

One Man, Woman

By Nancy Christopher

Tony Perkins does not dispute the fact that traditional marriage has been a winner in recent time both in the courts and the voting booth, thanks to political pressure and Americans in support of preserving the sanctity of marriage being engaged and doing their part.

And as president of the Washington, D.C.-based Family Research Council (FRC), Perkins is intent on making sure the notion of one man/one woman marriage doesn't lose momentum in the face of tremendous pressure from forces on the other side pushing for the legalization of same-sex marriage across America.

Indeed there have been many victories for traditional marriage – voters in 16 states have passed marriage protection amendments since the state of Massachusetts legalized same-sex marriage two years ago. And in light of these victories, Perkins does have some concerns that complacency could set in while there is a lot of work still needing to be done.

“There is still a significant threat to the institution of marriage as there are a number of judges that given the right circumstances and the right timing would decide in (favor of same-sex unions),” Perkins tells Sky Angel.

Which is part of the reason why Family Research Council is sponsoring Liberty Sunday this month, a special event that will urge Christians to pray, speak truth boldly and wisely, vote their convictions and uphold marriage wherever it is challenged. The event is being held in response to a string of incidents involving government intolerance against Christians who live out their faith in the public square, according to the FRC.

The FRC has made national headlines in the recent past for its three separate

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Justice Sunday rallies that focused on the nation's judiciary. Those events were also carried on Sky Angel.

Liberty Sunday will be simulcasted from Tremont Temple Baptist Church in Boston,



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Massachusetts, “center stage of the attack on the traditional family,” notes the FRC, and will highlight testimony from those who have struggled to preserve marriage in the first state in our nation's history to legalize civil unions of gay partners. At press time, speakers were not yet confirmed. The event will air live on Sky Angel's special events channel, Angel Two/Channel 9702, Sunday, October 15, 7 to 8:30 p.m. ET/4 p.m. PT, and will re-air from 9 to 10:30 p.m. ET/6 p.m. PT.

“We are really concerned as we look at the debate over defending marriage between one man and one woman that increasingly we're seeing religious liberty on the line,” says Charmaine Yoest, vice president of communications for FRC.

“We're seeing across the country incidents where people motivated by their religious beliefs take a stand for traditional marriage and are accused of discrimination and running into real censorship of their opinions.”

And it's certainly no coincidence that the event is being held less than one month before mid-term elections, being that there are eight constitutional amendments related to marriage on the ballot across the country.

“Really, in some ways that's even more of a purpose for us to highlight for people that there are real ramifications,” says Yoest. “When this election comes around in November it will be really important for people to get to the ballot box.”

While some believe that there are more

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Former self-professed liberal warns against the promotion of homosexuality to our youth

Two specials examine the teaching of homosexuality in our schools

By Nancy Christopher

At one time, Linda Harvey was, as she puts it, “part of the problem.”

A product of the social changes throughout the '60's and '70's, she volunteered for Planned Parenthood, a prominent abortion advocacy organization, and defended the homosexual lifestyle. In her words, she was a feminist with a pretty liberal world view.

That was then. This is now.

Today, Harvey has a polar-opposite world view from the one she embraced in her younger years. She now runs Mission America, a ministry she founded in 1995 that covers the latest cultural and social trends in America and what they might mean for Christians, and she speaks out against abortion and the homosexual lifestyle. The organization, according to its Web site at www.missionamerica.com, is an “outgrowth of (Harvey's) Christian faith and a successful career in journalism, marketing and public relations.”

A major focus of Mission America has been the issue of homosexuality and how it's being taught to children in our schools. The ministry has produced two specials, *No Tolerance for Truth* and *Veil of Deception*, both of which will air Saturday, October 28, on Sky Angel's special events channel, Angel Two/Channel 9702. *Veil of Deception* will air from 8 to 8:30 p.m. ET/5 p.m. PT, followed by *No Tolerance for Truth* from 8:30 to 9 p.m. ET/5:30 p.m. PT.

Veil of Deception investigates the impact of same-sex marriage on today's youth. It aims to show concerned citizens how critically important it is to stand up and oppose efforts to legalize same-sex marriage for the sake of the children. The special also reveals homosexual activism in schools and communities across America, how experimentation is encouraged to children, and how parents, community leaders and teachers are speaking out.

No Tolerance for Truth examines what

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Former self-professed liberal warns against the promotion of homosexuality to our youth

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our children are learning about homosexuality in schools, clubs and even church groups and shows how there's an intense propaganda campaign to normalize homosexuality and gender confusion to our children. Viewers will hear from parents, teachers and school board members who have fought the homosexual agenda in their communities, as well as from experts who have been studying the issue.

Three years prior to founding Mission America was when Harvey started on her journey to ideological change. While going through "a very troubling divorce that was not my choice," Harvey says she started rethinking and questioning things and began moving back to her Christian roots from which she fell away after leaving for college. She remarried and started going back to church and reading the Bible. She also began reading the writings of other Christians who embraced biblical and conservative ideas.

"Everything just flipped all over around in my head as far as my world view. When you're convicted by the Lord, that's what happens. So my eyes were really opened on the abortion issue, on the issue of evolution versus creation. But then the last one to go was the issue of homosexuality."

