

Three-Way Civil Union Sparks Controversy in Brazil

As if the **gay marriage** issue wasn't a big enough assault on traditional marriage, three people in Brazil are pushing a seemingly approved form of **polygamy**.

A man and two women in Brazil just inked a civil union with one another. The three have dwelled under the same roof in Rio de Janeiro for three years. They share living expenses and even have a joint bank account.

Public notary Claudia do Nascimento Domingues approved the civil union. She told the *Telegraph*, "We are only recognizing what has always existed. We are not inventing anything. For better or worse, it doesn't matter, but what we considered a family before isn't necessarily what we would consider a family today."

Of course, **traditional marriage** advocates are protesting. One of them is attorney Regina Beatriz Tavares da Silva. She told the BBC that the civil union between three people was "totally illegal" and "completely unacceptable which goes against Brazilian values and morals."

Brazil has recognized same-sex unions legally since 2004, and allows a same-sex couple to convert civil unions into legal marriages by a state judge's approval.