

'Which Parent Don't I Need?' Tween Asks Minn. House Committee

When 11-year-old Grace Evans sat to testify before the Minnesota House Civil Law Committee, it's unlikely that anyone expected her to question the panel. Even more unlikely was their inability to answer. While their silence will likely be touted as refusal rather than inability, it's nearly inconceivable to imagine a legislator telling an 11-year-old that one of her parents is unnecessary.

That was precisely Evans' point. God made two parents of different sexes necessary for procreation for a reason: Both sexes' God-given strengths are necessary in raising healthy children and creating a strong family.

"Since every child needs a mom and a dad to be born, I don't think we can change that children need a mom and a dad," Evans told committee members. "I believe God made it that way. I know some disagree, but I want to ask you this question: Which parent do I not need, my mom or my dad?"

Evans said her mom "is my role model on how to be a girl and I love her very much. My dad is also very important to me because he protects me and helps me get the confidence to be a girl who is growing up to be a woman. He takes care of me in a way my mom cannot."

After hearing testimonies from parties both supporting and opposing **same-sex marriage**, the House Civil Law Committee passed a bill on March 12 to legalize **gay marriage**. The bill passed on a 10-7 party-line vote, with all Democrats in favor and all Republicans opposed. The Senate Judiciary Committee also passed the bill the same day.

According to Sam Rohrer, president of Pennsylvania Pastors Network, God's command in Genesis 1 requires man to "be fruitful and multiply, subdue the earth and fill it, and have dominion ... over every living thing that moves on the earth." God also created Adam and Eve, and made both sexes necessary for purposeful procreation. Eve was created to be a helper to Adam and together they were to fulfill God's commands—including the raising of children.

"Like it or not, God made both sexes necessary components for procreation. Both have unique attributes and abilities that, together, make a complete unit in which to parent, with children learning specific skills and attributes from each parent," says Rohrer.