

Students for Child-Oriented Policy is pleased to announce its first annual conference:

## **For Richer, For Poorer, For Children: The Definition and Importance of Civil Marriage**

**McKenna Conference Center at the University of Notre Dame  
Noon to 7 p.m. on April 3, 2014**

**Register online at:** <http://morrisinn.nd.edu/conference-center/notre-dame-conference-center/>

What is marriage? What purpose does it serve as a *civil* institution, and why is it a *political* subject? As controversial as marriage has become across the country, these questions are rarely addressed. Many in the national media are more interested in pronouncing marriage a nonissue in politics than in examining the effects that civil marriage has on the youngest and the poorest among us. Here in Indiana, however, we should not ignore how important it is for these most vulnerable members of society that we properly define and promote marriage as a civil institution. This conference will gather student leaders from across Indiana to form a statewide network of advocates for marriage, properly defined, as a child-oriented civil institution that specially serves the poor.

### CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

**Noon:** *Opening Address*

**Bishop Harry Jackson, Jr.** Presiding Bishop of the International Communion of Evangelical Churches

**1:15pm – 2:15pm:** *Facing the Challenge*

**Jennifer Thieme**, Director of Finance & Advancement and Marriage Speaker, Ruth Institute  
**Prof. Gerard V. Bradley**, Professor of Law, University of Notre Dame  
**Prof. Daniel Mark**, Assistant Professor of Political Science, Villanova University

**2:30pm – 3:00pm:** *Breakout Sessions*

**3:15pm – 4:15pm:** *Telling Our Story*

**Arina Grossu**, Director of the Center for Human Dignity at the Family Research Council  
**Michael Bradley**, Editor-in-Chief, *Irish Rover*; Managing Editor, *Ethika Politika*  
**Katrina Harrington**, Founder and Editor, *Cedars & Tiny Flowers*

**5:00pm – 7:00pm:** *Banquet and Keynote Address*

**Prof. Robert Oscar Lopez**, Founder, International Children's Rights Institute; Co-Founder and Co-Editor, *English Manif*, Associate Professor of English, California State University

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Founded by a group of undergraduate and graduate students at the University of Notre Dame, **Students for Child-Oriented Policy (SCOP)** is a student organization focused on promoting policymaking that gives primary emphasis to how any particular policy will affect children. SCOP believes that the needs and rights of children are too often ignored while policymakers proceed from the point of view of the stable, independent adult with resources—or worse, from that of the politically powerful special-interest group. SCOP aims to develop a well-informed, action-oriented network of students committed to serving the youngest members of our society.

Like us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/SCOPND/>

Conference Sponsors: [Tocqueville Program for Inquiry into Religion and American Public Life](#), [The Irish Rover](#), The Strake Foundation, Love and Fidelity Network, [Ruth Institute](#)