

SAME-SEX MARRIAGE

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Topic Sentences with  
Transitional Elements

Parenthetical Notes

Transitions

Sentence Structures

"Freedom can take a long time to come but it can't be stopped forever. Segregationists were able to delay social and political freedom for blacks but they couldn't stop the inevitable march to freedom. Religious bigots won't be able to stop the march for gay rights, either" (Bannon).

Same-sex marriage seems to be on the front line for controversial issues in America. <sup>4</sup> Whether it concerns legal issues or ethical debates, people have <sup>compound complex</sup> varying opinions about this topic, and they are genuinely passionate about their views. <sup>5</sup> Even though many believe same-sex marriage is wrong and sinful, all humans should be treated equally under the law and accepted by everybody. <sup>6</sup>

This controversial topic can sometimes be confusing; however, the idea of homosexuality is not too hard to comprehend. <sup>7</sup> Homosexuality is a form of sexual orientation and is a sexual attraction to a person of the same-sex. <sup>space</sup> There are many ideologies on how and why people are homosexual. One theory, possibly explaining why homosexuals are attracted to the same gender, is the childhood trauma theory. <sup>10</sup> This theory states homosexuality is the result of an emotional shock in the person's childhood. <sup>11</sup>

Also, "many scientists argue that a combination of biological factors and events at critical points in childhood cause a person to become homosexual

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or bisexual." <sup>Compound</sup> The argument that many homosexuals have to face is that they want to be able to marry or have the ability to form a union, and they argue this to get the same rights as a heterosexual couple. <sup>13</sup> However, many people strongly disagree with this idea. <sup>14</sup> The benefits from marriage that homosexuals battle to acquire include: retirement benefits, breaks in medical taxes, and the ability to adopt and raise children <sup>15</sup> (~~2-5~~ Homosexuality). These opposing viewpoints about homosexuals and same-sex marriages continue to raise disputes across the country in politics and <sup>at</sup> <sup>16</sup> the dinner table.

<sup>Basic</sup>  
<sup>17</sup> There have been multiple legal cases dealing with same-sex marriages for many years. <sup>18</sup> At one time in the U.S., homosexuality was illegal.

<sup>19</sup> Additionally, discrimination was both legal and socially accepted back then (~~6~~ Homosexuality). Same-sex unions and marriages are not dealt with directly in the constitution. <sup>20</sup> So many states have to perform their own cases to

legalize it or not (~~7~~ Rich). "Homosexual marriages are not legally recognized in the United States." <sup>22</sup> <sup>5</sup> Although, some states do allow same sex-marriages or unions. <sup>23</sup> The few states that allow civil unions or homosexual marriages are:

Vermont, California, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Vermont, Maine, and New Hampshire (~~8-9~~ Homosexuality). <sup>24</sup> Proposition 8 was voted on in California and passed, banning same-sex marriage. <sup>26</sup> <sup>complex</sup> Since the proposition was passed in



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2008, gay marriage advocates have taken it all the way to the Supreme Court to declare the ban unconstitutional (Marcus). The ruling has not yet been determined, and these cases will probably continue for many years.

Considering this topic has been in the public eye for so long, many political leaders, general public, and Hollywood stars have shared their stance on same-sex marriages. Bill Clinton was the first president to openly support homosexual orientation, and he addressed his opinion to the public.

(Homosexuality). Vermont was the first state to grant marriage rights to

same-sex partners in 1999 (Rich). Also, Barack Obama is a supporter of

same-sex unions or marriages (Homosexuality). By 2006, 51% of post high school educated Americans consider homosexuality to be innate. In addition,

53% of adults below the age of 30 support same-sex marriages (Driscoll).

In the year of 1988, the majority of people who believed in same-sex marriage were

the highly educated, urban residents, and those with less conservative or no

religious affiliations. While in 2010, acceptance of homosexual marriages

was much more diverse. The opponents of same-sex marriages became more

confined to certain subgroups: older Americans, southerners, African

Americans, evangelical Protestants, and Republicans (Baunach). As the years

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have passed, homosexuality and same-sex marriages in general have been acknowledged more, and society has begun to recognize these relationships.

One opposition against homosexual marriages is religion. Numerous religions believe that if people approved of these relationships, it would weaken the values of heterosexual marriage and traditional families (Homosexuality). Also, they don't agree with it due to many verses in the Bible. One such Bible verse is in Leviticus 18:22, "Do not practice homosexuality, having sex with another man as with a woman. It is a detestable sin" (Fairchild). Never-the-less, there are many ways to look at the Bible; "The Bible does not oppose homosexuality because it does not speak of true or innate homosexuality but rather of homosexual acts by people who are not homosexuals" (Scruggs). Being homosexual is not an aspect of life a person chooses (President). With that said, this proves gender attraction should not clash with a person's religious views.

Besides the religious aspect of it, some people think they should not be able to raise a family. These opponents of same-sex marriage think kids raised in same-sex marriage households wouldn't have the optimum environment for a family. They think a child needs both a father and a mother. Girls who grow up without their father tend to be at a higher risk

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for early sexual activity and teenage pregnancy. <sup>S0</sup> In contrast, research done in 2010 discovered that kids of gay fathers were just as well-adjusted as those adopted by heterosexual parents. <sup>S1</sup> Even more, a study released in 2010 noticed children of lesbian parents had better social and academic competence and fewer social problems than children with heterosexual parents. <sup>S2</sup> ~~Complex~~ <sup>Complex</sup> These homosexual partners are needed, too; there are

<sup>S3</sup> approximately 100,000 children waiting to be adopted in the United States <sup>20-25</sup> (ProCon.org). After reviewing the evidence, it's obvious these couples are more than capable of providing a safe and secure environment for these <sup>S4</sup> children.

<sup>S5</sup> In conclusion, with Proposition 8 being proposed to the Supreme Court right now, gay marriage will more than likely be passed and protected under the Constitution. <sup>S6</sup> Since the court has past ruled on the side of equality, it's only a matter of time before gays can marry. With the backing of many powerful people and the majority of young America, same-sex marriages will become just like any other right granted to U.S. citizens. <sup>S7</sup> With all the statistics and views from different people, hopefully everybody can see homosexuals deserve to be treated like fellow citizens and should be <sup>S8</sup> guaranteed the same rights as others.



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