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SEXUALITY LAW

SECOND EDITION

Arthur S. Leonard Patricia A. Cain

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Sexuality Law

Second Edition

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Patricia A. Cain

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I dedicate my work on this book to my Husband, Tim Nenno, and I celebrate that legal developments between the first and second editions made our marriage possible after thirty years as partners.

Art

I dedicate my work on this book to Jean Love, my partner in love and life for over 25 years, and now, thanks to recent victories by committed public interest lawyers, my spouse for life.

Pat

Contents

Table of Cases	XVII
Preface to the Second Edition	xxvii
Preface from the First Edition	xxix
Chapter One • An Introduction	3
A. General Introduction: What is Sexuality?	3
B. A Brief History of Sexual Minorities and the Law	5
Influence of Darwin	6
Social Construction Thesis	7
Freud and the Early Sexologists	7
The Kinsey Reports	8
The Illness Model of Sexual Variation	9
Birth of the Homophile Movement	10
Gay Liberation Movement	10
The Debate over Cause: Nature or Nurture	12
Legal Consideration of Sexuality	15
How has United States law dealt with human sexuality?	15
C. Sexual Minorities in the Courts	15
Bowers v. Hardwick	17
Romer v. Evans	28
Lawrence v. Texas	42
In re Heilig	59
Notes and Questions	69
D. A Note about Public Interest Lawyering	70
Impact Litigation and Social Change	70
History of Gay Rights Litigation Groups	71
1. Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc.	72
In re William J. Thom (Lambda Legal Defense & Education	
Fund, Inc.)	73
Application of William J. Thom, Appellant	73
Application of William J. Thom, Petitioner	78
Notes and Questions	78
2. National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR)	79
3. American Civil Liberties Union Lesbian and Gay Rights Project	80
4. Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders (GLAD)	80
Additional Issues for Further Thought	81
To litigate or to lobby	81
Who gets to decide?	82
Further Reading	83

viii CONTENTS

Cha	apter Two · What Is the Meaning of Romer and Lawrence?	85
1	A. The Florida Adoption Case	85
	Lofton v. Secretary, Department of Children and Family Services	87
]	B. The Military Policy Case	100
	Witt v. Department of the Air Force	101
	Notes and Questions	112
(C. State Constitutional Law	115
	Hernandez v. Robles	115
	Lewis v. Harris	116
	In re Marriage Cases	117
	Kerrigan v. Commissioner of Public Health	119
	Notes and Comments	128
	mills I muscall of sa	120
Ch	apter Three • Government Regulation of Sexual Conduct	129
	A. Public vs. Private	131
	Lovisi v. Slayton	131
	Notes and Questions	135
	State of Idaho v. Limberhand	135
	Questions	139
	People v. Ramsden	139
	Questions Alargaluese wheel and then burne	143
	B. Solicitation	144
	Pryor v. Municipal Court	144
	City of Alliance v. Carbone	149
	Notes and Questions	158
	C. Non-Marital Sex	159
	State v. Saunders	160
	Martin v. Ziherl	164
	Notes and Questions	166
	D. Commercial Prostitution	168
	State of Hawai'i v. Romano	
	Notes and Questions	168
	E. Minors	177
	State of Kansas v. Matthew R. Limon	178
	Notes and Questions	178
	McDonald v. Commonwealth of Virginia	190
	Notes and Comments	191
	F. Incest	194
	State of Connecticut v. John M.	194
	People v. Scott	195
	Notes and Questions	200
	G. Consensual Painful Sex	202
	Regina v. Brown	203
	Notes and Questions	203
	riotes and Questions	221
		223
	The state of the s	223
		231
	Questions	232
	Questions	439

CONTENTS ix

I.	Cross-Dressing in Public	239
	City of Chicago v. Wilson	239
	Notes and Questions	243
Chaj	pter Four • Recognition of Same-Sex Relationships	245
A	. Marriage	245
	1. Historical Context	245
	Loving v. Virginia	245
	Notes and Questions	248
	Baker v. Nelson	249
	Notes and Questions	251
	2. Is Same-sex Marriage a Crime?	251
	The Woman Who Married The Woman	251
	3. The Modern Battle for Marriage Equality	252
	General Background	252
	Hawaii	253
	Backlash	255
	Federal Defense of Marriage Act	256
	Alaska	257
	Vermont	257
	Questions for Discussion	259
	4. Victory in Massachusetts	260
	Goodridge v. Department of Public Health	260
	Notes and Questions	268
	5. Marriage after Massachusetts	269
	a. Marriage as a Fundamental Right	270
	Andersen v. King County	271
	In re Marriage Cases	273
		278
	Notes and Questions	279
	b. Equal Protection Analysis	
	Morrison v. Sadler	280
	Notes and Questions	280
	Lewis v. Harris	281
	Notes and Questions	286
	Varnum v. Brien	287
	Notes and Questions	304
	6. Summary of Status Recognition for Same-Sex Couples	304
	7. Extra-Territorial Recognition of Same-Sex Marriages and Civil Unions	307
	a. Marriages	307
	State v. Ross	310
	Notes and Questions	313
	Hennefeld v. Township of Montclair	314
	Notes and Questions	317
	b. Civil Unions	318
	Langan v. St. Vincent's Hospital of New York	318
	Notes and Questions	325
	Miller-Jenkins v. Miller-Jenkins	326
	c. Other Recognition Issues Caused by Recent Events in the	
	Marriage Equality Battle	332

CONTENTS

State of Connecticut Public Act No. 09-13	333
Strauss v. Horton	334
Questions	335
8. Marriage Developments in Other Countries	335
a. The Netherlands	335
b. Belgium	336
c. Canada	336
d. Spain	337
e. South Africa	337
f. Australia	337
g. Norway and Sweden	337
h. Israel	338
i. Non-Marital Registered Relationships	338
9. Litigating against the Backlash	338
Citizens for Equal Protection v. Bruning	338
Notes and Questions	340
10. One Man and One Woman: Transsexual Persons and the Right to Marry	341
Littleton v. Prange	341
Notes and Questions	348
B. Relationships Other Than Marriage	352
Civil Unions and Domestic Partnerships	352
Knight v. Superior Court	352
Notes and Questions	360
Domestic Partnerships Created at the Local Level a. In General	361
b. A Specific Example	361 362
Iowa City Code	362
Notes and Questions	364
	365
c. Challenging the enactment of domestic partner ordinances	365
Tyma v. Montgomery County	
Notes and Questions	369
3. Adult Adoption	370
In Re Adoption of Robert Paul P.	370
In re Adoption of James A. Swanson	374
Notes and Questions	376
4. Legal Guardianship	377
In re Guardianship of Sharon Kowalski	377
Notes and Questions	383
C. Litigating for Spousal Benefits	384
1. The Putative Spouse Doctrine	384
Estate of Hall	384
Notes and Questions	387
California Family Code	388
2. Claims to Equal Benefits or Equal Access	388
a. Death Benefits	388
Smith v. Knoller	388
b. Housing Benefits	394
Braschi v. Stahl Assoc. Co.	394
Notes and Questions	398

