

To CAMFT Board members and candidates: Ronald Mah, Sandy Wolf, Susan Read-Weil, Susan Kelsey, Jodi Blackley, Guillermo Alvarez; Mary Riemersma, Executive Director; Patrick Healy, President of the Board of Directors:

I am writing as a (concerned citizen/member of the GLBT community) to urge you to join the long list of other professional psychotherapy organizations that have issued formal statements in favor of marriage equality.

Mental health workers play an important role in both ending homophobia and dealing with its psychological effects. Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people often seek therapy as a place to deal with the pain of living in a culture which has historically viewed them as less than. Even for those clients where this is not the primary issue, therapy should be a place that they/we can trust that therapists have an understanding of the powerful impact of homophobia on their/our lives. It is disappointing that among other organizations representing mental health professionals, CAMFT stands alone in silence on the need for marriage equality.

Remaining silent on this issue at this point in time, is, in effect, taking a stand in favor of discrimination.

I urge you to join all the other organizations of mental health professionals in raising your voice against discrimination. Marriage equality should certainly be of the utmost concern of Marriage and Family Therapists.

Please break your silence.

Sincerely,