

UNIQUE FOR A REASON

why marriage matters



Ut digni efficiamur promissionibus Christi
THAT WE MAY BE MADE WORTHY OF THE PROMISES OF CHRIST

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Too Political?

by Richard Aleman and Crystal Crocker

A COMMON OBJECTION to the Catholic Church's support for the Marriage Protection Amendment is that She is "too political" in Her defense of traditional marriage. What any Catholic will readily observe is that the Church has a long track record of political involvement.

Pope Leo XIII wrote some of the best encyclicals on Catholic political thought including *Libertas* and *Immortale Dei*. In this last, Leo admonishes Catholics who "take no share in public matters" because they "would be as wrong as to have no concern for, or to bestow no labour upon, the common good." The perennial teaching to shape the temporal order and support the common good of all is expressed by the United States Council of Catholic Bishops that declared "the lay faithful are never to relinquish their participation in 'public life'... economic, social, legislative, administrative, and cultural."

The Catholic Church proposes and never imposes. She articulates the case for and defends the necessity of strengthening marriage by supporting the Marriage Protection Amendment which defines marriage as between one man and one woman. Her right to exercise free speech in the public square and Her extensive portfolio of political activism on behalf of the poor, civil rights, immigration, against human trafficking and abortion, as well as Her support for traditional marriage make the "too political" accusation fall flat.

Let us recall the great Leo in our prayers as we make our case in the public square. Let us remember to include marriage in our supplications in the months ahead, and let us remember the humbling words of the great St. Thomas More, the English martyr who died "the king's good servant, but God's first".

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FEATURED QUOTE:

"In truth, it was not to Caesar but to Peter that Jesus Christ entrusted the keys of the kingdom of Heaven. From this doctrine touching the relations of politics and religion originate important consequences which we cannot pass over in silence."

- POPE LEO XIII
SAPIENTIAE CHRISTIANAE



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Question & Answer

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BY JASON ADKINS

Your statement about “children being nurtured best when they are raised by a mother and a father” is extremely ignorant.

Personal experience should always be judged against objective data. Today’s best social science research strongly supports a plain truth of human existence, recognized by cultures and civilizations across history and around the globe, namely, that kids do best when they are raised by their mom and dad.

One local expert on the research related to what might be called “children, families, and learning,” Dr. Mitchell B. Pearlstein, had this to say about the conclusion that kids do best when raised by their mom and dad in a recent interview with *MinnPost*. “At root, it is what history and common sense as well as heavy-duty research says. I know of no measure—educational performance, mental health, crime, whatever it might be—where kids, on average, growing up without their two biological parents do as well as those who are living that way.”

The data available clearly indicates several important considerations about the civil or public importance of marriage:

- *The long-term economic success of society depends on the well-being of the nuclear family.*
- *Whether we’re talking about poverty rates, physical health, mental health, education attainment, or general happiness, science shows that children have the best shot at doing well when raised in an intact home by their own married mom and dad.*

“The government is involved with marriage for the basic social reason that when people have sex, sex makes babies, and babies need their parents.”

- *Additionally, children raised by their married mother and father receive numerous benefits: an increased likelihood of fostering healthy relationships, decreased likelihood of divorce, reduced incidence of becoming an unwed parent, reduced poverty, higher educational attainment, and much more.*

Government is not interested in merely regulating and supporting the private relationships of individuals, no matter how loving and committed they are. But, the government does have an interest in supporting social structures or institutions that promote and ensure the well-being of children—in this case, it is marriage, which unites men and women and the children that may be born from their sexual union.

It’s not to say that other relationships are worthless; it is to say that *they are not marriage* from a civil law standpoint.

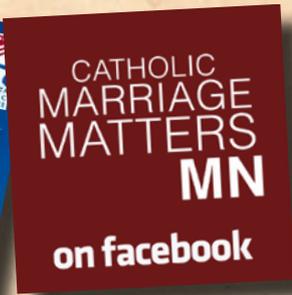


ACTIVISM ON YOUR KEYCHAIN!

CONTACT US ABOUT OUR
PRELOADED PARISH CAPTAIN
MARRIAGE AMENDMENT
FLASHDRIVES.



“IN THE END MY IMMACULATE HEART WILL TRIUMPH”



May 20th: *Reclaiming the Culture of Marriage* at CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND PAUL in Mankato with Fr. Lojacano and Teresa Collett, 6:30PM

May 21st: *Reclaiming the Culture of Marriage* at ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON in Hasting with Fr. Michael Becker and Teresa Collett, 7PM

May 23rd: Captain Training at ST. HENRY'S in Monticello, 7PM

May 30th: Captain Training at IMMACULATE HEART in Crosslake, 7PM

May 31st: Captain Training BLESSED SACRAMENT CHURCH in Hibbing, 7PM

June 6th: *Reclaiming the Culture of Marriage* at ST. PETER AND PAUL in N. St. Paul with Fr. Erickson and Teresa Collett, 7PM

To see our calendar of events, please go to <http://www.mncc.org/category/resources/events/>

CONTACT US TO SET UP PARISH PHONE BANKS

THIS MONTH:

Devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary

SALVE REGINA

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of Mercy! Our life, our sweetness, and our hope! To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve, to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley, of tears. Turn, then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us; and after this our exile show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb Jesus; O clement, O loving, O sweet virgin Mary.



Did you know?

The Battle of Lepanto was won thanks to devotion to the Holy Rosary.

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God

That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

