

Marriage Group Tackles Apple's Christian App Censorship

✖ The black

turtleneck-and-blue-jeans-wearing Apple CEO Steve Jobs has landed smack dab in the middle of Christian censorship controversy.

In response to the iPhone-maker's decision to remove a pro-life app that supports traditional marriage from its iTunes Store, the National Organization for Marriage (NOM) has launched a video called "The Iconic Steve Jobs" that paints Jobs as "Big Brother."

"Steve Jobs built his reputation as an iconic marketer in the famous 1984 commercial for the Macintosh computer in which Apple promises to take on 'Big Brother,'" says Brian Brown, president of NOM. "Jobs has made billions taking on 'Big Brother' yet the irony is that in refusing to allow citizens to support pro-life and traditional marriage positions he's become the very 'Big Brother' he has decried."

The Manhattan Declaration, an organization of Christians who support traditional marriage, life and religious liberty, created the app.

Launched in Manhattan in November 2009, the Declaration—called "A Call of Christian Conscience"—enjoys the support of prominent Christian clergy, ministers and scholars. It has

been signed by
nearly 500,000 Christians.

The app was
developed to facilitate other Christians to sign the
declaration. Apple
reviewers initially approved the app and certified that it
contains no
offensive content. Later, when gay marriage advocates mounted
an online
petition, Apple pulled the app from the iTunes Store. An Apple
spokesperson
defended the action saying that the Christian app was
“offensive to large
groups of people.”

As Brown sees
it, Apple happily allows all kinds of apps for pro-abortion
and pro-gay
marriage groups, yet when Christians develop an app to support
traditional
marriage and life, it is called offensive and is pulled from
the iTunes Store.

“What is
offensive is that Steve Jobs has targeted Christians for
discrimination and
religious bigotry, censoring our basic right to speech. Steve
Jobs has become
Big Brother and we call on Christians across America to
contact Jobs to express
their outrage at his unfair, discriminatory decision. Apple
should immediately
restore the Manhattan Declaration app and apologize to all
Christians for their
actions.”

Apple was not

immediately available for comment.