

# The Battle Has Already Begun!

By Allen Dvorak

If you think that the present public discussion about same-sex marriage doesn't concern you, think again. One doesn't have to be involved in such a marriage to be affected by the "gains" made by the homosexuality movement.

The following excerpt is from a RedState morning briefing and illustrates well that "anti-discrimination" laws are being used to force businesses and churches to accept homosexual practices or suffer the consequences.

- Christian photographers Elane Photography in New Mexico were approached by a same sex couple looking to hire a wedding photographer. Elane Photography politely declined, citing their Christian faith and were sued by the couple under the state's antidiscriminatory laws, and won. In New Mexico you apparently have no right to your free expression and practice of faith any longer.

- In Lexington, Kentucky, a t-shirt shop called Hands On Originals was approached by the Gay and Lesbian Services Organization about printing shirts for the group. The t-shirt company politely declined and even sought out quotes and gave the group referrals to other t-shirt printers along with comparable prices. They were promptly sued by the group under Lexington's anti-discriminatory laws and forced to comply with a lengthy investigation. The city's power-drunk human rights commission said this:

Raymond Sexton, the executive director of the Human Rights Commission told Fox News that "Hands On Originals" will be "required by law to participate in the investigation."

"We have subpoena power and have the backing of the law," he said. "We are a law enforcement agency and people have to comply."

Leftist groups are trying to get the company evicted from their premises; the city now has school districts freezing their business with the privately owned company. Meanwhile, the owner of the company tried to defend his faith and decision in an op/ed in the paper.

- A Methodist church in New Jersey was sued for not offering its facility for use during same sex weddings. A judge ruled against them.

- A same sex couple from California sued a Hawaiian bed and breakfast privately owned by a Christian woman for not allowing them to rent a room.

- A bed and breakfast in Alton privately owned by a Christian couple was sued when they would not host a same sex civil union ceremony.

- Owners of a small, privately-owned inn in Vermont declined to host a same sex wedding reception due to their religious views and were sued.

- An employee of Allstate insurance wrote an essay online disagreeing with same sex marriage and was reportedly fired from his job as a result.

- Catholic Charities was barred from assisting in adoptions in Massachusetts, Washington DC, and Illinois and excluded from future contracts because they declined to consider same sex couples.

Sorry kids, but the agenda impresarios need to make an example.