CONTENTS xi

Levin v. Yeshiva University	399
Notes and Questions	403
c. Employer Provided Benefits	403
Alaska Civil Liberties Union v. State	403
Notes and Questions	410
d. Public Accommodations	411
Monson v. Rochester Athletic Club	411
Notes and Questions	413
3. Quasi-marriage	414
Vasquez v. Hawthorne	414
Notes and Questions	417
Gormley v. Robertson	418
Notes and Questions	421
D. Creating a Family Name	421
In re Bicknell	421
Note 200 lb committee in the second of the s	423
E. Relationship by Contract	424
Marvin v. Marvin	425
Note	426
Hewitt v. Hewitt	426
Notes and Questions	430
Posik v. Layton	430
	433
Notes and Questions	434
F. Equitable Property Rights of Same-Sex Partners	434
1. Constructive Trust	434
Bramlett v. Selman	436
Note	437
2. Resulting Trust	437
Scott v. Commissioner of Internal Revenue	
Notes and Questions	440
3. Unjust Enrichment	442
Mitchell v. Moore	442
Note	445
G. Federal Tax Considerations	445
1. Income Tax Issues	446
a. Payment of Support	446
b. Dependency Exemptions and Tax Credits	447
Notes and Questions	449
c. Taxation of Domestic Partner Benefits	449
d. Income from Community Property	449
e. Property Divisions at Divorce	451
2. Gift and Estate Tax	451
a. Gift Tax Issues	452
b. Estate Tax Issues	453
Chapter Five • Recognition of the Parent-Child Relationship	455
A. Constitutional Foundations	455
1. Who Is a Parent?	455
Stanlay y Illinois	455

CONTENTS

Notes and Questions	456
Michael H. v. Gerald D.	458
Notes and Questions	462
2. The Competing Interests of Parents and Nonparents	463
Troxel v. Granville	463
Notes and Questions	466
3. Equal Protection and Child Custody	467
Palmore v. Sidoti	467
B. State Regulation of the Parent-Child Relationship	468
1. Child Custody Decisions at Divorce	469
Christian v. Randall	470
Schuster v. Schuster	472
Notes and Questions	477
Jarrett v. Jarrett	477
Notes and Questions	480
In re Marriage of R.S.	480
Notes and Questions	484
2. Restrictions on Retaining Custody and Visitation Rights	486
Taylor v. Taylor	486
Notes and Questions	488
In re Marriage of Dorworth	488
Notes and Questions	490
C. Who Can Become a Parent?	491
1. Adoption by Gay and Lesbian People	491
In the Matter of the Adoption of: John DOE and James DOE	491
Notes and Questions	507
Finstuen v. Crutcher	508
Notes and Questions	513
2. Second Parent Adoptions	513
In re Adoption of Tammy	514
In re Adoption of Jane Doe	519
Notes and Questions	521
D. Rights of the "Second Parent" Who Has Not Adopted	525
1. Common Law Theories That Can Help Establish Parenthood	526
Nancy S. v. Michele G.	526
Notes and Questions	530
Alison D. v. Virginia M.	531
Notes and Questions	533
Titchenal v. Dexter	533
Notes and Questions	540
In re the Matter of the Parentage of L.B.	540
Notes and Questions	549
2. Intentional Parenthood	551
In the Matter of the Appeal of Helmi A. Hisserich	551
Notes and Questions	554
Elisa B. v. Superior Court of El Dorado County	555
Notes and Questions	563
Leonard v. Commissioner	564
Notes and Questions	567

CONTENTS xiii

3. Genetic Mom and Gestational Mom	568
K.M. v. E.G.	568
In the Matter of Adoption of a Child Whose First Name is Sebastian	
4. Parenthood by Declaration	577
Kristine H. V. Lisa R.	577
Notes and Questions	580
5. Parenthood by Being Named on the Birth Certificate	581
In the Matter of the Parentage of the Child of Kimberly Robinson	581 585
Notes	303
E. Special Problems That Arise for Gay and Lesbian Parents Using Assisted	585
Reproductive Technology	
1. Overview	585
Notes and Questions	586
2. Lesbian Couples and Sperm Donors	587
Tripp v. Hinckley	587
Notes and Questions	588
3. Gay Male Couples and Surrogates	589
New York Domestic Relations Law	590
Questions	591
In re the Paternity and Custody of Baby Boy A	591
Notes and Questions	595
Cunningham v. Tardiff	596
Notes and Questions	600
4. Equal Access to ART	600
Chapter Six • Discrimination, Fairness and Equality A. Introduction	603
B. Constitutional Equality—Sexual Orientation Discrimination	604
1. Pre-Romer Cases	606
Padula v. Webster	606
High Tech Gays v. Defense Industrial Security Clearance Office	608
Watkins v. United States Army	612
Notes and Questions	615
2. Post-Romer Decisions	615
Nabozny v. Podlesny	615
Notes and Questions	622
Cook v. Gates	624
Notes and Questions	631
Quinn v. Nassau County Police Department	633
Notes and Questions	636
The Problem of Governmental Immunity	636
Price-Cornelison v. Brooks	636
Notes and Comments	642
C. Sex Discrimination and Sexual Minority Rights: Statutory Protection	644
Desantis v. Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Co., Inc.	647
Notes and Questions	652
Title VII: A Quick Primer	652
Ulane v. Eastern Airlines, Inc.	654
Price Waterhouse v. Hopkins	658

Notes and Questions	660
Spearman v. Ford Motor Company	660
Réné v. MGM Grand Hotel, Inc.	664
Smith v. City of Salem, Ohio	674
Notes and Questions	680
D. Express Bans on Sexuality Discrimination	681
1. The Enforcement of Discrimination Laws	683
Singer v. United States Civil Service Commission	683
Notes and Questions	690
Shelton v. City of Manhattan Beach	691
Goins v. West Group	704
Notes and Questions	708
2. Discrimination in Employee Benefits	709
3. The Impact of State Constitutional Marriage Amendments on	
Employee Benefits	710
National Pride at Work, Inc. v. Governor of Michigan	711
4. Exceptions to the Non-discrimination Requirement	723
Hurley v. Irish-American Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Group	723
Notes and Questions	728
Boy Scouts of America v. Dale	729
Notes and Questions	746
Thorson v. Billy Graham Evangelistic Association	747
Notes and Questions	750
E. Immigration and Asylum	751
1. Immigration of Same-Sex Partners	751
National Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Equality v. the Minister	DOME
of Home Affairs	752
Notes and Questions	760
2. Asylum for Sexual Minorities	760
Pitcherskaia v. Immigration and Naturalization Service	761
Hernandez-Montiel v. Immigration and Naturalization Service	765
Kimumwe v. Gonzales	774
Moab v. Gonzales	778
Notes and Questions	782
and the second s	
Chapter Seven • Sexual Expression, Free Speech and Association	785
A. Introduction: The Constitutional Framework	785
B. Sexually-oriented Expression and Expression about Sex	785
Stanley v. Georgia	786
Questions	788
Paris Adult Theatre I v. Slaton	788
Notes and Questions	792
Osborne v. Ohio	794
Notes and Questions	797
Reno v. American Civil Liberties Union	799
Notes and Questions	808
United States v. Extreme Associates, Inc.	809
Note	813
United States v. Extreme Associations, Inc.	813

CONTENTS xv

Comments and Questions	814
C. Speaking Out	815
Van Ooteghem v. Gray	815
Notes and Questions	819
National Gay Task Force v. Board of Education of City of	
Oklahoma City	821
Loring v. Bellsouth Advertising & Publishing Corporation	827
Notes and Questions	833
Olivieri v. Ward	834
Notes and Comments	838
D. Forming Ranks—Schools and Colleges	839
Gay Students Organization v. Bonner	840
Gay Lib v. University of Missouri	846
Ratchford v. Gay Lib	854
Gay and Lesbian Students Association v. Gohn	856
Notes and Questions	862
Boyd County High School Gay Straight Alliance v. Board of	
Education of Boyd County, Ky.	865
Notes and Questions	877
E. Clash of Rights—Non-discrimination versus Free Speech	877
Harper v. Poway Unified School District	878
Notes and Comments	889
Wisconsin v. Mitchell	891
People of the State of New York v. Fox	895
Notes and Comments	901
Index	903

Table of Cases

The principal cases are in bold type. Cases cited or discussed in the text are in roman type.

