

# Homosexual Marriage: The Decline of Civilization

By Doug Hamilton

The following story appeared in newspapers and television newscasts across the world last week.

## **California Supreme Court overturns gay marriage ban**

By Maura Dolan, Los Angeles Times Staff Writer May 16, 2008

SAN FRANCISCO -- -- The California Supreme Court struck down the state's ban on same-sex marriage Thursday in a broadly worded decision that would invalidate virtually any law that discriminates on the basis of sexual orientation. The 4-3 ruling declared that the state Constitution protects a fundamental "right to marry" that extends equally to same-sex couples. It tossed a highly emotional issue into the election year while opening the way for tens of thousands of gay people to wed in California, starting as early as mid-June.

Homosexual "marriage" is quite a disturbing trend that has overtaken the "civilized world" as of late. Much has changed in our society from a generation ago concerning this issue and we should be alarmed!

- One generation ago in the United States it was a shameful and illegal practice to engage in homosexual acts, inclusive to the crime of sodomy.
- One generation ago in the United States, the average person would have been dismissed as a fool for even mentioning "Homosexual Marriage" with a serious context.
- One generation ago in the United States of America, homosexuality in the military service was an automatic discharge.
- One generation ago in the United States one could not find a mainstream religious organization that would have come close to promoting "Homosexual Marriage", yet there are mainline denominations that not only promote homosexual marriage, but have homosexual priestesses carrying out the services.
- One generation ago in the United States homosexuality was classified by the medical community as a mental illness, for it defied the natural laws of biology and common sense.
- One generation ago in the United States, homosexual adoptions, homosexual civil unions and homosexual indoctrination in the public schools was completely unheard of.

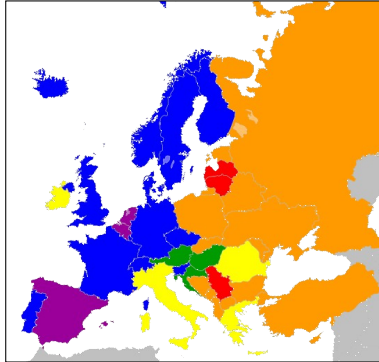
Things have radically changed for the worse in just one generation! If you are over forty years of age, then you are probably shocked at the progression of the social decline concerning morality in this nation. We have gone from a culture that followed a pattern of marriage and biology begun in the Garden of Eden to a world of confusion where we have forgotten the very core structure of society, the Biblical family.

The following chart illustrates the level of perversion among our culture. In the last generation, we have gone from a world that universally frowned on such practices to totally embracing the "gay" lifestyle. The major decline began in Europe and has rapidly spread to North America, including the US and is working its way down through Mexico and Central America.

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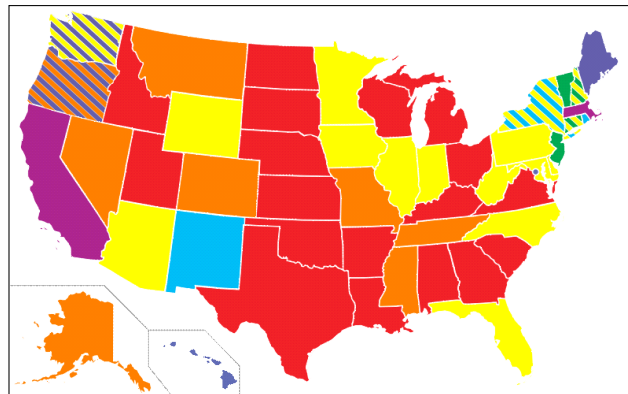
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## 2008 Homosexual Marriage Progression of Europe



- Same sex marriage recognized
- Civil unions recognized
- Unregistered cohabitation recognized
- Issue under political consideration
- Unrecognized or unknown
- Same sex marriage banned

## 2008 Homosexual Marriage Progression of US



- Same-sex marriages
- Same-sex civil unions
- Same-sex domestic partnerships
- Foreign same-sex marriages recognized
- Statute bans same-sex marriage
- Constitution bans same-sex marriage
- Constitution bans same-sex marriage and other kinds of same-sex unions

The pattern is simple; Start out by pushing legally recognized unions and once the foot is in the door, push it in the direction of a traditionally recognized religious marriage between a man and woman. The first country to recognize homosexual civil unions was Denmark in 1989 and then many other nations of Western Europe followed. By 1997, Hawaii started reciprocal homosexual benefits; then it was Vermont with civil unions in 2000; then a score of other western and northeastern states in the US. The first country to make this transition and officially legalize same-sex marriage was the Netherlands in

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2001. From there it went to Belgium, Spain, Canada and South Africa. Massachusetts with the help of a godless Supreme Court authorized the first homosexual marriage against the voters of the state in 2004 and now another court authorized it in California to begin in June 2008. Even while writing this sermon, the following event occurred.

