

Thomas F. Coleman, J.D.

Curriculum Vitae

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Books

The Domino Effect: How Strategic Moves for Gay Rights, Singles Rights, and Family Diversity Have Touched the Lives of Millions. (2009) Memoirs of Thomas F. Coleman chronicling his advocacy activities from 1972 to 2008. (314 pages) ([Link](#))

The Seventies: A Breakthrough Decade for LGBT Rights. (2022) ([Link](#)) A Memory book honoring the lawyers and law students who propelled the social and legal reforms we enjoy today. (354 pages) [Book review.](#)

Documentary Film

Pursuit of Justice. (2016) This documentary film by Greg Byers tracks Thomas F. Coleman and other colleagues as their advocacy activities attract a growing network of activists to become involved in this pursuit of justice for adults with mental and developmental disabilities who become entangled in guardianship and conservatorship proceedings. (34 minutes) ([Link](#))

Commentaries

The Domino Effect: My Life as an Advocate. (2021) This [essay](#) describes the various phases of advocacy of Thomas F. Coleman from his days in law school in the early 1970s until he published his memoirs in 2009. The essay formed the basis for a [video podcast](#) on the same subject.

A New Challenge: Conservatorship Injustices. (2021). This [essay](#) describes a new phase of advocacy for Thomas F. Coleman – reforming the broken conservatorship system in California and guardianship systems elsewhere. The essay was the basis for a [video podcast](#). (17 min)

The Route to Conservatorship Reform: The Path Forward. (2023) This [essay](#) identifies the many flaws in California’s conservatorship system, proposes solutions to each of them, and identifies the agency or official with jurisdiction to reform the system. More than 20 “route markers” are provided to would-be reform advocates.

Webinar

1972: A Breakthrough Year for LGBT Law Student Activism. (2022) In this PowerPoint [presentation](#) and [webinar](#), hosted by Outlaws at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles, Thomas F. Coleman describes how he and other law students emerged as open LGBT advocates throughout the nation during this historic year for gay rights. Coleman was the founding president of the first gay law student association in the nation. A related [presentation](#) was made in October 2022 at College of the Desert in Palm Desert, California.

Archives

In addition to the Thomas F. Coleman and Jay M. Kohorn [papers](#) housed at the One Archives on the campus of the University of Southern California, a [digital version](#) of Coleman’s archives (1972 - 2009) is accessible online.

Professional Experience

1973 - Law Office of Thomas F. Coleman

Currently providing [consulting services](#) and offering strategic advice to attorneys in conservatorship and guardianship cases. Also offering [speaker services](#) for conferences and university classes, as well as educational trainings for lawyers and other professionals. Formerly represented defendants in trials and appeals; lobbied administrative agencies to implement legal reforms; and provided consulting services for policy studies initiated by public officials in California.

1973 - [Certificate of Admission](#) to Practice before California Supreme Court

1979 - [Certificate of Admission](#) to Practice before U.S. Supreme Court

1987 - Spectrum Institute

Executive Director of this nonprofit organization. Have supervised staff, interns, and volunteers on educational projects, policy studies, and court cases promoting respect for human diversity, including the projects noted below.

2015 - [Disability and Guardianship Project](#)

Focuses on systemic reforms to guardianship proceedings, especially the right to access to justice under the Americans with Disabilities Act, including having a properly trained attorney who adheres to ADA-compliant performance standards. Legal director of this project.

1995 - 2020 [Disability and Abuse Project](#)

Focused on abuse of people with developmental or intellectual disabilities. Sought to reduce such abuse, improve system response, and seek justice for victims. Legal director of this project.

2005 - 2006 [Emancipation Project](#)

Focused on protecting the rights of juveniles confined in private residential facilities. Promoted government regulation of businesses which abduct and transport minors and government regulation of so-called "therapeutic boarding schools," which purport to provide educational and therapeutic services.

1999 - 2009 [Unmarried America](#)

Focused on the legal, political, and economic, needs of 100 million unmarried workers, consumers, and taxpayers. Sought to end marital status discrimination in the workplace, marketplace, and public policies. Promoted the commemoration of [National Singles Week](#) also known as [Unmarried and Single Americans Week](#).

1987 - 1999 [Family Diversity Project](#)

Promoted corporate and government use of broad and inclusive definitions of family. Worked with media to in order to gain support for changes in public policies and corporate practices to end discrimination on the basis of marital status and family structure.

1980 - 1982 Governor's Commission on Personal Privacy

Executive director of a 25-member [commission](#) convened by the governor of California to study invasions of privacy by government and businesses and to make recommendations on how to prevent such violations of rights.

1975 - 1980 Sexual Law Reporter

Publisher and managing editor of a [national periodical](#) reporting on developments in the field of sexuality and the law.

1974 - 1981 National Committee for Sexual Civil Liberties

Co-chairperson of a [think tank](#) of scholars and professionals from a variety of disciplines (law, psychology, theology, history, sociology) devoted to sexual law reform in the United States, especially the decriminalization of private sexual conduct of consenting adults.

1972 - 1973 Gay Law Students Association

Founding president of the first [gay law student association](#) in the nation; sponsored the first forum on gay rights at a national meeting of the American Bar Association; sponsored resolutions on gay rights and singles rights at the Law Student Division of the ABA.

Education

[Juris Doctor](#) Loyola University of Los Angeles, School of Law • Cum Laude • 1973

[Award](#) Detroit College of Law • top student in first year class • 1970

[Bachelor of Arts](#) Wayne State University • Monteith College • Detroit, Michigan • 1970

Abilities and Skills

Government Affairs

Lengthy track record of successfully working with administrative agencies, executive officials, and legislators at the federal, state, and local levels of government. Achieved goals and objectives through letters, memos, policy reports, private meetings, and public presentations.

Media Relations

Have developed excellent skills in dealing with print and broadcast media to reach intended audiences for the purpose of gaining support for specific goals. Planned, conducted, and participated in several press conferences. Have appeared on live national television programs and on many live radio shows. Have worked successfully with journalists and reporters, having been [quoted](#) in scores of magazine and newspaper stories.

Writing and Editing

Have decades of experience in using and developing my writing skills. Have written letters, memos, legal briefs, newspaper commentaries, law review

articles, executive orders, proclamations, and public policy reports. Have written a weekly column for a website blog. Have been the publisher and editor of a legal periodical and the editor of an association's newsletter. Have also created, edited, and updated websites.

Appellate Litigation

Have represented clients in successful litigation in the United States Supreme Court and state supreme courts in Alaska, California, Georgia, Michigan, and New York. Have also represented dozens of clients in the California Court of Appeal.

Volunteer Coordinator

Coordinated the activities of dozens of volunteers in several projects. The Personal Privacy Commission involved 25 commissioners and 50 public hearing witnesses. The Family Diversity Task Force involved 37 members, 12 interns, and 40 witnesses. Some 20 members, seven interns, and 20 witnesses participated in the Consumer Task Force on Marital Status Discrimination.

Nonprofit Sector

Directed the staff and volunteers of Spectrum Institute and its projects from 1987 to the present. Have also worked closely and cooperatively with dozens of other nonprofit educational and advocacy organizations.

Special Projects

2022 - *Alternatives to Guardianship Project*

Serving as a legal consultant to a federally-funded project to explore and promote alternatives to adult guardianships, including supported decision-making in Missouri. ([Project Website](#))

2000 - 2001 *Stop the Stigma Campaign*

Directed the activities of this [campaign](#) sponsored by the American Association for Single People. The goal was to have legislators repeal laws that referred to children born to unmarried parents as "bastards" or "illegitimate children" and to have judges stop using similar terms. The project did outreach to judicial associations, attorneys general, and legislators. Laws were reformed in Delaware, Illinois, and Maine. The heads of various judges associations responded favorably and shared our information with their members.

1993 - 1994 *Insurance Commissioner's Anti-Discrimination Task Force*

Served as a member of this 30-member [Task Force](#) which was convened by the Insurance Commissioner of California. Chaired the Marital Status Discrimination Workgroup. Author of its Final Report

1989 - 1990 *Consumer Task Force on Marital Status Discrimination*

Served as Chairperson of this 12-member [Task Force](#) which was convened by the City Attorney of Los Angeles. Conducted hearings and issued a report recommending ways in which government and businesses could end marital status discrimination against unmarried consumers in housing, credit, discounts, and other business transactions. Author of its Final Report.

- 1987 - 1989 *Joint Select Task Force on the Changing Family*
Served as a member of this 20-member [Task Force](#) which was convened by the California Legislature. Chaired the Couples Workgroup. Conducted hearings and issued a variety of reports recommending legislation to improve the quality of life for California families, regardless of their structures or regardless of the marital status and sexual orientation of the adults who headed up the state's households. Author of the Report of the Couples Workgroup.
- 1986 - 1988 *Los Angeles City Task Force on Family Diversity*
Served as Primary Consultant to this 38-member [Task Force](#) which was convened by the Los Angeles City Council. Conducted hearings and extensive research to determine how the city could improve the quality of life for the diverse and varied families of its constituents. Author of its Final Report.
- 1985 - 1989 *University of Southern California Law Center*
Taught the first law school [class](#) in the nation focusing on the rights of domestic partners. Dozens of students took the class and also served as interns for the Task Force on Family Diversity, the Task Force on the Changing Family, and the Consumer Task Force on Marital Status Discrimination.
- 1983 - 1989 *Commission on Racial, Ethnic, Religious and Minority Violence*
Served as a member of this 16-member [Commission](#) convened by the Attorney General of California. Conducted hearings and issued a variety of reports on how hate crimes and other forms of bias-related violence could be reduced. California became the first state to enact a [hate crime law](#) that included sexual orientation as a protected classification.
- 1981 - 1982 *California Commission on Personal Privacy*
Served as Executive Director of this 25-member [Commission](#) convened by the Governor of California. Conducted public hearings and issued a report recommending ways in which the state could better protect the personal privacy rights of its residents.

Honors and Awards

- 2017 *The Arc/United Cerebral Palsy California Collaboration*
[Appreciation Award](#) given to me by these two disability organizations for outstanding contributions in the pursuit of justice for people with developmental disabilities.
- 2017 TASH
Commendation given to me by TASH – an international disability rights organization promoting human rights for people with significant disabilities. I was recognized by the [president](#) and by the [board of directors](#) for promoting guardianship reform.
- 2016 *The Arc of Riverside*
[Recognized](#) by this disability services nonprofit organization for being a national rights and justice advocate for people with disabilities entering conservatorships.

- 2005 *Alternatives to Marriage Project*
[Lifetime Achievement Award](#) given to me by this national organization in appreciation of decades of leadership and vision regarding rights of single and unmarried Americans, advocacy for recognition of family diversity, and passionate, effective work for social justice.
- 1999 *Lawyers for Human Rights*
[Certificate of Appreciation](#) given to me by this Los Angeles organization in recognition of my being a founding member of this gay and lesbian bar association when it was first organized in 1979.
- 1991 *SOLPAC*
[Award](#) given jointly to three of us as a Special Honorees by this Long Beach political action committee in recognition for our work with the Family Diversity Project of the Long Beach Human Relations Commission.
- 1990 *American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California*
Steven T. Kelber [Courageous Advocate Award](#) given to me by the ACLU Lesbian and Gay Rights Project for my advocacy on behalf of the rights of lesbians and gay men.
- 1990 *Los Angeles City Attorney*
[Commendation](#) given to me by the Los Angeles City Attorney in appreciation for my service as Chair of the Consumer Task Force on Marital Status Discrimination, work which helped expand consumer protection.
- 1989 *California Assembly*
[Certificate of Recognition](#) given to me by the State Assembly for my contribution to the health and stability of California's families as a member of the Joint Select Task Force on the Changing Family.
- 1988 *Los Angeles City Council*
[Certificate of Commendation](#) from the City Council for outstanding public service to the people of Los Angeles for my work with the Los Angeles City Task Force on Family Diversity.
- 1988 *California Attorney General*
[Certificate of Appreciation](#) in recognition of my service as a member of the Commission on Racial, Ethnic, Religious, and Minority Violence.
- 1981 *National Committee for Sexual Civil Liberties*
[Mathew O. Tobriner Civil Liberties Award](#) given to me with permission of California Supreme Court Justice Tobriner in recognition of outstanding work and in evidence of high achievement in the areas of civil liberties and personal privacy.
- 1970 *Detroit College of Law*
[Amy D. Boomer Memorial Award](#) given to that member of the first year class who achieved the highest record of scholastic proficiency.

