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The President's Bigotry Knows No Shame

Bush Equates GOP Ethics Abuses to Same-Sex Relationships

Sacramento, California — Today, the Stonewall Democrats of Greater Sacramento blasted President Bush for homophobic remarks. In his State of the Union address before Congress Tuesday night, the President referred to same-sex relationships as immoral institutions. He even compared marriage equality to the lobbying scandals that continue to plague his Republican Party.

"If the President wants to talk about ethics and moral values, he should begin to address the immoral levels of poverty in this country," said Darrick Lawson, President of Sacramento Stonewall. "He should address the culture of corruption fostered by his own political machinations. He indulged in gay-baiting. Whenever a Republican politician wants to score a few cheap points, they trot out their homophobia. The President set a new standard for low and immoral behavior."

The President referred to concerns about "unethical conduct by public officials, and discouraged by activist courts that try to redefine marriage."

Anti-gay activists had lobbied the White House to include such a line in the State of the Union address. Immediately after the address, anti-gay groups like the Family Research Council took credit for the inclusion of the anti-gay language in the speech. "I am encouraged by the progress the President has made in appointing judges 'who are servants of the law' and who refuse 'to legislate from the bench,' marriage is a concern that cannot be left to the prerogative of the courts," said Family Research Council President Tony Perkins in reaction to the address.

Lawson noted that saying that marriage equality is not a prerogative of the courts is like saying that liberty itself is not a prerogative of the courts. "The courts are the last refuge of the outcast and the marginalized, the last hope of redress for the oppressed. The forces in our country that oppose our full citizenship, that oppose marriage equality, clearly have a friend in this President. Once again he uses his station and his power to divide and to hurt."

Sacramento Stonewall is one of the largest democratic clubs in the Sacramento region, as well as one of the largest gay Democratic clubs in the United States. Sacramento Stonewall works for true Democratic values on behalf of all.