

Same-Gender Marriage Resources

This bibliography is a collection of resources from multiple perspectives. There is also a Study Guide on the issue of Marriage that is being produced by the United Church of Christ (ucc.org) and should be available online later this month. Also on the Connecticut Conference website (ctucc.org) is a listing of short articles that are available by contacting the Office of Justice and Witness, Cecile Gilson, 860-233-5564 ext. 120, cecileg@ctucc.org.

Print Resources

Ellison, Marvin M. Same-Sex Marriage? A Christian Ethical Analysis. Cleveland: The Pilgrim Press: 2004.

Marvin M. Ellison is Willard S. Bass Professor of Christian Ethics at Bangor Theological Seminary. In dialogue with both legal scholars and theologians, Ellison examines the strengths and weaknesses of how marriage traditionalists, advocates of same-gender marriage, and lesbian/bisexual/gay/transgender critics of marriage analyze the issues and frame their arguments.

Gaede, Beth Ann. Congregations Talking about Homosexuality: Dialogue on a Difficult Issue. Bethesda, MD: Alban Institute: 1999.

This brief book is an excellent and practical resource for congregations, groups or individuals who are considering the systematic exploration of homosexuality (or any other difficult issue) within any larger group. The contributors blend useful guidelines for leading such discussions with actual case studies to provide down-to-earth advice and wisdom.

Baird, Robert M., Rosenbaum, Stuart E. Same-Sex Marriage: The Moral and Legal Debate. Amherst, NY: Prometheus Books: 1997.

Same Sex Marriage offers a balanced group of essays by those involved in the struggle as well as social commentators, scholars and other who have addressed what could be one of the most significant watershed debates in recent history.

Stott, John. Same-Sex Partnerships? A Christian Perspective. Fleming H. Revell Co. 1998. Stott, rector emeritus of All Souls Church in London and a renowned New Testament scholar, calls us to face the issue with compassion, wisdom and biblical integrity.

Olyan, Saul M. and Nussbaum, Martha C., Editors. Sexual Orientation and Human Rights in American Religious Discourse. Oxford University Press, 1998.

This volume is intended to promote academic and public understanding of the different positions that exist on the issues of sexual orientation and civil rights protections for gays and lesbians within the major American religious traditions. Writers from the Jewish, Roman Catholic, mainline Protestant, and African-American churches explore the history and tradition of their communities on same-sex orientation, discuss the moral stance they advocate, and consider the legal and public policy implications of that stance.

Websites

http://www.religioustolerance.org/hom_marr.htm This page gives an overview of the current legal situation of Same-Gender Marriage., and a brief history plus links to pages that offer more information. It lists multiple perspective sites as well.

<http://www.pflag.org/> Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG) is a national non-profit organization. PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons, their families and friends through: support, to

cope with an adverse society; education, to enlighten an ill-informed public; and advocacy, to end discrimination and to secure equal civil rights.

<http://www.nglftf.org/issues/pubs.cfm?issueID=10> National Gay and Lesbian Task Force listing of resources supporting Same-Gender Marriage.

Human Rights Campaign <http://www.hrc.org> This site is working for gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and transgender rights and it has articles about Same-Gender marriage.

<http://www.uccoalition.org> The United Church of Christ Coalition for LGBT Concerns has issued a statement on Same-Gender Marriage that is available on their site.

<http://www.lmfct.org> Love Makes A Family (LMF) is a statewide coalition of organizations and individuals whose mission is to expand Connecticut's marriage laws to include same-sex couples. We carry out our mission through public education, community organizing, and legislative advocacy.

Other Resources

The Consultants to Congregations are trained mediators as well as discussion facilitators and would be available to congregations to assist them in developing and/or facilitating conversations around the issue of gay marriages or just a general conversation about how we can have difficult conversations within the context of church. Please contact the Rev. Kathy Peters Associate Conference Minister for Local Church Ministries (kathyp@ctuucc.org or Toll free 1-866-367-2822 ext 121) for more information.