Articles and Reports (2013 - 2023)

(See: [Publications](#) for annotated list of 47 policy reports, 40 commentaries, 31 op-ed articles, 5 legal briefs, 10 videos, and 7 PowerPoint presentations from 2013 to 2023 involving issues related to disability rights, conservatorship and guardianship reform, and abuse of people with disabilities.)

Other Articles and Reports

Newspapers and Magazines: (1973 - 2007)

- 2004 *Arizona Republic* / February 15 / Author: "[The Single Person's Burden](#)"
Topic: Discrimination against unmarried consumers and workers is unfair.
- 2003 *USA Today* / October 20 / Author: "[Marriage is No Cure-All](#)"
Topic: Single people should not be pushed into marriage in order to secure equal rights.
- 2001 *San Diego Tribune* / March 15 / Author: "[Unmarried Americans Need Tax Relief Too](#)"
Topic: Various tax laws favor married couples and penalize unmarried people.
- 1999 *Detroit News* / May 5 / Author: "[Marital Status Remains Irrelevant to Housing](#)"
Topic: Commentary rebuts an editorial favoring religious exemption for landlords.
- 1999 *Los Angeles Daily Journal* / March 5 / Author: "[Landlords Have Green Light to Reject Tenants Who Might be Inclined to Sin](#)"
Topic: Federal appellate court was wrong to give religious exemptions from housing laws.
- 1998 *Philadelphia Enquirer* / April 20 / Author: "[Domestic Partners: Let's Expand the Family](#)"
Topic: Philadelphia City Council should pass an inclusive domestic partner benefits law.
- 1997 *San Francisco Chronicle* / December 18 / Author: "[Unequal Rights for Many Oakland Couples](#)"
Author: Commentary criticizes a discriminatory benefits system in Oakland, California.
- 1996 *Self Insurer Magazine* / September Issue / Author: "[Domestic Partner Benefits: Meeting the Needs of Unmarried Workers](#)"
Topic: As demographics change, employers should update their employee benefits plans.
- 1991 *Los Angeles Times* / December 8 / Author: "[Sword of Oppression](#)"
Topic: Freedom of religion should be used as a shield, not as a sword to harm others.
- 1989 *Los Angeles Times* / July 26 / Author: "[The Family is Changing and We Should Admit It](#)"
Topic: Commentary emphasizes the need for society to recognize the changing family.
- 1987 *Update* / July 22 / Author: "[Genocide Curriculum: Schools Anger Activists](#)"
Topic: Report discusses a protest at a State Board of Education meeting.
- 1984 *Herald Examiner* / September 12 / Author: "[California Needs Stronger Laws Against Bigots Who Resort to Violence](#)"
Topic: Commentary emphasizes the need for new hate crime legislation.

- 1984 *Advocate* / April 3 / Author: "[The Supreme Court Hears a Gay Appeal](#)"
Topic: Commentary discusses implications of an impending ruling in *People v. Uplinger*.
- 1973 *Advocate* / August 29 / Author: "[Nation's Lawyers Call for Consent Laws](#)"
Topic: Report discusses activities at the annual meeting of the American Bar Association.

Legal Journals:

- 1995 *Law and Sexuality Journal of Tulane University*
Author: "[Hawaii Has Compelling Reasons to Enact a Domestic Partnership Law](#)"
- 1995 *National Journal of Sexual Orientation Law*
Co-Author: Analysis of Attorney General's Opinion on Family Registration
- 1979 *New York University Review of Law and Social Change*
Transcript of presentation "Securing Gay Rights through Constitutional Litigation" delivered at NYU [legal conference](#) on Law and the Fight for Gay Rights
- 1975 - 1979 [Sexual Law Reporter](#)
Publisher and editor of quarterly legal publication focusing on legal issues involving human sexuality, personal privacy, and sexual orientation discrimination

Public Policy Reports:

- 2005 Special Project on Child Abuse in Utah Conducted for Spectrum Institute
Author of [Executive Summary](#) of Report: "Majestic Ranch: A Living Nightmare for Kids"
- 1993 Anti-Discrimination Task Force / Convened by State Insurance Commissioner
Author of [Report](#): "A Call to End Unfair Discrimination Against Unmarried Consumers"
- 1993 Special Project on Consumer Discrimination for Spectrum Institute
Author of [Report](#): "Credit Unions are Expanding Family Membership"
- 1991 Special Family Diversity Project for Spectrum Institute
Author of [Report](#): "Official Registration of Families with the Secretary of State: A Report on Legal, Economic, and Psychological Implications"
- 1991 Special Family Diversity Project for the City of Long Beach, California
Principal Advisor to [Report](#): "Strengthening Family Relationships in Long Beach"
- 1990 Consumer Task Force on Marital Status Discrimination / Convened by L A City Attorney
Author of [Report](#): "Unmarried Adults: A New Majority Seeks Consumer Protection"
- 1989 Task Force on the Changing Family / Convened by California State Legislature
Author of [Report](#) of the Workgroup on Couples
- 1988 Task Force on Family Diversity / Convened by Los Angeles City Council
Author of [Report](#): "Strengthening Families: A Model for Community Action"
- 1982 Commission on Personal Privacy / Convened by Governor of California
Author of Final [Report](#)

Newsletters:

- 2021 - 2023 *Spectrum Institute*
Publisher and editor of [newsletters](#) of Spectrum Institute, focusing on activities of the organization related to disability rights, conservatorship and guardianship reform, and mental health access for adults with mental and developmental disabilities.
- 1999 - 2005 *Unmarried America*
Publisher and editor of quarterly [newsletters](#) of the American Association for Single People, focusing on issues affecting single and unmarried people and [newsletters](#) for Singles Rights Lobby.

Blog:

- 2005 - 2007 *Column One*
Weekly [column](#) on website of Unmarried America focusing on legal, political, and economic issues and current events involving single people, unmarried couples, and nontraditional families

Judicial Branch (Appellate Cases)

United States Supreme Court

Board of Education vs. National Gay Task Force (1985) 470 U.S. 903

Co-counsel for [amicus curiae](#) in a case where the goal was to convince the Supreme Court to affirm a decision invalidating a state statute adversely affecting the rights of gay teachers. The goal was achieved.

People v. Uplinger (1984) 467 U.S. 264

Co-counsel for respondent in a [case](#) where the goal was to convince the Supreme Court not to overturn a decision of New York's highest court invalidating a state loitering statute. The goal was achieved.

United States Court of Appeals

Gay Student Services v. Texas A & M University (1984) 737 F.2d 1317

Co-counsel for [amicus curiae](#) in a case where the goal was to convince the court to rule that it was unconstitutional for the university to deny official status to a gay student group. The goal was achieved.

California Supreme Court

Conservatorship of O.B. (2020) 9 Cal.5th 989

An [amicus curiae brief](#) was submitted on behalf of Spectrum Institute and other advocacy organizations in a probate conservatorship appeal. The brief educated the court on the systemic deficiencies in policy and practice in probate conservatorship proceedings and the need for heightened scrutiny on appeal when the sufficiency of evidence is challenged. The court agreed with this argument, ruling that appellate court must determine whether the record as a whole contains substantial evidence from which a reasonable fact-finder could have found it highly probable that the fact was true

Smith v. Fair Employment and Housing Commission (1996) 12 Cal.4th 1143

Counsel for a [tenant](#) in a case where the goal was to convince the court to deny landlords a religious exemption from a statute prohibiting discrimination against unmarried couples. The goal was achieved.

People v. Simon (1995) 9 Cal.4th 493

Counsel for a defendant/appellant in a [case](#) where the goal was to convince the court to reverse the conviction because securities fraud could not be a strict liability crime. The goal was achieved.

Pryor v. Municipal Court (1979) 25 Cal.3d 238

Counsel for a defendant in a [case](#) where the goal was to convince the court to declare the lewd conduct law unconstitutional, protecting the right of adults to seek consent for private sex. The goal

was achieved.

Gay Law Student Association v. Pacific Tel & Tel Co. (1979) 24 Cal.3d 458

Co-counsel for [amicus curiae](#) in a case where the goal was to convince the court to rule that discrimination against gay employees was illegal under various existing laws. The goal was achieved.

California Court of Appeal

Farnia v. Superior Court (1980) No. C 334 198

Co-counsel for petitioner who filed [petitions](#) in the superior court and Court of Appeal which challenged the constitutionality of a statute criminalizing solicitation for prostitution.

Delaney v. Superior Fast Freight (1993) 14 Cal.App.4th 590

Co-counsel for [appellant](#) who successfully argued that a state labor code section prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

Alaska Supreme Court

University of Alaska v. Tumeo (1997) 933 P.2d 1147

Counsel for [amicus curiae](#) in a case where the goal was to convince the court that laws against marital status discrimination are violated when benefits are denied to domestic partners. The goal was achieved.

Georgia Supreme Court

City of Atlanta v. McKinney (1995) 454 S.E.2d 517

Co-counsel for amicus curiae in a [case](#) where the goal was to convince the court that Atlanta had the authority to enact an ordinance creating a domestic partner registry in the city. The goal was achieved.

Michigan Supreme Court

McCready v. Hoffius (1998) 586 N.W.2d 723

Co-counsel for [amicus curiae](#) in a case where the goal was to convince the court to rule that a marital status law protects unmarried couples from housing discrimination. The goal was achieved.

People v. Lino and Brashier (1994) 527 N.W.2d 434

Co-counsel for [amicus curiae](#) in a case where the goal was to convince the court to rule that it was unconstitutional to criminalize private sex between consenting adults. The goal was not achieved in this case, although the argument was accepted by the U. S. Supreme Court in another case in 2003.

Ohio Supreme Court

State v. Phipps (1979) 389 N.E.2d 1128

Of counsel on this [amicus curiae](#) brief supporting a constitutional challenge to an Ohio statute criminalizing solicitation of a sexual act. The court found the statute constitutionally infirm but narrowly construed it to prohibit only speech that was intended to and was likely to offend the listener.

New Jersey Appellate Division

In Re Brumlik, Appellate Division of the Superior Court of New Jersey, No. A-002734-22. (2023)

Comment: This [brief](#), filed by [10 organizations](#), supported the challenge by a young man with autism of a court order restricting his rights in a guardianship proceeding despite the lack of a jury trial or a legitimate finding that he was incapacitated. The brief focused on Peter's constitutional right to self determination, including in the context of medical decisions, and due process of law.

New York Court of Appeal

Braschi v. Stahl Associates (1989) 543 N.E.2d 49

Co-counsel for [amicus curiae](#) in a case where the goal was to convince the court to rule that the term "family" in a city housing law was broad enough to include unmarried couples. The goal was achieved.

Oklahoma Court of Appeal

City of Tulsa v. Carmack (1981) No. 0-79-58

Co-counsel on an amicus curiae brief supporting a challenge to the constitutionality of a lewd conduct statute used to entrap and prosecute gay men for consenting sex. The appeal was [dismissed](#) at the

request of the prosecution, thus keeping intact a ruling by the trial court that the statute was unconstitutional.