- A.C. v. C.B., 829 P.2d 660 (N.M. Ct. App. 1992), 581
- A.H.W. v. G.H.B., 772 A.2d 948 (N.J. 2000), 595
- Able v. United States, 155 F.3d 628 (2nd Cir. 1998), 624
- Adams v. Howerton, 673 F.2d 1036 (9th Cir. 1982), 251, 751
- Aid for Women v. Foulston, 2006 WL 1008417 (D. Kans. 2006), 194
- Air Transp. Ass'n of Am. v. City and County of San Francisco, 266 F.3d 1064 (9th Cir. 2001), 710
- Alaska Civil Liberties Union v. State, 122 P.3d 781 (Alaska 2005), 361, 403, 710
- Ali v. Mukasey, 529 F.3d 478 (2nd Cir. 2008), 784
- Alison D. v. Virginia M., 572 N.E.2d 27 (N.Y. 1991), 531, 580
- Allen v. Storer, 600 N.E.2d 1263 (Ill. App. 1992), 313
- Alliance, City of v. Carbone, 2009 Westlaw 690408 (Ohio Ct. App. 2009), 149, 158, 159
- Alons v. Iowa District Court for Woodbury County, 698 N.W.2d 858 (Iowa 2005), 325
- Am. Booksellers Ass'n v. Hudnut, 771 F.2d 323 (7th Cir. 1985), 793
- American Civil Liberties Union v. Mukasey, 534 F.3d 181 (3rd Cir. 2008), 808
- Andersen v. King County, 138 P.3d 963 (Wash. 2006), 270, 271

- Angel Lace M., In Interest of, 516 N.W.2d 678 (Wis. 1994), 524
- Ashcroft v. Free Speech Coalition, 535 U.S. 234 (2002), 794, 798
- B.L.V.B., In re Adoption of, 628 A.2d 1271 (Vt. 1993), 524
- Baby Boy A, In re the Paternity and Custody of, 2007 WL 4304448 (Minn. App. 2007), 591
- Baby M., In re, 537 A.2d 1227 (N.J. 1988), 590, 595
- Baby Z., In re Adoption of, 724 A.2d 1035 (Conn. 1999), 524
- Baehr v. Lewin, 852 P.2d 44 (Haw. 1993), 82, 83, 253, 254, 255, 259, 338
- Baker v. Nelson, 191 N.W. 2d 185 (Minn. 1971), 249, 387
- Baker v. State of Vermont, 744 A.2d 864 (Vt. 1999), 258, 259
- Baker v. Wade, 769 F.2d 289 (5th Cir. 1985), 16, 71, 72
- Barnes v. City of Cincinnati, 401 F.3d 729 (6th Cir. 2005), 681
- Beard v. Tennessee, 2005 WL 1334378 (Tenn. Crim. App. 2005), 202
- Beecham v. Henderson County, Tennessee, 422 F.3d 372 (6th Cir. 2005), 231
- Berg v. Claytor, 591 F.2d 849 (D.C. Cir. 1978), 623
- Beth R. v. DonnaM, 853 N.Y.S.2d 501 (N.Y. Sup. 2008), 306
- Bicknell, In re, 771 N.E.2d 846 (Ohio 2002), 421
- Blonsky v. Blonsky, 405 N.E.2d 1112 (Ill. App. Ct. 1980), 480

- Bonfield, In re, 780 N.E.2d 241 (Ohio 2002), 523
- Boutilier v. INS, 387 U.S. 118 (1967), 751
- Bowers v. Hardwick, 478 U.S. 186 (1986), 16, 17, 69, 72, 79, 82, 85, 101, 115, 129, 159, 167, 178, 252, 615, 622
- Boy Scouts of America v. Dale, 530 U.S. 640 (2000), 729, 839
- Boy Scouts of America v. Till, 136 F.Supp.2d 1295 (S.D. Fla. 2001), 747
- Boyd County High Sch. Gay Straight Alliance v. Bd. of Educ., 258 F. Supp. 2d 667 (E.D. Ky. 2003) 865
- Bragdon v. Abbott, 524 U.S. 624 (1998), 81
- Bramlett v. Selman, 597 S.W.2d 80 (Ark. 1980), 434
- Braschi v. Stahl Assoc. Co., 543 N.E.2d 49 (N.Y. 1989), 80, 394
- Brause v. Bureau of Vital Statistics, No. 3AN-95-6562 CI, 1998 WL 88743 (Alaska Super. Ct. Feb. 27, 1998), 257
- Brodie v. All Corp. of USA, 876 So.2d 577 (Fla. Dist. Ct. App. 2004), 433
- Brown v. Bd. of Educ., 347 U.S. 483 (1954), 70, 269
- Buchanan v. Wade, 401 U.S. 21 (1973), 71
- Burkett v. Zablocki, 54 F.R.D. 626 (E.D.Wis. 1972), 251
- Burns v. Burns, 560 S.E.2d 47 (Ga. Ct. App. 2002), 325
- Butler v. Adoption Media, LLC, 486 F.Supp.2d 1022 (N.D. Cal. 2007), 683
- Caban v. Mohammed, 441 U.S. 380 (1979), 457
- Cahill v. Rosa, 674 N.E.2d 274 (N.Y. 1996), 729
- Caird v Sewell, 2008 WL 4739459 (Conn. Super. Oct. 3, 2008), 563, 600
- Camilla, In the Matter of, 620 N.Y.S.2d 897 (Family Court, Kings County 1994), 589
- Carey v. Population Servs. Int'l, 431 U.S. 678 (1977), 16, 130

- Catalano v. Catalano, 170 A.2d 726 (Conn. 1961), 314
- Caudillo v. Lubbock Indep. Sch. Dist., 311 F.Supp.2d 550 (N.D. Tex. 2004), 877
- Chambers v. Ormiston, 935 A.2d 956 (R.I. 2007), 307
- Charles B., In re Adoption of, 552 N.E.2d 884 (Ohio 1990), 508
- Cherry v. Koch, 491 N.Y.S.2d 934 (N.Y. Sup. Ct., Kings County 1985), 177
- Chicago Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America v. City of Chicago Comm'n on Human Relations, 748 N.E.2d 759 (Ill. App. Ct. 2001), 746
- Chicago, City of v. Wilson, 389 N.E.2d 522 (Ill. 1978), 239
- Chief Counsel Advice 200608038, 450 Christian v. Randall, 516 P.2d 132 (Col.
 - Ct. App. 1973), 470
- Citizens for Equal Protection v. Bruning, 455 F.3d 859 (8th Cir. 2006), 338
- Cleburne, City of v. Cleburne Living Ctr., 473 U.S. 432 (1985), 128, 605
- Clifford K. and Tina B. v. Paul S, 619 S.E.2d 138 (W. Va. 2005), 549
- Comegys v. Vasse, 26 U.S. 193 (1828), 390
- Commissioner v. Duberstein, 363 U.S. 278 (1960), 446
- Commonwealth v. Appleby, 402 N.E.2d 1051 (Mass. 1980), 222
- Conaway v. Deane, 932 A.2d 571 (Md. 2007), 270
- Connell v. Francisco, 898 P.2d 831 (Wash. 1995), 414
- Connick v. Myers, 461 U.S. 138 (1983), 819
- Cook v. Gates, 528 F.3d 42 (1st Cir. 2008), 113, 624
- Cooper, In re Estate of, 592 N.Y.S.2d 797 (N.Y. App. Div. 1993), 387
- Cote-Whitacre v. Dep't of Pub. Health, 844 N.E.2d 623 (Mass. 2006), 269
- Council of the City of New York v. Bloomberg, 6 N.Y.3d 380 (2006), 710
- Crawford v. Chicago, 710 N.E.2d 91 (Ill. 1999), 711

