

## Protecting marriage

Heidi Schlumpf | May. 29, 2009 NCR Today

An video ad by the [National Organization for Marriage](#) [1] (NOM) highlighting the harmful consequences of gay marriage was hardly an advertisement for the intelligence of its makers. The 30-second spot warns that students will be taught "that boys can marry other boys" or could be taken to a same-sex wedding as a field trip if gay marriage becomes legalized.

The final frame urges voters in New York, where a same-sex marriage bill recently passed through the state assembly, to contact their senators. "SAY NO TO SAME SAME SEX MARRAIGE," it urges. This [pro-gay marriage blog](#) [2] caught the two typos before NOM fixed them. "And we're the ones who threaten school kids!?!?" one of the site's bloggers wrote.

NOM's president is Maggie Gallagher, a Catholic marriage activist who also is president of the [Institute for Marriage and Public Policy](#) [3], whose goal is "strengthening marriage for a new generation." She is a frequent commentator on TV and radio, arguing against same-sex marriage. In 2005 the Washington Post [reported](#) [4] that Gallagher had received money from the Department of Health and Human Services in 2002 to write, among other things, an article promoting the Bush administration's \$300 million marriage initiative in the conservative Catholic magazine, [Crisis](#) [5], under the byline of Wade Horn, HHS assistant secretary for children and families. She later apologized for not disclosing the payment, which many saw as a breach of journalistic ethics.

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### Links:

[1] <http://www.nationformarriage.org/site/c.omL2KeN0LzH/b.3836955/k.BEC6/Home.htm>

[2] [http://www.goodasyou.org/good\\_as\\_you/2009/05/spelling-fail.html](http://www.goodasyou.org/good_as_you/2009/05/spelling-fail.html)

[3] <http://www.marriagedebate.com/>

[4] <http://www.washingtonpost.com/ac2/wp-dyn/A36545-2005Jan25?language=printer>

[5]

[http://insidecatholic.com/Joomla/index.php?option=com\\_magazine&func=show\\_magazine&id=1&Itemid](http://insidecatholic.com/Joomla/index.php?option=com_magazine&func=show_magazine&id=1&Itemid)