Judicial Branch (Administrative Outreach)

California

- 2021 - 2022 *Alameda County Grand Jury*
[Memo](#) to the grand jury explaining how the probate conservatorship system works in Alameda County. This was a follow up to a [complaint](#) to the grand jury. It resulted in an investigation and [report](#) by the grand jury calling for reforms.
- 2021 - 2022 *Santa Clara County Grand Jury*
A [complaint](#) to the grand jury in this county resulted in an investigation and [report](#) by the grand jury calling for reforms.
- 2014 - 2020 *Chief Justice*
[Letters](#) sent to the Chief Justice promoting reforms in the way the judiciary processes probate conservatorship cases in order to have judicial practices conform to due process and mandates of the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- 2015 - 2018 *Justice Harry Hull*
[Letters](#) sent to Court of Appeal Justice Harry Hull, chair of the rules committee of the Judicial Council requesting administrative changes in court policies and practices to improve access to justice for litigants with disabilities in conservatorship proceedings.
- 2014 - 2015 *Los Angeles County Judges*
[Letters](#) sent to various judges of the Los Angeles County Superior Court seeking changes in judicial policies and practices to improve access to justice in probate conservatorship cases.
- 2018 *Sacramento County Superior Court*
Administrative complaints that the failure of judges to appoint attorneys for all respondents in probate conservatorship proceedings constitutes disability discrimination under the state and federal laws. [Complaint #1](#) was filed on behalf of individuals with developmental disabilities. [Complaint #2](#) was filed on behalf of seniors and other adults with mental disabilities. Both complaints included a set of [exhibits](#).

Executive Branch (Administrative Agency Projects)

Federal Government

- 1980 White House
[Meeting](#) to discuss the role of the federal government to protect Americans from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation
- 2001 - 2023 *United States Census Bureau*
Convinced the agency to issue annual [press releases](#) since 2003 as part of their Facts for Features series, commemorating Unmarried and Single Americans Week.
- 2021 Rep. Jerry Nadler
[Letter](#) to Congressman Nadler, chair of the House Judiciary Committee, urging

the committee to hold hearings into deficiencies in state guardianship proceedings.

2017 Senator Check Grassley
[Letter](#) to Senator Grassley, chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, asking him to amend S.178 – Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act – to explicitly apply to vulnerable adults with disabilities as well as seniors.

2015 *Department of Justice*
[Complaint](#) to the federal DOJ under the ADA for voting rights violations in the California conservatorship system resulted in a statewide [investigation](#), which in turn contributed to the passage of new statutes to protect the voting rights of people with disabilities who become entangled in these state court proceedings.

State Governments

2014 - 2021 *California State Bar*
[Letters](#) to the State Bar to bring to its attention deficiencies that impact the right to effective assistance of counsel, such as failure to appoint attorneys in probate conservatorship cases, deficient performance by attorneys when they are appointed, and the lack of accessibility to the State Bar complaint system for clients with mental and developmental disabilities.

2014 - 2020 *California Senator Hanna Beth Jackson*
[Letters](#) to Senator Jackson, chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, asking that the committee conduct oversight hearings into the manner in which probate conservatorship proceedings are violating the rights of adults with mental and developmental disabilities.

2014 - 2017 *California DDS and HHS*
[Letters](#) to the Director of the California Department of Developmental Services and the Secretary of the Health and Human Services Agency regarding improvements to be made in oversight and management of regional centers in their role with conservatorship proceedings involving clients with developmental disabilities.

2016 *Utah Governor*
[Letter](#) to Governor of Utah urging him to veto a bill that would allow courts not to appoint an attorney to represent a respondent in a guardianship proceeding if the case was initiated by a parent of the respondent.

2002 - 2003 *Governors*
Convinced the Governors of 16 states to issue [proclamations](#) observing Unmarried and Single Americans Week during the third week of September.

2001 *Virginia, Department of Social Services*
Submitted [brief](#) to this agency in opposition to its intention to deny Darlene Davis renewal of her child care license on the ground that she and an unmarried man were cohabiting outside of wedlock. Her license was renewed.

1998 *California, Governor*
Convinced Gray Davis to broaden a domestic partnership bill, which was then limited to same-sex couples, to also include heterosexual seniors.

1993 *California, Insurance Commissioner*
Convinced John Garamendi to support a report on marital status discrimination and to issue a press release and hold a press conference explaining his plans to implement recommendations to stop marital status discrimination by insurance

companies. Wrote the report and participated in the press conference.

- 1991 *California, Labor Commissioner*
Worked closely with the Los Angeles City Attorney Jim Hahn and San Francisco District Attorney Arlo Smith to [successfully convince](#) state Labor Commissioner Victoria Bradshaw to process complaints from private sector employees who believed they were victims of sexual orientation discrimination
- 1990 *California, Secretary of State*
Convinced March Fong Eu to allow her agency to operate a de facto family [registration system](#) and to issue registration certificates to couples, with and without children, who registered with that agency. Further convinced her to defend the registration system against challenges made by the Legislative Counsel and the Attorney General.
- 1987 *California, Board of Education*
Worked with other advocates to convince the Board of Education to revise a [Model Curriculum](#) on Human Rights and Genocide to include references to genocide and violence perpetrated against gays and lesbians and people with disabilities.
- 1984 - 1990 *California, Attorney General*
Served as a member of the [Commission](#) on Racial, Ethnic, Religious, and Minority Violence which was convened by John Van De Kamp. Worked successfully to insure that violence against gays and lesbians, seniors, and people with disabilities, were included in the commission's work, including its reports and recommendations and an [amendment](#) to a hate crime law to include age, disability, and sexual orientation as protected classifications.
- 1984 *California, Governor*
Worked with other advocates to [convince](#) George Deukmejian to [sign](#) the first statewide law that included "sexual orientation" – a law dealing with hate crimes.
- 1980 *California, Governor*
Worked with a small group of colleagues to convince Jerry Brown to issue an executive order creating a [Commission](#) on Personal Privacy to study and make recommendations on how the government could better protect personal privacy rights of Californians, including steps to end sexual orientation discrimination.
- 1980 *California, State Personnel Board*
Worked with a small group of colleagues to assist this [agency](#) in implementing the Governor's executive order prohibiting sexual orientation discrimination in state government. Succeeded in having the agency create a special project for this purpose and to devote a full time staff member to head the project.
- 1979 *California, Governor*
Urged Governor Jerry Brown to issue an [executive order](#) prohibiting sexual orientation discrimination in state government, patterned after actions taken by the Governor of Pennsylvania. Was consulted by Tony Kline, the Governor's Legal Affairs Secretary, on the wording of the executive order prohibiting sexual orientation discrimination in state employment. Jerry Brown signed the order on April 4, 1979. .
- 1979 *California, Department of Fair Employment and Housing*
Worked with a small group of colleagues to convince Joanne Lewis, Director of the Department, to reverse a prior directive which precluded the agency from processing complaints of sexual orientation discrimination in housing. The

agency then began to provide [protection](#) to victims of such discrimination.

1976 *California, Governor*
Worked with a small group of colleagues to convince Carlotta Melon, the Governor's Appointments Secretary, to screen potential appointees for homophobia (anti-gay bias).

Local Governments

2002 - 2003 *Mayors*
Convinced the Mayors of 30 cities throughout the United States to issue [proclamations](#) observing Unmarried and Single Americans Week during the third week of September.

1989 - 1990 *Los Angeles, City Attorney*
Convinced Jim Hahn to convene a [Consumer Task Force](#) on Marital Status Discrimination to study how businesses were discriminating against consumers who were unmarried and to recommend ways to stop such discrimination. Was chairperson of the task force. Wrote the final report. Participated in a press conference when the report was released, which resulted in press coverage for "singles' rights" on national television and in national print media.

1988 - 1989 *Los Angeles, Mayor*
Convinced Tom Bradley to issue a directive to all city agencies and commissions to review the Final Report of the Los Angeles City [Task Force](#) on Family Diversity to develop ideas on how to implement recommendations which fell within the jurisdiction of those agencies.

Legislative Branch

Federal Government

2005 *House of Representatives*
Worked with the staff of the Committee on Education and the Workforce to develop a draft of the "Human Rights for Institutionalized Minors Act of 2005." Under a different title, the bill passed the House of Representatives in 2008.

2004 *House of Representatives*
Presented an Outstanding Unmarried American Award to Congresswoman Diane Watson (D-Los Angeles) on behalf of Unmarried America (formerly known as the American Association for Single People). The award recognized her efforts to promote equal rights for unmarried Americans.

2003 *House of Representatives and Senate*
Conducted a [Congressional Briefing](#) in a conference room of the Rayburn House Office Building during Unmarried and Single Americans Week. The briefing was for legislators and their staff members about the need for federal laws to prohibit marital status discrimination in employment, housing, taxation, and various business transactions. Congressman Rahm Emanuel (now Chief of Staff to President Barack Obama) was one of the people attending the briefing.

2003 *House of Representatives and Senate*
Presented Political Leadership Awards to Senator Gordon Smith (R-Oregon)

and Congressman Jim McDermott (D-Washington) in Washington, D.C. for their efforts to end federal taxation of health benefits to domestic partners of employees. The awards were conferred by Unmarried America.

- 2002 *House of Representatives*
Presented a Political Leadership Award to Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes in Washington D.C. on behalf of the American Association for Single People. The award recognized her efforts to implement a domestic partnership law in the District of Columbia and to overcome congressional objections to the law.
- 2001 *House of Representatives, Senate, White House, National Committees*
Working with a small group of volunteers in May 2001, the American Association for Single People became the first singles' group in the nation to personally distribute literature to staff members in each of the 535 offices of members of Congress. During this trip, I met with staff members of five Representatives and seven Senators to discuss policy issues affecting single people. I also met with David From, a speech writer for the President, as well as staff members with the Democratic National Committee and the Republican National Committee.

State Governments

- 2005 *Utah, State Legislature*
Held a [press conference](#) in the rotunda of the State Capitol about abuses occurring at a local "boarding school." Submitted a [report](#) to legislators, attorney general, and the governor asking for action to be taken against the school and for passage of stricter laws against such abuse. Local [media](#) ran stories about the press conference and report.
- 2000 *Vermont, House Judiciary Committee*
Testified before the [House Judiciary Committee](#) at the invitation of its chairperson on the viability of enacting a comprehensive domestic partnership law in response to a Supreme Court ruling. A civil union law was enacted.
- 1999 *Michigan, House Constitutional Law and Ethics Committee*
Testified before this Committee, at the request of [Rep. Elizabeth Brater](#), to oppose HB 4258, a bill to repeal civil rights protections for unmarried couples. My testimony and supporting materials provided sufficient doubt about the soundness of the bill that the committee chair did not bring it up for a vote.
- 1999 *California, Senate Industrial Relations Committee*
Testified before this Committee, at the request of [Senator Tom Hayden](#), in support of his bill to expand those eligible for family and medical leave to include domestic partners.
- 1999 *California, Senate Appropriations Committee*
Testified before this Committee, at the request of [Assemblyman Wally Knox](#), in support of his bill to allow local governments that participate in the Public Employees Retirement System to give health benefits to the domestic partners of local employees.
- 1997 *California, Assembly Judiciary Committee*
Testified before this Committee, at the request of [Assemblyman Kevin Murray](#), in support of his bill to create a domestic partnership registry with the office of

the Secretary of State.

- 1997 *California, Assembly Judiciary Committee*
Testified before this Committee, at the request of [Assemblywoman Carole Migden](#), in support of her bill to mandate that insurers offer domestic partner health coverage if they offer spousal health coverage.
- 1997 *Hawaii, Senate Judiciary Committee*
Responded to request of Co-chairpersons of this [Committee](#), for information of expected cost increases if health benefits were extended to same-sex domestic partners of government and private-sector employees.
- 1996 *Hawaii, Senate Judiciary Committee*
Testified before this Committee, at the request of committee chairperson Rey Gaulty, to explain various options to the committee regarding a [comprehensive domestic partnership act](#). Such a bill later was approved by the full Senate.
- 1996 *California, Assembly Judiciary Committee*
Testified before this Committee, at the request of [Assemblywoman Marguerite Archie Hudson](#), in opposition to ACA 28, a “Family Bill of Rights” that would have amended the California Constitution to prohibit state and local legislators from defining “family” in a manner that went beyond the traditional relationships based on blood, marriage, or adoption.
- 1988 *California, Senate Health and Human Services Committee*
Testified about economic conditions facing diverse families in California.

