

Questions on Wax, “The Conservative’s Dilemma: Traditional Institutions, Social Change, and Same-Sex Marriage”

1. P1. Same-sex marriage is a social arrangement forbidden by God.
P2. The state should not legalize social arrangements forbidden by God.
C. The state should not legalize same-sex marriage.

How would Burke or Oakeshott assess this argument?

2. “In *Loving v. Virginia*, the Supreme Court invalidated the ban on interracial marriage as based on an irrational animus against blacks and an unjustified revulsion against ‘racial mixing’.”

Why might Burke or Oakeshott resist the parallel for same-sex marriage?

3. “...sanctioning same-sex marriage will inevitably lead to the legalization of other suspect forms of conduct, including polygamy, group marriage, incest, and bestiality.”

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Does Wax think conservatives should endorse this objection to same-sex marriage? Why or why not?

4. Is there a conservative case for same-sex marriage? What do you think?



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