

Keeping Up

WITH KINNEY MASON



Family Law for Same-Sex Couples

Marriage equality may have felt like a big leap forward, and in many ways, it was, but we still have a long way to go before same-sex couples can enjoy true legal equality in family matters. Just like any other couple, same-sex couples often wish to get married, start families, and live their lives with a healthy dose of peace and happiness. Unfortunately, certain legal issues and longstanding prejudice can stand in the way of family life for the LGBTQ community.

In advance of Pride Month, Kinney Mason wanted to highlight some of the more common family law issues for same-sex couples.

Adopting a Child

Same-sex couples hoping to adopt often have fewer options than heterosexual couples. Whereas heterosexual couples can adopt through nearly any agency, many U.S. adoption agencies close their doors, so to speak, to same-sex couples. Numerous adoption agencies reserve the right to refuse children to gay couples based on their religious views and those of the biological mother giving up the child for adoption. In other words, gay couples face discrimination and are given fewer options to adopt than other couples.

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Inside this Issue:

Family Law for the LGBTQ Community	1
Volunteer Lawyers Project	3
KM in the Community	4
Kinney's Kitchen	5