Local Governments

- 1999 *Illinois, Cook County Board of Supervisors*
Testified before the Board, at the request of [Supervisor William Moran](#) in support of his proposal to expand the proposed domestic partner benefits plan to include opposite-sex couples as well as same-sex couples.
- 1998 *California, Oakland City Council*
Spearheaded a six-month [campaign](#) which culminated in the City Council expanding its health benefits plan for same-sex domestic partners of city employees to also include opposite-sex partners of city employees.
- 1997 *Pennsylvania, Philadelphia City Council*
Conducted an informational [briefing](#) for the City Council on the issue of domestic partnership rights and benefits, answering questions from council members about options and alternatives in Philadelphia.
- 1991 *California, Long Beach City Council*
Testified in support of a proposal to create a domestic partnership registry and to grant benefits to domestic partners of city employees.
- 1989 *California, West Hollywood City Council*
Testified before the City Council on ways in which the city’s domestic partnership ordinance could be improved.

- 1988 *California, Los Angeles City Council*
Assisted in drafting a measure, adopted by the City Council, that the city would offer to include in union contracts a clause providing sick leave and bereavement leave to the domestic partners of city employees belonging to those unions.
- 1975 *California, Los Angeles City Council*
Testified before council on "City Should Support Bill to Reform Sexual Law"
- 1975 *California, Los Angeles City Council, Intergovernmental Committee*
Testified before the council on "City Should Support State Nondiscrimination Bill"
- 1975 *California, Los Angeles Police Commission*
Testified before the commission on "Gays Are Qualified to Be Police Officers and Prosecutors"

Nonprofit Organizations

- 2005 *Prevent Child Abuse New York, Albany, New York*
Co-presenter of [workshop](#) entitled "Abduction and Reprogramming of American Teens: The Need to Regulate Businesses that Abuse, Torture, and Kill"
- 2005 *Family Violence and Sexual Assault Institute, San Diego, California*
Co-presenter of workshop entitled "Rescuing Juveniles from Parent Funded Abuse in Private Residential Facilities"
- 2004 *International Survivors Action Committee, San Diego, California*
Assisted in conducting a [forum](#) at which teens and young adults testified about the abuse they experienced in so-called "behavior modification" programs and teen boot camps.
- 2004 *Union Rescue Mission, Los Angeles, California*
Obtained a challenge grant of \$80,000 to assist this Los Angeles nonprofit to successfully raise \$320,000 to reopen its [single women's shelter](#).
- 1999 *The Policy Institute of NGLTF*
Consulted by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force for advice in creating a [Domestic Partnership Organizing Manual](#).
- 1999 *Equality Florida, Miami, Florida*
Assisted this nonprofit organization in developing a [domestic partnership bill](#) which was introduced into the Florida Legislature.
- 1998 *International Association of Firefighters, Oakland, California*
Assisted this organization in securing domestic partner benefits for its members in Oakland, California.
- 1998 *National Organization for Women, Washington, D.C.*
Convinced the President of NOW to issue a letter supporting gender-neutral domestic partnership laws and benefits programs that included opposite-sex

partners as well as same-sex partners.

- 1997 *Self Insurance Institute of America, Indianapolis, Indiana*
Made two presentations on domestic partnership benefits at a national forum sponsored by this insurance industry organization.
- 1996 *Service Employees International Union, Local 535*
Assisted this organization in securing domestic partner [medical benefits](#) for employees of the County of Los Angeles.
- 1996 *National Employee Benefits and Workers Compensation Institute, Atlanta*
Conducted workshops for this group at an educational forum for its members.
- 1995 *Triangle Foundation, Detroit, Michigan*
Conducted a [workshop](#) for the legal committee of this gay rights organization.
- 1995 *AARP, Washington D.C.*
Participated in a 21 member workgroup as part of a mini-conference with the White House Conference on Aging. Developed [materials](#) later published by AARP in a report entitled "The Real Golden Girls" which addressed public policy and nontraditional family living arrangements among older adults.
- 1991 *Los Angeles Federal Credit Union*
Published a [report](#) which assisted this group in obtaining approval to allow domestic partners of city employees to become credit union members on the same terms as spouses.
- 1990 *Los Angeles Lawyers for Human Rights*
Presentation on "Family Diversity: Legal Strategies for the 90s"
- 1990 *South Bay Gay & Lesbian Organization, Torrance*
Presentation on "Combating Discrimination Against Unmarried Couples"
- 1989 *NGLTF Creating Change Conference, Washington, D.C.*
Panel Presentation on Rights of Domestic Partners at November conference.
- 1989 *Southwest College PACE Conference, Los Angeles*
Presentation on "Making Way for Families of the Future" at November forum.
- 1989 *San Diego Democratic Club, San Diego*
Presentation on "The Changing Family in California" at September meeting.
- 1989 *California State Bar Convention, San Diego*
Speaker at September meeting. Topic was "Family Diversity and the Law."
- 1989 *Lawyers for Human Rights Conference, Los Angeles*
Presenter on "Strategies for the '90s" during plenary panel at July meeting.
- 1989 *California Council of Churches, Los Angeles*
Did an Issue Briefing on "The Changing Family" at April meeting.
- 1989 *Harvard Law School Conference, Cambridge, Massachusetts*
[Presenter](#) on "Integrating Sexual Orientation Issues into Family Law Classes"

at this April conference.

- 1989 *New York City Bar Association*
Made a presentation to members on the work of the Los Angeles City Task Force on Family Diversity and encouraged them to develop family diversity proposals for the City of New York. Meeting was held in February.
- 1989 *Seminar for USC Faculty and Staff, Los Angeles*
Presentation on "Employee Benefits and the Changing Family".
- 1989 *ACLU Singles Chapter*
Presentation on "Rights and Responsibilities of Single People in Nontraditional Relationships" at November meeting.
- 1988 *Sacramento/Yolo Conference on Families, Sacramento*
December presentation on "Strengthening Relationships of California Couples"
- 1988 *Education Commissions of Los Angeles Unified School District*
November presentation on "Family Diversity: Recommendations for Schools"
- 1988 *Southern California Interfaith Coalition on Aging*
September presentation on "Family Diversity: Helping Families with Seniors"
- 1988 *Community Relations Conference of Southern California*
August presentation on "Ending Discrimination on the Basis of Family Status"
- 1988 *ACLU Lesbian & Gay Rights Chapter, Los Angeles*
July presentation on "Findings of the Family Diversity Task Force"
- 1988 *Affirmation/Gay and Lesbian Mormons, Los Angeles*
July presentation on "Family Diversity: Separation of Church and State"
- 1988 *Municipal Elections Committee of Los Angeles (MECLA)*
June presentation on "Implementing Family Diversity Recommendations"
- 1988 *Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission*
June presentation on "Recommendations to Help County Families"
- 1988 *National Lambda Lawyers Roundtable, Los Angeles*
April presentation on "Family Diversity: A Focus for Civil Rights"
- 1987 *Business and Professional Women's Assn., Studio City*
November presentation on "How the Changing Family Affects Businesses"
- 1987 *Stonewall Democratic Club, Los Angeles*
October presentation on "Domestic Partnership Proposals for Los Angeles"
- 1987 *Regional Conference on Women and the Law, Los Angeles*
October presentation on "Family Concerns of Gays and Lesbians"

- 1987 *ACLU Human Rights Award Dinner, Los Angeles*
Presented Award to Attorney General John Van de Kamp at September meeting.
- 1987 *California Association of Gay/Lesbian Democratic Clubs, Los Angeles*
May presentation on "Implementing Privacy Rights"
- 1987 *Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Los Angeles*
March presentation on "Revising Public School Curricula and Programs"
- 1987 *Automobile Club of Southern California*
Launched a campaign at the annual meeting of AAA members which eventually led to the Board of Directors expanding a spousal discount membership policy to include any unmarried adult in the primary member's household.
- 1986 *Orange County Business and Professional Association*
October presentation on "Rights of Domestic Partners: Today and In the Future"
- 1986 *ACLU Gay/Lesbian Rights Chapter, West Hollywood*
September presentation on "Family Diversity in Los Angeles"
- 1986 *Lutherans Concerned - National Conference, Los Angeles*
July presentation on "Affirming Our Place in the Family"
- 1986 *Seminar Sponsored by GLCSC Lesbian Central, Los Angeles*
June presentation on "Securing Rights for Domestic Partners"
- 1986 *One Institute's Monthly Lecture Series, Los Angeles*
May lecture on "Privacy and the Supreme Court: Bowers vs. Hardwick"
- 1985 *Couples Los Angeles, West Hollywood*
September talk on "Giving Momentum to the Domestic Partners Movement"
- 1985 *California State Employees Association, Los Angeles*
August presentation on "Privacy, Domestic Partners, and Employee Rights"
- 1985 *Community Forum by Lambda Democratic Club, Long Beach*
July presentation on "Should Long Beach Have a Gay Rights Ordinance?"
- 1985 *Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Los Angeles*
June presentation on "Lets End Discrimination Against Gay Couples"
- 1984 *Public Hearing: L.A. County Human Relations Commission*
June presentation on "Violence Against Lesbians and Gays in California"
- 1984 *One Institute Monthly Lecture Series, Los Angeles*
April presentation on "Big Brother in the Bedroom: New York vs. Uplinger"

- 1984 *UCLA Gay/Lesbian Law Students d National Lawyers Guild*
March presentation on "Legal Rights of Unmarried Couples"
- 1984 *GLCSC Seminar on Employment Discrimination, Los Angeles*
January presentation on "Constitutional Rights in the Workplace"
- 1983, 1985 *[Training Seminars: Sexuality and Disability](#), Los Angeles*
October lecture on "Law, Sex, and Disability"
- 1983 *American Psychological Association, Anaheim*
August [lecture](#) on "Legal Aspects of Surrogate Partner Sex Therapy"
- 1983 *University of California Board of Regents, Los Angeles*
June testimony on "Legal Basis for Adopting a Nondiscrimination Policy"
- 1983 *American Association of Personal Privacy, San Francisco*
May lecture on "Personal Privacy: Legal, Political, and Social Trends"
- 1983 *Golden Gate Business Association, San Francisco*
May presentation on "Implementing Privacy Commission Recommendations"
- 1983 *Seminar for Disability Service Providers, Los Angeles*
April presentation on "Privacy Protections in Delivery of Services"
- 1983 *Los Angeles Lawyers for Human Rights*
February lecture on "Privacy Rights: A New Agenda for the Gay Movement"
- 1983 *Central California Business and Professional Association, Fresno*
February lecture on "An Overview of Privacy Commission Recommendations"
- 1982 *ACLU Annual Legislative Conference, Los Angeles*
October presentation on "Privacy and Personal Rights: A Legislative Agenda"
- 1982 *Annual Conference of Parents and Friends of Gays*
August presentation on "Legislation Affecting the Gay and Lesbian Movement"
- 1982 *Law and the Fight for Lesbians and Gay Rights, Los Angeles*
Opening Address: "The Role of Lawyers in the Movement" at May conference.
- 1982 *Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Los Angeles*
April [presentation](#) on "Personal Privacy as a Legal and Political Strategy"
- 1982 *Association of Suburban People, Troy, Michigan*
April presentation on "Importance of Privacy as a Strategy in the 1980s"
- 1982 *Office of Family Planning, Advisory Board, San Diego*
March presentation on "Personal Privacy: Youth and Family Planning"
- 1981 *Seminar for Affirmative Action Officers, Atascadero*
February lecture on "Sexual Orientation Discrimination in State Employment"
- 1980 *Arkansas Civil Liberties Union, Little Rock*

- October presentation on "Obtaining Sexual Civil Liberties in Arkansas"
- 1980 *Western Center for Independent Living, Los Angeles*
October presentation on "Sexual Privacy and Equality for Disabled People"
- 1980 *Public Defenders Seminar, Los Angeles*
June presentation on "Recent Developments in Prostitution Litigation"
- 1980 *National Committee for Sexual Civil Liberties, Wash. DC*
May presentation on "Re-Examining Government Regulation of Prostitution"
- 1980 *California Association of Process Servers, Los Angeles*
February presentation on "Recent Developments in Sexual Law"
- 1979 *Michigan Organization for Human Rights, Southfield, Michigan*
November presentation on "Consenting Adults: The Need for Law Reform"
- 1979 *Annual Conference of California State Bar, Los Angeles*
September presentation on "Current Developments in Gay Rights Law Reform"
- 1979 *New York University Legal Symposium, New York*
March lecture on "Securing Gay Rights Through Constitutional Litigation"
- 1978 *Los Angeles Free Clinic, Hotline Counselors Training*
December presentation on "Giving Accurate Information on Sexual Law"
- 1978 *National Conference/Gay Academic Union, Los Angeles*
November presentation on "Legal Aspects of Gay Relationships"
- 1977 *Constitutional Rights Foundation, Los Angeles*
April presentation on "Teens' Sexual Rights and Responsibilities"
- 1977 *Annual Conference on Women and the Law, Madison, Wisconsin*
March presentation on "Sexual Orientation as a Suspect Classification"
- 1975 *Conference: Gays and the Federal Government, Washington, D.C.*
October panel on "Role of State and Federal Government in Penal Law Reform"

Media Relations

Press Conferences

- 2016 Spectrum Institute – San Diego, CA
Planned and conducted a press conference in connection with the filing of a complaint with the United States Department of Justice against the San Diego County Superior Court for violating the voting rights of David Rector, a former national Public Radio producer who had his voting rights taken away in a conservatorship proceeding. The event resulted in national print and broadcast media coverage.

