

Marriage Is a Natural Law, Not Just a Document

For the last two days, the Supreme Court has heard arguments on reconstructing God's natural order of family. Tuesday, the Court focused on **Proposition 8**, California's state Constitutional amendment defining marriage as one man and one woman. Today, the High Court heard the case for and against the **Defense of Marriage Act** (DOMA), the bipartisan law that affirmed natural marriage for federal purposes.

"Marriage is not just an emotional bond between two people or a legal document," said Mat Staver, founder and chairman of Liberty Counsel. "It is an institution ordained of God to rightly order procreation and provide the best environment for the well-being of children. The natural family is fundamental to our very existence! That's why the Supreme Court's decision on this case is so important."

Pope John Paul II described the natural law of marriage this way: "The Church's teaching on marriage and on the complementarity of the sexes reiterates a truth that is evident to right reason and recognized as such by all the major cultures of the world. Marriage is not just any relationship between human beings. It was established by the Creator with its own nature, essential properties and purpose.

"No ideology can erase from the human spirit the certainty that marriage exists solely between a man and a woman. This [natural truth] is confirmed by the divine Revelation in the biblical accounts of creation (Gen. 1:27-28, 2:24). Christ elevated the marital union of a man and a woman to the dignity of a sacrament (see Matt. 19:3-12 and Mark 10:6-9).

"There are absolutely no grounds for considering homosexual unions to be in any way or even remotely analogous to God's

plan for marriage and family. Marriage is holy, while homosexual acts go against the natural moral law.” Staver said, “A same-sex relationship simply cannot be a marriage. Marriage does not depend on a popularity poll. If marriage is redefined into something it cannot be, the marriage institution will be weakened, children and families will suffer, and **religious freedom** will be at risk.”