## **Gay rights advocates score wins in NY, Calif.**

By MICHAEL GORMLEY, Associated Press Writer May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008

“Gay rights advocates had reason to celebrate on both coasts Thursday, with New York set to recognize same-sex marriages performed elsewhere and California preparing to begin issuing marriage licenses to gay couples on June 17. Hours after California issued a directive Wednesday authorizing that date, word came that New York Gov. David Paterson instructed state agencies — including those governing insurance and health care — to immediately change policies and regulations to recognize gay marriages.”

Official government-recognized same-sex marriage is a relatively new phenomenon in Western society, there is a long **history of same-sex unions** from around the world. Various types of same-sex unions have existed, ranging from informal, unsanctioned relationships to highly ritualized unions.

- In Greece, rich and powerful homosexuals sought the legal permission of poorer citizens to turn their young boys over to a perverted relationship called *Pederasty*. Viewed as a service of mentoring, these young boys would remain in these homosexual relationships until the age of 30, when they could be released to marry a woman and settle down if so desired. They often justified this vile behavior by offering sacrifices of thanks to their gods of the Greek religion.
- Rome did the same concerning the decline of their empire. According to the famous historian Edward Gibbon, of the first twelve emperors of Rome, only Claudius was exclusively involved with women. All others took either boys or men as lovers. Nero actually married two castrated eunuchs after kicking to death his pregnant wife in a fit of rage. Interestingly he made these men dress up and wear makeup like his murdered wife as a kind of coping mechanism. Others did the same, but never considered it equal to the marriage of a man and woman. They also sought religious endorsement of the practice through the Roman god-system.
- The Japanese practiced homosexual pedophilia in their samurai culture from the medieval period to the end of the 19th century. It was accepted behavior of the warriors and ultimately was received by the religious culture of the day. The older male was called the *nenja* and the youthful male was called the *wakashu*. It was never officially classed in the same category of marriage between a man and a woman.
- For centuries in the southern province of Fujian, China, older wealthy men of power would enter a homosexual relationship with younger males through elaborate ceremonies. They often would use a religion to justify it, praying to their idols for a possible relationship with young males.

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The above are just a few of many examples of civilizations dealing with sanctioned homosexual relations and they share some common elements. They all were sexually perverted people that worked themselves into a position of power and then preyed on the youth of the society, all the while seeking a religious endorsement.

## What's New?

Arnold Toynbee, a famous historian who wrote the acclaimed 12 volume series *A Study of History*, once declared, 'Of the 22 civilizations that have appeared in history, 19 of them collapsed when they reached the moral state that America is in today.' He said this prior to his death in 1975. We have gone far past the point of no return as a civilization. We are told in *Prov 14:34 Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to {any} people*. When we as a nation are compelled to turn to the sodomites for matrimonial direction, we have long passed the point of no return.

*Eccl 1:9 That which has been is that which will be, and that which has been done is that which will be done. So, there is nothing new under the sun.* There is nothing new about this cycle of immorality that we are in. When the God of the Bible is ignored and His standards are not embraced, the result has always been a societal collapse. The Babylonians, the Persians, the Greeks, the Romans, the Egyptians, Israel and many more have reached their societal collapse while ignoring the principles found in the word of God. This is because when a nation begins to embrace a standard that is not God's, the foundation of that nation begins to erode until finally the structure is weakened and collapse is inevitable.

*Matt 7:26-27 "And everyone who hears these words of Mine, and does not act upon them, will be like a foolish man, who built his house upon the sand. 27 "And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and burst against that house; and it fell, and great was its fall."* Accepted and endorsed homosexual marriage as "civilized" is an obvious symptom of a deep sickness at the core of the culture.

