



CATHOLIC ACTION LEAGUE of Massachusetts
35 MONTCLAIR AVENUE • BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02131

TEL. (617) 524-6309
FAX (617) 524-0461

NEWS RELEASE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2003

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: C. J. DOYLE

(617) 524-6309

SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT HEARS ARGUMENTS IN SAME-SEX MARRIAGE CASE

The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court yesterday heard arguments in *Goodridge v. Dept. of Public Health*, the lawsuit filed by seven homosexual couples to procure marriage licenses in the Commonwealth. In his brief before the court, Massachusetts Attorney General Thomas F. Reilly cited the unanimous decision by the SJC in *Connors v. City of Boston*, the Catholic Action League's landmark case which overturned municipal domestic partner programs in Massachusetts. In that decision, Chief Justice Margaret Marshall, then an Associate Justice, wrote: "Adjustments in the legislation to reflect these new social and economic realities must come from the Legislature..."

Catholic Action League Executive Director C. J. Doyle made the following comment: "As Chief Justice Marshall clearly indicated in *Connors v. City of Boston*, the making of civil law pertaining to marriage and the family is the prerogative of the people and their elected representatives in the legislature. For the Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court to impose same-gender marriage on the Commonwealth would constitute an outrageous abuse of office, usurping the right of the people to govern themselves, and making a mockery of the separation of powers. Once again, homosexual activists are attempting to achieve through the courts what they could not possibly obtain through the ballot box."

In its amicus curiae brief before the court, the Catholic Action League sought to highlight the importance of the underlying distinction between natural marital relations and what Massachusetts law describes as unnatural sexual behavior as a material basis for distinguishing between married couples and same-sex couple's under the Commonwealth's marriage law, asking "How can conduct subject to criminal penalties throughout history demonstrate the pedigree of a fundamental right?"



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NEWS RELEASE

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2003

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: C. J. DOYLE

(617) 524-6309

CATHOLIC ACTION LEAGUE CASTIGATES O'MALLEY CAMPAIGN FOR CALLING PRO-LIFE CATHOLICS 'NAZIS'

The Catholic Action League of Massachusetts today castigated the campaign of At-Large Boston City Council candidate Matt O'Malley for allowing a campaign aide to publicly insult pro-life Catholics by calling them "neo-Nazis" and "Klan members."

On Friday evening, September 19th, eleven members of the Catholic Action League and the Knights of Columbus picketed the Roslindale council of the Knights of Columbus, where O'Malley was holding a fundraiser. Knights of Columbus policy explicitly prohibits the rental of K of C facilities to candidates who oppose Catholic teaching. O'Malley is a supporter of legal abortion and same-sex marriage. The fundraiser went forward despite a demand from the State Council of the K of C that the event not be held in a Knights of Columbus hall.

The legal and peaceful demonstration passed without incident until the very end, when an O'Malley campaign aide, who was greeting those attending the event, called on an O'Malley supporter who was speaking to two of the pro-life Catholic demonstrators not to talk with "the neo-Nazis" and "the Klan members." A demand for an apology from the O'Malley campaign went unheeded.

The Catholic Action League called the remarks "vicious and defamatory hate-speech" and "a revealing display of the visceral hostility to Catholic values of a campaign which fraudulently markets itself as Catholic-friendly." O'Malley's web site and campaign literature contain various references to his Catholic background, including his stint as a CCD teacher. His web log mentions his attendance at Mass on at least three occasions.

Catholic Action League Executive Director C. J. Doyle stated: "It's bad enough that Matt O'Malley cynically touts his Catholic heritage to procure votes from elderly Irish-Americans, while omitting any mention of his dissent from Church teaching. Now he allows a member of his campaign to abuse pro-life Catholics with the language of hate. The O'Malley campaign seems to be compounding hypocrisy with bigotry. O'Malley needs to apologize for this slander and muster the integrity to candidly tell Catholics where he stands on moral issues."

Because of information provided by the Catholic Action League, a planned fundraiser at the same Knights of Columbus hall for City Councillor Robert Consalvo, also a supporter of abortion, was recently cancelled.



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NEWS RELEASE

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2003

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: C. J. DOYLE

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CATHOLIC ACTION LEAGUE MOURNS THE DEATH OF CONGRESSWOMAN LOUISE DAY HICKS

The Catholic Action League of Massachusetts today is mourning the death of former Congresswoman and Boston City Council President Louise Day Hicks, who died yesterday at the age of 87. Mrs. Hicks succeeded U.S. House Speaker John W. McCormack as a member of Congress from the 9th Massachusetts district, serving from 1971 to 1973. She also served six years on the Boston City Council, and seven years on the Boston School Committee, including one term as Chairman.

The League called Mrs. Hicks "a political leader of extraordinary courage and integrity, who possessed the rare quality of loyalty to the people who elected her."

Catholic Action League Executive Director C. J. Doyle stated: "Instead of pandering to fashionable opinion or ingratiating herself with media elites, Louise Day Hicks always sought to reflect the values, represent the interests, and protect the rights of her community and her constituents. As a political figure, she was a Catholic ideal: someone who strove to serve the poor, rather than the rich, the weak, rather than the powerful, and the ordinary citizen, rather than the monied establishment and the special interests."