- Crooke v. Gilden, 414 S.E.2d 645 (Ga. 1992), 445
- Cruz v. McAneney, NYLJ, July 16, 2004, at 18, col 4 (N.Y.Sup.Ct., Kings Co., 2004), 393
- Cunningham v. Tardiff, 2008 WL 4779641 (Conn. Super. 2008), 564, 596
- Curran v. Mount Diablo Council of the Boy Scouts of America, 952 P.2d 218 (Cal. 1998), 729
- D.L.S. v. State, 374 F.3d 971 (10th Cir. 2004), 167
- Dale v. Boy Scouts of America, 734 A.2d 1196 (N.J. 1999), 729
- Dean v. District of Columbia, 653 A.2d 307 (D.C. 1995), 254
- Desantis v. Pacific Tel. & Tel. Co., Inc., 608 F.2d 327 (9th Cir. 1979), 647, 660
- Devlin v. Philadelphia, 862 A.2d 1234 (Pa. 2004), 711
- Doe v. Commonwealth's Att'y, 425 U.S. 901 (1976), 16, 71
- Doe v. Duling, 603 F.Supp. 960 (E.D. Va. 1985), 166
- Doe v. Perry Cmty. Sch. Dist., 316 F.Supp.2d 809 (S.D. Iowa 2004), 809
- Doe, Jane, In re Adoption of, 719 N.E.2d 1071 (Ohio App. 1998), 519, 521-523
- Doe, John and James Doe, In re the Adoption of, 2008 WL 5006172 (Fla. Cir. Ct. 2008), 491
- Dorworth, In re Marriage of, 33 P.3d 1260 (Col. Ct. App. 2001), 488
- Dunphy v. Gregor, 617 A.2d. 1248 (N.J. App. Div. 1992), 391
- Eisenstadt v. Baird, 405 U.S. 438 (1972), 130, 159
- Elden v. Sheldon, 758 P.2d 582 (Cal. 1988), 391
- Elisa B. v. Superior Court of El Dorado County, 117 P.3d 660 (Cal. 2005), 555
- Ellis and Arriaga, In re Domestic Partnership of, 76 Cal. Rptr. 3d 401 (Cal. App. 2008), 388

- Embry v. Ryan, 2009 WL 1311599 (Fla. App.), 508
- Evan, Matter of Adoption of, 583 N.Y.S.2d 997 (N.Y.Sur. 1992), 533
- Evans v. City of Berkeley, 129 P.3d 394 (Cal. 2006), 746
- Finstuen v. Crutcher, 496 F.3d 1139 (10th Cir. 2007), 508
- Fleck and Associates v. City of Phoenix, 471 F.3d 1100 (2006), 114
- Flores v. Morgan Hill Unified Sch. Dist., 324 F.3d 1130 (9th Cir. 2003), 622
- Fricke v. Lynch, 491 F. Supp. 381 (D.R.I. 1980), 80
- Garcetti v. Ceballos, 547 U.S. 410 (2006), 820
- Gardiner, Estate of, 42 P.3d 120 (Kan. 2002), 350
- Gay and Lesbian Students Ass'n v. Gohn, 850 F.2d 361 (8th Cir. 1988), 856
- Gay Lib v. Univ. of Mo., 558 F.2d 848 (8th Cir. 1977), 846
- Gay Men's Health Crisis v. Sullivan, 792 F.Supp. 278 (S.D. N.Y. 1992), 794
- Gay Students Org. v. Bonner, 509 F.2d 652 (1st Cir. 1974), 840
- Gena Michele Daniels, In re Application of, 773 N.Y.S.2d 220 (Civ. Ct., City of N.Y. 2003), 423
- Giancaspro v. Congleton, 2009 WL 416301 (Mich. Ct. App. 2009), 513
- Gill v. Office of Personnel Management, Case No. 1:2009cv10309 (complaint filed Mar. 3, 2009, D. Mass.), 341
- Glen, Estate of v. C.I.R., 45 T.C. 323 (1966), 453
- Glover v. Williamsburg Local Sch. Dist. Bd. of Educ., 20 F. Supp. 2d 1160 (S.D. Ohio 1998), 636
- Godfrey v. Spano, 871 N.Y.S.2d 296 (App. Div. 2008), 306
- Goins v. West Group, 635 N.W.2d 717 (Minn. 2001), 704
- Gonzalez v. School Board of Okeechobee County, Florida, 571 F. Supp. 2d 1257 (S.D.Fla. 2008), 877
- Goodridge v. Dept. of Public Health, 798 N.E.2d 941 (Mass. 2003), 114, 128, 260, 269

Goodwin v. United Kingdom, 2002-VI Eur. Ct. H.R., 350

Gormley v. Robertson, 83 P.3d 1042 (Wash. Ct. App. 2004), 418

Gould v. Gould, 245 U.S. 151 (1917), 446

Griffiths v. Taylor, 2008 WL 2745130 (Conn. Super. Ct., June 13, 2008), 564, 585

Griggs v. Duke Power Co., 401 U.S. 424 (1971), 645

Griswold v. Connecticut, 381 U.S. 479 (1965), 15, 80, 455, 788

Hall, Estate of, 707 N.E.2d 201 (Ill. App. Ct. 1998), 384, 424

Hammond v Hammond, Docket No. FM-11-905-08-B (N.J. Super. Ct., Chancery Div., Family Part, Mercer County, Feb. 6, 2009), 317

Harden v. Zinneman, 2003 Westlaw 21802250 (Cal. Ct. App. 2003), 158

Harper v. Poway Unified School District, 445 F.3d 1166 (9th Cir. 2006), 878, 879

Hatheway v. Gannett Satellite, Info. Network, Inc., 459 N.W.2d 873 (Wis. Ct. App. 1990), 729

Heilig, In re, 816A.2d 68 (Md. 2003), 17, 59, 69

Heinsma v. City of Vancouver, 29 P.3d 709 (Wash. 2001), 711

Hennefeld v. Township of Montclair, No. 007682-2004, 2005 WL 646650 (N.J. Tax Ct. Mar. 15, 2005), 314

