



CATHOLICS FOR THE
COMMON GOOD
A NEW CATHOLIC ACTION

California Supreme Court Upholds Proposition 8 May 25, 2009

Talking Points -- Keep positive

- The Court confirmed the vote of over 7 million Californians. For the second time now, the people have decided that marriage is reserved for a man and a woman. Encourage fellow supporters reminding them that because of their efforts and those thousands of others working together, Article 1, Section 7.5 of the California Constitution now reads: "Only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California"
- The passage of Prop 8 was not close. It won by a margin of 600,000 votes. It passed by roughly the same percentage of support as President Barack Obama's national landslide victory.
- If gay activists wish to legalize same-sex "marriage" now, they will have to go to the people and seek their permission – something they have never done anywhere. We will vigorously contest any effort to repeal Prop 8.
- Post election surveys show that Californians continue to support traditional marriage. If anything, support for same-sex "marriage" has declined while support for traditional marriage has increased.
- We are committed to staying organized to vigorously oppose any further efforts in the state and federal courts to invalidate or weaken Prop 8.
- Both the Catholics for the Common Good Institute and ProtectMarriage.com will be working together on public education and outreach so that citizens come to better understand and appreciate the many benefits that traditional marriage provides for society and our families. CCGI has already started training efforts for Catholic Advocates for Marriage.
- The foundation of the conflict over marriage is rooted in two conflicting definitions. Is marriage just an institution recognizing the committed relationship between adults for their own benefit or is it something more than that? Marriage as the foundation of the family uniting mothers and fathers to each other and to the children they bring into the world has a distinct public interest. What is the public interest for the state to regulate emotional relationships?
- While we wish the Court had not validated those gay marriages performed during the time before Prop 8 took effect, the overriding issue in this litigation was maintaining the validity of Prop 8. We are very pleased the Court agreed with us that Prop 8 was a validly enacted constitutional amendment.