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Conn. Court Finishes Hearing Arguments On Same-Sex Marriage

State's High Court Considers Same-Sex Marriage Lawsuit

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HARTFORD, Conn. -- The Connecticut's [Supreme Court](#) finished hearing arguments on same-sex marriage by early afternoon Monday.

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The court justices intensely interrogated attorneys for the state and some gay and lesbian couples on the issue of gay marriage.

At issue in a hearing before the state's highest court today was Connecticut's civil unions law.

Eight gay and lesbian couples are suing over the state's refusal to grant them marriage licenses. They want the court to rule that the state's marriage law is unconstitutional because it applies only to heterosexual couples, denying gay couples the financial, social and emotional benefits of marriage.

Assistant Attorney General Jane Rosenberg told the justices Monday that Connecticut's civil unions law, passed in 2005, gives the couples the equality they seek under state law.

[The Supreme Court](#) is expected to rule later this year.

If justices agree with the same-sex couples, they could order the case back to the trial court, with instructions to rule in favor of the couples.

The high court also could order the General Assembly to overhaul the current marriage laws.

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