Hernandez v. Robles, 855 N.E.2d 1 (N.Y. 2006), 115, 270, 279, 306

Hernandez-Montiel v. INS, 225 F.3d 1084 (9th Cir. 2000), 765

Hewitt v. Hewitt, 394 N.E.2d 1204 (Ill. 1979), 426

Higgins v. New Balance Athletic Shoe, 194 F.3d 252 (1st Cir. 1999), 681

High Tech Gays v. Defense Industrial Security Clearance Office, 895 F.2d 563 (9th Cir. 1990), 608

Hinman v. Department of Personnel Administration, 213 Cal. Rptr 410 (Cal. App. 1985), 253, 410

Hisserich, Helmi A., In re, No. 99A-0341, 2000 WL 1880484 (Cal. St. Bd. Equalization Nov. 1, 2001) 551, 564

Howard v. Dept. of Human Services, 238 S.W.3d 1 (Ark. 2006), 508

Hurley v. Irish-American Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Group 515 U.S. 557 (1995), 80, 723, 838

Imel v. United States, 375 F. Supp. 1102 (D.Colo. 1974), 451

Ireland v. Flanagan, 627 P.2d 496 (Or. Ct. App. 1981), 445

Ireland v. Smith, 542 N.W.2d 344 (Mich. Ct. App. 1996), 469

J.A.D v. E.J.D., 978 S.W.2d 336 (Mo. 1998), 486

J.M., In re, 575 S.E.2d 441 (Ga. 2003), 168

J.M.F., Ex Parte, 730 So.2d 1190 (Ala. 1998), 485

J.W.T., In Interest of , 872 S.W.2d 189 (Tex. 1994), 463

Jacob, Matter of, 660 N.E. 2d 651 (N.Y. 1995), 524

Jacobson v. United States, 503 U.S. 540 (1992), 798

James A. Swanson, In re Adoption of, 623 A.2d 1059 (Del. 1993), 321

Janice M. v. Margaret K, 2008 WL 2080681 (Md. App. May 19, 2008), 549

Jarrett v. Jarrett, 400 N.E.2d 421 (Ill. 1980), 477, 483

Jason C., In re, 533 A.2d 32 (N.H. 1987), 521

Jhordan C. v. Mary K., 224 Cal. Rptr. 530 (Cal. App. 1986), 589

Jones v. Daly, 176 Cal. Rptr 130 (Cal. Ct. App. 1981), 445

Jones v. Hallohan, 501 S.W.2d 588 (Ky. Ct. App. 1973), 251

Jones, v. Barlow, 154 P.3d 808 (Utah 2007), 549

K.M. v. E.G., 117 P. 3d 673 (Cal. 2005), 568

Kandu, In re, 315 B.R. 123 (Bankr. W.D. Wash. 2004), 314, 315, 316

- Kerrigan v. Commissioner of Public Health, 957 A.2d 407 (Conn. 2008), 119, 270
- Kimumwe v. Gonzales, 431 F.3d 319 (8th Cir. 2005), 774
- King v. S.B., 837 N.E.2d 965 (Ind. 2005), 549
- Knight v. Superior Court, 26 Cal. Rptr. 3d 687 (Ct. App. 2005), 352, 361, 711
- Koebke v. Bernardo Heights Country Club, 115 P.3d 1212 (Cal. 2005), 413
- Kowalski, Sharon, In re Guardianship of, 478 N.W.2d 790 (Minn. Ct. App. 1991), 377
- Kristine H. V. Lisa R., 117 P.3d 690 (Cal. 2005), 577
- L.A.M. v.B.M., 906 So.2d 942 (Ala. Civ. App. 2005), 485
- L.B., In re the Matter of the Parentage of, 122 P.3d 161 (Wash. 2005), 540
- L.W. v. Toms River Regional Schools Board of Education, 915 A.2d 535 (N.J. 2007), 622
- Langan v. St. Vincent's Hospital of N.Y., 802 N.Y.S.2d 476 (N.Y. App. 2005), 317
- Laskey v. United Kingdom, 24 E.H.R.R. 39 (1997), 221
- Lawrence v. Texas, 539 U.S. 558 (2003), 16, 42, 79, 85, 113, 129, 158, 168, 177, 191, 194, 222, 223, 232, 239, 485, 488, 604, 624, 636, 643, 752, 760, 808, 862
- Lehr v. Robertson, 463 U.S. 248 (1983), 457
- Leonard v. Commissioner, T.C. Summ. Op 2008-141, 564
- Levin v. Yeshiva University, 754 N.E.2d 1099 (N.Y. 2001), 399
- Lewis v. Harris, 908 A.2d 196 (N.J. 2006), 114, 116, 270, 281, 317, 585
- Lewis v. New York State Department of Civil Service, 872 N.Y.S.2d 578 (App. Div. 2009), 306
- Li v. State, 110 P.3d 91 (Ore. 2005), 270 Liberty Counsel v. Fla. Bar Bd. of Govs., 2009 WL 1544281, 507

- Little Sisters Book and Art Emporium v. Canada (Minister of J.), [2000] 2 S.C.R. 1120, 793
- Littleton v. Prange, 9 S.W.3d 223 (Tex. App. 1999), 341
- Lofton v. Sec'y of the Dep't of Children & Family Servs., 358 F.3d 804 (11th Cir. 2004), 87, 491, 643
- Longstaff, Petition of, 716 F.2d 1439 (5th Cir. 1983), 751
- Lopez v. River Oaks Imaging & Diagnostic Group, Inc., 542 F.Supp.2d 653 (S.D.Tex. 2008), 681
- Loring v. Bellsouth Adver. & Publ'g Corp., 339 S.E.2d 372 (Ga. Ct. App. 1985), 827
- Loving v. Virginia, 388 U.S. 1 (1967), 245, 251
- Lovisi v. Slayton, 539 F.2d 349 (4th Cir. 1976), 131
- Lowe v. Broward Co., 766 So.2d 1199 (Fla.App., 2000), 711
- Luke, In re Adoption of, 640 N.W.2d 374 (Neb. 2002), 524
- M.T. v. J.T., 355 A.2d 204 (N.J. Super. Ct. 1976), 350
- Manual Enterprises, Inc. v. Day, 370 U.S. 478 (1962), 786
- Marcum v. McWhorter, 308 F.3d 635 (6th Cir. 2002), 231
- Marriage Cases, In re, 183 P.3d 384 (Calif. 2008), 79, 117, 270, 273, 279
- Martin v. Ziherl, 607 S.E.2d 367 (Va. 2005), 164
- Martinez v. County of Monroe, 850 N.Y.S.2d 740 (App. Div. 4th Dept. 2008), 306
- Marvin v. Marvin, 557 P.2d 106 (Cal. 1976), 425
- Matlovitch v. Sec'y of the Air Force, 591 F.2d 852 (D.C. Cir. 1978), 623
- May's Estate, In re, 214 N.E.2d 4 (N.Y. 1953), 314
- McDonald v. Commonwealth of Virginia, 645 S.E.2d 918 (Va. 2007), 191
- McDonnell Douglas Corp. v. Green, 411 U.S. 792 (1973), 653
- McGuffin v. Overton, 542 N.W.2d 288 (Mich. Ct. App. 1995), 581

