



HJR-6: Let's Get Real: It's happening here!

HJR-6 is a proposed amendment to Indiana's Constitution. It would severely limit rights for people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT). HJR-6 states the following:

“Only a marriage between one (1) man and (1) woman shall be valid or recognized as a marriage in Indiana. A legal status identical or substantially similar to that of marriage for unmarried individuals shall not be valid or recognized.”

Many Misconceptions Surround HJR-6:

Perception

HJR-6 is only about gay marriage.

Reality

Hjr-6 is about much more than marriage. It would:

- Represent the first time the Indiana Constitution's very Bill of Rights would **TAKE AWAY** rights.
- Wipe out the ability of future lawmakers to **recognize civil unions** or anything remotely resembling marriage for LGBT couples. It could make legal agreements couples may have concerning what happens when one party dies, how their joint property is treated, and hospital visitation rights **unenforceable**.
- **Endanger other legal protections** for unmarried families, both gay and straight. Private and public employers are greatly concerned that **domestic partnership benefits may be invalidated** because they are “substantially similar” to marriage.

Perception

Let Hoosiers vote on gay marriage if the tide really is changing in favor of LGBT equality.

Reality

HJR-6 is about much more than just defining marriage. It's vague and takes away a significant number of rights.

Perception

Lawmakers have their minds clearly made up. Contacting them won't make any difference. Why try?

Reality

We can't let the voices of intolerance be the only voices they hear. We elect lawmakers to represent the will of their constituents. We must let them know what we, our families, and our neighbors and our friends desire.

Perception

The courts are going to declare all such amendments unconstitutional anyway.

Reality

That may be many years away, and things could go the other way. And there's no guarantee that a favorable decision elsewhere would undo the damage done in Indiana should this measure pass. **We don't have time to waste!**

Perception

I don't even believe in marriage. I'm never going to get married. This has nothing to do with me.

Reality

Something that takes away rights is bigger than any of us. This is about more than marriage- this is about equality!

Perception

Someone else is fighting this battle better than I ever could.

Reality

YOUR help is needed – this fight is bigger than any person or group. We need to enlighten folks about HJR-6, and then ask them a simple question:

“If there is a vote to amend Indiana’s constitution to take away the rights of LGBT people, will you vote against it?”

To learn more, please contact us at

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www.indianaequality.org