

## **Massachusetts: A Marriage Equality Success Story**

Success in MA is credited to 3 main groups:

- 1000 clergy, representing 23 faith groups
- The Black Legislative Caucus
- PFLAG

PFLAG's role was in writing letters to the legislators (who are 67% practicing Catholics), hand delivering a booklet of 40 of these letters, walking door-to-door, and holding 6 community forums in districts of unsympathetic legislators.

They have since produced a book about their experience. Copies were given to the 242 gay-straight alliances in their 300 high schools. At the conference they showed a video of the pictures in the book (some 100) with a background of patriotic and civil rights music.

Not one legislator who supported gay marriage lost his seat.

On the first day, Arlington Unitarian Universalist Church stayed open 9:00 – 9:00 and preformed 49 weddings. There have been over 10,000 in all and the sun is still rising.

A question you might be ask a supporter of civil unions: What if white people could get married but black people got civil unions?

This marriage law allows MA gay newlyweds access to 240 state privileges, but still NOT the 1400 federal ones.

Dick Patterson