- 2015 *Spectrum Institute – Los Angeles, CA*
Planned and conducted a press conference in connection with the filing of complaints with the United States Department of Justice against the Los Angeles County Superior Court for violations of the Americans with Disabilities Act in probate conservatorship proceedings. The event resulted in print and broadcast media coverage.
- 2014 *Spectrum Institute – Los Angeles, CA*
Planned and conducted a press conference in connection with the filing of a complaint with the United States Department of Justice against the Los Angeles County Superior Court for voting rights violations against people with disabilities in conservatorships. The event resulted in national coverage by print and broadcast media.
- 2005 *Emancipation Project – Salt Lake City, Utah*
Planned and conducted a press conference inside the State Capitol Complex to “blow the whistle” on child abuse at a private residential facility for children in Utah. Prepared a media advisory and press release. Wrote the Executive Summary to the report released that day to the media and government officials. Was the lead speaker at the press conference. The event resulted in stories in both major newspapers and news coverage by local television stations.
- 2004 *Union Rescue Mission – Los Angeles, California*
Participated as one of four speakers at a news conference to announce the reopening of the Single Women’s Shelter operated by the Union Rescue Mission in downtown Los Angeles. The event resulted in news coverage on local radio stations and appearances on a talk radio show.
- 1998 *Spectrum Institute – San Francisco, California*
Planned and conducted a press conference in San Francisco to announce the filing of a complaint with the California Labor Commissioner by a firefighter employed by the City of Oakland. The complaint alleged that the city violated state law by refusing to provide health benefits to the female domestic partner of the male firefighter. Prepared a media advisory and press release. The event resulted in a news story in the San Francisco Chronicle and Oakland Tribune as well as news coverage on local television.
- 1993 *California Insurance Commissioner – Los Angeles, California*
Participated as a key speaker at a news conference called by Insurance Commissioner John Garamendi to release a report written by me for his office. The report contained 14 recommendations on how the Department of Insurance could combat marital status discrimination in the insurance industry. The event resulted in stories in the Los Angeles Times and Sacramento Bee, as well as Underwriter’s Report, a trade publication for the insurance industry.
- 1991 *San Francisco District Attorney – San Francisco, California*
Planned and coordinated two press conferences held on the same day, one in the morning called by the Los Angeles City Attorney and the other in the afternoon called by the San Francisco District Attorney. The events were suggested by me as a way to pressure the State Labor Commissioner to protect private sector workers from sexual orientation discrimination. The

prosecutors threatened to file criminal charges against offending employers unless the Labor Commissioner offered an administrative alternative. This resulted in the Labor Commissioner, two days later, agreeing to accept and process such complaints.

- 1990 *Family Diversity Project – Los Angeles, California*
Planned and conducted a press conference at the State Office Building in Los Angeles to announce a new and innovative “family registry” available through the office of the Secretary of State. This was the first such registry for nontraditional families available in any state. The event resulted in television news coverage as well as news stories in the Los Angeles Times, New York Times, San Francisco Examiner, and other papers throughout the nation.
- 1990 *Los Angeles City Attorney – Los Angeles, California*
Participated as a key speaker at a news conference called by City Attorney James Hahn to release a report, written by me, documenting widespread discrimination by businesses against unmarried consumers. A story about the report appeared on the front page of the Los Angeles Times on the day of the press conference, which drew the broadcast media to the event. This resulted in news stories on all local television stations, CBS Evening News, and an appearance for me as a guest in New York on NBC’s Today Show.

Media Relations

Television Appearances

- 2022 ABC-TV 10 Sacramento – [The Price of Care](#)
Thomas F. Coleman appeared in several episodes of this two-season documentary series on the broken conservatorship system in California.
- 2006 *Montana PBS – [Who’s Watching the Kids?](#)*
Interviewed on camera for this PBS documentary exposing abuses in “boot camps” and “behavior modification” facilities for troubled teenagers. My segment discussed how I spearheaded a campaign to rescue a teenage girl, herself a victim of child abuse at home, who was placed by parents who had her abducted and transported to a facility in Montana. Program aired on September 14.
- 2005 *CNN – Anderson Cooper 360*
Interviewed for a segment about the movement for equal rights for unmarried Americans. Program aired on December 20.
- 2004 *KCET, a PBS station in Los Angeles – Life and Times*
Interviewed by reporter Toni Guinard on March 12 about equal rights for unmarried people. Program aired later in March.
- 2004 *CNN-fn A Financial Network – Your Money*
Interviewed for a segment about financial issues facing unmarried couples. Program aired on August 11.
- 2004 *CNN-fn A Financial Network – The Flip Side*
Interviewed for a segment about the need for economic fairness for single people. Program aired on March 8.

- 2003 *BBC News*
Interviewed by reporter Paul Reaney for a segment about discrimination experienced by unmarried Americans. Program aired on March 13.
- 2003 *CNN – Anderson Cooper 360*
Interviewed for segment on equal rights for singles. Program aired on October 16.
- 2003 *CNN – Lou Dobbs*
Interviewed for segment about financial issues affecting single people. Program aired on October 10.
- 2000 *Fox News – Shepard Smith*
Interviewed for segment about equal rights for single people and unmarried couples. Program aired on October 25.
- 2000 *KCET - a PBS station in Los Angeles – Life and Times*
Interviewed by Val Zavalla and Warren Olney for segment entitled “Thinkers, Shakers, and Newsmakers” about employment discrimination against unmarried workers. Program aired on April 19.
- 1997 *Fox News*
Interviewed for news segment airing in August on discrimination against singles.
- 1994 *KCAL – Channel 9 – Los Angeles - Crosstalk*
Interviewed for a half hour show airing in October focusing on discrimination by religious landlords against unmarried couples.
- 1991 *NBC – Today Show*
Appeared as a guest on a segment airing in May about discrimination against unmarried couples.
- 1991 *ABC – World News Tonight*
Interviewed for segment on national news program focusing on a case in the California Court of Appeal authorizing landlords to discriminate against unmarried couples if renting to them would violate the landlord’s religious beliefs. Program aired on September 14.
- 1991 *KCET - PBS – [We Are Family](#)*
Interviewed for this documentary airing in April about changes in American family structures and how family diversity is now the societal norm.
- 1990 *NBC – Today Show*
Went to New York and appeared on a live segment in which I was interviewed by Bryant Gumbel about the report released in Los Angeles the prior day focusing on discrimination against unmarried consumers. Program aired on March 30
- 1990 CBS Evening News with Dan Rather, National Broadcast
Appeared in news segment on the "Findings of Task Force on Marital Status"
Aired in March.
- 1989 *ABC – Nightline*
Appeared as a guest on live television debating Gary Bauer of the right-wing Family Research Council about the decision of the New York Court of Appeal

ruling that the term "family" is broad enough to include rights for unmarried couples. Program aired in July.

- 1989 *KCBS-TV, Los Angeles*
Interviewed on April show focusing on "Gay Bashing in Los Angeles."
- 1988 *KHJ-TV / Channel 9, Los Angeles*
Appeared on "Community Feedback" to discuss "Family Diversity in Los Angeles." Aired in September.
- 1984 *KCBS-TV, Los Angeles*
Editorial Reply on Health Dept. Response to AIDS. Aired in November.
- 1983 *KNXT-TV, Channel 2, Los Angeles*
Editorial Reply in January: "The Privacy Commission's Agenda"
- 1983 *CBS-TV, Channel 10, Sacramento*
"The Law and You: A Look at Privacy in California." Aired in January.

Media Relations

Radio / Podcast Appearances

- 2021 [Freedom Files](#) – Pursuit of Justice Podcast
Coleman produced and hosted a podcast focusing on a wide range of issues involving liberty, justice, and equal rights, with a special emphasis on people with disabilities. Episodes addressed freedom of choice in matters such as health care, finances, living arrangements, sexual relationships, marital status, social interactions, and recreational activities. Some episodes reminisced about past advocacy activities for other causes and issues. The tactics used and lessons learned while advocating on those issues -- police oppression, LGBT+ rights, hate crimes, family diversity, singles' rights, and trafficking of abused teens -- can be adapted to develop winning advocacy strategies for today's activities which are directed towards conservatorship and guardianship reform as well as mental health rights for people with developmental disabilities.
- 2021 *Unpacked – Nova Podcasts*
Unpacked is an investigative podcast that "delves into the world's most curious and complex stories." In this season's first episode, investigative reporter and podcast host Edwina Stott unpacks the story of Britney Spears by talking to the people who were there to examine how the media, her family and the general public have played a part in Britney being forced into a conservatorship and therefore losing control of her career, her money and her life. Legal aspects of the conservatorship are explained by attorney Lisa McCarley who practices law in probate court and attorney Thomas F. Coleman, legal director of Spectrum Institute
- 2007 *KAHL – San Antonio, Texas – Eliza Sonneland Show*
Interviewed on discrimination against singles. Program aired on January 18.
- 2006 *National Public Radio – Justice Talking*
Debated Maggie Gallagher, President of the Institute for Marriage and Public Policy, about the need for equal rights for single and unmarried Americans. Program aired on September 11.