## What's Next?

A brief lesson from the Old Testament should confirm to the church where this is ultimately headed for our civilization. The worst is yet to come, but it will be here.

- In the year 967 BC, King Solomon initiated the great building project of the temple of God, the structure to house His throne seat. It took 7 ½ years to complete and it was a work of beauty. 1 Kings 8 describes the dedication of the temple to be a glorious occasion as the nation offered numerous sacrifices unto God, thanking and praising Him for His awesome splendor. It was a time of pride for the people of the nation for her God and Father.
- Over the next few decades, their passion cooled. There was division and toleration for evil that God did not approve of. They fell into false god worship, materialism, deceitfulness and sexual sin. For the next couple centuries the nation began a downward cycle of good and bad service to God. There would be a few of bad rulers that would lead the people further from God. They were followed by a temporary break from the immorality through a good leader or two. Ultimately

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the nation was spiraling further and further from the glory days of David and Solomon leading to the dedication of the temple.

- This continued until 687 BC, when a wicked king named Manasseh began a 55 year reign that would finally push Israel over the edge. It was during period of time that a great persecution against righteousness would take place. Manasseh promoted Baal worship, child sacrifice, idol worship, astrology, witchcraft, soothsaying, sexual immorality and whatever else was evil in the eyes of the Lord. He even authorized the executions of prophets and people of God who spoke out against it. He was so evil and eroded the religious foundation of the nation so terribly that it says of him in *2 Chr 33:9-10 Thus Manasseh misled Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to do more evil than the nations whom the LORD destroyed before the sons of Israel. 10 And the LORD spoke to Manasseh and his people, but they paid no attention.* In fact the word of God disappeared from the people until the days of Josiah.
- At the pinnacle of this nation's immoral erosion, homosexuals had finally taken over the temple of Solomon, using it as a brothel of sodomy. *II Ki 23:7 "...the {male} cult prostitutes which {were} in the house of the LORD..."* It was during this time that God announced that the cup of His wrath was full and the nation must fall. There would be a short stay of execution when righteous Josiah cleaned things up shortly thereafter, but Judah was finally destroyed and carried away in 586 BC by the nation of Babylon.

Church family, expect this crooked and perverse generation to make a turn for the worst, for as we speak, the powerfully-placed homosexual community is seeking and is gaining the religious endorsement of the "Civilized" world. They are gathering on the steps of courthouses and in so-called "congregations of the Lord", seeking to enter into "Holy Matrimony" and trying to find spiritual comfort amidst their biological, sociological and psychological confusion through the words of those that claim to represent the God.

Just like Israel was corrupted and was led to a destructive end, the Christian faith will face a destructive end if not handled properly. We are past the point of no return. Here are just a few things that the church will probably have to face in the not so far future.

- 1) The Church could be forced to recognize homosexual marriages or be stripped of their resources.

### **Interfaith group files brief in Iowa gay marriage case**

#### **July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007 AP News**

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) -- A Washington interfaith public interest law firm says legalizing same-sex marriages in Iowa would spark a barrage of lawsuits against religious organizations. The Becket Fund...said expanding legal marriage to same-sex couples also would trigger government prohibitions and penalties against religious institutions including:

- Ministers and preachers could face hate crime or hate speech conspiracy or incitement lawsuits, if after hearing a preacher's strongly worded sermon against same-sex marriage, a congregant commits a hate crime against a person or business.
- Religious groups could lose government funding, tax exempt status or access to other

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government programs for opposing same-sex marriages.

--Church groups who fire married same-sex employees to make it clear certain behaviors are not condoned may be sued under employment anti-discrimination statutes.

--Some religious employers may refuse, on religious grounds, to provide employment health and retirement benefits to a same-sex spouse, prompting discrimination lawsuits.

--Religious organizations such as colleges may be sued to force them to extend housing benefits given to traditionally married couples.

--Religious institutions offering soup kitchens, hospitals, wedding reception facilities, schools and counseling services may be the subject of discrimination lawsuits if they decline to extend services to same-sex couples.

## **Lawsuit Against Church in NJ: Coming Soon to Mass.**

Wednesday, July 11, 2007 One of the many ways "the sky is falling": LifeSite News reports that a lesbian couple in New Jersey is suing a church for refusing to let them have their "civil union" ceremony on church property. It won't be long before we see similar lawsuits in Massachusetts against churches that refuse homosexual "marriage" ceremonies on their properties.