Mercure v. Van Buren Township, 81 F. Supp. 2d 814 (E.D. Mich. 2000), 231

Meritor Savings Bank v. Vinson, 477 U.S. 57 (1986), 653

Meyer v. Nebraska, 262 U.S. 390 (1923), 455

Michael H. v. Gerald D., 491 U.S. 110 (1989), 458, 531

Michael M. v. Giovanni F., 7 Cal. Rptr. 2d 460 (Ct. App. 1992), 463

Miller v. California, 355 F.3d 1172 (9th Cir. 2004), 491

Miller v. California, 413 U.S. 15 (1973), 792

Miller v. Lucks, 36 So. 2d 140 (Miss. 1948), 313

Miller, Nadine Ann, In re, 824 A.2d 1207 (Pa. Super. Ct. 2003), 423

Miller-Jenkins v. Miller-Jenkins, 661 S.E.2d 822 (Va. June 06, 2008), 332

Miller-Jenkins v. Miller-Jenkins, 912 A.2d 951 (Vt. 2006), 326

Milligan-Hitt v. Board of Trustees of Sheridan County School District Number 2, 523 F.3d 1219 (10th Cir. 2008), 643

Mitchell v. Axcan Scandipharm, Inc., 2006 WL 456173 (W.D.Pa. 2006), 681

Mitchell v. Moore, 729 A.2d 1200 (Penn. Super. Ct. 1999), 442

Mitchem v. Counts, 523 S.E.2d 246 (Va. 2000), 167

Moab v. Gonzales, 500 F.3d 656 (7th Cir. 2007), 778

Monson v. Rochester Athletic Club, 759 N.W.2d 60 (Minn. App. 2009), 411

Moore v. City of East Cleveland, 431 U.S. 494 (1977), 491

Morone v. Morone, 413 N.E.2d 1154 (N.Y. 1980), 430

Morrison v. Sadler, 821 N.E. 2d 15 (Ind. App. 2005), 270, 279, 280

Mullins v. Oregon, 57 F.3d 789 (9th Cir. 1995), 491

Muth v. Frank, 412 F.3d 808 (7th Cir. 2005), 202

Myers v. Cuyahoga County, Ohio, 182 Fed. Appx. 510 (6th Cir. 2006), 681 Nabozny v. Podlesny, 92 F.3d 446 (7th Cir. 1996), 615, 643

Nancy S. v. Michele G., 279 Cal.Rptr. 212 (Ct. App. 1991), 526

Nash, In re Marriage License for, Nos. 2002-T-0149, 2002-T-0179, 2003 WL 23097095 (Ohio Ct. App. Dec. 31, 2003), 349

National Endowment for the Arts v. Finley, 524 U.S. 569 (1998), 794

National Gay Task Force v. Bd. of Educ., 729 F.2d 1270 (10th Cir. 1984), 821

National Pride at Work, Inc. v. Governor of Michigan, 748 N.W.2d 524 (Mich. 2008), 341, 711

Nat'l Coal. for Gay and Lesbian Equality v. Minister of Home Affairs, 1999 (1) SA 6(CC) (S.Afr.), 752, 783

Nemetz v. INS, 647 F.2d 432 (4th Cir. 1981), 751

New York v. Ferber, 458 U.S. 747, 762 (1982), 797

New York, City of v. Les Hommes, 724 N.E.2d 368 (NY 1999), 793

Nichols v. Azteca Restaurant Enters., Inc., 256 F.3d 864 (9th Cir.2001), 681

North Coast Women's Care Medical Group v. San Diego County Superior Court, 189 P.3d 959 (Cal. 2008), 601

Nuxoll v. Indian Prairie School District No. 204, 523 F.3d 668 (2008), 889

Oleski v. Hynes, 2008 WL 2930518 (Conn. Super. July 10, 2008), 563, 585

Oliverson v. West Valley City, 875 F.Supp. 1465 (D.Utah 1995), 223

Olivieri v. Ward, 801 F.2d 602 (2nd Cir. 1986), 834

Olver v. Fowler, 168 P.3d 348 (2007), 421 Oncale v. Sundowner Offshore Services, Inc., 523 U.S. 75 (1998), 660

One, Inc. v. Oleson, 355 U.S. 371 (1958), 786

Opinion of the Justices to the Senate, 802 N.E.2d 565 (Mass. 2004), 269

Osborne v. Ohio, 495 U.S. 103 (1990), 794

- Mercure v. Van Buren Township, 81 F. Supp. 2d 814 (E.D. Mich. 2000), 231
- Meritor Savings Bank v. Vinson, 477 U.S. 57 (1986), 653
- Meyer v. Nebraska, 262 U.S. 390 (1923), 455
- Michael H. v. Gerald D., 491 U.S. 110 (1989), 458, 531
- Michael M. v. Giovanni F., 7 Cal. Rptr. 2d 460 (Ct. App. 1992), 463
- Miller v. California, 355 F.3d 1172 (9th Cir. 2004), 491
- Miller v. California, 413 U.S. 15 (1973), 792
- Miller v. Lucks, 36 So. 2d 140 (Miss. 1948), 313
- Miller, Nadine Ann, In re, 824 A.2d 1207 (Pa. Super. Ct. 2003), 423
- Miller-Jenkins v. Miller-Jenkins, 661 S.E.2d 822 (Va. June 06, 2008), 332
- Miller-Jenkins v. Miller-Jenkins, 912 A.2d 951 (Vt. 2006), 326
- Milligan-Hitt v. Board of Trustees of Sheridan County School District Number 2, 523 F.3d 1219 (10th Cir. 2008), 643
- Mitchell v. Axcan Scandipharm, Inc., 2006 WL 456173 (W.D.Pa. 2006), 681
- Mitchell v. Moore, 729 A.2d 1200 (Penn. Super. Ct. 1999), 442
- Mitchem v. Counts, 523 S.E.2d 246 (Va. 2000), 167
- Moab v. Gonzales, 500 F.3d 656 (7th Cir. 2007), 778
- Monson v. Rochester Athletic Club, 759 N.W.2d 60 (Minn. App. 2009), 411
- Moore v. City of East Cleveland, 431 U.S. 494 (1977), 491
- Morone v. Morone, 413 N.E.2d 1154 (N.Y. 1980), 430
- Morrison v. Sadler, 821 N.E. 2d 15 (Ind. App. 2005), 270, 279, 280
- Mullins v. Oregon, 57 F.3d 789 (9th Cir. 1995), 491
- Muth v. Frank, 412 F.3d 808 (7th Cir. 2005), 202
- Myers v. Cuyahoga County, Ohio, 182 Fed. Appx. 510 (6th Cir. 2006), 681

