



**“FOR 45 YEARS, I STOOD WITH
MY HUSBAND FOR WHAT IS RIGHT.
TODAY I SPEAK UP FOR
ACCEPTANCE AND RESPECT.”**

*~Mrs. Helen Chávez, wife of late labor and civil rights leader César Chávez.
The couple is pictured here with their children in 1972.*

My husband spent his life fighting for dignity for all people. César was one of the first civil rights leaders to speak out for gays and lesbians, because he understood that you can't demand equality for your own people while tolerating discrimination against anyone else. As a champion for justice, he would have been glad to know that California finally allows gay and lesbian couples to marry, because that brings us one step closer to his vision for communities where everyone is accepted and respected.

For 45 years, I stood with Cèsar for what is right. Today I celebrate his memory as I see so many newly married gay and lesbian couples celebrate their marriages. We must welcome them if we are all to have equality.

STRONG COMMITMENTS. STRONG FAMILIES.



**AS CALIFORNIA'S GAY AND LESBIAN COUPLES MARRY, THEIR FAMILIES GROW STRONGER.
AND WHAT'S GOOD FOR FAMILIES IS GOOD FOR OUR COMMUNITIES.
JOIN THE CONVERSATION AT WWW.LETCALIFORNIARING.ORG.**