



Polls Show Citizen Opposition To Same-Sex Marriage

Homosexual activists will lose at the ballot box on the "right to marry."

Two polls released in late December, 2003, and early January, 2004, indicate widespread opposition to same-sex marriage by a majority of Americans.

An NPR poll released in late December, shows that a majority of Americans oppose same-sex marriage.

The NPR statistics show the following:

- When asked, "...do you favor or oppose gay marriage?" 56% opposed, 30% supported gay marriage.
- "Do you favor or oppose a law that would allow homosexual couples to legally form civil unions, giving them the legal rights of married couples in areas such as health insurance, inheritance, pension coverage and hospital visiting privileges?" Forty-five percent to 45% responded to the statement.
- "...for whom would you vote if you learned that the Democratic nominee SUPPORTS civil unions WHILE Republican George W. Bush OPPOSES civil unions? Fifty-one percent responded yes; 35% said they would vote for the Democratic candidate and 1% indicated they would vote for "other."
- When asked: "... should continue to recognize heterosexual marriage as ensuring, promoting, and supporting a tested social structure for the bearing and raising of children," Fifty-five percent answered yes, 33% voted no to this statement.
- "Some Republicans say we should think of marriage as being between a man and a woman. Any obstacle the gay community faces can be addressed changing legislation to make sure that people and their partners are eligible for benefits regardless of marital status. We do not need to change the common definition of how we think about marriage." Forty-eight percent responded yes, 36% responded no, to this statement.
- "Our country SHOULD be tolerant and you can re-

spect a people's right to privacy without demanding and promoting a new right for gay marriage." Forty-two percent said yes, 40% said no, to this statement.

Overall Support For 'Gay Marriage' Is Dropping

Polls conducted for the Associated Press and CBS/New York Times in December, 2003, indicate growing opposition to the legalization of same-sex marriage or civil unions.

In the AP poll, conducted by ICR-International Communications Research of Media, Pennsylvania, 52% favor a law banning same-sex marriage, while 41% oppose such a law. Only 4 in 10 (41%) support civil unions; 53% oppose civil unions. The increase in opposition came from people who had been undecided. Close to half of those surveyed said they would be less likely to vote for a presidential candidate who backs civil unions (44%) or same-sex marriage (49%).

Data from the CBS/New York Times poll from December 19, 2003, indicates a "dramatic rise in opposition to gay marriage in the wake of last month's ruling by Massachusetts highest court that gays cannot be denied the right to marry," according to Anthony Mason, CBS Evening News (12-20-2003). "The poll shows 61 percent of Americans now oppose gay marriage, up from 55 percent in July. And in an even sharper increase, almost half now think homosexual relations should not be legal."

When the question was asked, "Do you think homosexual relations should be legal?" 41% responded YES; 49% responded NO.

In January, 2004, TVC posted the following question on our web site: "Would you vote for a presidential candidate who supports same-sex marriage or civil unions?" In mid-January, the responses were 39% YES; 61% NO.

For more information, access: <http://www.traditionalvalues.org>.