## **Michigan homosexual lobby backs jail, lawsuits for refusal to recognize homosexual "marriage"**

American Family Association of Michigan ^ | May 21, 2008 | AFA-Michigan

Posted on Saturday, May 24, 2008 12:26:05 PM by [AFA-Michigan](#)

Columnist: Triangle Foundation's Kosofsky says business owners should be jailed, newspapers sued and "slapped publicly"...for not supporting gay marriage.

- 2) The Church could be forced to tolerate homosexuality as acceptable or be stripped of her religious obligations.

## **More British Catholic Adoption Agencies to Close Doors instead of Bowing to Sexual Orientation Regulations**

By Hilary White

NOTTINGHAM, April 23, 2008 (LifeSiteNews.com) - When the Labour government's Sexual Orientation Regulations were passed last year, the leadership of the Catholic Church in England and Wales warned that the new law would spell the end of Catholic involvement in social service, particularly adoption. Now the first of the UK's Catholic adoption agencies affected are announcing they will close their doors for good rather than betray religious principles and their guiding principle of the good of the child. Bishop Malcolm McMahon said his diocese of Nottingham would be cutting ties with their adoption agency, the Catholic Children's Society, because of the law that forces them to consider homosexual partners as equally qualified to adopt as people in natural heterosexual relationships.

- 3) The Church could be forced to be silent against the sin of homosexuality or be stripped of her personal freedoms.

## **Swedish minister jailed for "anti-gay" speech**

Stockholm, Sweden, Jul. 6, 2004 (LifesiteNews.com/CWN) - The Rev. Ake Green, the pastor of a Swedish Pentecostal church in Kalmar, Sweden, has been sentenced to one month in prison for inciting hatred against homosexuals. Green was prosecuted in

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January for "hate speech against homosexuals" for a sermon he preached last summer citing Biblical references to homosexuality.

- Note: Though the case went to the Swedish Supreme Court and the charges had to be dropped, the man had to spend his own resources and many other preachers were threatened while they were waiting for the ruling.

## Closing

You may think that I am exaggerating about the dangerous threshold that we are at, but consider the following:

- Back in 1989 when Denmark started allow same-sex unions, some Christians warned that it would be coming to America, but they were not taken seriously.
- Back in 1991 when three same-sex couples applied for wedding licenses in Hawaii, there were Christians that tried to alarm the others of the danger, but were basically dismissed.
- Back in 1999 when Vermont passed a civil union law, there were Christians that said, "No, this looks like they are trying to mirror holy matrimony", but they were dismissed.
- Now we have crossed a tipping point; it has gone from no way, to an alternative lifestyle to being accepted as normal for our civilization.

## Why did you preach this lesson?

The purpose of addressing this morning was not to point out the evils of homosexual marriage or to incite anger against homosexuals or any other group. If that is what you got from it, you missed the entire focus of the lesson. Why did I preach it?

- 1) I preached about it because I could not be silent anymore. I have lost sleep, tears and hours over this because my heart is shattered for what lies ahead for our nation.
- 2) I preached this lesson this morning to break your heart. I want you to be better prepared to receive the next lesson for understanding and healing. Next week's lesson is The Death of a Culture and the Christian's Responsibility. Perhaps if you join me for a week of suffering, you will also join me for moment of resolution.
- 3) I preached it so that our young people can be awakened to the danger that lies ahead for them and their soul. They are the generation at greatest risk of losing their way. If they do not hear it from the church, where will they? the schools? the media? their friends?

Think about what we talked about this morning and meditate upon it this week. Digest it, understand it, struggle with it and be prepared to address it in the next lesson before it addresses you in the near future.

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## Why Now?

Question: Concerning our moral compass, we cannot tell our right hand from our left (Jonah 4:11). What changed in our culture that has brought this on?

Answer: We turned our backs on God and His Holy Bible.

