

PUTTING CHILDREN AT RISK:

HOW EFFORTS TO UNDERMINE MARRIAGE EQUALITY HARM CHILDREN



EFFORTS TO UNDERMINE MARRIAGE



States, government officials, and even courts have ***refused to recognize*** married same-sex couples and LGBT parents' legal relationships to their children.

Businesses, social service agencies receiving taxpayer dollars, and even government agencies and officials are ***claiming a right to discriminate*** against LGBT families.



THREATEN THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF CHILDREN RAISED BY SAME-SEX COUPLES

All children deserve the right to a stable, secure family. Undermining marriage equality jeopardizes the security and safety of children raised by same-sex couples.



If a parent-child relationship is not legally established, a non-biological parent can be denied legal recognition as a parent, and a child could be placed with a stranger as opposed to a parent who has cared for them, or a parent may be unable to make medical decisions for their child.



Children could be denied health insurance through a parent if the parent isn't legally recognized.



Healthcare providers, daycares, or government employees could refuse to serve children raised by LGBT parents or married same-sex couples.



Children may stay in foster care if child-placing agencies are permitted to refuse to consider qualified LGBT parents.

