



**CALIFORNIA STATE
CONFERENCE OF THE
N A A C P**

**1215 K Street, Suite 1609, Sacramento,
CA 95814**

Alice A. Huffman, President

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Contact: Joy Atkinson
323.954.3777
213.840.4173

**STATEMENT FROM ALICE HUFFMAN,
PRESIDENT OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE NAACP**
*Regarding the State Supreme Court's Refusal To
Overturn Proposition 8*

"The NAACP is celebrating 100 years of fighting for social justice and equal opportunity for minorities. The rights of Gay and Lesbians to marry is most certainly a civil rights issue of the first order. By refusing to overturn Proposition 8 the California Supreme Court deferred to a simple majority to eliminate equal protection rights for a disenfranchised minority. This is what the NAACP has fought about for over 100 years.

The California NAACP has long opposed any proposal that alters the state constitution for the express purpose of excluding any groups or individuals from guarantees of equal protection.

Nationally, the NAACP is committed to pursuing all legal avenues to stop discriminatory policies and practices against persons based on race, gender, sexual orientation, nationality or cultural background. Since the fight against Proposition 8 began, the California NAACP has been at the forefront of voicing its strong support for the freedom of gay couples to marry and to afford them the right to the benefits of marriage found in heterosexual marriages. Right is Right and Fair is Fair and the fight is not over. As other states have shown, support for the rights of gay couples is growing; and, the California NAACP is inspired by this and will keep up the good fight to restore in California the freedom to marry the person of one's choice"

Note: Available for interviews

916.498.1898 Phone ☐ 916.498.1895 Fax ☐ www.ca-naACP.org