- Nabozny v. Podlesny, 92 F.3d 446 (7th Cir. 1996), 615, 643
- Nancy S. v. Michele G., 279 Cal.Rptr. 212 (Ct. App. 1991), 526
- Nash, In re Marriage License for, Nos. 2002-T-0149, 2002-T-0179, 2003 WL 23097095 (Ohio Ct. App. Dec. 31, 2003), 349
- National Endowment for the Arts v. Finley, 524 U.S. 569 (1998), 794
- National Gay Task Force v. Bd. of Educ., 729 F.2d 1270 (10th Cir. 1984), 821
- National Pride at Work, Inc. v. Governor of Michigan, 748 N.W.2d 524 (Mich. 2008), 341, 711
- Nat'l Coal. for Gay and Lesbian Equality v. Minister of Home Affairs, 1999 (1) SA 6(CC) (S.Afr.), 752, 783
- Nemetz v. INS, 647 F.2d 432 (4th Cir. 1981), 751
- New York v. Ferber, 458 U.S. 747, 762 (1982), 797
- New York, City of v. Les Hommes, 724 N.E.2d 368 (NY 1999), 793
- Nichols v. Azteca Restaurant Enters., Inc., 256 F.3d 864 (9th Cir.2001), 681
- North Coast Women's Care Medical Group v. San Diego County Superior Court, 189 P.3d 959 (Cal. 2008), 601
- Nuxoll v. Indian Prairie School District No. 204, 523 F.3d 668 (2008), 889
- Oleski v. Hynes, 2008 WL 2930518 (Conn. Super. July 10, 2008), 563, 585
- Oliverson v. West Valley City, 875 F.Supp. 1465 (D.Utah 1995), 223
- Olivieri v. Ward, 801 F.2d 602 (2nd Cir. 1986), 834
- Olver v. Fowler, 168 P.3d 348 (2007), 421
- Oncale v. Sundowner Offshore Services, Inc., 523 U.S. 75 (1998), 660
- One, Inc. v. Oleson, 355 U.S. 371 (1958), 786
- Opinion of the Justices to the Senate, 802 N.E.2d 565 (Mass. 2004), 269
- Osborne v. Ohio, 495 U.S. 103 (1990), 794

- State of Kansas v. Matthew R. Limon, 122 P.3d 22 (Kan. 2005), 178
- State of Utah v. Holm, 137 P.3d 726 (Utah 2006), 232
- State v. Carswell, 871 N.E.2d 547 (Ohio 2007), 711
- State v. Collier, 372 N.W.2d 303 (Iowa Ct. App. 1985), 222
- State v. Lowe, 112 Ohio St. 3d 507 (Ohio 2007), 202
- State v. Ross, 76 N.C. 242 (1877), 310
- State v. Saunders, 381 A.2d 333 (N.J. 1977), 160
- State v. Thomas, 891 So.2d 1233 (La. 2005), 177
- State v. Van, 688 N.W.2d 600 (Neb. 2004), 222
- Stemler v. City of Florence, 126 F.3d 856 (6th Cir. 1997), 636
- Strauss v. Horton, 2009 WL 1444594 (Cal. 2009), 278, 334
- Sullivan v. INS, 772 F.2d 609 (9th Cir. 1984), 751
- T.K.J., In Re Adoption of, 931 P.2d 488 (Colo. Ct. App. 1996), 524
- Tammy, In Re Adoption of, 619 N.E.2d 315 (Mass. 1993), 514, 521
- Tanner v. Oregon Health Sciences Univ., 971 P.2d 435 (Or. Ct. App. 1998),
- Taylor v. Taylor, 47 S.W. 3d 222 (Ark. 2001), 486
- Tennessee, State of, Attorney General Opinion No 06-145, 360
- This That and the Other Gift and Tobacco, Inc. v. Cobb County, 439 F.3d 1275 (11th Cir. 2006), 808
- Thom (Lambda Legal Defense & Educ. Fund, Inc.), Application of, 350 N.Y.S.2d 1 (App. Div. 1973), 78
- Thom (Lambda Legal Defense & Educ. Fund, Inc.), In re, 301 N.E.2d 542 (N.Y. 1973) 73
- Thom, In re, 337 N.Y.S.2d 588 (App. Div. 1972), 73
- Thomas S. v. Robin Y., 618 N.Y.S.2d 356 (App Div. 1994), 589

- Thorson v. Billy Graham Evangelistic Ass'n, 687 N.W.2d 652 (Minn. Ct. App. 2004), 747
- Titchenal v. Dexter, 693 A.2d 682 (Vt. 1997), 553
- Toboso-Alfonso, Matter of, 20 I. & N. Dec. 819 (B.I.A. 1990), 761
- Toms v. Dee Rose Furniture, 621 A.2d 91 (N.J. Super. Ct. App. Div. 1993), 391
- Tourchin v. Attorney General, 2008 WL 1962273 (3rd Cir., 2008), 783
- Tresnak, Marriage of, 297 N.W.2d 109 (Iowa 1980), 469
- Tripp v. Hinckley, 736 N.Y.S.2d 506 (N.Y. App. Div. 2002), 587
- Troxel v. Granville, 530 U.S. 57 (2000), 463, 524
- Turner v. Safley, 482 U.S. 78 (1987), 248
- Tyma v. Montgomery County, 801 A.2d 148 (Md. 2002), 365, 711
- U.S. v. Humphreys, 2005 WL 3591140 (U.S. Navy-Marine Corps Ct. Crim.App. 2005), 114
- Ulane v. Eastern Airlines, Inc., 742 F.2d 1081 (7th Cir. 1984), 69, 654, 660
- United States v. Bullock, No. 20030534 (Army Ct. Crim. App. Nov. 30, 2004), 114
- United States v. Davis, 370 U.S. 65 (1962), 451
- United States v. Extreme Associations, Inc., 2007 WL 2225844 (W.D. Pa. 2007), 813
- United States v. Extreme Assocs., Inc., 352 F. Supp. 2d 578 (W.D.Pa. 2005), 809
- United States v. Marcum, 60 M.J. 198 (C.A.A.F. 2004), 114
- United States v. Palfrey, 499 F.Supp.2d 34 (D.D.C. 2007), 177
- United States v. Playboy Entertainment Group, Inc., 529 U.S. 803 (2000), 808
- Van Ooteghem v. Gray, 628 F.2d 488 (5th Cir. 1980), 815
- Varnum v. Brien, 763 N.W.2d 862 (Iowa 2009), 128, 270, 287, 304
- Vasquez v. Hawthorne (Vasquez I), 994 P.2d 240 (Wash. Ct. App. 2000), 414

Vasquez v. Hawthorne (Vasquez II), 33 P.3d 735 (Wash, 2001), 414

Vecchione v. Vecchione, No. 95D003769

Minute Order 1-2 (Cal. Superior Ct. 1997), 350

W.N.J. and J.A.S. and J.O.H.N. and D.M.W. v. Yocum, 257 F.3d 1171 (10th Cir. 2001), 167

Walker v. First Presbyterian Church, 22 Fair Empl. Prac. Cas. (BNA) 762 (Cal. Super. Ct. 1980), 747

Watkins v. United States Army, 875 F.2d 699 (9th Cir. 1989), 612

Weaver v. Nebo School Dist., 29 F. Supp. 2d 1279 (D. Utah 1998), 636

Welch v. State, 100 Cal. Rptr. 2d 430 (Cal. App. 2000), 384

Whorton v. Dillingham, 248 Cal. Rptr. 405 (Cal. App. 1988), 445

Williams v. Attorney General of Alabama, 378 F.3d 1232 (11th Cir. 2004), 112

Williams v. Morgan, 478 F.3d 1316 (11th Cir. 2007), 112, 223, 808

Wisconsin v. Mitchell, 508 U.S. 476 (1993), 891

Witt v. Department of the Air Force, 527 F.3d 806 (9th Cir. 2008), 101, 624, 632

Wright v. Methodist Youth Servs., 511 F. Supp. 307 (N.D. Ill. 1981), 681

Zablocki v. Redhail, 434 U.S. 374 (1978), 248, 251

Preface to the Second Edition

The first edition of this casebook was finished in early 2005, at a time when lower courts had just begun to determine how *Lawrence v. Texas* (U.S. Supreme Court 2003) should be applied to issues other than state criminalization of homosexual conduct and when only one state, Massachusetts, had begun to recognize marriage for same-sex couples. Legal developments affecting the LGBT community have exploded since then, requiring us to update the first edition with lengthy annual supplements. By 2009, it was obvious that the book needed a new edition rather than another supplement.

