



WISCONSIN FAMILY COUNCIL
Marriage|Family|Life|Liberty

Church Connection

April 2015

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

And the servant of the Lord must not strive [fight]; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth...

II Timothy 2:24-25

Wisconsin Family Council's "The Family-Wisconsin's Hope," presented by Julaine Appling

Sun Prairie Pizza Ranch,
Thursday, April 23, 6-8 p.m.

Appleton Pizza Ranch,
Thursday, May 7, 6-8 p.m.

For more information or to register for an event, call 888-378-7395

And the Survey Says....?

Earlier this year Politifact challenged Julaine Appling's statement in a radio interview in which she said that "polls on legalizing same-sex marriage are not dramatically changing." When the Politifact reporter contacted Julaine for support for that statement she sent him links to several such polls. Those facts didn't matter. He announced publicly that what she had said was false.

Several weeks later another poll was published. Unwilling to wave a white flag of surrender or to let him go unchallenged, Julaine sent the reporter the link to that survey and invited him to reassess his position. There was no response and no retraction. It would seem he was not all that interested in the truth.

Then on February 20 our friends at Family Research Council and a coalition of pro-family organizations, including Wisconsin Family Action, released the findings of a survey conducted in February.*

The survey was done of 800 registered voters across the country, pretty much equally distributed geographically.

The findings included a clear majority support, 53% to be exact, for keeping marriage defined as the union of one man and one woman. Now, of course you haven't heard about that. Only 4 demographics dipped below 50%—women ages 18-54, Hispanics, people who attend church only once or a couple of times a year and those who never attend church. Not surprisingly, the highest support comes from those who attend church once a week or more, with 73% of those registered voters saying they agree that marriage should be defined only as a union between one man and one woman.

That's not the only good news in this survey. When asked whether "[g]overnment should leave people free to follow their beliefs about marriage as they live their daily lives at work and in the way they run their businesses," 81% of those surveyed agreed that indeed people should be free to live out their beliefs at work and in the way they run their businesses.

Ironically, this survey with this astonishing information was released the same week that the exclusive interview with



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Prayer

- April 28 US Supreme Court hearing on marriage. Pray for the Justices, and pray for the attorneys who are defending marriage.

Praise

- For a great turnout for Day at the Capitol on March 19 with nearly 300 in attendance.
- For the many opportunities WFC's staff have to share the work of WFC and the truth about marriage, family, life and liberty. (If you would like to host a WFC event, or schedule a speaker, please call our office!)

“The most pro-family policy a government can promote is one that reflects the truth about marriage and puts the needs of children first, not the emotional desires of adults.”

(from *What You Need to Know About Marriage*, p. 11, The Heritage Foundation, n.d.)

Baronelle Stutzman aired on Fox News. Mrs. Stutzman, a florist in Washington State, has been charged with violating that state's anti-discrimination law because she declined to do the flowers for the so-called “marriage” ceremony of two homosexual men. She's been found guilty and could be fined \$2,000, in addition to paying legal fees. This brave woman has said she will appeal and will not capitulate to the heavy boot of a government determined to deny her the right that 81% of Americans agree she should have.

The third encouraging finding from this survey tells us that 61% of Americans believe that states and citizens should be able to define marriage, not the U.S. Supreme Court. These statistics fly in the face of what the federal courts have been doing on this issue.

This poll reveals that while there is much educational work to be done on this issue, especially among 18-35 year olds, the truth is the majority of Americans still have a fundamental understanding and belief in traditional marriage, constitutional freedoms and state's rights. That is encouraging.

Significantly related to this, is that on April 28 the US Supreme Court will hear oral arguments on the marriage cases. Will the justices ignore public opinion and redefine marriage, stripping the rights of “we the people” and individual states to determine this issue? Make no mistake. If this happens, Christian-owned and run businesses, churches and para-church ministries will be targeted by those who tolerate no dissent. To advance their agenda, they must silence those who disagree with them and that means they must destroy religious freedom.

We still have a window of opportunity to aggressively and actively educate people about God's plan for marriage and why it is uniquely good for our society; about how religious freedom and individual conscience rights are in the crosshairs of this debate; and about how states' rights are being trounced by federal courts.

As truth-tellers, Wisconsin Family Council will not wave a white flag of surrender no matter what the main stream media or the US Supreme Court does. The truth matters, and we will speak the truth about these critical issues everywhere and all the time.

* <http://downloads.frc.org/EF/EF15B71.pdf>

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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