- 2006 *KCSN – Northridge, California – Shrink Wrap*
Interviewed by hosts Phyllis Chase and Jim Walton about discrimination against unmarried consumers, workers, and taxpayers. Program aired on January 10.
- 2005 *KTAR – Phoenix, Arizona – Ted Simons Show*
Interviewed about workplace discrimination. Program aired on December 27.
- 2004 *KTAR – Phoenix, Arizona – Evening News with Katie Dozer*
Interviewed about whether marriage is a cure-all for social and economic problems in society. Program aired on August 26.
- 2004 *WTVN – Columbus, Ohio – Sterling Show*
Interviewed on issues affecting unmarried Americans. Program aired on July 30.
- 2004 *KEX – Portland, Oregon – Mark and Dave Show*
Guest on a talk radio show to discuss issues affecting unmarried Americans. Program aired on July 20.
- 2004 *KFWB – Los Angeles, California*
Interviewed by reporter Bill Polish about issues affecting unmarried Americans. Program aired on June 26.
- 2004 *WBIX – Boston, Massachusetts – Early Exchange*
Interviewed by hosts Dave Anthony and Bonnie Bleidt about economic concerns of unmarried Americans. Program aired on June 25.
- 2004 *WAMU – Washington, DC – Kojo Nnamdi Show*
Interviewed on this American University Radio program about the need of employers to treat single workers fairly as they create "family friendly" workplace policies to help working parents. Program aired on May 10.
- 2004 *KGO – San Francisco, California – Afternoon News with Rosie and Greg*
Interviewed about the need for more fairness for single people in a society which is focused heavily on marriage rights. Program aired on March 1.
- 2004 *WFMP – Minneapolis, Minnesota – Kevyn Burger Show*
Guest on a talk radio show to discuss issues affecting unmarried Americans. Program aired on February 24.
- 2004 *WEZU – St. Paul, Minnesota – Ruth Koscielak Show*
Guest on a talk radio show to discuss issues affecting unmarried Americans. Program aired on February 17.
- 2004 *KTAR – Phoenix, Arizona – Real Life with Dave Leibowitz*
Guest on a talk radio show to discuss issues affecting unmarried Americans. Program aired on February 17.
- 2003 *KIRO – National Syndication – Dave Ross Show*
Guest on a talk radio show to discuss equal rights for single people. Program aired on November 20.
- 2003 *Fox News Radio – National Syndication – Fox News Live with Alan Colmes*
Debated Robert Rector, Senior Research Fellow with the Heritage Foundation, about equal rights for single people. Program aired on November 20.

- 2003 *KOMO – Seattle, Washington*
Interviewed about tax reform for single people. Program aired on May 23.
- 2003 *WNPQ – Canton, Ohio – Mike Downey Singles Hour*
Interviewed about Unmarried America's Singles Friendly Workplace Campaign. Program aired on May 17.
- 2002 *KFI – Los Angeles – John and Ken show*
Interviewed about issues facing unmarried Americans in their daily life and at work. Program aired on September 24.
- 2001 *Minnesota Public Radio – Midmorning Show*
Guest on a talk radio show to discuss a recent trip to Congress and unfair taxation of unmarried Americans. Program aired on May 9.
- 2001 *CBS Radio – National Syndication – "Living Single" Series*
Interviewed in two segments of a 10-segment series of two minute spots about single people in America. Segments focused on solo singles, single moms, single dads, tv and singles, single seniors, singles as consumers, singles in the suburbs, and family diversity. Spots aired during the month of August.
- 2000 *KFWB – Los Angeles, California*
Interviewed about the USA Today Advertising Campaign of the American Association for Single People calling attention to the fact that presidential candidates were ignoring single voters. Program aired on October 4.
- 1999 *APRN – Alaska Public Radio – Talk of Alaska*
Interviewed about a federal appeals court ruling allowing landlords to use their religious beliefs as a legal excuse to discriminate against unmarried couples. Program aired on February 16.
- 1996 *KNX – Los Angeles, California – Gil Gross Show*
Interviewed about a California Supreme Court ruling that religious landlords are not exempt from fair housing laws prohibiting discrimination against unmarried couples. Program aired on April 10.
- 1991 *KPPC – Public Radio – Pasadena, California*
Interviewed about a new public registry for nontraditional families operated by the California Secretary of State. Program aired on December 13.
- 1991 *National Public Radio – National Syndication – Weekend Edition*
Interviewed about a California Court of Appeal decision that religious landlords can cite their beliefs to obtain an exemption from fair housing laws prohibiting discrimination against unmarried couples. Program aired on December 1.
- 1990 *KPFK-FM, Cambridge Forum, Los Angeles*
Interviewed about the findings of the City Attorney's Consumer Task Force. Aired in April.
- 1990 *KMPC Radio, Glen Gordon Show, Los Angeles*
Interviewed about "Marital Status Discrimination Against Consumers." Aired in January.
- 1989 *KPPC, Larry Mantel Show, Pasadena, California*

Guest on October show discussing marital status discrimination.

- 1989 *KQRS, Jack Hicks Show, Minneapolis, Minnesota*
Guest on September show discussing "Housing Rights for Unmarried Couples."
- 1989 *KMOX – St. Louis, Missouri – Bob Hardy Show*
Appeared on talk radio show focusing on the definition of "family" and the growing trend of employers to offer domestic partner benefits to unmarried partners of employees. Program aired on August 21.
- 1989 *ABC National Radio, Tom Snyder Show*
Appeared to speak about "Family Diversity in America." Aired in August.
- 1989 *KNBC Radio, Kansas City*
Appeared to speak about "Family Diversity in America." Aired in August.
- 1989 *KIRO Radio, Seattle, Washington*
Appeared to speak about "Family Diversity in America." Aired in August.
- 1989 *WAMU – Washington, DC – Diane Rehm Show*
Appeared on talk radio show focusing on the definition of "family" and the growing trend of employers to offer domestic partner benefits to unmarried partners of employees. Program aired on June 12.
- 1989 *KKLA – Los Angeles, California – Christian Talk Radio*
Appeared on talk radio show to discuss a ruling by New York's highest court that the definition of "family" is not limited to relationships based on blood, marriage, and adoption, but can include unmarried couples too. Program aired on July 7.
- 1988 *KPFK Public Radio, Los Angeles*
Appeared on "Cambridge Forum" to discuss Family Diversity in Los Angeles. Program aired in December.
- 1989 *KGIL Radio, Carol Hemmingsway Show, Los Angeles*
Guest on July show to discuss the "Definition of Family."
- 1983 *KABC – Los Angeles, California – Billy Rose Show*
Interviewed about the report of the California Commission on Personal Privacy. Program aired in January.
- 1982 *KFI-FM – , Los Angeles*
December guest speaking on "One on One: The Privacy Commission's Report"
- 1982 *KQED-FM – San Francisco – Chuck Finney Show*
Guest in December to discuss "Personal Privacy Today"
- 1980 *WIND-FM – Chicago*
Guest on October show to discuss "Your Sexual Privacy Rights"
- 1980 *WDET-FM, Detroit*
Guest in May to discuss "Status of Sexual Civil Liberties in Michigan"

Media Relations

Magazines (Coleman is Quoted)

International

2003 *Mujer – Santiago, Chile – November 23*
Beatrice Burgos, “La Batalla de los “no casados”

National

2005 *Bust – February-March*
Diane Mapes, “Single Minded”

2003 *American Demographics – Cover Story – November*
“A Place for One” / Quoted in “Analysis” portion of a series of stories on singles

2003 *BusinessWeek – [Cover Story](#) – October 20*
Michelle Conlin, “Unmarried America: It’s About to Constitute the New Majority”

2002 *National Journal – Cover Story – April 13*
Michael Steel, “Singles in Search of Clout”

2000 *American Demographics – November/December*
Rebecca Gardyn, “Unmarried Bliss”

1998 *National Journal – Issues & Ideas – September 19*
Shawn Zeller, “All in the So-Called Family”

1995 *Human Rights – American Bar Association – Winter*
Jerry Demuth, “Not in My Apartment”

1994 *Glamour – July*
Timothy Gower, “Cracking Down on Shacking Up”

1992 *Parade – Sunday Magazine – November 22*
Bernard Gavzer, “What is a Family?”

1990 *McCalls – May*
Philip Gutis, “Stepparents Need Legal Clout”

1990 *Glamour – November*
Editorial: “Who is Your Family?”

1989 *Time – November 20*
Walter Isaacson, “Should Gays Have Marriage Rights?”

1989 *U.S. News and World Report – April 21*
“The Family: A New Kind of Spouse in the House”

State and Local

- 2002 *Virginia Business – October*
Jack Milligan, "Employee Benefits: Unfair to Singles?"
- 2000 *Los Angeles Times Magazine – April 9*
Michael D'Antonia, "Unmarried Bliss"
- 1991 *Personal – Magazine of Sunday Times Union, Albany NY – August 11*
Rick Karlin, "Feeling Single, Seeing Double"
- 1990 *Dollars and Sense – Somerville, Massachusetts – June*
Patricia Horn, "To Love and To Cherish: Redefining the Family"

Media Relations

Newspapers (Coleman is Quoted)

International

- 2006 *The Star – Malaysia – December 31*
Foo Yee Ping, "the Art of Not Saying 'I Do'"
- 2005 *La Nacion – Argentina – June 12*
Celina Chatruc, "Los Solteros Del Mundo Se Unen Para Reclamar Sus Derechos"
- 2004 *Globe and Mail – Toronto, Ontario, Canada – July 3*
Tralee Pearce, "One is not the Loneliest Number"

National and Wire Services

- 2007 *Associated Press – National Syndication – March 20*
Megan Scott, "Books: Meet the Smug Single"
- 2006 *Columbia News Service – National Syndication – 12-21-06 to 2-4-07*
Liz Kim, "Alone No More: Singles Fight for their Rights"
Published by papers in Orlando, Lakeland, Naples, St. Louis, Winston-Salem
- 2006 *USA Today – National Distribution – July 12*
Sharon Jason, "Society Switches Focus Away From Children"
Also published by papers in Arizona, Michigan, Tennessee, and Delaware
- 2006 *Gannett News Service – National Distribution – February 12*
Jennifer Brooks, "Singles Feel Singled Out on Valentines Day"
Published by papers in Oregon, New Jersey, and Montana
- 2005 *Knight Ridder Newspapers – National Syndication – October 18*
Lisa Miller, "The Singles Stigma"
- 2005 *Associated Press – National Distribution – October 17*
Paul Davenport, "Domestic Partners Focus of Marriage Debate in Arizona"

- 2005 *Associated Press – National Distribution – September 2*
David Caruso, “More Americans Living Alone, Especially in Manhattan”
- 2004 *Associated Press – National Distribution – December 2*
Genaro Armas, “I Do, I Do, Just Not Yet: More in America Putting Off Marriage”
Published in 150 newspapers throughout the nation.
- 2004 *Wall Street Journal – National Distribution – June 24*
Jeff Zazlow, “The Singles Lobby: Unmarried People Seek Economic Perks”
- 2004 *Wall Street Journal – National Distribution – June 15*
“Cities Launch Programs to Lure College Graduates”
Republished by local papers in Florida, Ohio, and Texas
- 2004 *USA Today – National Distribution – July 12*
Rick Hampson and Karen S. Peterson, “The State of Our Unions”
- 2004 *USA Weekend – National Distribution – February 13-15*
“Singles of the World Unite”
- 2003 *USA Today – National Distribution – January 9*
Sandra Block, “Bush Tax Cut Proposal: Families, the Rich Stand to Gain Most”
- 2002 *Associated Press – National Distribution – February 8*
Genaro Armas, “Most of Us Are the Marrying Kind, Census Says”
Published by papers in Indiana, Iowa, Massachusetts, and Maryland
- 2001 *Associated Press – National Distribution – September 26*
Eileen Alt Powell, “Being Single Offers Unique Financial Challenges”
- 2001 *Associated Press – National Distribution – May 26*
“Singles Demand Some Political Clout”
Published by papers in Michigan, New Jersey, Louisiana, and North Carolina
- 2001 *Associated Press – National Distribution – May 18*
Genaro Armas, “Increase Seen in Single Father Homes”
Published by papers in Florida, California, Kansas, and Texas
- 2001 *Associated Press – National Distribution – May 20*
Genaro Armas, “Number of Unwed Couples Rises”
Published by papers in California and Florida
- 2000 *Associated Press – National Distribution – October 23*
Mike Schneider, “Presidential Race Ignoring Singles”
Published by papers in Alabama, Colorado, Ohio, Utah, and Washington D.C.
- 1992 *Wall Street Journal – National Distribution – June 12*
Gustav Niebuhr, “California Top Court to Wrestle with ‘Sin’ vs. Tenants’ Rights”

