



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EQUALITY ILLINOIS REACTS TO LATEST REMARKS FROM CARDINAL FRANCIS GEORGE

CHICAGO – In response to Tuesday’s comments from Chicago’s Cardinal Francis George again comparing the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) movement to the Ku Klux Klan, Equality Illinois issued the following statement:

“This most recent round of incendiary rhetoric from Cardinal Francis George is essentially a case of blaming the victim for being victimized,” Randy Hannig, Director of Public Policy for Equality Illinois, said. “The LGBT community has no desire to ‘stifle the religious freedom of the Catholic Church,’ as the Cardinal states. The fact remains that the gay pride parade route has run less than half a block from Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church for decades, and the Archdiocese has never expressed a problem with that fact until now. The Cardinal is making this a political issue as a last-ditch effort to quash the progress that the LGBT movement has made in recent years. A vast majority of rank-and-file Catholics who sit in the pews every Sunday agree with the philosophy behind the LGBT movement; it is the Cardinal that wants to continue living in the past by not accepting the fact that the LGBT movement is about one simple ideal – equality.”

Equality Illinois was founded in 1991 to secure, protect and defend full equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals. It is the state’s oldest and largest LGBT advocacy organization.

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