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Federal judge upholds gay-rights ordinances

By SHELDON S. SHAFER
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A federal judge has upheld the constitutionality of the Louisville and Jefferson County ordinances that prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation.

Yesterday's ruling by U.S. District Judge Charles Simpson III clears the way for both ordinances to be enforced.

City attorneys said they believe it is the first time in the country that a federal court has upheld a gay-rights law that was challenged on the basis of a First Amendment religious objection.

Dr. J. Barrett Hyman, a Louisville gynecologist who challenged both ordinances, said he will appeal the ruling to the U.S. Supreme Court, if necessary. "The Bible clearly teaches us that this behavior is immoral, and it should not be legalized and glamorized," Hyman said.

However, Alderwoman Tina Ward-Pugh, who led the push for the Louisville ordinance, said, "This is a victory not just for the gay community but for the entire community."

"This is an affirmation by the le-

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