

Christian Action Ministry Newsletter

Involving the Christian in Community Action

May—June-, 2009 ☆ Vol. 19, Number 3

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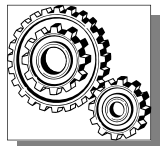
A continuation with a reference to genderless marriage

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In the Works

A Night to Honor Israel

September 10, 2009

Hilton Burlington Hotel

Are you interested in becoming involved? CAM is looking for interested and active people to act as liaisons to their church, helping to keep the Christian community informed. Contact CAM at 372-6442.

Legislature Strikes Gender From Marriage Law

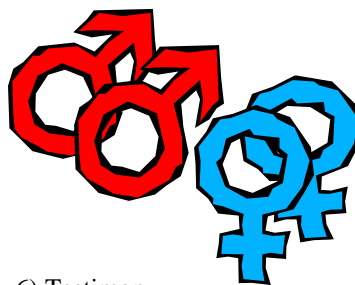
By
Dick Trudell

The Vermont Legislature has imposed genderless marriage on Vermonters. We have become the first State to legislatively pass genderless marriage. We join Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Iowa who were forced by their courts to sanction it. Vermont had previously passed civil unions upon pressure from our Supreme Court. However, the citizens of Vermont did not vote for it in any type of referendum or ballot item. Instead in a bold political move the proponents of genderless marriage carefully planned a coup and sprang it upon us. To review their deception consider the following:

- 1) The Vermont Commission on Family Recognition and Protection, formed by the Democrat leadership and widely seen as favoring genderless marriage, nevertheless recommended further study on eight critical questions before legislation was introduced.
- 2) There was no mention in Town meeting agenda or reports that this would be discussed in the legislature.
- 3) Before any announcement of the bill, the Senate Judiciary Committee testimony docket was loaded up, so that nothing more could be added.
- 4) Two days after Town Meeting Day when the legislators were on break, the Democrat Leadership announced a fast

track of the genderless marriage bill.

- 5) Democrat leadership disregarded their own Commission's recommendations by not investigating one question that had been raised by it.



- 6) Testimony in the Vermont Senate was stacked 2:1 in favor of genderless marriage, likely due to advance preparation by proponents and little notice or time to prepare by opponents.

- 7) Despite spending 168 hours debating a small portion of our criminal code (sex offender laws), the Senate Judiciary Committee only spent 12.5 hours to radically change the basis of thousands of years of marriage between one man and one woman.

- 8) Despite the impact this would have on children and also on our society as a whole, no professional sociologist of national standing was allowed to testify, or were even consulted; nor were any studies reviewed.

- 9) At a hastily called public hearing, while opponents were still reeling from the unexpectedly fast-paced action, propo-

nents were able to organize at least five busloads of people, complete with floor captains having radio communications, to pack the legislature for the hearing. To the legislature's credit, testimony was evenly heard (one for, one against) until time ran out.

- 10) No legal expert on religious liberty was allowed to testify. Although a religious exemption was added as a sop to appease the opponents, the radical restructuring of marriage will lead to lawsuits and decisions made by judges, none of which to date in Vermont have been favorable.

- 11) When an amendment to allow a referendum of the citizens to express their opinion on changing marriage was introduced, it was defeated by a 2:1 margin.

- 12) When Governor Douglas announced he would veto the bill if it was passed, he was openly criticized as interfering with the legislative process; the same process that stealthily inserted a radical bill after Town meeting, fast tracked it, and refused to let the people vote on it.

There were several votes on genderless marriage. The final vote that gave Vermont genderless marriage was the vote on over-riding Governor Douglas' veto. Listed below are the Senators and Representatives who voted to sustain

(Continued from page 1)

the veto and keep marriage as the union of one man and one woman. If your Senator or Representative does not appear here, their vote gave us genderless marriage.

Senate

Ed Flanagan D-Chittenden and Phillip Scott, R-Washington voted for the bill but were absent for the veto vote.