"Mrs. Hicks fought against the blockbusting of Catholic communities, by which race was used as a blunt instrument to destroy the social cohesion and the political power of Catholics in urban America. She always asserted the democratic right of the people of Boston to control their own educational system, and always defended the customary right of the parents of Boston to send their children to neighborhood schools. In this, she was vindicated, as the social engineering experiment of forced busing is now universally recognized as a failure, except by those on the political left, for whom it effected the ethnic cleansing of Boston's Catholic neighborhoods. Derided and despised by plutocrats and publishers, the populist Mrs. Hicks was demonized for speaking out against the conspiracy of silence regarding the victimization of working class Catholics by street crime, which was the real cause of racial tension in Boston."

"A faithful Catholic, who was piously devoted to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, Mrs. Hicks was committed to the sanctity and dignity of innocent human life. It is to her enduring credit, and a sign of her unfailing fidelity to her religion, heritage, and community, that on the morning her death was announced, she was the subject of yet another hostile editorial by *The Boston Globe*."



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NEWS RELEASE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2003

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: C. J. DOYLE

(617) 524-6309

CATHOLIC ACTION LEAGUE OPPOSES SAME-SEX MARRIAGES AND CIVIL UNIONS

The Catholic Action League of Massachusetts today is expressing its opposition to proposals to legalize same-sex marriage and civil unions in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. A public hearing on these proposed measures is being held this morning before the Legislature's Joint Committee on the Judiciary. The League is characterizing same gender marriage as "a revolutionary, foundational, civilizational change in the organization of our society."

In testimony submitted to the committee, Catholic Action League Executive Director C. J. Doyle stated: "The heretofore unheard of demand that two persons of the same gender could attempt marriage has nothing to do with ending discrimination, and everything to do with pandering to an influential and well financed special interest, whose sexual behavior many citizens still understand to be immoral and unnatural, and which was, until recently, illegal. This unwarranted appeasement, which is so contrary to the common good, would deform society's most vital institution, undermine the traditional family, deprive children of a natural upbringing, and impose a new entitlement upon the taxpayers."

"If marriage is torn from its traditional moorings, and is mutated from an objective reality into something contingent on the subjective sexual preferences of its participants, then the moral, legal, and intellectual barriers to bigamy, polygamy, incest, and other forms of aberrant behavior will be dissolved."

"Proposals to grant legal recognition and tax funded benefits to so-called civil unions, are, far from being a compromise, merely an incrementalist tactic and a de facto recognition of same-sex marriage, embraced by those who desire the result, but wish to avoid the political consequences."

The League also expressed its support for the Women's Right To Know bill, which would impart to women in crises objective information about the risks and the long term adverse effects of abortion.



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NEWS RELEASE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2003

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: C. J. DOYLE

(617) 524-6309

CATHOLIC ACTION LEAGUE CONDEMNS SJC DECISION ON SAME-SEX MARRIAGE

The Catholic Action League of Massachusetts today condemned the 4 to 3 decision issued this morning by the Supreme Judicial Court of the Commonwealth, in *Goodridge vs. Department of Public Health*, inventing a right to same-sex marriage, and giving the Legislature 180 days to implement their ruling. The court also deemed that opposition to same-sex marriage was “rooted in persistent prejudices.” The League called the decision, “social revolution by judicial fiat” and described the reference to opponents of homosexual marriage as “a bigoted and gratuitous insult to all religious believers, but most especially to Roman Catholics.”

Catholic Action League Executive Director C. J. Doyle stated: “Today four judges from the oldest court in the United States asserted that a constitution written by John Adams contains a right to same-gender marriage, implicitly finding that homosexual sodomy is a conjugal act. In doing so, they ignored the text and misrepresented the history of the Massachusetts Constitution, and fabricated new law to contrive the result which they desired.”

“By legislating from the bench, these four justices abused their office, violated their oath, made a mockery of the separation of powers, and usurped the right of the people and their elected representatives to govern. Instead of interpreting the constitution, they amended the constitution. Instead of upholding the law, they imposed their own ideological preferences upon the rest of society. Instead of administering justice, they enacted the homosexual agenda.”

“We cannot credibly claim to live in a democracy when our most fundamental laws can be overturned, and our most vital institutions can be deconstructed by four unelected political patronage appointees, cloaked with the sanctity of lifetime tenure. As a constitutional amendment to protect traditional marriage could not be placed on the Bay State ballot before November of 2006, there is one thing that the House, Senate, and Executive Council could accomplish in the 180 days given by the Supreme Judicial Court: the four justices could be addressed, impeached, and convicted for abuse of office, and Governor Romney and the Executive Council could appoint new justices who will respect their oath of office. In any event, the Legislature should refuse to collaborate in this constitutional coup d’etat.”

The Catholic Action League of Massachusetts was one of the organizations which filed an amicus curiae brief in *Goodridge vs. Department of Public Health*.