

Kalamazoo Citizens Voting NO to Special Rights Discrimination

October 2009

Dear Friend:

This fall, the eyes of the nation will be focused on families in Kalamazoo who face the threat of the homosexual activists' agenda: the threat to our religious freedom, and the threat to the privacy rights of women and children.

In late June, the Kalamazoo City Commission passed a so-called "gay rights" ordinance which created special "protected class" status under city law based on so-called "sexual orientation" and "gender identity" – in other words, based on homosexual behavior and cross-dressing.

"Kalamazoo approves gay rights ordinance," the *Kalamazoo Gazette* headline read.

But such special "rights" for homosexual and cross-dressing activists comes with a price: the religious freedom and privacy rights of normal citizens and families who know that homosexual behavior is harmful and wrong.

In response to this threat to their community, concerned citizens in Kalamazoo mobilized to gather more than enough signatures on a petition to force this discriminatory ordinance onto the ballot this November.

I cannot in good conscience stand by while families in Kalamazoo fall under the power of this discriminatory "sexual orientation" ordinance. In communities that already have such laws, they have a proven track record of being used to discriminate against individuals and churches who *oppose* homosexual activists' political agenda.

* In Ann Arbor, a fifteen-year **veteran police detective was fired** after the chairman of the city's so-called "rights commission" accused him of violating that city's "sexual orientation" ordinance. His offense? In a public forum for police chief candidates, Detective Richard Stern "was accused of saying that one of the candidates had a gay-rights agenda," according to *Between the Lines*.

* Also in Ann Arbor, the city council – specifically citing its "sexual orientation" ordinance – **prohibited city employees from donating to the United Way** through their payroll deduction plan. Why? Because the United Way financially supported local Boy Scout troops, which appropriately refuse to allow homosexual adult males to take 13-year old boys on overnight camping trips.

* In Detroit, the homosexual **Triangle Foundation threatened to sue the city unless it cut off all funding of local Boy Scout troops**, denied the Scouts access to public parks and facilities, and prohibited city police and fire departments from sponsoring Scout activities. The Scouts' refusal to allow openly homosexual Scoutmasters, Triangle charged, "is in direct violation of the City Charter and Human Rights Ordinance...(that) expressly forbid discrimination based on sexual orientation."

* In Philadelphia, under its "sexual orientation" ordinance, the city is right now trying to **force the local Boy Scout council to abandon offices** it has occupied in a city park for nearly 80 years.

* In Cook County, Illinois, officials ruled "the county's ordinance banning employment discrimination against gays and lesbians **bars it from contracting with the Salvation Army**" to help the poor, because the Salvation Army refuses to allow homosexual activists to serve as clergy.

* Under Massachusetts' "sexual orientation" law, **Catholic Charities in Boston was forced to either process the adoption of children to homosexual couples** in violation of the church's moral opposition to homosexual adoption, or abandon its century-old adoption referral service altogether.

If those clear violations of religious liberty weren't bad enough, homosexual activists and their allies on the Kalamazoo City Commission also added the words "gender identity" to the new ordinance. That language literally refers to emotionally-disturbed men who claim to be women and who insist on wearing a dress to work and using the women's public restrooms and showers.

Openly homosexual Congressman Barney Frank, D-Mass., explained why even he considered such "gender identity" language too radical to be included in his federal "gay rights" legislation:

"There are workplace situations – communal showers, for example – when the demands of the transgender community fly in the face of conventional norms and therefore would not pass in any Congress. I've talked with transgender activists and what they want – and what we will be forced to defend – is for people with penises who identify as women to be able to shower with other women."

To stop this radical agenda – so radical that even Barney Frank resisted putting into law – please mail the largest contribution check you can today in the enclosed return envelope, and thank you in advance for your faithfulness.

If you need further information first, let me explain (1) why your support is so critical if we're to have any chance of defeating this discriminatory ordinance on the ballot in Kalamazoo, and (2) why what happens in Kalamazoo will have impact far beyond just the city limits of that one community.

In fact, homosexual activists know that the outcome of the vote in Kalamazoo will send a message *nationwide* as to whether their radical political agenda is winning or losing social approval.

To our knowledge, no other city in America will have a "gay rights" ordinance on the ballot this November, so the national spotlight on that issue will be on Kalamazoo the next three months. It's clear that homosexual activists understand the stakes, and here's proof...

Homosexual activist Jon Hoadley was executive director of the national (homosexual) Stonewall Democrats headquartered in Washington, D.C. In 2006, he ran the statewide ballot campaign in South Dakota *against* that state's Marriage Protection Amendment – and almost succeeded, winning a shocking 48 percent of the vote in that very conservative state.

But last month, Hoadley resigned his position with that national group to become campaign manager of the “gay rights” ballot campaign in Kalamazoo.

Ask yourself: why would a national-level professional homosexual activist – whose job is to push homosexual activists’ *national* political agenda through the United States *Congress* – step down from that national position to run a city-level ballot campaign in one medium-sized city in the Midwest?

First, homosexual activists understand that if they win in Kalamazoo, it will send a message nationwide that middle America *supports* their radical agenda.

But the reverse is equally true. If their discriminatory ordinance can be exposed and defeated, it will encourage Christians to stand strong in their own communities all across the country.

For example, when voters in Royal Oak defeated a so-called “gay rights” ordinance there – with 68 percent of the vote against it – a prominent liberal magazine in New York City wrote:

“The warning signs of a real crisis for the gay rights movement are there for all who care to read them,” *The Nation* reported. “Royal Oak, Michigan, the gayest suburb in the state, repealed an anti-discrimination ordinance for gays by a crushing margin of 2 to 1.”

Homosexual activists are intent on not letting that happen again, so all the *national* homosexual groups will descend on Kalamazoo. As a homosexual activist website in Indianapolis reported:

“Hoadley confirmed that other national organizations would be assisting the Kalamazoo campaign with staffing, volunteers and financial assistance... Hoadley expects to spend at least \$200,000 on the campaign and plans to raise the money from local and national donors.”

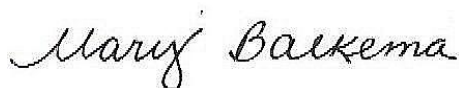
Hoadley said the Kalamazoo campaign will “serve as a laboratory for the nation” and will “be used as a model for other communities facing similar fights.”

Of course, there’s a second likely reason why Hoadley resigned his national position to run the campaign in one city. Money talks.

And in Kalamazoo, homosexual activists and their allies have lots of it, starting with hometown homosexual activist *billionaire* Jon Stryker! We can’t let the committed Christians in our community who have stood strong thus far stand alone between now and November!

Please help us help them by mailing the largest contribution you can today.

Thank you, and may God bless and strengthen you and your family,



Mary Balkema