



WISCONSIN FAMILY ACTION
Marriage|Family|Life|Liberty

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Wisconsin Family Action Issues Statement on US Supreme Court Hearing on Marriage

MADISON – This morning the US Supreme Court is hearing oral arguments in four cases related to the definition of marriage. The now-consolidated cases come from the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals, covering Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee. The high court decided to hear these cases after the 6th Circuit became the first circuit court in the country ruling that states do have the right to determine for themselves what marriage will be and have a compelling interest to restrict marriage to one man and one woman.

Julaine Appling, president of Wisconsin Family Action, issued the following statement regarding today's Supreme Court proceedings.

“Marriage is on trial today; but I believe along with marriage, the rule of law is also on trial. If the US Supreme Court eventually decides that the 14th Amendment of the US Constitution requires that states legalize marriage between persons of the same sex, we will know that judicial activism was on full display with an arrogant disregard for what the constitution really says. We will know that personal agendas and emotional rhetoric trump the law.

“That said, I remain very cautiously optimistic that at the end of today, as the nine Supreme Court justices deliberate and vote on this case, they will do the right thing and respect the rule of law. The court needs to resist the pressure to make up out of whole cloth something that is clearly not in our constitution. I hope at least five of the justices have the courage to do that. As we know, the court in *Roe v. Wade* didn't resist that pressure. Today's decision is at least as momentous as that decision.

“Wisconsin Family Action was part of a group of similar organizations around the country that filed a friend-of-the-court brief in this case. Our argument centers on the compelling interest a state has to keep marriage between one man and one woman because of the need for gender diversity in parenting and families. The research clearly, conclusively, and repeatedly shows that children—the future of every state—do best when brought up with both a mother (female) and a father (male). Every state wants the next generation of workers and taxpayers, leaders and creators, to be well-educated, healthy, well-adjusted, and productive citizens. Purposefully legalizing family structures that deny children either mothers or fathers will have serious consequences.

“All we are asking for from the Supreme Court today is to respect the rule of law and to grasp the magnitude of a decision that would redefine society's most important social institution and deny children what is best for them. We sincerely hope the court is up to this challenge.”

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Wisconsin Family Action is a statewide, not-for-profit organization actively strengthening, preserving and promoting marriage, family, life and liberty in Wisconsin.