- 1992 *Wall Street Journal – National Distribution – June 12*
“Law: Jobless Benefits Sometimes Can Go to Unmarried Partner, Court Says”
- 1992 *The Advocate – National Distribution – January 14*
John Gallagher, “Los Angeles Case Further Confuses Job Bias Picture”
- 1991 *Wall Street Journal – National Distribution – February 5*
Arthur Hayes, “Singles’ Rights Activists Target Corporations”
- 1989 *The Advocate – National Distribution – August 15*
Peter Freiberg, “Two Gays Can Be a Family, Court Says”
- 1989 *The Advocate – National Distribution – August 1*
Peter Freiberg, “Wedding Bell Blues”
- 1989 *The Advocate – National Distribution – September 1*
Peter Freiberg, “Sex Education and the Gay Issue”
- 1988 *The Advocate – National Distribution – July 5*
Peter Freiberg, “Family Matters”
- 1986 *The Advocate – National Distribution – June 24*
“Calif. Atty. Gen. Urges Stronger Penalties for ‘Gay Bashing’”

State and Local Papers

- 2021 Southern California Record – [September 13](#)
Juliette Fairley, “Lawmakers approve a bill allowing involuntary litigants to hire an attorney in guardianship proceedings”
- 2007 *Washington Times – Washington, D.C. – September 9*
Cheryl Weinstein, “Book Pushes Family Culture”
- 2007 *Christian Science Monitor – Boston, Massachusetts – July 10*
Ben Arnoldy, “America Becomes More Adult Centered”
- 2007 *Connecticut Post – January 27*
Dirk Perrefort, “He Helps Other People Find a Soulmate”
- 2006 *Times-Tribune, Scranton, Pennsylvania – December 10*
Tim Gulla, “Sharing the Ride”
- 2006 *Daily Herald – Everett, Washington – October 22*
Julie Muhlstein, “With So Many Singles, You’d Expect Fairer Treatment”
- 2006 *Daily News – Dayton, Ohio – September 26*
Stephanie Irwin, “One: It’s No Longer the Loneliest Number”
- 2006 *News Courier – Athens, Alabama – September 24*
Kelley Kazek, “1 is no longer the loneliest number”
Also published by newspapers in Iowa and Oklahoma

- 2006 *Washington Post – Washington, D.C. – September 17*
Amy Joyce, “Kid-Friendly Policies Don’t Help Singles”
Also published by newspapers in Oregon, Texas, and Pennsylvania
- 2006 *Roanoke Times – – September 17*
Christian Trejbal, “Singles Have Little to Celebrate This Week”
- 2006 *Baltimore Sun – Baltimore, Maryland – September 6*
L. Joan Allen, “Serving Single”
- 2006 *Christian Science Monitor – Boston, Massachusetts – August 23*
Patrik Jonsson, “Debate Grows on Out of Wedlock Laws”
- 2006 *Daily Mail – Charleston, South Carolina – August 15*
Kris Wise, “Little Known Law Prohibits Unwed Couples from Playing House”
- 2006 *South Bend Tribune – South Bend, Indiana – June 25*
Ed Ronco, “Get Hitched, Save Money”
- 2006 *Los Angeles Times – Los Angeles, California – June 25*
Beverly Bayette, “These Trips are for Singles Hoping to Become Doubles”
- 2006 *Staten Island Advance – New York, New York – June 13*
Lisa Ann Williamson, “Interest Groups for Singles Are on the Rise”
- 2006 *Duluth News Tribune – Duluth, Minnesota – May 7*
Lisa Miller, “Satisfyingly Single”
- 2005 *Christian Science Monitor – Boston, Massachusetts – December 21*
Marilyn Gardner, “I Won’t be Home for Christmas”
- 2005 *Des Moines Register– Des Moines, Iowa – December 19*
Larry Ballard, “Sorry, Singles, We Get Stuck at Work”
Also published by newspapers in Louisiana and Arizona.
- 2005 *Chicago Sun Times – Chicago, Illinois – December 4*
Maureen Jenkins, “Redefining Single”
- 2005 *Dallas Morning News – Dallas, Texas – September 26*
Paula Lavigne, “Growing Number Have Mortgage to Themselves”
- 2005 *Press of Atlantic City – Atlantic City, New Jersey – September 24*
Regina Schaffer, “Young Singles No Longer Feel Defined by Marital Status”
- 2005 *San Francisco Chronicle – San Francisco, California – September 18*
Jane Ganahl, “Playing the Non-Nuclear Option”
- 2005 *Courier News – Chicago, Illinois – September 18*
Christine S. Moyer, “Me, Myself, and I”
- 2005 *Los Angeles Times – Los Angeles, California – August 18*
Seven Bodzin, “Home Alone: Households of Singles Go to First in U.S.”

Republished by Newsday, Miami Herald, and Detroit News

- 2005 *Tribune – San Luis Obispo, California – May 23*
Lisa Miller, “The Single Stigma”
- 2005 *San Jose Mercury News – San Jose, California – May 1*
Mark de la Vina, “Singled Out: Unmarried People Often Face Stigma”
- 2005 *Seattle Weekly – Seattle, Washington – February 9*
Michelle Reindall, “Sour Note: Single on Valentine’s Day”
- 2005 *Arizona Republic – Phoenix, Arizona – February 4*
Jennifer Brooks, “Being Happily Single Has a Hitch: Married Benefits”
- 2005 *Honolulu Advertiser – Honolulu, Hawaii – February 3*
“Many Singles Struggle in a Marriage Fixated Society”
- 2005 *Review-Journal – Las Vegas, Nevada – January 16*
Paul Harasim, “HCA Hospital Chain: Benefits Extended to Gay Partners”
- 2005 *Christian Science Monitor – Boston, Massachusetts – January 5*
“The Future of Love and Marriage”
- 2005 *Las Vegas Sun – Las Vegas, Nevada – January 1*
Susan Snyder, “We Have a Couple of Issues”
- 2004 *Detroit News – Detroit, Michigan – December 29*
Jennifer Brooks, “Singles Still Feel Singled Out”
- 2004 *Houston Chronicle – Houston, Texas – December 15*
Bella De Paulo, “Living Single, Seeing Double”
- 2004 *Christian Science Monitor – Boston, Massachusetts – December 2*
Peter Grier and Sarah Miller, “Incredible Shrinking U.S. Family”
- 2004 *Newsday – New York, New York – November 21*
Bella De Paulo, “Singles Shall Overcome”
Also published by San Jose Mercury News and Tallahassee Democrat
- 2004 *Asbury Park Press – Asbury Park, New Jersey – September 19*
“Single-Minded Focus: Unmarried Nonvoters”
- 2004 *Journal Times – Racine, Wisconsin – September 3*
“A Nod to Singles Efforts”
- 2004 *Juneau Empire – Juneau, Alaska – September 3*
Brandon Loomis, “Faith Based Billions Can’t Buy You Love”
- 2004 *Los Angeles Times – Los Angeles, California – September 2*
Martin Miller, “Unattached, Thank You, and Loving It”
- 2004 *Tribune – San Luis Obispo, California – July 19*

"Remember the Perks of Being a Single Renter"

- 2004 *Associated Press – Illinois Distribution* – June 18
"Same-Sex Benefits in Contract Stirs Emotions"
- 2004 *Village Voice – New York, New York* – June 15
"Presidential Candidates Pitiful Pitch for Single Women"
- 2004 *City Business – New Orleans, Louisiana* – April 25
"Gay Marriage Raises Questions for Employers"
- 2004 *News Observer – Raleigh, North Carolina* – April 21
"Cooking for One: VIP Style"
- 2004 *Philadelphia Enquirer – Philadelphia, Pennsylvania* – April 13
"Singles on the Move? Yes, To the Suburbs"
- 2004 *Times Reporter – New Philadelphia, Ohio* – March 28
"When Its Up to You: Financial Planning for Singles"
- 2004 *Los Angeles Times – Los Angeles, California* – March 28
"Anti-Cohabitation Laws Still Being Enforced"
- 2004 *Daily News – Los Angeles, California* – March 13
"Looking Out for Numero Uno"
Also published in the Seattle Post Intelligencer and the Miami Herald
- 2004 *Tulsa World – Tulsa, Oklahoma* – March 7
"Will Work for One"
- 2004 *Miami Herald – Miami, Florida* – February 14
"Single and Smiling Even on Valentines Day"
Also published in 27 other papers throughout the United States.
- 2004 *Charlotte Observer – Charlotte, South Carolina* – February 3
Pam Kelley, "Singularity Happy"
- 2004 *Star Tribune – Casper, Wyoming* – January 25
Andrea Falkenhagen, "Americans Living the Single Life Longer"
- 2004 *Journal Constitution – Atlanta, Georgia* – January 12
Christine Van Dussen, "Club's Policy Called Anti-Gay"
- 2003 *Washington Blade – Washington, D.C.* – October 17
Lou Chibbaro, "Advocacy Group Decries Discrimination Against Singles"
- 2003 *Washington Times – Washington, D.C.* – October 21
Cheryl Wetzstein, "U.S. Marriage Trends Stabilize in 1990s"
- 2003 *Christian Science Monitor – Boston, Massachusetts* – October 15
Marilyn Gardner, "The Power of 1"
- 2003 *Washington Times – Washington, D.C.* – September 1
Jennifer Harper, "Friendly Workplaces Make Labor Days Easier"

- 2003 *Boston Herald – Boston, Massachusetts – July 31*
Stephanie Schorow, “Some Singles: Child Credit Taxes System”
- 2003 *Tulsa World – Tulsa, Oklahoma – July 21*
Jason Collington, “Bond, Not Bound”
- 2003 *New York Times – New York, New York – March 16*
Abby Ellin, “Taming Roommate Chaos”
- 2002 *Pacific Business News – Honolulu, Hawaii – November 1*
Prabha Natarajan, “Singles Scene: Action Group May Target Employers”
- 2002 *Morning Star – Wilmington, North Carolina – September 24*
Cory Reiss, “Single People Want Fair Treatment”
- 2002 *Herald-Tribune – Sarasota, Florida – September 23*
Cory Reiss, “With This Ring . . . Tax Breaks, Penalties”
- 2002 *The Ledger – Lakeland, Florida – September 22*
Cory Reiss, “Singles Seeking Equal Status”
- 2002 *Pasadena Star News – Pasadena, California – September 16*
Bill Hillburg, “Protecting the Rights of the Unmarried”
- 2002 *Augusta Chronicle – Augusta, Georgia – September 8*
Damon Cline, “Companies Shortchange Singles, Group Claims”
- 2002 *Star-Telegram – Fort Worth, Texas – August 29*
Maria M. Perotin, “Parents Fight Back Against Bias at Work”
- 2001 *Atlanta Journal-Constitution – Atlanta, Georgia – September 9*
“Retailers Break Mold, Target More Campaigns Toward Single People”
- 2001 *The Hartford Courant – Hartford, Connecticut – April 26*
Liz Halloran, “Single Adults: The New AARP”
- 2001 *Philadelphia Inquirer – Philadelphia, Pennsylvania – April 13*
Thomas Ginsberg, “2-Parent Homes Increase; So Do Unmarried Families”
- 2001 *Daily News – New York, New York – April 5*
Chantal Tode, “The Grownup Wedding”
- 2000 *New York Times – New York, New York – August 27*
K.A. Dilday, “O, To Be Single and Have a Politician Pay Attention”
- 2000 *Times News – Northeast Tennessee and Southwest Virginia – July 3*
Nellie McNeil, “AASP Stands Up for Rights of Singles”
- 2000 *Daily Sundial – California State University, Northridge – April 24*
Doris Frierson, “Discrimination Against Singles Topic of Debate”
- 2000 *Frontiers – Los Angeles, California – March 3*
Jamie Wolters, “Easy Street”

