

Is Corporate Culture Undermining the Common Good?

Stephen N. Bartulica

Abstract

The paper explores the increasingly activist role of corporations in the controversies of contemporary culture. In the landmark case *Obergefell vs. Hodges* many global corporations submitted *amicus briefs* arguing for the legalization of “same-sex marriage”, thereby taking a position in line with the proponents of revising the definition of marriage. To highlight the point, no corporations submitted briefs opposing „same-sex marriage“. This reflects their own policies embracing diversity in sexual orientation in the workplace. In effect, the law now simply complies with the attitudes that have prevailed in our secularized culture.

The significance of the role of the new managerial elite in gradually normalizing homosexuality is becoming increasingly clear. Corporations imposed on themselves non-discrimination policies and extended benefits to same-sex partners without coercion. Instead of adopting a policy of neutrality regarding such issues, corporations have openly sided with the LGBT agenda, thus winning the approval of advocacy groups such as Human Rights Campaign.

Some have argued that judicial activism is primarily to blame for the dramatic shift in the culture, emphasizing that such changes have been imposed from above without gaining widespread public support. Courts have indeed overturned popular votes on marriage such as the case of Proposition 8 in California and the Supreme Court did egregiously abuse its power in order to redefine the ancient institution of marriage. However, one should also recognize that the cultural and corporate elites have largely succeeded in mainstreaming a radically new attitude towards marriage and the family.

The stability of any society depends on the recognition of basic truths about human nature and the denial of these truths must inevitably lead to decline and ultimately self-destruction. When an increasingly secularized culture begins to turn against the fundamental beliefs which have sustained it for centuries, the consequences will be profound, especially for those who still adhere to morality based on natural law. Recent court decisions simply affirm the relativistic philosophy which has become predominant in society, as law is instrumentalized to justify the demands of powerful interest groups. As Pope Benedict XVI warned, the „dictatorship of relativism“ is the logical end when truth is forgotten or denied.