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TO: LETTER TO EDITOR, *FARMVILLE HERALD*

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According to the Associated Press, Attorney General Eric Holder said the Obama administration would urge the Supreme Court to uphold same-sex marriage. The Supreme Court recently announced it will decide whether same-sex couples have a right to "marry" everywhere in America under the Constitution. The justices will take up gay-rights cases that ask them to overturn bans in four states and declare for the entire nation that people can "marry" the partners of their choice. A decision is expected by late June, 2015.

"The people of every state should remain free to affirm marriage as the union of a man and a woman in their laws," said Austin R. Nimocks, senior counsel for Alliance Defending Freedom. Brian S. Brown of the National Organization for Marriage said in a statement: "We are very pleased that the Supreme Court has chosen to review the 6<sup>th</sup> Circuit's ruling that found in favor of voters' right to define marriage as the union of one man and one woman. It is time for the 50 million Americans who stood for marriage in 30 states to have their day in court. We are confident that the Supreme Court has chosen the 6<sup>th</sup> Circuit case in order to affirm the finding of the appeals court, just as it did in the case of *Sebelius v. Hobby Lobby*."

Recently a Rabbi in an op/ed piece in another Virginia newspaper, argued that one is victim of his genes. If such is true, how will society relate to a 50 year-old mother who holds that her genes direct her to marry her twenty-five year-old son, who loves his Mother? A male philanderer, who has publicly vowed to be true to his wife, contends that his genetic composition leads him to romance a concubine on the side. A "lady" (name withheld) of Northern Indiana has petitioned her local government to allow her to marry her dog, Brutus; she contends that her genes direct her to do this. She has petitioned local gay-rights groups to support her petition because, she says, people should be "allowed to marry whomever they want." Some men or women wish to marry multiple spouses; they claim that their genes point them in this direction. Needless to say, sane adults, not their genes, are responsible for their actions. Without requiring adults to take responsibility for their actions, our society is moving toward chaos, with life and property having little or no protection from predators. In addition, Dr. Nicholas Cummings, former President of the APA, flatly stated that homosexuals can change and that the current stance of the APA that they cannot change, is false.

In addition, the Bible, accepted by millions as inspired, strongly condemns homosexuality. Some people take the position that God's word is neutral on the practice of homosexuality. This is not the case. Remember Adam? Did God create for him a male or female? Of course, a female, Eve, and He instructed them to populate the earth. Genesis 2:24 states: "A man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife (female, singular)." Leviticus 18: 22-25 reads: "You shall not lie with a male as with a woman. It *is* an abomination. Nor shall you mate with any animal, to defile yourself with it. Nor shall any woman stand before an animal to mate with it. It *is* perversion. Do not defile yourselves with any of these things; for by all these the nations are defiled, which I am casting out before you. For the land is defiled; therefore I visit the punishment of its iniquity upon it, and the land vomits out its inhabitants." Here, Jehovah equates homosexuality with bestiality.

The Apostle Paul writes in Romans 1: 26-32: "For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due. And even as they did not like to retain God in *their* knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness;... knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them."

Fair-minded thinkers will agree that marriage, the union of a man and a woman, has been the foundation for human civilization since the creation of mankind. As a society, are we willing to destroy this foundation in exchange for moral relativism, which, if it continues, can be expected to lead to further human decay, disrespect for human life, confusion, and eventual judgment by God?