- 1999 *Frontiers – Los Angeles, California – October 1*
Jamie Wolters, “Domino Effect”
- 1999 *Edge – Los Angeles, California – July 21*
“NY Judge Says Same-Sex Benefits Don’t Violate Federal Laws”
- 1999 *Chicago Sun-Times – Chicago, Illinois – March 28*
Michelle Stevens, “Gay Couples Deserve Perks”
- 1999 *Chicago Tribune – Chicago, Illinois – March 19*
Terry Wilson, “County Likely to OK Same-Sex Plan”
- 1999 *Chicago Sun-Times – Chicago, Illinois – March 19*
Tim Novak, “County Panel OKs Benefits for Gay Partners”
- 1999 *Detroit News – Detroit, Michigan – March 11*
Associated Press, “Landlord Measure Denounced in House”
- 1999 *Muskegon Chronicle – Muskegon, Michigan – March 10*
Judy Putnam, “Bill Would Let Landlords Bar Unwed Couples”
- 1999 *Detroit Free Press – Detroit, Michigan – March 10*
Chris Christoff, “House Debates Redefining ‘Marital Status’”
- 1999 *Los Angeles Times – Los Angeles, California – January 16*
Carla Rivera, “Officials Fear Impact of Ruling on Religious Screening of Tenants”
- 1998 *Oakland Tribune – Oakland, California – April 23*
Stacey Wells, “Oakland Approves Benefits for Straight Domestic Partners”
- 1998 *Montclarion – Northern California – April 17*
Tiare Rath, “Council Likely to Grant Benefits to Unmarried Heterosexuals”
- 1998 *Frontiers – Los Angeles, California – June 12*
Tracy Syptert, “Domestic Tension: Will Benefits Lawsuit Pit Gays vs. Straights?”
- 1998 *San Francisco Chronicle – San Francisco, California – February 14*
Thaai Walker, “Partners File Complaint in Oakland”
- 1997 *San Francisco Chronicle – San Francisco, California – June 28*
Harriet Chiang, “High Court Rejects Landlady’s Appeal”
- 1996 *New York Times – New York, New York – June 7*
David Dunlap, “Some Gay Rights Advocates Question Same-Sex Marriage”
- 1996 *Sacramento Bee – Sacramento, California – April 10*
Claire Cooper, “Court: Landlady Can’t Bar Unwed”
- 1996 *Daily Journal – Los Angeles, California – April 10*
Phillip Carrizosa, “Cohabiting Tenants Win in High Court”

- 1996 *Los Angeles Times – Los Angeles, California – April 10*
Henry Weinstein, “Landlords Can’t Deny Housing to Unwed Couples”
- 1996 *San Francisco Chronicle – San Francisco, California – April 10*
Harriet Chiang, “Religious Landlady Loses Case”
- 1996 *Star-Bulletin – Honolulu, Hawaii – February 22*
Alan Matsouka, “150 People to Present Views in Marathon Judiciary Hearing”
- 1996 *Los Angeles View – Los Angeles, California – February 9*
Stuart Timmons, “Wedding Bell Blues”
- 1996 *Honolulu Advertiser – Honolulu, Hawaii – February 6*
William Kresnak, “Domestic Partner Bill Still Has Life”
- 1996 *Star-Bulletin – Honolulu, Hawaii – February 3*
Alan Matsouka, “Same-Sex Morass Poses a Dilemma for Graulty”
- 1996 *San Francisco Chronicle – San Francisco, California – January 11*
Harriet Chiang, “Unmarried Would-Be Renters’ Case Goes to State Justices”
- 1996 *The Star – Oxnard, California – January 11*
Associated Press, “Unwed, Unwanted Couple, Religious Landlady Litigate”
- 1995 *Los Angeles Times – Los Angeles, California – March 26*
Betina Boxall, “Hawaii Justices Open Door to Legalizing Gay Marriage”
- 1995 *Daily Report – Atlanta, Georgia – March 16*
Don DeBenedictis, “Win-Win Ruling on Domestic Partners?”
- 1995 *Daily Journal – Los Angeles, California – January 24*
Phillip Carrizosa, “Court Requires ‘Knowledge’ in Securities Case”
- 1994 *Los Angeles Times – Los Angeles, California – November 22*
Maura Dolan, “Housing, Religious Rights Clash in Rental Dispute”
- 1994 *Los Angeles Times – Los Angeles, California – September 10*
Associated Press, “State Court to Review Refusal to Rent to Couple”
- 1994 *Daily Journal – Los Angeles, California – September 9*
Phillip Carrizosa, “Do Unmarried Couples Have a Right to Rent?”
- 1994 *Daily Journal – Los Angeles, California – July 19*
Halle Jordan, “AG Criticized for Dropping Case”
- 1994 *Orange County Register, Santa Ana, California – July 12*
Associated Press, “State Won’t Defend Unmarried Renters”
- 1994 *Daily Journal – Los Angeles, California – July 11*
Halle Jordan, “AG Bows Out of Rental Discrimination Action”
- 1994 *Daily Journal – Los Angeles, California – June 1*
Halle Jordan, “Refusal to Rent to Unmarried Couple is OK’d”

- 1994 *Daily Journal – Los Angeles, California – March 2*
Halle Jordan, "Religious Rental Case Appealed to High Court"
- 1994 *Daily Journal – Los Angeles, California – February 24*
Halle Jordan, "Tenant Sues to Block Landlord Exemption"
- 1996 *Sacramento Bee – Sacramento, California – July 29*
Jennifer Bjorhus, "Report: Insurers Unfair to Singles"
- 1994 *Los Angeles Times – Los Angeles, California – July 28*
Donna Walters, "Garamendi Urged to Fight Bias on Marital Status"
- 1993 *Washington Blade – Washington, D.C. – April 23*
Lisa Keen, "Georgia Recognizes Same-Sex Couples, but in a Negative Way"
- 1993 *Daily Journal – Los Angeles, California – March 29*
Dick Goldberg, "Supreme Court Likely to Decide Law on Gay Bias"
- 1993 *Los Angeles Times – Los Angeles, California – March 26*
Betina Boxall, "Court Preempts L.A.'s Job Bias Rule on Gays"
- 1992 *Reader – Los Angeles Free weekly – October 16*
Carol Tice, "We Are All Families"
- 1992 *Los Angeles Times – Los Angeles, California – June 12*
Scott Harris, "Court Widens Right to Claim Jobless Pay"
- 1992 *Los Angeles Times – Los Angeles, California – May 16*
Thomas Mulligan, "Big Step for MCA"
- 1992 *San Francisco Chronicle – San Francisco, California – November 27*
Dave Tuller, "Rise in Gay Sex-Harassment Cases"
- 1992 *Washington Post – Washington, D.C. – September 12*
Jayne Levin, "A Case of Rent Bias and Religious Views"
- 1992 *Los Angeles Times – Los Angeles, California – February 28*
Philip Hager, "Court to Rule on Refusal to Rent to Unwed Couple"
- 1992 *Daily Journal – Los Angeles, California – February 28*
Phillip Carrizosa, "Justices to Hear Renter Rights Case"
- 1992 *Sacramento Bee – Sacramento, California – February 6*
Robert Davila, "L.A. Ruling Imperils Other Gay-Rights Laws"
- 1992 *Los Angeles Times – Los Angeles, California – February 1*
Philip Hager, "State Justices Set Aside Ruling on Gay Job Bias"
- 1992 *NYQ – New York, New York – January 19*
Dell Richards, "California Courts Destroying Gay Rights"
- 1992 *Daily Journal – Los Angeles, California – January 14*
Halle Jordan, "Confusion Reigns in Wake of Gay-Bias Rulings"

- 1992 *Frontiers – Los Angeles, California – January 3*
Minette Nipson, "L.A.'s Gay Rights Law Invalidated"
- 1991 *San Francisco Chronicle – San Francisco, California – December 30*
Reynolds Holding, "State Laws Unclear on Gay Job Bias"
- 1991 *San Francisco Chronicle – San Francisco, California – December 6*
Greg Lucas, "Wilson's Surprise on Gay Job Bias"
- 1991 *Los Angeles Times – Los Angeles, California – December 6*
Scott Harris, "City's Gay Rights Ordinance Faces Test in Court"
- 1991 *Daily Journal – Los Angeles, California – November 29*
Dick Goldberg, "Landlords Can Deny Rental to Unmarried Duos"
- 1991 *Los Angeles Times – Los Angeles, California – November 28*
Henry Weinstein, "Rental Denial is Upheld on Religious Basis"
- 1991 *Los Angeles Times – Orange County Edition – August 5*
Lynn Smith, "Major Changes Reshaping O.C. Family Makeup"
- 1991 *Star-News – Pasadena, California – April 15*
Gillien Silsby, "Equal Benefits Are Now an Issue in the Workplace"
- 1991 *Detroit News – Detroit, Michigan – April 5*
Deb Price, "The Right to Life"
- 1991 *Press-Telegram – Long Beach, California – April 2*
Robin Hinch, "Commission Unveils Report on Family Diversity in L.B."
- 1991 *Los Angeles Times – Los Angeles, California – March 27*
Victor Zonana, "Hospital Extends Spousal Benefits to Gay Staffers"
- 1991 *Daily News – Los Angeles, California – March 17*
Suzanne Schlosberg, "Family Ties – the Legal Way"
- 1991 *Sacramento Union – Sacramento, California – March 8*
J. P. Tremblay, "Legal Decision Due on Defining 'Family Association'"
- 1991 *Update – San Diego, California – February 6*
Herb King, "Gold Embossed, Says You're a Family"
- 1991 *Sacramento Union – Sacramento, California – January 28*
J. P. Tremblay, "Homosexual Anti-Bias, Marriage Bills Sure to Cause a Stir"
- 1991 *Frontiers – Los Angeles, California – January 18*
Elizabeth Groat, "Non-Traditional Households Use Old Law to Register Families"
- 1990 *Los Angeles Times – Orange County Edition – December 25*
Lynn smith, "Not Kin but Kindred, Pair Will Put Official Seal on their Status"
- 1990 *New York Times – New York, New York – December 17*
Tamar Lewin, "Nontraditional Families Register in California to Get Benefits"

- 1990 *Orange County Register – Santa Ana, California – December 16*
Elizabeth Groat, “Law Lets Couples Unite as Corporation”
- 1990 *San Francisco Examiner – San Francisco, California – December 15*
Tupper Hull, “State Lets Gay Couples Register”
- 1990 *Los Angeles Times – Los Angeles, California – December 13*
Laurie Becklund, “The Word ‘Family’ Gains New Meaning”
- 1990 *San Francisco Chronicle – San Francisco, California – October 15*
David Tuller, “Standing Up for ‘Singles’ Rights”
- 1990 *New York Times – New York, New York – September 21*
Tamar Lewin, “Suit Over Death Benefits Asks, What Is a Family?”
- 1990 *Update – San Diego, California – April 25*
“Marital Status Bias Still Widespread”
- 1990 *Orlando Sentinel – Orlando, Florida – April 10*
Susan Barbieri, “Here’s Where to Turn for Help When a Raw Deal is Illegal Bias”
- 1990 *Daily Report Progress Bulletin – Pomona, California – April 9*
Maresa Archer, “Lack of Legal Status Financial Nightmare for Homosexuals”
- 1990 *Los Angeles Times – Los Angeles, California – March 29*
Victor Zonana, “Report Finds Widespread Bias Against Unmarrieds”
- 1990 *Daily News – Los Angeles, California – January 9*
Tony Link, “Couple Says Unmarried Status Spurs Discrimination”
- 1989 *San Francisco Chronicle – San Francisco, California – November 11*
Elaine Herscher, “Domestic Partners Defeat Upsets S.F.’s Image as Gay Mecca”
- 1989 *Los Angeles Times – Los Angeles, California – November 9*
Victor Zonana, “Gay Agenda Takes Beating – Even in San Francisco”
- 1989 *New York Times – New York, New York – November 5*
Philip Gutis, “Small Steps Toward Acceptance Renew Debate on Gay Marriage”
- 1989 *Daily Trojan – University of Southern California – November 6*
Anita Vogel, “City Attorney Names Professor to Head Study of Singles Bias”
- 1989 *Daily Transcript – San Diego, California – September 20*
Pamela Wilson, “Marital Rights for Same-Sex Couples Pushed”
- 1989 *Philadelphia Inquirer – Philadelphia, Pennsylvania – July 30*
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