Randy Brock, R-Franklin
William Doyle R-Washington
Vince Illuzzi R-Essex Orleans
Hull Maynard, R-Rutland
Robert Starr, R-Essex Orleans

House of Representatives

Sonny Audette, D-So. Burlington voted against the bill, but was absent for the veto vote

Joe Acinapura, R-Brandon
Steven Adams, R-Hartland
David Ainsworth, R-Royalton
Kenneth Atkins, D-Winooski
Joseph Baker, R-West Rutland
Clem Bissonnette, D-Winooski
Carolyn Branagan, R-Georgia
Patrick Brennan, R-Colchester
Cynthia Browning, D-Arlington
Bill Canfield, R-Fair Haven
Gregory Clark, R-Vergennes
John Clerkin, R-Hartford
Howard Crawford, R-Burke
Tim Corcoran, D-Bennington
Michel Consejo, D-Sheldon

Dennis Devereux, R-Mt Holly
Eileen Dickinson, R-St. Albans
Andrew Donaghy, R-Poultney
Peter Fagan, R-Rutland City
Peg Flory, R-Pittsford
Robert Helm, R-Castleton
Mark Higley, R-Lowell
Richard Howrigan, D-Fairfield
Ronald Hubert, R-Milton
William Johnson, R-Canaan
Duncan Kilmartin, R-Newport
Thomas Koch, R-Barre Town
Joseph Krawczyk, R-Bennington
Leigh Larocque, R-Barnet
Richard Lawrence, R-Lyndon
Robert Lewis, R-Derby
Michael Marcotte, R-Coventry
Norman McAllister, R-Highgate
Patricia McDonald, R-Berlin
Francis McFaun, R-Barre Town

James McNeil, R-Rutland Town
John Morley, R-Barton
Mary Morrissey, R-Bennington
Linda Myers, R-Essex
Patricia O'Donnell, R-Vernon
Chuck Pearce, R-Richford
Janice Peaslee, R-Guildhall
Peter Perley, R-Enosburg
David Potter, D-Clarendon
Gary Reis, R-St. Johnsbury
Brian Savage, R-Swanton
Donald Turner, R-Milton
Scott Wheeler, R-Derby
Phillip Winters, R-Williamstown

Dick Trudell is President of the Christian Action Ministry and attends Community Bible Church in South Burlington.

You are the salt of the Earth—Part 2

By
Lauston Stephens

"You are the salt of the earth, but if the salt has lost its flavor, with what will it be salted? It is then good for nothing, but to be cast out and trodden under the feet of men. (Matthew 5:13 WEB)

In my last article, I only cited the first part of this verse and wrote of how Christians can work to preserve society by creating a hostile environment for ideas that would produce decay. But what if there is not enough salt, or it is not applied properly? What if decay prevails?

The Greek word, *mwrainw*, (moraino) that is translated into English as "lost its flavor" is also used in Romans 1:22, "became fools" and 1 Corinthians 1:20 "made foolish." When we oppose an idea that will eventually produce decay in society, will we seem foolish or insipid in the minds of those who embrace that idea? Will it lead to our being marginalized and, perhaps, eventually "trodden under foot?" One of the ideas mentioned in my last article was same sex marriage. Let's take that as our example.

Some consider granting same sex marriage as the "Christian" thing to do. "Whatever you desire for men to do to you, you shall also do to them," (Matthew 7:12). To some, anyone who opposes this appears foolish, confused, misguided, hateful, etc. After all, if you would like to have someone to give you a million dollars, you should be willing to give a million dollars to others. The same applies to marriage. But what if the million dollars is not mine to give? The same applies to marriage. It is entirely within Christian (and Vermont) tradition to believe that States can, and often do, exceed their proper role and authority. If you are in this camp, this article is for you.

I happened to be in Massachusetts for a few days when same sex marriage became law there. As you know, the sun came up the next day and it will come up over Vermont on September 1st and 2nd. Those that proclaimed impending judgment on Vermont already appear foolish because there is no general recognition of a judgment of God on Massachusetts or other places that have followed the same path. We should remember that if judgment were immediate, there would be no time for anyone to be trodden under foot. No time for "sifting" the Church (Luke 22:31). But what are we already seeing of those whom Jesus would commend as the salt of the earth? Are any being "trodden under foot"?

If you can, take an hour to view the film at <http://www.silencingchristians.com/> if you are not already aware of what has been taking place. Lisa Miller, the Philadelphia 11, and Canadian Pastor Stephen Boisson are among those that we should know about. There is a 14-episode series available from the American Family Association that goes into greater detail and covers other cases in government, schools and business. "Culture war" is not just a metaphor for some brothers and sisters.

"Remember the word that I said to you: 'A servant is not greater than his lord.' If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you..." (John 15:20)

"Therefore let us also, seeing we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, lay aside every weight and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." (Hebrews 12:1-2)

Lauston Stevens is a Director of the Christian Action Ministry and attends Roadside Chapel Assembly of God in Rutland.

