

## Humanists of the Palouse Condemns Local Pastor's Callous Remarks on Same-Sex Marriage

## Janny Stratichuk/American Humanist Association

(Moscow, ID, July 9, 2015)—The Humanists of the Palouse, a chapter of <u>the American</u> <u>Humanist Association</u>, publicly condemns the bigoted comments of Pastor Doug Wilson, regarding slavery and marriage equality.

Wilson, as pastor of Christ Church in Moscow, Idaho, is a prominent and outspoken member of the community and a national figure. He recently stated on his blog that supporting same-sex marriage is a "far more serious" problem than supporting slavery.

"Wilson is already well-known for his strong opposition to LGBTQ rights and his white-washing of American slavery, but his recent comments callously unite the two in one deplorable statement," said Steven Simmons, a board member of the Humanists of the Palouse. "We are appalled at the assertion that systematic ownership of human beings would be considered more moral than legalizing marriage between two consenting adults."

The humanist philosophy looks to empathy and reason for morality, and the Humanists of the Palouse affirms its conviction that all people are entitled to respect and equality. Members of the Humanists of the Palouse, along with many residents of Moscow, Idaho, celebrate the Supreme Court of the United States' ruling regarding marriage equality and will continue to fight for the rights of the LGBTQ community and of all individuals.