



# YES2MARRIAGE.ORG



## Six Key Facts on the Florida Marriage Amendment

*Important information for Seniors, unmarried couples, and others sharing living arrangements*

### FULL AMENDMENT TEXT

#### When the Florida Marriage Amendment passes:

##### 1) Will the Social Security benefits of Seniors be protected?

**YES** There is *no* connection between the Florida constitution and Federal Social Security law. Your Social Security benefits are completely safe.

##### 2) Will benefits which Seniors and unmarried couples receive from employers be protected?

**YES** Contracts between private parties are allowed regardless of whether you are single or married .

##### 3) Will Seniors and unmarried couples be able to make out wills together?

**YES** The nature of one's relationship is not relevant to property distribution in Florida.

"Inasmuch as marriage is the legal union of only one man and one woman as husband and wife, no other legal union that is treated as marriage or the substantial equivalent thereof shall be valid or recognized."

### THIS AMENDMENT WILL:

#### **PRESERVE MARRIAGE**

by putting existing State law into the Florida Constitution and out of the reach of activist judges.

#### **PROTECT CHILDREN**

by recognizing that, despite the often heroic efforts of single parents, kids have a need for the unique and natural contributions of a mother and a father.

#### **PROTECT SENIORS**

and unmarried couples by avoiding interference with benefits or rights.

##### 4) Will powers of attorney still be allowed for Seniors and unmarried couples?

**YES** Marital status is irrelevant to a power of attorney relationship.

##### 5) Will Seniors and unmarried couples be allowed to make contracts, like owning a home or a business or other joint property together?

**YES** Marital status does not affect joint ownership rights.

##### 6) Will Seniors and unmarried couples still have rights like hospital visitation, making medical decisions and funeral arrangements for one another?

**YES** Of course, visiting a loved one in the hospital is unaffected by marital status. Other legal rights are already available with proper legal contracts.

[\[More Q & A on reverse side\]](#)

**Don't be confused about Amendment 2.  
Protecting marriage also protects unmarried citizens.**



## A Marriage Amendment makes common sense.

*Critical questions to ask as you consider an amendment affecting your children and grandchildren's future.*

**QUESTION:** Exactly what will voting YES on Amendment 2, the Florida Marriage Amendment, do?

*The Florida Marriage Amendment does one thing, and one thing only...it puts the existing State law that defines marriage as only between one man and one woman into the Florida constitution, protecting it from frivolous lawsuits and activist judges.*

### What lawsuits?

Nationally there have been nearly a hundred significant legal challenges to marriage laws!<sup>1</sup> *Currently, there are a dozen active lawsuits in six states challenging the definition of marriage as between a man and a woman.*<sup>2</sup> Several of those states have marriage laws similar to Florida's, which passed overwhelmingly in the Florida Legislature in 1997. However, the relentless legal pounding has already resulted in some marriage laws, such as those in Massachusetts and California, being overturned<sup>3</sup> and dramatically demonstrates the *urgent need to protect marriage in Florida* once and for all.

**QUESTION:** If Florida already has a marriage law, why is voting YES on Amendment 2, the Florida Marriage Amendment, really necessary?

*Here's why.* Some 42 states have passed laws defining marriage as only between one man and one woman. Of those, 23 states have *also* passed constitutional amendments to guard against activist judges like those in Massachusetts who suddenly "found" a right to same-sex marriage in the very constitution written by John Adams! In all, 27 states have passed amendments to their state constitutions preserving marriage.<sup>4</sup>

**QUESTION:** How will voting YES on Amendment 2, the Florida Marriage Amendment, protect my children and grandchildren?

*Every sensible Floridian knows that Florida's social and economic future depends on moms and dads having healthy, well-adjusted children.*

In fact, every major peer-reviewed social science study shows that children raised with a married mom and dad are better off physically, socially, and psychologically than in any other family structure.<sup>5</sup> *Even single parents, as hard as they work to raise their kids, understand that.*

Mothers and fathers together contribute uniquely in socializing children to deal with the opposite sex. But that model is lost if same-sex marriage flourishes and motherless or fatherless families are created intentionally.

*Marriage promotes a common good.* That's why it's common sense that marriage has *always* been uniquely protected in Florida law. *Why change that?* Instead of experimenting with new forms of "family," let's protect the one that protects our future.

1. [http://www.domawatch.org/case\\_names\\_index.html](http://www.domawatch.org/case_names_index.html)

2. [http://www.domawatch.org/current\\_challenges.html](http://www.domawatch.org/current_challenges.html)

3. *ibid*; <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-gaymarriage16-2008may16,0,6182317.story>

4. <http://pewforum.org/docs/?DocID=287>

5. "Why Marriage Matters, Second Edition: Twenty-Six Conclusions from the Social Sciences," American Values Institute Report, 2005; Glenn T. Stanton, Why Children Need Father-Love and Mother-Love, Parts 1 & 2, <http://www.family.org/socialissues/A000001142.cfm>; David Blakenhorn, "Defining Marriage Down...is no way to save it," *The Weekly Standard*, April 2, 2007, Volume 012, Issue 28

### HOW YOU CAN HELP

#### PLEASE CONTRIBUTE:

Activist organizations wanting to defeat the Florida Marriage Amendment and ultimately re-define marriage in Florida have raised more than \$2.5 million thus far. To mount a serious campaign to preserve marriage **WE NEED YOU!**

**Please make the most generous gift you can**, and also ask a friend or neighbor to join with you. Go online now or send a check to the address on this flyer. Thank you! We appreciate your support!

**VOLUNTEER:** Visit [Yes2Marriage.org](http://Yes2Marriage.org) to join the movement to preserve marriage in Florida! We need every volunteer possible to spread the word.

**What can you do? Join a local community group, send email and issue updates to your friends and family, join our BLOG team, host a tea or luncheon, or help us make calls!** There are so many ways to be involved! Won't you help?