



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

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

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.

## 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**  
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Former U.S. Representative, OH
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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  
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Cornerstone Church, Fresno, CA
- Fr. Christopher Gaffrey**  
Franciscan Friar, Catholic Priest, New York, NY
- Pastor Jim Garlow**  
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- 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**  
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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**  
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- Deacon Tim Kennedy**  
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- 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**  
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- Penny Nance**  
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- Rabbi Aryeh Spero**  
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Acts 5:29 "But Peter and the apostles answered, We must obey God rather than men."