



MILITARY CULTURE COALITION

**For Immediate Release
August 10, 2010**

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To: Byron York

AMERICANS PREFER RETENTION OVER REPEAL OF 1993 LAW ON GAYS IN THE MILITARY, OPPOSE ABORTION IN MILITARY HOSPITALS

Washington, D.C.—A survey of 1,000 likely voters, commissioned by **The Military Culture Coalition (MCC)**, finds support for the status quo on the issue of homosexuals in the military. It also finds little support for the current movement to repeal the 1993 law that is referred to as “**Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell**” (**DADT**).

Center for Military Readiness President **Elaine Donnelly** predicted that the opinions of likely voters reflected in the MCC survey would give lawmakers yet another reason to support the current law. “Americans understand that the current push for sexual minorities in the military is motivated by politics, not principle. Instead of seeking favor with a minority of LGBT activists, lawmakers should heed the advice of military leaders who support the current law.”

Major findings of the [MCC Survey](#) include the following:

- By a margin of 48%-45% voters preferred retaining, rather than repealing, the 1993 law to allow homosexual persons to serve openly in the military.
- More people would give weight and deference to the four service chiefs of the military rather than to advocates in the decision to overturn the law.
- Only 1% of likely voters said that this should be the top priority for Congress and the President through the end of this year.
- Voters were 26 percentage points more likely to believe that politics, not principle, motivated President Barack Obama’s promise to overturn the law (57%-31%).
- Thirty percent would be less likely and 21% more likely to vote for their Member of

Congress knowing that he or she voted to disrupt the status quo.

- A majority of likely voters (52%) opposed (and 37% favored) the imposition of career penalties on military personnel and chaplains who do not support homosexuality in the military.
- By a margin of 55%-40%, likely voters disagreed that the “*military should modify training programs to promote acceptance of openly lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender persons in all military colleges, training programs, and schools run by the U.S. Defense Department.*”
- Voters opposed allowing abortions in military medical facilities by a margin of 49%-41%.
- Lawmakers who vote for abortions in tax-funded military facilities do so at their own political peril: 43% would be less likely and 21% more likely to vote for their Members of Congress who do so.

Details of the Military Culture Coalition survey, a project of the **Center for Military Readiness**, are available at www.militaryculturecoalition.com.

Organizations supporting MCC efforts in defense of the 1993 law include **Family Research Council Action**, the **Center for Security Policy**, **Focus on the Family CitizenLink**, the **Alliance Defense Fund**, **Let Freedom Ring**, **Concerned Women for America**, **Liberty Counsel**, **Eagle Forum**, **Thomas More Law Center**, **Freedom Alliance**, **Tradition, Family & Property** and the **American Family Association**.

Experts available for comment include:

Kellyanne Conway	202/667-6557
Elaine Donnelly	202/347-5333
Tony Perkins	202/624-3003
Bob Maginnis	571/331-6094
Frank Gaffney	202/835-9077
Daniel Blomberg	1-800-TELL-ADF
Wendy Wright	202/488-7000, x1022
Richard Thompson	734/827-2001

Unlike other major news organization polls of adults in general, the [MCC Survey](#) sought the opinions of **1,000 likely voters** nationwide. **The Polling Company/WomanTrend** conducted the poll in mid-July with randomly-dialed phone calls, producing results with a 3.1% margin of error. The extensive survey asked respondents specific questions about the 1993 law and the political impact on lawmakers voting to revoke it. It also used terms favored by **LGBT** (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender) groups advocating repeal, and sought opinions on controversial proposals that the same activists have recommended for implementation if Congress revokes the law.

To schedule an interview with Donnelly or leaders of the various organizations working with the Military Culture Coalition, call CMR Executive Director **Tommy Sears** at **202/347-5333**, or visit the MCC website at www.militaryculturecoalition.org.

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The Center for Military Readiness is an independent, non-partisan 501(c)(3) public policy organization that specializes in military social issues. More information is available at www.cmrlink.org.