

Proposition 8: The Marriage Protection Amendment “Actions That Churches Can Take”

Proposition 8, the Marriage Protection Amendment on the California ballot this November 4th is the most important decision voters will make this year. The impact of this one vote is so critical, that every effort needs to be taken to build the strongest support possible. The following provides a check list of possible actions that can be taken in churches between now and November. Please consider actively engaging in as many as possible – time is short!

First and foremost, work with your church leadership to ensure they are in agreement with whatever you want to do. Since every vote counts, seek opportunities to:

- Conduct voter registration drives and provide periodic reminders
- Encourage everyone to actually vote (don't overlook absentee ballot time frames)
- Contact as many members as possible just before the election to remind them to vote

Provide solid information to adequately inform on the issue of marriage:

- Work with the pastoral staff to find opportunities for them to publically address this issue:
 - Sermon messages (what Biblical marriage is)
 - Sunday School classes (marriage and current events/actions to take)
 - Small Group teaching and discussion
- Provide resource web sites for detailed information
 - www.protectmarriage.com
 - www.limandrilaw.com
 - www.wclplaw.org
 - www.NOMCalifornia.org
 - www.nationformarriage.org
- Set up a highly visible bulletin board or table with the latest information and update
- Provide periodic worship bulletin inserts with information and actions to take

Keep your church leadership informed and engaged by encouraging them to:

- Get on www.protectmarriage.com to personally subscribe to updates
- Encourage prayer during worship services and times of prolonged prayer and fasting
- Identify other like-minded churches and organizations to get involved
- Volunteer to speak on this issue before any group, religious or secular
- Add your church to the list of supporting organizations at www.protectmarriage.com

Find creative ways to encourage active involvement by all church members, including:

- Networking with family, friends, neighbors, co-workers
- Talking to membership organizations about possible support
- Providing financial support directly to: www.protectmarriage.com
- Personal, frequent prayer for the Proposition and what can be done
- Writing letters to the editor and contributing to blogs
- Calling talk show hosts to keep the subject alive
- Actively lobbying Governor Schwarzenegger to support the Proposition

Consider what long term church involvement could be for related issues:

- Establish a formal Salt & Light or Christian Citizenship Ministry
- Investigate the potential creation or support of ministries directly to Homosexuals