

Oppose Writing Discrimination into the U.S. Constitution!

OPPOSE THE
FEDERAL MARRIAGE AMENDMENT!



What does the amendment actually say?

“Marriage in the United States shall consist only of the union of a man and a woman. Neither this Constitution, nor the Constitution of any State, nor State or Federal law, shall be construed to require that marital status or the legal incidents thereof be conferred upon unmarried couples or groups.”

What does that mean?

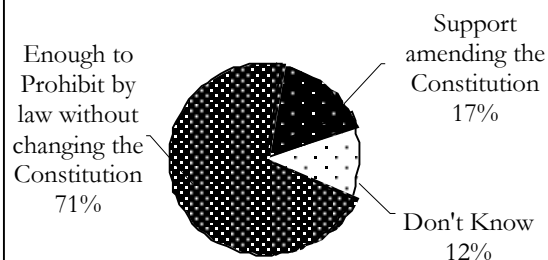
The first sentence says that every state must deny same sex couples the right to marry. The second sentence goes further; it would override any existing local and state level protections and benefits for gay and lesbian couples, or any other unmarried couple, including hospital visitation rights, inheritance rights, pension benefits, and health insurance among others. Rather than allow states to decide upon their own definitions of marriage or similar social compacts, the Federal Marriage Amendment would impose a single, discriminatory definition of marriage that all states would be required to follow - regardless of existing state laws.

Tell Congress to Stop Playing Games with the Constitution and Get Back to Work!

1. The federal marriage amendment is messing with the Constitution. It is unnecessary, unwise, and political.
2. The U.S. Constitution is not the place to change morality every time someone in Congress has an idea about what the morality should be.
3. This Amendment takes away existing legal protections, under state and local laws, for committed, long-term couples, such as hospital visitation rights, inheritance rights, pension benefits, and health insurance coverage among others.

What do Americans think about the Federal Marriage Amendment?

Little Support for Amendment Among Those Who Oppose Gay Marriage



Data from poll entitled *Religious Beliefs Underpin Opposition to Homosexuality* conducted by the Pew Research Center For The People & The Press and the Pew Forum on



American Civil Liberties Union

Take Action



Go to www.aclu.org/action and send a free fax to your Member of Congress urging opposition to the Federal Marriage Amendment!