



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Interactive Male and Marriage Equality USA tackle fundamentalist coalition “Protect Marriage Washington” with education and kisses!

Denver, CO – Tuesday, September 2, 2009 – Interactive Male, the most popular gay chatline in America, is turning a simple kiss into a step toward victory in Washington State’s battle to protect domestic partnerships. Sponsors of Referendum 71 have gathered enough signatures to make the ballot, but if we keep working together, expanded rights are only delayed, not defeated. No matter where you are in America, a little act of love—some may call it defiance—can help preserve domestic partnerships rights in Washington State.

How? You do what comes naturally: KISS! Make a kissing video and [Enter it in the Big Gay Kiss Contest](#). Marriage Equality USA gets a \$5 donation for every kissing video entered. Or upload a photo and a one dollar donation is made for the cause of equal marriage rights across America.

Thousands of kisses

There are already thousands of gay kissing pics and dozens of [gay kissing videos](#) online. “The outpouring of emotion is quite amazing,” says Joe Rachert, Interactive Male’s Senior Manager of Promotions. “Men kissing on their wedding day, (legal in six states and Canada!), vacation, new young love, guys of every shape, age and color. We love every single kiss we receive.”

“We can’t lose our sense of humor, our pride,” he says “But Referendum 71 shows why every dollar matters. The Big Gay Kiss Contest has raised almost five thousand dollars. That’s money to defeat the coalition of bigots and old Bush/Cheney conservatives behind this, once and for all. The stakes are very high for a lot of families in Washington. If voters don’t approve Referendum 71, domestic partners will not be entitled to victims’ rights, business succession rights, legal process rights, and the right to use sick care for a spouse. To deny anyone these rights is morally reprehensible.”

Marriage Equality USA

"The Washington Legislature and Governor have voted to enact basic protections for same-sex couples through domestic partnerships" said Molly McKay, Marriage Equality USA Media Director. "Conservative and well-funded religious organizations have spearheaded an attempt to strip loving, committed gay and lesbian couples of the most basic relationship protections that all other couples enjoy. Marriage Equality USA will work with our local partners to educate Washington voters on the harm this Referendum will cause local couples and their children. I am confident that the fair-minded people of this state will approve Referendum 71. Not only to secure domestic partnership protections, but also soon extend marriage equality to all law-abiding, tax-paying Washington residents."

Approve Referendum 71

This November, Washington voters will be asked to approve a bill that has already been passed by the state Senate and signed into law by Governor Gregoire. The new law expands Washington's existing partnerships, adding registered domestic partners to all remaining areas of state law that only apply to married couples. If a majority of voters *approve*, the expanded rights stand; if they choose *reject* on the ballot, the bill fails. If you're in Washington, be sure to get out and vote to approve Referendum 71.

\$10,000 to the winner of the Big Gay Kiss Contest

On top of making a donation to Marriage Equality USA for each video and pic entered in the contest, Interactive Male is giving \$10,000 to the best Big Gay Kiss video. Monthly prizes for best pic are also part of the deal. The grand prize winner will be announced in November.

Take part. [Give a kiss to marriage equality across America.](#)



About Interactive Male

[Interactive Male](#) is the most popular gay men's chatline in North America. Connecting thousands of guys every day for over 15 years, Interactive Male leads the gay dating industry with innovative features like [gay video chat](#) and the [only gay Spanish chatline](#) anywhere. With local gay phone dating lines in over 750 cities, men always find what they want, where they want. Interactive Male is a proud sponsor of the GLBT community. For more information, visit <http://www.interactivemale.com>.

For more information on Interactive Male or Interactive Male's Big Gay Kiss Contest, or to arrange an interview, please contact:

Joe Rachert
Senior Manager, Promotions & Brand PR, Interactive Male
Email: joseph dot rachert at interactivemale dot com
Tel: 604-629-6055 ext. 3354

About Marriage Equality USA

Marriage Equality USA is an all-volunteer, national non-profit organization whose mission is to secure legally recognized civil marriage equality for all, at the federal and state level, without regard to gender identity or sexual orientation. For more information on Marriage Equality USA, or to arrange an interview, please contact:

Molly McKay
Media Director, Marriage Equality USA
Email: media at marriageequality dot org
Tel: 510.332.0872