



Lifting the Veil on the Prop 8 Trial

New Play “8” Shows the World Why Equality Must Prevail

For the first time, the public can see the stunning trial moments that the Prop 8 Proponents tried to hide.

“8” chronicles the historic trial in the federal legal challenge to California’s Proposition 8, written by AFER Founding Board Member and Academy-Award winning writer Dustin Lance Black.

Black, who penned the Academy-Award winning feature film “Milk,” based “8” on **the actual words of the trial transcripts, first-hand observations of the courtroom drama and interviews with the plaintiffs and their families.**

The American public was not given a chance to witness the historic trial because the Proponents of Prop. 8 launched a desperate attempt to forever hide the trial videotapes, which are now kept under seal. AFER’s attorneys have filed a motion asking the court to make the full and unedited recordings available for all to see.

Based on an incredible real-life courtroom drama.

The story for “8” is framed by the trial’s historic closing arguments in June 2010, but features the best arguments and testimony from both sides of the issue.

Scenes include flashbacks to some of the more jaw-dropping moments of trial, such as the admission by Prop. 8 supporters’ star witness David Blankenhorn that “we would be more American on the day we permitted same-sex marriage than we were on the day before.”

AFER prevailed at the federal district court and Prop. 8 was found **unconstitutional** on August 4, 2010. It is currently being appealed by the anti-marriage Proponents.

“8” brings the story of the Prop 8 trial into schools and communities around the world.

Broadway Impact and AFER will license and coordinate staged readings of “8” on campuses and in university, community and regional theaters around the country. Following the tradition of documentary plays like “The Laramie Project” and “The Vagina Monologues,” which **changed the national conversation** about hate crimes and domestic violence, “8” will spur dialogue and understanding around marriage equality.

Productions are currently being developed at American Repertory Theatre, Williamstown Theater Festival, University of Michigan, Carnegie Mellon University and Northwestern University. Visit www.broadwayimpact.com/8/ for more information, and learn how you can stage or sponsor a production on your campus or at your theater.

In the words of playwright Dustin Lance Black:



“People need to witness what happened in the Prop. 8 trial, if for no other reason than **to see inequality and discrimination unequivocally rejected in a court of law where truth and facts matter.** I’ve built my career around exposing and uncovering ‘the real story’. The goal of ‘8’ is to show the world that marriage equality is a basic constitutional right and that those who would deny this basic freedom from loving, committed couples have only vitriol and baseless hyperbole to fall back on. **The facts are on our side and truth always finds the light.** We at AFER are doing all we can to help speed that process along.”