c/o The Westminster Schools 1424 West Paces Ferry Rd NW Atlanta, GA 30327

The Honorable President Barack Obama The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Barack Obama,

My name is _______. I am 13 years old and in seventh grade at Westminster. In English class this year we've been studying about discovering your "capitol T Truth", and our project is to write a letter as an advocate about something we care about. I'm writing to you about why I think homosexual people should be married and recognized in a civil relationship in all 50 states. Homosexual rights really hit home with me, as I have some friends who are gay, and thinking about how they might not be able to grow up and get married really disappoints me. I think that all people are equal, and to deny different people rights is wrong.

Let me tell you a little more about this problem (even though you probably know all about it). 37 states allow gay marriage, with the exceptions of Nebraska, Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Tennessee, and Texas. About 20% of the population has come out as being homosexual. People have mixed reactions about this. In California, people tried to "cure homosexual youth" through therapy (and other strange things). They had to pass a law against it because some of the patients were committing suicide. This unsettles me because it means that even if some people find someone they love, some can't get married because of state laws.

You can change this. I read online that you have openly supported gay marriage before. Do it again! There are things you can change. Right now this decision is open to the states, but you could make it a federal issue. You don't even have to do anything. Just think about this very important matter, and how it affects our country.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,