

THE PRESIDENT HAS SAID

5.14.96

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Gay Marriage Talking Points

---- The President has long opposed gay marriage based on his belief that the institution of marriage should be reserved for unions between one man and one woman.

---- The President strongly believes that gay and lesbian individuals should not be subject to unfair discrimination, which is why he has endorsed legislation outlawing discrimination against gays and lesbians in the workplace. But he does not believe that the federal government should promote gay marriages.

[If asked about domestic partnerships or providing federal benefits to partners in gay and lesbian partnerships---]

---- These decisions are best left to state and local governments and private institutions. But since the President does not believe that the federal government should recognize gay marriage, he does not believe it is appropriate for federal resources to be devoted to providing spousal benefits to partners in gay and lesbian relationships.

2001 11 13: 10

PHOTOCOPY
WJC HANDWRITING

GAY
MARRIAGE

To: Jack Quinn
From: George R. Stephanopoulos 16-7128
Re: Gay Marriage Talking Points

Please respond with comments ASAP.

Thank you.

REVISED
ATTACHED

Rush to George
Stephens

[If asked about domestic partnerships or providing federal benefits to partners in gay and lesbian partnerships --

-- These decisions are best left to state and local governments and private institutions. But the President ~~does not believe~~ that ~~excess~~ federal resources should be devoted to providing spousal benefits to partners in gay and lesbian relationships.

with - feels that do the
discriminating.

Since the President
does not believe
that the federal
government should
recognize gay
marriage, it also
seems to have

Gay Marriage Talking Points

-- The President ^{strong} has long opposed gay marriage based on his ~~personal~~ belief that the institution of marriage should be reserved for unions between one man and one woman. ~~This is consistent with~~

~~the President's values and the values of most Americans.~~

-- The President ~~strongly~~ believes that ~~the federal government should not discriminate against gay and lesbian individuals, which is why he has endorsed legislation outlawing discrimination against gays and lesbians in the workplace. But, he does not believe that the federal government should promote gay marriages by granting them legal recognition.~~

also

[If asked about domestic partnerships or providing federal benefits to partners in gay and lesbian partnerships --

-- These decisions are best left to state and local governments and private institutions. But ~~the President does not believe that scarce federal resources should be devoted to providing spousal benefits to partners in gay and lesbian relationships.~~

need not

note - feds don't do the discriminating.

(Query: he shouldn't let his "personal" beliefs guide policy, should he?)

should not be subject to unfair discrimination which is why he has

Since the President does not believe that the federal government should recognize gay marriage, it also seems to him

Gay Marriage Talking Points

To GS, JD
Here is a proposed
change on George's
draft.
Steve Yount

-- The President has long opposed gay marriage based on his personal belief that the institution of marriage should be reserved for unions between one man and one woman.

-- The President strongly believes that the federal government should not discriminate against gay and lesbian individuals, which is why he has endorsed legislation outlawing discrimination against gays and lesbians in the workplace. But he does not believe that the federal government should promote gay marriages by granting them legal recognition.

[If asked about domestic partnerships or providing federal benefits to partners in gay and lesbian partnerships --

-- These decisions are best left to state and local governments and private institutions. But the President does not believe that ~~scarce federal resources should be devoted to providing spousal benefits to partners in gay and lesbian relationships.~~

the federal government should affirmatively ~~provide~~ and provide spousal benefits to partners in gay and lesbian relationships.

FAX 6-2604.

To: Peter Jacoby

From: George R. Stephanopoulos (6-7128) FAX 6-6703

Re: Gay marriage talking points

POTUS approved

...strongly believe that gay and lesbian individuals should not be subject to unfair discrimination, which is why we have introduced legislation outlawing such treatment against gay and lesbians in the workplace. But at the same time, we believe that the federal government should provide no benefits...

...[I would also discuss points such as providing federal benefits to partners to gay and lesbian partnerships...]

...These decisions are best left to state and local governments and private institutions. But since the President does not believe that all federal government should recognize gay marriages, he does not believe that government should provide benefits to be devoted to providing special benefits to partners of gay and lesbian individuals.

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[If asked about domestic partnerships or providing federal benefits to partners in gay and lesbian partnerships---]

---- These decisions are best left to state and local governments and private institutions. But since the President does not believe that the federal government should recognize gay marriage, he does not believe it is appropriate for scarce federal resources to be devoted to providing spousal benefits to partners in gay and lesbian relationships.

FAMILY RESEARCH COUNCIL

Greg A. Miller
President

A Sample Dialogue

HOMOSEXUAL ACTIVISTS: "We just want the same things as you--commitment, love, etc. You say you believe in "family values," well why not encourage us to form committed relationships?"

ANSWER: You already can. But what you are asking us to do is to pretend that two men or two women are the same as a marriage, which they are not. And if you have those

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To: *Marsha Scott* *6-5558*
From: George R. Stephanopoulos (6-7128) FAX 6-6703
Re: Gay marriage talking points

POTUS approved

Gay Marriage Talking Points

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