

## **What It Isn't...Rob Harding**

**by Stephen Elliott-Buckley - Sunday, September 18, 2005**

<http://politicsrespun.org/2005/09/what-it-isnt/>

The thought cops of the "Political Correctness" movement would have us believe that "gay marriage" is an issue of equality and fundamental rights for an oppressed minority. It is an interesting comment on our times that anyone challenging these claims is dismissed as a bigot or as a reactionary ideologue. Such is the power of thought control.

One expects that people who consider themselves progressive and find themselves agreeing with arguments advanced by conservatives may be suffering a crisis of conscience. But at least they are thinking. They may be thinking, for example, that the thought cops have successfully promoted an agenda based on the worst kind of muddled thinking. Proponents of "gay marriage" insist that legislation be based on equal rights, but of course what they are really talking about is not equality but sameness. In other words, if they have equal access to "marriage" they will then be the same as heterosexual couples. But of course they are not the same at all. This is not to suggest that homosexuals should not be entitled to equal protections under the law. Of course they should be, as should all citizens. But that does not mean, ipso facto, that marriage is one of these entitlements. Sameness is not equality.

As a matter of fact, marriage pre-dates society as we know it; any reasonable person can see that regardless of the enormous power they do possess, the power of politicians does in fact have limits. The mere fact that they write a law calling a homosexual union marriage does not make it so any more than a law, written of course in the interests of fundamental "equality" rights, requiring all persons to be called "myn" would in fact make all people "myn." Granted, the manipulation of language and fundamental meanings in the interest of a political agenda is nothing new. The indiscriminate slaughter of innocent civilians in the U.S. on September 11th, 2001 is a barbarous atrocity; the indiscriminate slaughter of innocent civilians in Iraq is the ringing of freedom.

Back to cases-marriage is an arrangement arrived at as a conscious imitation of, and participation in, nature and as a means of preserving societies and protecting children. It is universal, intuitive, and ancient. The rhetoric of political correctness would persuade us that, because it is sometimes found in nature and has always existed in society, homosexuality is natural or normal. This is yet another example of muddled thinking. Homosexuality is predictable, but that does not make it natural or normal. Small percentages of populations will be afflicted with Down's syndrome and autism; small percentages will be pedophiles and psychopaths. Although these conditions are predictable, they are not natural or normal.

Human sexuality is deeply complex but it is inescapably and fundamentally connected to the imperative to reproduce. This is the natural arrangement-just a matter of fact. So the argument that homosexuals are entitled to marriage because their sexuality is really natural and normal is quite simply false.

It is easy to sympathize with a minority that has suffered terrible injustices including individual hate crimes, institutionalized persecutions and even exterminations. It is easy to understand the need of a marginal population to feel accepted, legitimate, or "normal." It is also easy enough to be so swept up in

the tide of sympathy and rhetoric that one might abandon logic and reason. Gay union is what it is. But it is also isn't what it isn't. It is not marriage.