Harvey says she never really gave the issue of homosexuality much thought, but nonetheless, she was still accepting and defensive of the lifestyle.

"In my heart I knew that I didn't think they were doing the right thing, but in my world view it was like, 'Those are folks over there, they won't hurt anybody, leave them alone, that's just part of who they are.'"

The former advertising executive says she knew she wanted to use her writing and communication talents to promote her new world view, but she realized that she needed a more formal education in theology. So she enrolled in a Masters of Theology program at a prominent Lutheran seminary in Columbus, Ohio.

"I found it to be fascinating and horrifying all at the same time," she recalls.

While Harvey loved studying theology, she was deeply disturbed by the number of professors and seminary students who were openly homosexual.

"I lasted one quarter. I could handle the work, but it was such an affront to the actu-

al Word of God. They were teaching things that were not biblical."

Harvey's seminary experience opened her eyes and really put the homosexuality issue on her heart, she says.

"What I saw was homosexuality was changing the Christian Church. It was a driver for changing the Gospel. These people wanted to change the Gospel because of their sin and because of their need to continue that sin. And if you change the Christian Church you change America, and that's where I got the name Mission America."

When to Watch

What: *Veil of Deception & No Tolerance for Truth*

When: October 28, 8 to 9pm ET/
5pm PT

Where: Angel Two/Ch. 9702

Upon further reading about the issue of homosexuality, Harvey says that's when she learned that it was being taught to children in a very big way.

"That's where the fire was really lit under me was when I began to read about how it was being promoted to kids in public schools."

Today, Harvey works to educate Christians and non-Christians alike about what she says is a prevalent and growing homosexual influence within public and non-Christian private schools that is seeking to condition kids, starting at a very young age, into thinking that the homosexual lifestyle is normal and should be accepted.

"It (stems) from sex ed. Now it's in all the social science curricula. It's in history and social studies where it will show up in elementary and middle school as discussions about different kinds of families, diversity and tolerance. Then in literature classes from middle school through high school there is an explosion of material available in the young adult literature category that is devoted to homosexual socialization."

The pro-homosexual agenda, says Harvey, has also had an effect on school policies. "It's in the school policies where they will talk about non-discrimination policies—race, religion, sex. Virtually every school in the country has sexual orientation as part of that now. It's been snuck in because people said, 'Oh, sure,

this is the kind, tolerant thing to do.'"

Homosexual advocates and sympathizers serve in key roles throughout the National Education Association, as well as the major professional teachers groups, says Harvey, which has created an environment that is amenable to the homosexual cause.

"The school boards on the local level have great difficulty countering this, and to back it all up is the ACLU (American Civil Liberties Union). If you dare to close the door and say, 'We're not going to have a homosexual club in our school,' the ACLU with tons of money will come in and climb all over your school district, including personal liability suits, if necessary, to the school board members."

So what's a concerned citizen to do? According to Harvey, get organized and get involved in their local schools.

"There are tons of people who profess to be Bible-believing Christians who have their kids in the public schools. All we need to do is act like Bible-believing Christians and not ignore this issue and think, 'Oh, there are too many things on my plate. I can't do anything about this.' This is a huge issue. It is transforming our kids from the ground up."

Harvey sheds further light on the ramifications of a pro-homosexual influence in the schools.

"More and more kids are coming out of the public high schools who were raised in Bible-believing churches, but because they are so indoctrinated with tolerance and that people are mean to homosexuals if they happen to oppose homosexuality in a biblical way, they do not believe the Bible on lots of things; they don't believe in biblical inerrancy anymore. This is transforming our kids' faith."

And it's not only the homosexual issue that's the problem, she adds. In some places, kids are now also being taught about the transgender lifestyle and cross-dressing.

"When you start teaching eight and nine years olds that they can be whichever sex they want and have a sex change, you are messing with the minds of these kids in a big way, in ways we can't even begin to predict."

For more information about Mission America and to see how your local school measures up on the issue of homosexuality using the site's free Risk Audit questionnaire, visit www.missionamerica.com.

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important issues to address than same-sex marriage, this single issue is a greater threat to Christians' liberty than it may appear, according to Perkins.

“What we've seen in the last two years since Massachusetts (approved) same-sex marriage is the evidence of what we were projecting would happen, that there was a coming conflict between the homosexual agenda and Christianity that was vibrant and active in the public square,” he says.

Perkins points to college campuses being purged of religious organizations and

people being fired for publicly speaking out in opposition of homosexual behavior as consequences of a widening acceptance of homosexuality.

“Just in the last six months we've seen an increasing number of incidents where Christians in particular have been the target of government agencies that have endorsed homosexuality,” he says.

A “hate crimes bill” making it a crime to speak out against homosexuality is imminent if Christians don't continue to be engaged in this issue, according to Perkins.

“The ability to preach the Gospel is at risk because the Gospel fully preached is offensive,” says Perkins. “Same-sex marriage is the vanguard of the homosexual agenda. If it becomes the law that you cannot speak anything that offends, it's just a matter of time before the Gospel itself will be unwelcome public speech.

“We cannot choose not to engage the culture on this issue; the culture has engaged us.”

Visit www.libertysunday.com for speaker updates. For more about the Family Research Council, visit www.frc.org