

(continued from front) get informed. Visit www.wifamilycouncil.org for more information, or contact us at 1-888-378-7395 to find out more about this issue. We also ask that you encourage pastors and fellow Christians to get involved. Let us all commit ourselves to doing what we can to stand for and promote the truth about marriage.

Mark Your Calendar!

Join us for one of WFC's "Defending Religious Liberty" Events at the Pizza Ranch in one of the following cities:

Thursday, February 20, in Portage

Thursday, March 20, in Manitowoc

Thursday, April 10, in Appleton

Call 888-378-7395 for more information

people who of course should receive government-granted benefits so their lives would be easier.

Making all of this worse is, first, that many professing Christians buy into the modern blasphemy about marriage; and second, among even those who ardently hold to the biblical truth of marriage, too few know how to address the questions with which we opened this commentary.

Wisconsin Family Council works hard to educate, equip and energize churches about this marriage issue. However, at the end of the day it really is up to individual Christians to study God's Word and understand the truth about marriage from God's perspective. I don't think God made it hard for us as 21st century believers to understand this matter, if we come to His Word openly and honestly, and not with preconceived notions.

If you are already convinced of the Truth in God's Word that marriage is a lifelong, monogamous relationship between one man and one woman--and that it is also very much about children--but you don't know how to answer the opening questions, please get educated so you can.

In 2013 traditional marriage took a number of hits, most of them through the legal system. In one week last month, federal judges in Utah ruled that Utah's anti-polygamy laws and its marriage protection amendment are unconstitutional. Much of the argument made by those favoring these decisions rested on the belief that marriage is only about loving and committed people who deserve legal recognition of their relationship so they can get government benefits. That's how pervasive this problem is.

We hope and pray that 2014 is the year Christians take the challenge of becoming educated, energized and articulate so that we can truly defend and promote, to individuals and to crowds, God's plan for marriage and family. Our communities, our state and our nation, and most importantly our children, will be better off if we do.

--Julaine Appling, President, Wisconsin Family Council

About Wisconsin Family Council

Wisconsin Family Council is a 501 (c)(3) organization that since 1986 has been advancing Judeo-Christian principles and values in Wisconsin. We have largely done this by informing Wisconsin citizens, policymakers and churches about the important legislative and cultural issues so that they can be involved in strengthening and preserving marriage, family, life and liberty in our state.

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Wisconsin
Family
Council



Church Connection

February 2014

Strengthening, Preserving & Promoting Marriage, Family, Life & Liberty

But from the beginning of the creation God made them male and female. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife.

Mark 10:6-7

As this issue went to press, news broke that the ACLU is suing the state of Wisconsin, maintaining that our constitutional definition of marriage as between a man and a woman is discriminatory. What can you do? First, pray. Pray that truth will win the day. Second,

Challenging the Presuppositions on Marriage

If marriage is only about love and commitment, who cares how it is defined? If this ages-old institution can be simply defined by the host of government benefits to people who want to live together, then what difference does gender or number make?

To answer these questions correctly is to directly challenge the presupposition that marriage is only about love and commitment and receiving government benefits.

We have had several decades of strategic, well-funded, media-backed, public-education-focused assaults on marriage, led by those who thought it would be better to do away with fault-based, contestable divorce and go with no-fault, no-contest, just-walk-away divorce. Then the homosexuals began their all-out effort to foist yet another social experiment on marriage by demanding "marriage equality" for people of the same sex.

While the homosexuals were making sure their message was getting into every public school classroom and to the highest levels of government, the polygamists and polyamorists began their own drumbeat saying that it was wrong to discriminate against them because they were loving and committed, too—just to more than one person.

Added to this relentless, well-orchestrated campaign to reshape marriage into a new image, is that far too often our churches have remained silent and on the sideline, preferring to say, "We don't get involved with politics. We just preach Jesus and evangelize." Yet ministry leaders have the best opportunity to rebut the falsehoods and give the truth not only to their own congregation but also to the wider community. This truly is not a political issue but a biblical issue that has been politicized.

The result of the campaign against marriage and the near deafening silence from the Christian Church in response is that from the highest echelons to the lowest in America, and especially among the 18-35-year-olds, far too many think marriage really is just a private relationship between loving and committed



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