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SUNDAY FEBRUARY 15, 2008
CHAPTER MEETING 7 P.M.

Unitarian Church
555 E Street, Idaho Falls

This month's PFLAG Chapter meeting will be a support meeting plus we will view the film ["Prayers for Bobby"](#) which tells the true story of Mary Griffith, the mother of a gay son, and her journey toward embracing the LGBT community following his tragic suicide. Based on the novel by Leroy Aarons, Prayers highlights the important role PFLAG played in Mary's experience and empowers families to embrace their LGBT loved ones. A short discussion will follow the film which recently premiered on Lifetime TV. PFLAG National received a huge number of responses from the film and it would be an excellent one for families & friends to view. Popcorn and drinks will be provided.

Please bring a snack to share if you are able.

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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JANUARY MEETING

Nineteen people attended the January PFLAG meeting. We viewed the film "Anywhere & Everywhere" and had a good group discussion. Thanks to those who brought snacks!

CALIFORNIA SUPREME COURT TO HEAR PROP 8 LEGAL CHALLENGE ON MARCH 5, 2009

The California Supreme Court announced today that it will hear oral arguments on Thursday, March 5, 2009 in the Proposition 8 legal challenge. The California Supreme Court must issue its decisions within 90 days of oral argument. On January 15, 2009, 43 friend-of-the-court briefs urging the Court to invalidate Prop 8 were filed, arguing that Proposition 8 drastically alters the equal protection guarantee in California's Constitution and that the rights of a minority cannot be eliminated by a simple majority vote. The supporters represent the full gamut of California's and the nation's civil rights organizations and legal scholars, as well as California legislators, local governments, bar associations, business interests, labor unions, and religious groups. In May of 2008, the California Supreme Court held that laws that treat people differently based on their sexual orientation violate the equal protection clause of the California Constitution and that same-sex couples have the same fundamental right to marry as other Californians. Proposition 8 eliminated this fundamental right only for same-sex couples. No other initiative has ever successfully changed the California Constitution to take away a right only from a targeted minority group. Proposition 8 passed by a bare majority of 52 percent on November 4. The National Center for Lesbian Rights, Lambda Legal, and the ACLU filed this challenge on November 5, representing Equality California, whose members include many same-sex couples who married between June 16 and November 4, 2008, and six same-sex couples who want to marry in California. The California Supreme Court has also agreed to hear two other challenges filed on the same day: one filed by the City and County of San Francisco (joined by Santa Clara County and the City of Los Angeles, and subsequently by Los Angeles County and other local governments); and another filed by a private attorney.

JACKSON HOLE, WYOMING PFLAG CHAPTER.

The Jackson Wyoming PFLAG Chapter meets monthly on the third Monday evening at St. John's House, which is part of St. John's Episcopal Church. The entrance is on Glenwood. You are welcome to be in touch if you have questions. The meeting runs from 7 -8:30 PM. (Jackson PFLAG, Mark Houser, P.O. Box 2683, Jackson, WY 83001). Phone 307-733-8349 or e-mail at: JacksonPFLAG@yahoo.com
Jackson website www.jacksonPFLAG.com

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP OUR PFLAG CHAPTER AS OUR CHAPTER GOES INTO ITS SIXTEENTH YEAR!

- \$ Come to the meetings.
- \$ Provide refreshments for a meeting.
- \$ Coordinate a program or activity.
- \$ Tell your Friends and Family about PFLAG
- \$ Pay dues (\$25) if able.

GAY MAN TO DIRECT THE OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT....Advocate.com Jan 13, 2009

John Berry is to be named director of the Office of Personnel Management by President-elect Barack Obama, making a gay man the president's top adviser on personnel matters for federal employees. John Berry will be named director of the Office of Personnel Management by President-elect Barack Obama, according to The Washington Post. Berry served as assistant secretary of the Interior during the Clinton administration and has been director of the Smithsonian's National Zoological Park since 2005. LGBT leaders had hoped Berry would be tapped as secretary of the Interior, but D.C. insiders say his duties at the Office of Personnel Management will directly affect LGBT people because it has jurisdiction over the treatment of millions of federal employees.

PFLAG MISSION STATEMENT

PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered persons, and their families and friends, through support, to cope with an adverse society; education, to enlighten an ill-informed public; and advocacy, to end discrimination and to secure equal civil rights.

OBAMA PRESS SECRETARY PLEDGES REPEAL OF "DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL"Advocate.com

Press secretary Robert Gibbs has given the clearest indication yet that President-elect Barack Obama intends to repeal "don't ask, don't tell." In a video on the campaign's transition website, Gibbs answers a question posed by a constituent about whether the Obama administration will scrap the ban on gays serving openly in military with a single word: "Yes."

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

WHEN YOU NO LONGER NEED PFLAG

PFLAG NEEDS YOU!