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4 Experts Available for Timely Analysis on Marriage Equality Bill

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Yesterday the Senate advanced legislation aimed at protecting same-sex marriage, also known as the Respect for Marriage Act. The bill is on track to become law during the Democratic Party's final weeks of having full control of Congress.

For reporters covering this historic bill, the following university-based experts are available to provide commentary and analysis.

M. V. LEE BADGETT

University of Massachusetts Amherst



Badgett is a labor economist and policy analyst focusing on issues related to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people. She was an expert witness in many marriage equality cases, including the Prop 8 case in California, and she has testified before Congress and several state legislatures. She is the author of [The Economic Case for LGBT Equality](#).

ELI COSTON

Virginia Commonwealth University



Coston's research examines how the intersections of race, class, and gender create differing experiences of marginalization and oppression for people who are LGBTQ.

GILBERT GONZALES

Vanderbilt University School of Medicine



Gonzales studies state policies and initiatives to improve health and access to health care for vulnerable families and children. In his recent work, he evaluates the impact of same-sex marriage on health insurance coverage for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) families.

BARBARA J. RISMAN

University of Illinois at Chicago



Risman's teaching and research focuses on the changing politics and policies around gender and sexual inequality. Her areas of expertise include work and family policies, changing family roles, the diversity of family structure and the Millennial generation. Her recent book [Where the Millennials Will Take Us](#) includes analysis of attitudes towards same-sex marriage and gender equality more generally.