- The “Civilized” European world that experienced a great awakening for the word of God rejected the very teachings of the Bible. At one time the Bible being mass printed through the printing press and placed into the hands of the common people, being brought forth in their native tongues. Europe heeded the Bible and morality was strengthened.
- This Bible also changed the hearts of the people who traveled to a new world in North America. A nation was set up, its foundation was the Bible; her people were Bible-based and her laws reflected a respect for God and His holy word. They did not stand for immorality for His teachings would not allow them to do so.
- EUROPE: Two generations ago, Europe gave up on the Bible as an authority in their daily lives. They had outsmarted God and found no need for Him anymore. *1 Cor 3:20 "The Lord knows the reasonings of the wise, that they are useless."* Then one generation ago, the same continent began to shut down churches do to lack of attendance and convert the society to a secular humanism. They drove God out and the end result became a group of nations that stood for nothing concerning Biblical morality. They are the nations of “moral relativism”.
- NORTH AMERICA: We as a society have been driving out God and His holy standards of morality from our public square. A generation ago in the United States in 1963/1964, we threw the Bible and prayer out of the public schools. *Ps 14:1 The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God."* Since the nation was on



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the public record as against God, the secular-loving, God-hating people of power legalized the killing of unborn babies, no-faulted divorces, massively increased public welfare and rewarded laziness, stripped the Ten Commandments off our public walls, legalized all forms of gambling, pornography, prostitution and allowed groups like the ACLU to take over the schools, the education, the courts and the public offices. It is only natural that our God-hating nation should be cursed with the fruit of her labors.

2 Chr 7:14 and My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray, and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

- Judg 21:25 In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.

Rom 1:20-27

20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

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21 For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God, or give thanks; but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

22 Professing to be wise, they became fools,

23 and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.

24 Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, that their bodies might be dishonored among them.

25 For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

26 For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural,

27 and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.

(NAS)

Rom 1:28-32

28 And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper,

29 being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice; {they are} gossips,

30 slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents,

31 without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful;

32 and, although they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them.

(NAS)

II Ki 23:7 He also broke down the houses of the {male} cult prostitutes which {were} in the house of the LORD, where the women were weaving hangings for the Asherah.

Gen 18:20 And the LORD said, "The outcry of Sodom and Gomorrah is indeed great, and their sin is exceedingly grave.

It is a forced agenda.

Genesis 19:4 Before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, surrounded the house, both young and old, all the people from every quarter; 5 and they called to Lot and said to him, "Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us that we may have relations with them." 6 But Lot went out to them at the doorway, and shut the door behind him, 7 and said, "Please, my brothers, do not act wickedly. 8 "Now behold, I have two daughters who have not had relations with man; please let me bring them out to you, and do to them whatever you like; only do nothing to these men, inasmuch as they have come under the shelter of my roof. " 9 But they said, "Stand

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aside. " Furthermore, they said, "This one came in as an alien, and already he is acting like a judge; now we will treat you worse than them." So they pressed hard against Lot and came near to break the door.

Edward Gibbon, author of *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, has attributed the fall of the Empire to:

1. The rapid increase of divorce; the undermining of the dignity and sanctity of the home, which is the basis of human society.
  2. Higher and higher taxes and the spending of public monies for free bread and circuses for the populace.
  3. The mad craze for pleasure; sports becoming every year more exciting and more brutal.
  4. The building of gigantic armaments when the real enemy was within, the decadence of the people.
  5. The decay of religion -- faith fading into mere form, losing touch with life and becoming impotent to warn and guide the people.
- (Edward Gibbon, *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*.)

Sweden passed its hate speech statute in 2002, explicitly including "church sermons" as subject to the law's restrictions. As the Riksdag, Sweden's parliament, debated the legislation, the nation's chancellor of justice released a public note stating that a church sermon characterizing homosexual behaviors as sinful "might"

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be considered a criminal offense. That "might" must now be replaced with "will," proved by Pastor Green's conviction and jail term.

Swedish homosexual activists pledged to monitor church sermons for content in order to report any offensive preaching to the authorities. Soren Andersson, president of the Swedish Federation for Gay, Lesbian, and Transgender Rights told Christianity Today that his group would "report hate speech regardless of where it occurs." He now argues that religious liberty must not be used as a rationale for offending homosexuals.

The Swedish church newspaper Kyrkans Tidning reported that the prosecutor in this case, Kjell Yngvesson, justified the arrest and prosecution of Pastor Green on these grounds: "One may have whatever religion one wishes, but this is an attack on all fronts against homosexuals. Collecting Bible citations on this topic as he does makes this hate speech."