

**RESOLUTION ON HUMAN SEXUALITY  
IN THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN CONFERENCE**

1 **ACTION TO BE VOTED ON:**

2 Be it resolved that The Rocky Mountain Annual Conference affirms the statement known as The  
3 Majority Report, adopted by the Human Sexuality Sub-Committee and the larger Church &  
4 Society II Legislative Committee of the General Conference of the United Methodist Church on  
5 April 27, 2008.  
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8 **RATIONALE:**

9 The 2008 General Conference of the United Methodist Church convened under the theme “A  
10 Future With Hope” and, beginning with the opening worship service, expressed a new and  
11 genuine spirit to move beyond some of the language of the past and affirm new language that is  
12 more faithful to witnesses from both past and current holy conferencing, as well as our Scriptural  
13 call to live the gospel in the Spirit of Christ.  
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15 The members of the General Conference Legislative Committee known as Church & Society II  
16 were prayerfully selected to represent a broad scope of faithful United Methodists, both clergy  
17 and laity and from all parts of the theological spectrum, in their task of considering petitions  
18 submitted by United Methodists spanning our global connection.  
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20 The General Conference’s Church & Society II Sub-committee entitled Human Sexuality  
21 engaged in lengthy, thorough, and genuine holy conferencing around the subject of Human  
22 Sexuality found in ¶ 161 G of the Book of Discipline. Their prayerful work became the  
23 Majority Report of the Church and Society II Legislative Committee.  
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25 This statement was and is a product of honest and genuine holy conferencing and represents a  
26 reflection of both grace and truth of which United Methodists throughout our connection can be  
27 proud. The spirit of this statement is clearly the heart of our future and a reflection, we believe,  
28 of the grace and truth of Jesus Christ.  
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30 It is our prayer that The Rocky Mountain Annual Conference will affirm this statement and  
31 allow us to move forward, fully embracing “A Future of Hope”. We, the 2008 Rocky Mountain  
32 Conference Delegation, feel it expresses a respectful middle ground in an attitude of seeking  
33 understanding and the leadership of the Holy Spirit.  
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35 We commit ourselves to let this statement guide our own relationships with one another in this  
36 Conference and with our surrounding culture.

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38 A Statement on Human Sexuality (The Majority Report)  
39 as adopted by Church & Society II Legislative Committee  
40 General Conference, April 27, 2008)  
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42 *We recognize that sexuality is God's good gift to all persons. We believe persons may be fully*  
43 *human only when that gift is acknowledged and affirmed by themselves, the church, and society.*  
44 *We call all persons to the disciplined, responsible fulfillment of themselves, others, and society in*  
45 *the stewardship of this gift. We also recognize our limited understanding of this complex gift and*  
46 *encourage the medical, theological, and social science disciplines to combine in a determined*  
47 *effort to understand human sexuality more completely. United Methodists, along with other*  
48 *Christians, have struggled to find principles for applying traditional teachings to contemporary*  
49 *understandings of human sexuality.*

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51 *We recognize that sexuality is part of the larger human mystery, to be received and*  
52 *acknowledged in grateful responsibility. We reject all sexual expressions that damage or destroy*  
53 *the humanity God has given us. We deplore all forms of the commercialization and exploitation*  
54 *of sexual relations, with their consequent cheapening and degradation of human personality. We*  
55 *call for strict global enforcement of laws prohibiting the sexual exploitation or use of children by*  
56 *adults and encourage efforts to hold perpetrators legally and financially responsible. We call for*  
57 *adequate protection, guidance, and counseling for children thus abused. We believe that the*  
58 *Church family should support all families in providing age-appropriate education regarding*  
59 *sexuality to children, youth, and adults. We challenge all members of our community of faith to*  
60 *commitment, integrity and fidelity in their sexual relationships.*

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62 *We know that all are God's children and of sacred worth; yet we have been, and remain, divided*  
63 *regarding homosexual expressions of human sexuality. Faithful, thoughtful people who have*  
64 *grappled with this issue deeply disagree with one another; yet all seek a faithful witness. We*  
65 *continue to reason and pray together with faith and hope that the Holy Spirit will soon bring*  
66 *reconciliation to our community of faith. The fire in our disagreements points to a deeper human*  
67 *mystery than we knew. We believe that the Spirit has brought our collective conscience to*  
68 *acknowledge this mystery more honestly, and to make our claims with greater humility before*  
69 *God and our neighbors. We therefore ask the Church, United Methodist and others, and the*  
70 *world, to refrain from judgment regarding homosexual persons and practices as the Spirit leads*  
71 *us to new insight. Let us seek to welcome, know, forgive, and love one another as Christ has*  
72 *accepted us, that God may be glorified through everything in our lives.*

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75 **PETITION INFORMATION:**

76 **EFFECTIVE DATE:** July 1, 2008.

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78 **TERMINATION DATE:** None

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80 **ORIGINATOR OF THE RESOLUTION:**

81 The Rocky Mountain Conference 2008 Delegation

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83 Janet Forbes, clergy, St. Luke's UMC, Highlands Ranch, CO

84 Josh Davies, lay, Trinity UMC, Denver, CO

85 Youngsook Kang, clergy, Metro DS, Greenwood Village, CO

86 Judy Hill, lay, Kirk UMC, Joes, CO

87 Chuck Schuster, clergy, First UMC, Ft. Collins, CO

88 Kunle Taiwo, lay, Park Hill UMC, Denver, CO

89 Carolyn Waters, clergy, Christ UMC, Denver, CO

90 Phil Cardin, lay, Christ UMC, Salt Lake City, UT

91 Eric Smith, clergy, Peaks & Plains DS, Greeley, CO

92 Wendy Moffatt, lay, First UMC, Glenwood Springs, CO

93 Olon Lindemood, clergy, Mile High/Pikes Peak DS, Monument, CO

94 Diana Huerta, lay, Trinity UMC, Denver, CO

95 Steve Burnett, clergy, First UMC, Casper, WY

96 Emily Dawson-Peterson, lay, First UMC, Ft. Collins, CO

97 Melanie Rosa, clergy, Lakewood UMC, Lakewood, CO

98 Ruth Wills, lay, Parker UMC, Parker, CO

99 Sione Tukutau, clergy, Stratton UMC/Kirk UMC, Stratton, CO

100 Gheeta Smith, lay, Hilltop UMC, Sandy, UT

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102 **PERSON TO PRESENT PETITION TO CONFERENCE:**

103 Josh Davies

104 1401 Wewatta Street, #214, Denver, CO 80202

105 303-596-2425

106 DaviesJT@gmail.com

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108 **FINANCIAL IMPACT:** None