

Sex, Gender, Expression, and the First Amendment at Vermont Law School...

Is an ongoing project that works to highlight conceptual issues related to the rights to free expression, assembly, and association as they concern sexuality, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and queer intersectionality.

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**Post-
Windsor** panel
discussion

As part of Alliance and National Lawyers Guild at Vermont Law School's

***Sex, Gender, Expression,
and the First Amendment***

April 10th 2014, 5:00pm
Chase Center at Vermont Law School

Speakers

Justice Beth Robinson

Beth Robinson has served on the Vermont Supreme Court since November 2011. She spent most of her career before that in private practice, and is best known for her work involving legal protections for LGBT Vermonters. She co-founded the Vermont Freedom to Marry Task Force in 1995. Along with law partner Susan Murray and Mary Bonauto from Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders in Boston, Robinson represented three same-sex couples who sought the freedom to marry, leading to the Vermont Supreme Court's then-groundbreaking decision in *Baker v. Vermont*. In 2000, in the wake of the *Baker* decision, Robinson helped lead the lobbying effort that resulted in the Vermont Legislature's passage of a first-in-the-nation civil union law.

Cheryl Hanna

Cheryl Hanna is a Professor of Constitutional Law and the Vice President of External Relations at Vermont Law School. Professor Hanna received her JD degree from Harvard University. After graduating from Harvard Law, she served on the 92' Clinton-Gore campaign and then as an assistant state's attorney in Baltimore before joining the VLS faculty in 1994. Professor Hanna will speak about "Constitutional Conservatism and Sexual Morality" in a post-*Windsor* society.

Program

Tonight's **Post-Argument Panel Discussion, *Life After US v. Windsor***, will act as the finale to the *Sex, Gender, Expression and the First Amendment Project* and will start with a keynote address from **VT Supreme Court Justice Beth Robinson**. Almost a year after Justice Kennedy declared the federal definition of marriage under DOMA unconstitutional, the panel will discuss some of the immediate and long-term impacts of the decision on federal law and the 1,138 federal benefits available to citizens. The panel will discuss the second prong of DOMA, which provides that the individual states do not have to recognize and give full faith and credit to marriages of other states, thus allowing states that have statutory or constitutional bans on same-sex marriage to refuse to recognize such marriages from other states. This session is CLE-approved.

5:00 pm Reception/Meet and Greet Panelist and Keynote

5:30 pm Introduction of VT SC Justice Beth Robinson

~5:35 pm Keynote, VT SC Justice Beth Robinson

~6:00 pm Award/Project Thank You

~6:15 pm Introduction of Panelist

~6:20 pm Panel Discussion

~7:30 pm Q & A

Speakers

Aimee Goddard

Aimee Goddard is a second-year student here at Vermont Law School. Prior to attending VLS, she worked with children and adolescents at the psychiatric hospital in Brattleboro, Vermont. During her undergraduate education, Aimee was the President of the Feminist Voice, worked for a rape crisis hotline, and tutored disadvantaged children. As a member of the Vermont Law Review, she wrote a Note directly exploring the implications of United States v. Windsor. She also lived four winters in a yurt, with goats.

Gregory Johnson

Gregory Johnson is a Professor of Law and the Director of the Legal Writing Program at VLS. He has been with the law school since 1997. In 2000, he testified before the Vermont legislature when it was considering the civil union bill and again in 2009 when it was considering the marriage equality bill. He has written many law review articles and two book chapters on marriage equality. Before coming to VLS, he clerked and practiced law in Alaska. There, he helped represent the plaintiffs in Alaska's same-sex marriage case, *Brause v. State*.

Speakers

Representative William Lippert

For over forty years, Rep. Bill Lippert has worked to eliminate homophobia and promote civil rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Vermonters. As a community activist, Lippert helped organize Vermont's first Gay Pride and found Outright Vermont, Vermont's queer youth serving organization, worked for passage of the 1992 Gay Rights bill, and founded the Samara Fund for LGBT Issues, a component fund of the VT Community Foundation.

In 2000, as the only openly gay member of the Vermont General Assembly, and Vice Chair of the House Judiciary Committee, Lippert was instrumental in the crafting and passage of Civil Unions, the nation's first legal recognition of same-sex couples. In 2009, Lippert chaired the House Judiciary Committee's Marriage Equality hearings, leading to full Marriage Equality in Vermont after successfully overriding a veto by Gov. Douglas.

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