

Colonel Ron Ray

From: "TVC Press Office" <owner-the_media_list@lyris.our-newsletter.com>
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**For Immediate Release***May 25th, 2004*

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"GAY MARRIAGE IS NOT A CIVIL RIGHT"
African-American Leaders Launch Effort to
Combat Homosexual Agenda

WASHINGTON - One week after holding a press conference in Washington, DC on the same day the state of Massachusetts began marrying homosexuals, a group of nationally known African-American leaders today announced they are launching a nationwide legislative effort to combat homosexual marriage and civil unions.

These 50-60 leaders, including bishops and pastors of several major churches around the country, have expressed their opposition to homosexual marriage and civil unions and have voiced their criticisms of homosexual activists who claim the right to "marry" as a civil right. Last week, the group called on the Congressional Black Caucus, who receives much of their support from the faith-based community that opposes civil unions, to offer legislation that will protect marriage between one man and one woman.

These leaders will meet in a number of cities around the country to develop their grassroots plans to support a Constitutional Amendment and rally support among the African American community. Meetings will be held in Memphis, Atlanta, Los Angeles, New York, New Orleans and others.

Bishop Paul Morton, Pastor of the 20,000 member Greater St. Stephen Full Gospel Baptist Church in New Orleans, LA, is actively involved in developing the grassroots activities of the group.

"Marriage is a legal and moral institution that is deeply rooted in the fabric of our community," said Bishop Morton. "It is the joining together of two families represented by a groom/man and bride/woman to create a new family as an open statement to family, community and children of the next generation. This is our position...because it's GOD'S position."

"Marriage is a union created and recognized by God. Homosexuality is an abomination as far as God is concerned. Marriage is a partnership, a contract if you would, between one man, one woman and God. Any deviation from this design is unbiblical, unnatural and is not accepted by God. If my Father God doesn't approve it neither do I," says Dr. Frederick K.C. Price, Pastor and Founder of Crenshaw Christian Center, Los Angeles, CA and Founding President of Fellowship of Inner-City Word of Faith Ministries International.

This effort is being supported and organized in part, by founders of Traditional Values Coalition - Rev. Lou Sheldon and Andrea Lafferty.

For more information or to schedule an interview, call Diana Banister at (703)739-5920.

This article can be viewed at:

<http://www.traditionalvalues.org/modules.php?name=News&file=article&sid=1649>

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Traditional Values Coalition is an inter-denominational public policy organization speaking on behalf of over 43,000 churches.

For more information or to arrange an interview, please call Amy Skeen at (202) 547-8570.

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