



**Foundation for  
Family and Marriage Equality**

**10  
Years!**

## 2012 Freedom to Marry Week Events



**Love. Commitment. Marriage.**

**February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 2:00pm**

♥ **10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Texas' Big Gay Wedding Celebration**

Ceremony starts @2pm, Reception to follow  
Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church,  
2025 West 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Houston, TX 77008

Couples who would like to participate in the ceremony can register at:

[www.familymarriageequality.org](http://www.familymarriageequality.org)

Participants please arrive 1 hour early at 1:00pm



**February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 11:30am**

♥ **Downtown Valentine's Day Protest and March**

Protest starts @11:30am at County Clerk's Office,  
201 Caroline St, Houston, TX 77002

Couples apply for marriage licenses @ NOON

♥ **March thru Downtown to Houston City Hall**

901 Bagby st

Demonstration from 12:45– 1:30pm

All are invited to join a wedding march to city hall

You are encouraged to wear wedding attire

(Veils, top hats, tuxedos, dresses, bouquets, etc...)

# 10 Years!

## Foundation for Family and Marriage Equality History



**2002** – Founded with first Same-Sex Marriage Ceremony in Texas

**2003** – Marriage ceremony briefly interrupted by a bomb threat. Clergy from many different faiths presided.



**2004** – Began protest at Harris County Clerk's Office in Downtown Houston with same-sex couples lining up to ask for marriage licenses. Met by opposition protesters.



**2005** – Marriage celebration & County Clerk's office protest and demonstrations continue. Other educational events.

**2006** – Marriage celebration, County Clerk's office, other events

**2007** – Same as 2006 and in addition marched in Houston Pride Parade and Festival



**2008** – Began downtown march and demonstration from County Clerk's office to Houston City Hall. Built afloat for Pride Parade Houston Theme: All Families are Equal

**2009** – Wedding celebration, County Clerk's Marriage License protest, Downtown march and demonstration to City Hall, Other Activities



**2010** – County Clerk's Marriage License protest, Downtown march and demonstration to City Hall, Pride Festival

**2011** – County Clerk's Marriage License protest, Downtown march and demonstration to City Hall, Texas' Big Gay Wedding Celebration

**2012** – County Clerk's Marriage License protest, Downtown march and demonstration to City Hall, Texas' Big Gay Wedding Celebration





# Foundation for Family and Marriage Equality



**Marriage.** One word. So many different interpretations.

Some consider marriage to be between a man and a woman. Others feel it can be between two men or two women. Some consider it a sacred event performed before their God, friends, and family. Others perform the event at City Hall, their homes, and even Vegas! Some relate it to a deep union of people's hearts and souls while others consider it a union that allows them the rights and freedoms to protect the person they love. So what is it? What is the true definition of marriage?

**What do all people who want to marry have in common?**

**Love. Honor. Commitment.** They want to be in a relationship with the person they choose to love and honor, for better or worse, in sickness and in health, until death they do part. They want to be in a recognized relationship supported by their family, friends, church and government so they can, to the best of their ability, protect and provide for their spouse and children.

**What can YOU do so that ALL Americans are able to MARRY the person they love?**

♥ **Attend 2012 Freedom to Marry Week Events in Houston** (we get local and national media at our events!)

♥ **Help Overturn DOMA, the Defense of Marriage Act**

DOMA is unconstitutional and denies legally married same-sex couples the federal marriage benefits granted to other married couples like social security, inheritance, family medical leave, immigration, federal tax, adoption, etc.

\* Call your representatives in congress and tell them to stop using our taxpayer dollars to defend DOMA. Tell them to support the Respect for Marriage Act introduced by Rep. Feinstein to rescind DOMA and respect ALL marriages.

\* We overturned DADT. DOMA is the next 4-letter word that needs to go.

♥ **Elect Texas legislators that support Marriage Equality**

♥ **GET INVOLVED – Educate yourself and then educate your friends and family**

Use the following resources to better understand the issue

<http://www.lovecommitmentmarriage.org/just-the-facts/>

<http://www.whymarriagematters.org/pages/just-the-facts-g-and-a>

<http://www.familymarriageequality.org/>

Visit [thecaucus.org](http://thecaucus.org) and click the "Endorsements" link for LGBT-friendly candidates in the Texas elections

*Support Those Who Support Us!*

