
Why Same-sex Marriages Should not Be Allowed in the Philippines

Arguments Against the Legalization of Same-Sex Marriage in the Philippines

The Philippines is principally a Christian country, particularly a Roman Catholic nation. Although there is a separation of the church and the state, the lawmakers of the Philippines consider morals derived from the Bible in legislating laws. Homosexuality is a rising trend in the Philippines, with 1 in 16 men being gay, according to an article by Atif Munawar (2015). With this rise in homosexuality, the question "Should same-sex marriage be legalized?" becomes more relevant, if we consider the fact that it is against Filipino culture, morals and tradition. Same-sex marriage should not be legalized in the Philippines.

If the Philippine government will legalize same-sex marriage, it would violate the religious freedom and the long-held morals of the majority. Homosexuality is considered a sin according to the Holy Bible as said in Leviticus 18:22 which says "Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination". This would mean that gay marriage is an abomination in the eyes of the Lord. It goes against His intended design for us, for a man and a woman to be united in holy matrimony. This is according to Mark 10: 6-9 which says "But at the beginning of creation God made them male and female. For this reason, a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife and the two will become one flesh so they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together, let no one separate". What God's will is, let no one go against.

Homosexual couples are same-sex, therefore if a gay or lesbian couple would decide to have a child, they could opt for in vitro fertilization or hire a "baby-maker". This would render their children lacking a mother or a father as the parents would be either both male or female. This is harmful for a growing child because naturally and biologically, children long for both a father and mother for their developmental years. A study has been conducted which showed that when a daughter lacks a father, she would more likely be pregnant at a younger age. This is according to the article "Does Father Absence Place Daughters at Special Risk for Early Sexual Activity and Teenage Pregnancy?" by Bruce J Ellis. A 1999 research by David Popenoe has also been conducted which showed that "a father's pheromones influence the biological development of his daughter, that a strong marriage provides a model for girls of what to look for in a man, and gives them the confidence to resist the sexual entreaties of their boyfriends". A boy raised without a father will also tend to be more likely to be effeminate because he has no model for

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masculinity. For those who lack mothers, they are deprived of the love and care only a mother could give. Those raised by heterosexual parents can attest to this. A mother provides a sense of emotional support much more than fathers do. Due to these reasons, it is imperative for a child to grow up with both a mother and a father, which a homosexual union cannot give.

Marriage has also been seen as a religious and traditional ceremony in which a man and a woman legally bind themselves to each other for the purpose of procreation, to raise a family together. Article 149 of the Family Code of the Philippines defines the family as those: (1) Between husband and wife; (2) Between parents and children. Even the law is clear on what a family should constitute. It takes a man and a woman to produce an offspring, not a man and a man nor a woman and a woman because that would be biologically impossible to do. Marriage has always been between a man and a woman because they can reproduce. By allowing same-sex marriage, two individuals who are unable to reproduce because of obvious biological reasons are put together. If that is legalized, the view that marriage is for procreation will be shifted because marriage would then be seen as a means for emotional gratification rather than to produce offspring. The concept of procreation and marriage need not be intertwined anymore because the main goal would not be to reproduce. Same-sex couples should not have the privilege to marry because they cannot breed, which is the main goal of marriage. The famous English philosopher Bertrand Russel once said that "it is through children alone that sexual relations become important to society, and worthy to be taken cognizance of by a legal institution". Heterosexual married couples can have sex and reproduce; this is essential to the survival of the human race.

Same-sex marriage devalues traditional marriage and family. Why should the law, our morals, tradition and nature be altered to fit something that is not normal? The family is the basic unit of society. If man were to change the true essence of marriage and family, what becomes of society? Philippine society has stayed intact because we have never legalized same-sex marriage. Steve Largent, a former US congressman, once said, "No culture that has ever embraced homosexuality has survived." If Philippine society were to prosper and survive, let same-sex marriage remain outlawed.

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