

July 2015

Dear Friends and Supporters,

This month's newsletter addresses a landmark decision by the U.S. Supreme Court. For months, and in some respects for years, we have agonized over the decision that would be made by the U.S. Supreme Court on the issue of same sex marriage.

While the decision of the U.S. Supreme Court in June does not fully define and outline homosexual rights, it suggests the direction in which the Court will meander. What will result are numerous more lawsuits, claims for legal rights, adjustments in laws by legislatures, and public debate for years to come. Unfortunately, it appears the momentum for recognizing perverse changes in the culture based on nothing more than sexual proclivities is mounting faster than anticipated. This means we must strengthen our resolve and renew our commitment to the values that have made both America and Alabama a wonderful place to be a citizen.

This month's Educational Update explores the opinion of the U.S. Supreme Court in the case of *Obergefell v. Hodges*. This is the case that brought the same sex marriage issue squarely before the U.S. Supreme Court. It is the culmination of all of our fears and hopes at this juncture in American history.

The federal courts have been the vehicle for legalizing same sex marriage. Only the Republic of Ireland, last April, legalized same sex marriage by popular vote. No citizen of the United States has authorized this change. Regrettably, our courts have decided to dictate our morals, or lack thereof.

It is important for us to now understand the parameters of this case. It is likely there will be a special session of the Alabama Legislature in August and it is absolutely necessary the Governor include in his "call" (the subjects to be addressed) the issue of same sex marriage. Preservation of the traditional family and our religious rights is more important today, than ever. We are joining a large number of groups requesting the Governor to do this. Please let the Governor and your elected representatives know how you feel about this. If you have never done this, or if you frequently do, there has been no time as this to participate in government. You can find contact information at www.legislature.state.al.us and click on the link "Find Your Legislator."

This is absolutely a time for concentrated prayer for the future of our state and our country. Thank you for your support of our efforts. Let us know if you have any questions about any of this.

Yours very truly,

A. Eric Johnston