Cultural Jihad Comes to New England

By Robert Maynard

On March 26th the Defenders Council of VT invited Dr. Charles Jacobs to Vermont to give a presentation on what he has come to believe is a serious threat to our freedom here in America. During the course of his research, Dr. Jacobs has come to the conclusion that there is a coordinated effort under way to radicalize the historically moderate Muslim community here in America.

Dr Jacobs started out by introducing the various projects that he has been involved in. One particular project was the American Anti-Slavery group where he and others worked to free modern day slaves in Africa. He later realized that this modern day slavery was related to Jihadism. That realization coupled with bumping into the problem of "Cultural Jihad" right here in New England prompted him to take up the cause of exposing the threat. He has decided to name the group "Americans for Peace and Tolerance". This name closely parallels "Citizens for Peace and Tolerance", whose board member is Sheik Ahmed Mansour, who closely collaborated with Dr. Jacobs and others to expose this threat.

Dr. Jacobs' group "The David Project" along with other activists ended up fighting a lawsuit from the Islamic Society of Boston for exposing the society's ties with terrorist groups. The law suit claimed slander and that its fund-raising was hindered by claims of ties to terrorism on the part of its leaders. Boston Globe columnist Jeff Jacoby questions this claim in a June 27, 2007 Column entitled "A Lawsuit Without Merit": "Fund-raising had indeed been robust. Documents acquired during discovery revealed that some \$4.2 million had been wired to an Islamic Society bank account in New Hampshire between April 2004 and May 2005 -- nearly all of

it from Saudi Arabia. Another \$1 million came from the Saudi-based Islamic Development Bank in late 2005.

Those ties to Saudi Arabia were a key reason for concern. Saudi Arabia's state religion is Wahhabism, a radical and belligerent form of Islam, and as the 9/11 Commission reported, Saudi money is used "to spread Wahhabi beliefs throughout the world, including in mosques and schools. . . . Some Wahhabi-funded organizations have been exploited by extremists to further their goal of violent jihad against non-Muslims."

Indeed, as the lawsuit went on and the discovery process threatened to expose more of those ties, the Islamic Society dropped its charges. Some of the questionable connections exposed by Dr. Jacobs and other activists were reported on by Jeff Jacoby again in a January 1, 2006 column entitled "Questions the Islamic Society Should Answer":

"The society's original founder, Abdurahman Alamoudi, is now serving a 23-year prison term for his role in an assassination plot. The Treasury Department identified him as a fund-raiser for Al Qaeda, and he has publicly proclaimed his support for two notorious terrorist groups, Hamas and Hezbollah.

Yusef al Qaradawi, who for several years was listed as a trustee in Islamic Society of Boston tax filings and on the Islamic Society website -- the Islamic Society now claims that was due to an "administrative oversight" -- is a radical Islamist cleric who has endorsed suicide bombings and the killing of Americans in Iraq. In 2002, he was invited to address an Islamic Society fund-raiser, but had to do so by video from Qatar -- he has been barred since 1999 from entering the United States.

Another Islamic Society trustee, Walid Fitaihi, is the author of writings that denounce Jews as "murderers of the prophets" who "brought the worst corruption to

the earth" and should be punished for their "oppression, murder, and rape of the worshipers of Allah." After Fitaihi's words were reported in the Boston press, the Islamic Society was urged to unequivocally repudiate them. It took seven months before it finally did so.

When Ahmed Mansour, an Egyptian-born Muslim scholar, examined the Islamic Society's library in 2003, he found books and videotapes promoting hostility toward the United States and insulting other religions. Among the publications on hand were several of those listed in the Freedom House report."

