

# Same Sex Marriages Effect on Health Care

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If by passing \_\_\_\_\_<sup>Number</sup> law you could guarantee that 770,000 people could live a better and healthier life, wouldn't you pass that law? By making same-sex marriage legal we can improve the health of those individuals while decreasing healthcare costs. Buddha once said, When you find that anything agrees with reason and is conducted to the good and benefit of one and all, then accept it and live up to. It seems that same-sex marriage would benefit one and all. It has been proven that by legalizing same-sex marriage you could not only decrease the cost of healthcare but also increase the health of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities. By saying that a same-sex relationship does not constitute legal marriage these couples now have a harder time getting employee sponsor coverage, and they have to worry about hospital visitation rules, healthcare proxies, durable power of attorney, wills, trusts, and second part parent adoptions. If a workers spouse is sick and their employer does not recognize them as a legal couple, then the employer may not give their employee the opportunity to care for their loved one. If a workers spouse passed away and their company does not recognize the same-sex relationship as legal, they may not get the time off to grieve for their loss. If a loved one is in the hospital they may not have visitation rights, since the hospital may not recognize the spouse a legal family member. The hoops that these couples must go through to have the same legal rights as opposite sex couples are massive. Even if someone does not believe in same-sex marriage, it seems unreasonable to put so many limitations on something that can easily benefit a large group of people. In one of Obama's speeches, he said, I believe marriage is between a man and a woman. I am not in favor of gay marriage. But when you start playing around with constitutions, just to prohibit somebody who cares about another person, it just seems to me that's not

what America's about. Usually, our constitutions expand liberties, they don't contract them. The statistics show that when same-sex marriages are allowed there are a 20% decrease in divorce rates for those couple, a decrease of 36% in mood disorders, and a decrease of 42% in alcohol disorders. So why not act for the good and well being for all?