



Center for Military Readiness



Promoting high standards and sound priorities for our military men and women.

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Pentagon Using “Spin” to Push Obama Gays-in-Military Goal

Pentagon officials are stepping up a misleading perception management (PM) campaign, trying to rush Congress into passing legislation that would impose a new **LGBT Law** or policy on our military. Such a law would require full acceptance of lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgenders in all branches and communities of the military, with “zero tolerance” of dissent. In response, CMR President **Elaine Donnelly** issued the following statement:

“Both Secretary of Defense **Robert Gates** and Joint Chiefs Chairman **Adm. Mike Mullen** are making statements that reflect mistaken presumptions about [the current law](#), which is constantly mislabeled “**Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell**,” and using unpersuasive reasoning for acting with more haste than wisdom.”

“On Sunday, Secretary Gates [cited a pending court case that is under appeal](#) as a reason why Congress should rush to repeal current law in a lame-duck session, without sufficient time for careful consideration of the consequences. That Gates’ reasoning was flawed for several reasons:

- “Secretary Gates was wrong in assuming that the law would be repealed, and he is equally wrong in assuming that a rogue ruling by a district court in San Diego is more important than the actual law, several **Supreme Court** precedents, and the U. S. Constitution, **Article 1, Section 8**.
- “Legal experts have expressed concern that if Congress rushes to repeal the law, all appeals will be dropped, leaving the outlandish ruling of San Diego **District Judge Virginia Phillips** to stand as *precedent* within the Ninth Circuit. If this happens, future plaintiffs will seek similar court rulings striking down *any* military law or policy they don’t like. If Secretary Gates does not want west-coast federal judges making policy for the armed forces, he should stop encouraging Congress to repeal the law in the lame-duck session.
- “Furthermore, Secretary Gates should not complain about several days of unnecessary turmoil that occurred when the Defense Department imposed on- and off-again changes in eligibility regulations. Both Gates and DoD General Counsel **Jeh Johnson**, Co-Chair of the **Comprehensive Review Working Group (CRWG)**, were themselves responsible for causing unnecessary confusion when they rushed to bow to Judge Phillips’ worldwide injunction halting enforcement of the law. The Supreme Court will overturn the district court’s order in due course.

- “Gates and Johnson also let down the troops by approving troublesome enforcement regulations, known as [“Don’t Report, Don’t Act.”](#) which have undermined the current law stating that homosexuals are not eligible to serve in the military.”

Donnelly continued, “Activists who want the military to operate under LGBT Law are basing their hopes on *perceptions* about the Pentagon’s Working Group report, due for early release on November 30. As this editorial reveals, that report is being carefully “spun” as a military endorsement of gays in the military.”

- *Washington Times*: [Barack’s Brokeback Barracks](#)

She continued, “The Department of Defense has allowed an erroneous story based on anonymous sources to be published without correction, calling into question the integrity of the entire CRWG process.” **Senator John McCain** (R-AZ) has already raised important questions about the workings and assumptions of the DoD Working Group with this September 28 letter.

- [Letter from Sen. John McCain to CRWG](#)

A lengthy list of topics of interest, which the [Military Culture Coalition](#) presented to the CRWG following two meetings at the Pentagon in March and September, are posted on the website of the [Military Culture Coalition](#).

The Center for Military Readiness will be available for interviews on what the CRWG Report includes, and what it has left out. To schedule an interview on this subject, call Elaine Donnelly at **734/464-9430** or CMR Executive Director **Tommy Sears** at **202/347-5333**.

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