

# National Black Church Initiative

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**For Immediate Release**

## **The National Black Church Initiative Stands up Against Violence Toward Our Gay Brothers and Sisters**

*NBCI continues to demonstrate its commitment for the safety of the gay  
community*

**Washington DC** – The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI) a coalition of 34,000 churches comprised of 15 denominations and 15.7 million African Americans, will hold a protest in front of the District of Columbia Police Department on Wednesday October 3, 2012 at noon to dramatize its commitment and love for all its gay brothers and sisters and their right to be whomever they deem as their God given personhood. NBCI strongly feels that we are morally compelled to protect the gay community against any violence whatsoever. We want to demonstrate that even though we disagree with the gay lifestyle, they continue to be our gay brothers and sisters in Christ. We are therefore morally obligated to use the full power of the black church to protect their personhood from any harm or danger and also to protect the life that they deem God has blessed them with. The scripture teaches us that we should lay down our lives as a living sacrifice for all of our brothers and sisters.

The Rev. Anthony Evans, President of the National Black Church Initiative says, “Many may see this demonstration as contrary to our public stands on the homosexual lifestyle and gay marriage. Even though we oppose the lifestyle, we continue to pray for them and offer the full love of the Black Church as a means of winning them to Christ Jesus. It is our moral obligation to protect all of God’s children gay or straight and to serve them without bias. This is why we demand that all law enforcement vigorously investigate and prosecute any hate crimes against the gay community. As you can see, this demonstration is keeping with our Christian ethics to show and demonstrate love to all and to stand up against violence wherever or whenever it is visited upon any of God’s children.”

We believe in non-violence civil discourse. This means that even though we disagree on the merits and the moral tenements, we believe our disagreements should always be civil, non-violent and loving. We seek to win our gay brothers and sisters to Christ teachings through love and not threats. It is the role of the Christian church to point out to every Christian when they are going contrary to the ethics and teachings of Jesus Christ.

### **About NBCI**

The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI) is a coalition of 34,000 African American and Latino churches working to eradicate racial disparities in healthcare, technology, education, housing, and the environment. NBCI's mission is to provide critical wellness information to all of its members, congregants, churches and the public. The National Black Church Initiative's methodology is utilizing faith and sound health science. Visit our website at [www.naltblackchurch.com](http://www.naltblackchurch.com).