This new edition follows the basic organization of the first edition, and maintains our commitment to lightly editing cases. Most of the key cases from the first edition and annual supplements have been retained and supplemented with notes to reflect recent developments. New cases have been added or have replaced old ones when they create significant change in the law. Significant changes in this edition include:

Chapter One. We have retained the four leading cases from the first edition, but have added a new section on public interest lawyering for sexual minorities, providing an introduction to the history and organization of the legal movement for sexual minority rights. In accord with this change, we have moved the Lambda Legal cases contesting the formation of that law firm from Chapter Seven to this part of Chapter One.

Chapter Two. The basic concept of the chapter remains the examination of constitutional law governing LGBT rights in the wake of *Lawrence v. Texas*, but we have substantially expanded the chapter to provide contrasting views from different federal circuits by presenting the 9th Circuit *Witt* case challenging the military "don't ask, don't tell" policy as a counterpoint to the 11th Circuit *Lofton* case concerning Florida's statutory ban on adoption of children by "homosexuals." We have also added a brief section on state constitutional law, built from excerpts of state supreme court decisions addressing doctrinal issues similar to those raised in *Lawrence* and *Romer*.

Chapter Three. The theme remains government regulation of sexual conduct through criminal law, in light of the approach the Supreme Court took towards consensual adult sodomy in *Lawrence*, but as the consequences of *Lawrence* have played themselves out in lower courts, we have expanded the range of topics that we cover, some of this change having been anticipated in our annual supplements to the first edition. We have updated coverage on solicitation and prostitution with more recent, post-*Lawrence* cases. One area where the consequences of *Lawrence* have taken odd turns is regulation of sex involving minors, and we have expanded this section with new appellate decisions. We have added a new section on incest, as criminal defendants have sought to expand the reach of *Lawrence* by raising due process and equal protection defenses in incest prosecutions, which raise some different issues depending upon the genders of the participants. Among the objections raised to same-sex marriage has been the establishment of a slippery slope to a right to plural marriage, and we have expanded the section

on adultery to include polygamy so that the policy issues can be explored in light of post-Lawrence cases.

Chapter Four. This chapter has been substantially revised to take account of the extraordinary developments in the law relating to legal recognition and status for non-traditional families, building on the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court's 2003 ruling in
Goodridge, which remains a key opinion in the chapter. This chapter has posed some of
the greatest difficulties for revision, because the stream of lengthy decisions by the highest
courts of numerous states, together with major legislative developments, has produced a
profusion of material sufficient to make a casebook of its own. We have necessarily had to
be selective, relying on notes and questions and occasional textual description to avoid
expanding this chapter beyond manageable proportions. By dint of much "last minute"
labor, we have brought the text up to date through the first week of June 2009, when New
Hampshire legislated same-sex marriage, but legislative developments were still pending
in several major jurisdictions. Stay tuned for the first annual supplement!

Chapter Five. In this chapter, we have revised the section on adoption to reflect the continuing litigation over the Florida ban and the emerging case law on interstate recognition of second parent adoptions pursuant to federal law and the Full Faith and Credit Clause. Otherwise, the main change in this chapter is to incorporate into the text the California Supreme Court's 2005 decisions applying various provisions of the Uniform Parentage Act to same-sex couples with children and to supplement them with cases and references to significant developments in other jurisdictions.

Chapter Six. The most significant additions here are textual discussion and a case about qualified immunity enjoyed by government officials against liability for their discretionary functions, a frequently-raised defense in sexual orientation discrimination cases, and consideration of the impact of state constitutional amendments banning same-sex marriage on public employee benefit rights. We have also freshened the coverage of asylum claims with some newer court of appeals decisions.

Chapter Seven. In this chapter, we have added a section on the clash of rights over anti-gay speech in public schools, exemplified by the "t-shirt wars" surrounding the National Day of Silence. Individuals seeking to counter speech in support of equal rights for gay students with messages of moral disapproval have taken to the courts over restrictions on their speech by school administrators. This is a growing area of conflict, and we have provided materials to consider the policy issues raised by these conflicts. We have also added materials on so-called "hate crimes" laws, which seemed more appropriately included here than in Chapter Three, which is devoted to state regulation of sexual conduct through the criminal law. These criminal statutes have to do not with sexual activity but rather with an attempt to mark as worthy of greater punishment those crimes motivated by the identity of the victim as a member of a sexual minority. They raise interesting issues about public policy and equality.

We recommend that instructors using the book keep current on LGBT law issues by consulting Professor Leonard's publication, Lesbian/Gay Law Notes, a monthly newsletter that is archived on the New York Law School website in the Justice Action Center Section. Those interested can enroll to receive an email notice upon the posting of each new issue of this newsletter.

New York Law School supported Professor Leonard's work on this edition of the book and the new edition of the Teachers Manual with faculty research grants.

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Preface from the First Edition

Some law schools began to offer courses on lesbian/gay legal issues in the 1980s, under a variety of titles, such as Sexual Privacy Law, Sexuality and Law, Sexual Minorities and the Law. As there were no textbooks, professors put together their own teaching materials from various sources. In those pre-internet days, that meant lots of photocopying and physical cutting and pasting.

The pioneers teaching in this field included Thomas B. Stoddard at New York University, E. Carrington Boggan at New York Law School, Rhonda Rivera at Ohio State University, and Mary C. Dunlap and Thomas Coleman at several California law schools. The classes were small, with many students reluctant to take the course out of fear that the presence of such a course title on their transcript would harm their employment chances.

When Boggan first offered the course at New York Law School under the title "Homosexuality and the Law," no students enrolled. When he offered the same course the following year as "Sexual Privacy Law," he had a full house.

When Arthur Leonard took over the New York Law School course upon Boggan's retirement, Tom Stoddard's teaching materials from N.Y.U. provided his starting point for creating a new set of materials. By the 1990s, casebooks began to appear, so professors had a choice of continuing to assemble materials on their own or to adopt the first published casebook, an N.Y.U. press paperback offered by William B. Rubenstein, then the director of the American Civil Liberties Union's Lesbian and Gay Rights and AIDS Projects, who was teaching the course on an adjunct basis at various schools. Soon a second book emerged, co-authored by Nan Hunter of Brooklyn Law School and William Eskridge of Yale, and Rubenstein's book migrated to a different publisher for a new hardbound edition. The two books had very different philosophies; Rubenstein's focusing on sexual orientation law while Hunter & Eskridge broadly surveyed gender, sexuality and the law.

Now we are excited to present the third published casebook in the field, Sexuality Law. Each of us has been teaching this course under various names and configurations and at various schools for many years, sometimes with our own materials and sometimes with one of the published casebooks. When Carolina Academic Press invited us to put together a new casebook in the area, we thought about ways to make it distinctively useful for instructors and students. We decided our focus would fall somewhere between the narrower focused approach on homosexuality and the broadly-encompassing gender. This book seeks to incorporate relevant material beyond sexual orientation, embracing legal issues raised by varying gender identities. We tried to introduce some practical issues that haven't necessarily been covered elsewhere, such as tax issues for same-sex couples, and to inject a public interest lawyering perspective. We also decided that as we both prefer to teach from cases that have been lightly edited so as to leave in

Sexuality Law