture, recognized this fundamental fact in his book *Democracy in America* written back in the mid-1800's.

*Same-sex marriage inevitably collides with freedom of speech and the free exercise of religion.* Examples of this collision are too numerous to recount in this brief article.

Schools now force children to learn about perverted sexual acts. Parents are told they have no parental rights and cannot object. Bakers, photographers, caterers, printers, and even some church venues are being forced to participate in same-sex ceremonies. We have even seen diverse organizations that affirm natural marriage like the Boy Scouts of America and Chick-fil-A being systematically targeted by radical activists!

*Validating same-sex marriage will affirm homosexuality as a public good.* Yet, same-sex behavior is harmful, both emotionally and physically. The Center for Disease Control reports that 63 percent of new HIV infections in 2010 were among homosexual and bisexual men.

The rates of depression, drug abuse, and suicide are exponentially increased for those that embrace homosexuality, and every practicing homosexual's life expectancy is significantly decreased. To remain silent when people's lives are destroyed and our liberty is placed in jeopardy by the intolerant pro-homosexual agenda is simply unacceptable!

That's why Liberty Counsel is on the front lines of the battle to defend natural marriage. Make no mistake: *This is the most significant battle of our generation!* We need your commitment to pray for this ministry and financially support our legal team as we engage in this battle.

We need to stand strong on every front. We need to send a strong message to the Boy Scouts to maintain its common sense policy banning homosexual participation in Scouting. Changing its

policy to allow homosexual Scoutmasters would open the door to pedophiles like Jerry Sandusky. Who wants to send their boy on a camping trip with a monster like him?

*Would you take a moment to visit Liberty Counsel's online petition page for the Boy Scouts and add your name to the list?* Using this powerful tool, we obtained and delivered 25,000 petitions to the Boy Scouts in just a day and a half in early February. The good news is that the Scouts postponed their vote on this pivotal issue until May. Now, we need to keep up the pressure to counter the actions of radical homosexual groups! You can add your name at the Liberty Counsel Connect website at [www.LibertyCounsel.com](http://www.LibertyCounsel.com).

Marriage matters and we must defend and strengthen it! Thank you for your prayers of support and protection as we fight this crucially important battle. And thank you for your continued financial support.

Standing together, we are making a real difference in what is arguably the most important cultural struggle in American history! ✕



*Mathew D. Staver, who founded Liberty Counsel along with his wife, Anita, in 1989, serves as the organization's Chairman. A leading constitutional attorney, widely read author, and sought-after speaker and cultural apologist, he also serves as Dean of the Liberty University School of Law and as Chairman of Liberty Counsel Action. Staver is among the core leaders of a national effort to rebuild the conservative movement in America.*

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has published a list of national corporate partners which you can turn into a boycotting guide. Included on HRC's partners' list are well-known companies such as American Airlines, Bank of America, Nationwide Insurance, Lexus, and many other widely advertised

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brands. It may seem futile to avoid such prominent companies and their products, but for every company listed, you can usually find good alternatives.

So whether we are buying clothing, insurance, a car, or simply booking travel, we can use our God-given influence to let companies know what is acceptable in American culture and what is not. When their bottom lines are impacted, they will definitely reconsider misguided decisions that pro-homosexual bullies like HRC have manipulated them into making!

*Even if we cannot avoid patronizing every company that works against our values, we can avoid the worst offenders. And although we can't join every petition campaign, we can regularly speak out on the vital issues of our day.*

Make your voice heard and practice safe shopping – you'll be doing *much* with your God-given ability to influence the culture for good! ✕

*Anita L. Staver, Liberty Counsel's President, cofounded the ministry in 1989 along with her husband, Mat. Anita is a member of the bars of the state of Florida and the District of Columbia. She is admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court, every federal court of appeals in the nation, and six federal district courts.*

**From Anita Staver, President**

# IMPACTING THE WORLD WITH YOUR GOD-GIVEN INFLUENCE



*For to everyone who has, more will be given...but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. Matthew 25:29*

**T**he Bible says that we are accountable for what we do with whatever God gives us. To some, He gives little and requires little, but to others he gives much and requires they use those blessings to accomplish a great deal.

The parable of the talents in the Gospel of Matthew uses money as an illustration of God's blessings for which we are accountable. But we all know that He gives us far more than money! He also gives us our physical bodies, our families, our intellect, and even our influence on others' thinking and actions.

*Every gift comes with a corresponding responsibility to manage and maximize it.* One good way to leverage our gifts and talents is to work with others to increase their impact. Just as we can combine financial resources with others to achieve a greater result, we can also combine our power to influence others to literally move mountains!

The recent controversy over the Boy Scouts of America's (BSA) policy banning homosexuals from membership shows the result of combined influence, both for good and evil.

Those who want the Scouts to allow homosexuals and lesbians as members and leaders claim to have gathered 1.4 million signatures on a petition they delivered to the BSA's headquarters. This pressure, which had evidently been planned for many months, could have made the Scout's executive board give in.

But thankfully, the combined influence of Americans who were praying,

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rallying, calling for action, and signing petitions asking Scout leaders to stand strong for morality arose to counteract the pro-homosexual activists' efforts!

In addition to joining other groups in sponsoring a full-page *USA Today* ad, Liberty Counsel gathered more than 15,000 petitions in a single day and we are now well on the way to accumulating the signatures of over 100,000 Americans asking the Scouts to remain morally strong. Clearly, our collective, God-given influence has the power to hold back evil policy changes that would greatly damage America's youth.

We know from anecdotal evidence that petitions are powerful, and we also have confirmation from a 2005 corporate study about communicating with Congress. Of the congressional staff members surveyed, 94% reported that individual email messages have

some influence on decisions. About 63% of those surveyed said that even "form" emails or faxes (which Liberty Counsel avoids, since we highly customize our communications) have "some" or "a lot" of influence.

*Clearly, when you join your voice with others, you magnify the power of your individual, God-given influence on the culture.*

Another way to encourage positive cultural change is through organized boycotts. The ACLU, which once supported a boycott of Israel, and other radical groups know that boycotts work. Those of us with a conservative viewpoint also need to support intelligent, well targeted boycotts because they are effective.

The first boycott I joined was against K-Mart in 1991 over its sale of pornography through a subsidiary, Waldenbooks. The power of such a campaign can have a lasting impact. In fact, when the five-year boycott ended after the company divested itself of Waldenbooks, I was so accustomed to shopping at other stores that I've only visited a K-Mart store once or twice since.

Joining boycotts and petition-signing campaigns are simple and effective ways we can all create positive change. It's easier than you may think to uncover companies that are using your hard earned shopping dollars to destroy our Christian values.

If you want to avoid supporting the radical homosexual agenda, for example, the Human Rights Campaign (HRC)

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***Restoring the Culture by Advancing Religious Freedom, the Sanctity of Human Life and the Family***

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