The Defenders Council of Vermont will stay in touch with Dr. Jacobs and his group as he researches the problem of "Cultural Jihad" here in New England. This notion is not a new one; in fact it is spelled out in detail in a Document entitled "**An Explanatory Memorandum: On the General Strategic Goal for the Group In North America**". This document was written in 1991 and was the one that the Justice Department introduced into evidence at the Holy Land Foundation trial in Dallas. The FBI captured it in a raid on a Muslim suspect's home in Virginia. This "explanatory memorandum," as it's titled, outlines the "strategic goal" for the North American operation of the extremist Muslim Brotherhood (Ikhwan). Here's the key paragraph:

"The process of settlement [of Islam in the United States] is a "Civilization-Jihadist" process with all the word means. The Ikhwan must understand that all their work in America is a kind of grand Jihad in eliminating and destroying the Western civilization from within and "sabotaging" their miserable house by their hands and the hands of the believers so that it is

eliminated and God's religion is made victorious over all religions. Without this level of understanding, we are not up to this challenge and have not prepared ourselves for Jihad yet. It is a Muslim's destiny to perform Jihad and work wherever he is and wherever he lands until the final hour comes, and there is no escape from that destiny except for those who choose to slack."

The entire 18-page platform outlines a plan for the long haul. It prescribes the Muslim Brotherhood's comprehensive plan to set down roots in civil society. It begins by both founding and taking control of American Muslim organizations, for the sake of unifying and educating the U.S. Muslim community -- this to prepare it for the establishment of a global Islamic State governed by sharia.

A film entitled "The Third Jihad" was made based on this document. We now have the film and are showing a shortened version of it to interested audiences along with a discussion and Q&A session. In addition to discussing the contents of the film, we are prepared to discuss the findings of the New York City Police Department's Intelligence Analysts Report on the threat of Homegrown terrorism in American, the radicalization process that leads one to become a terrorist, as well as how to counter this process. Contact me for a showing of this film to groups you know of that may be interested in the subject.

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What can I do?



Faith without works is dead
James 2:17

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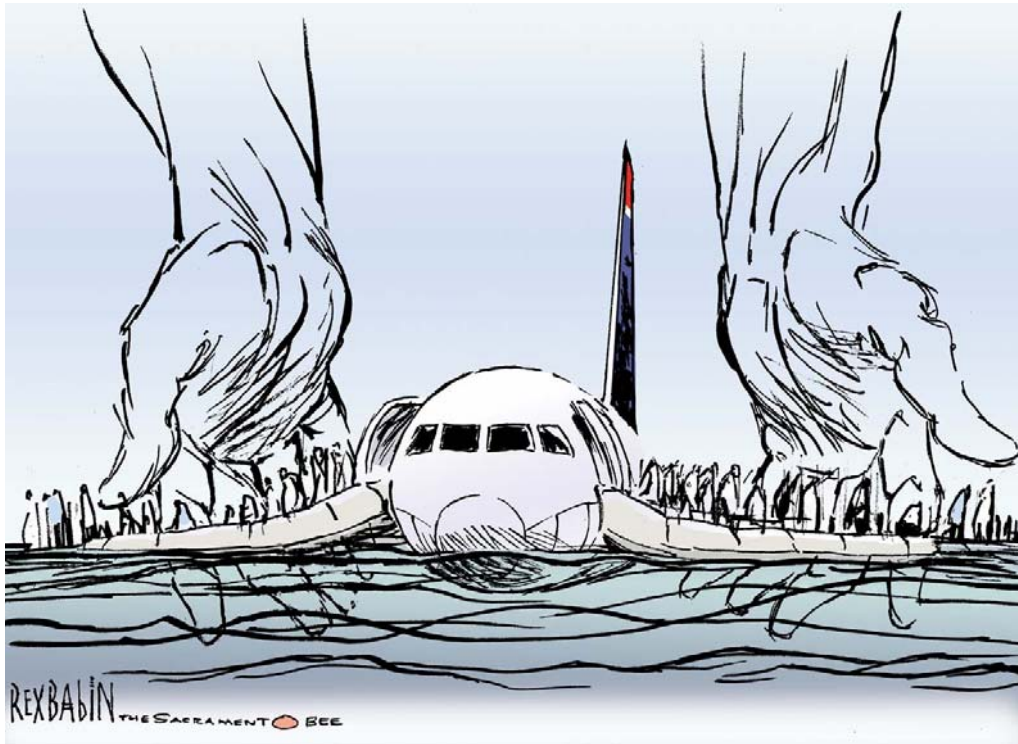
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Next Meetings

May 12, 7:00 pm
Maranatha Christian Church
Williston, Vt.
June 18, 7:00 pm
Parkinson residence
Hinesburg, Vt.

**Making A Difference
in
Vermont!**



Permission was granted to the Christian Action Ministry by the artist, Rex Babin to print this drawing depicting the miraculous safe landing of US Airways Flight 1549 in the Hudson River by Capt. Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger.



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