**Pope Francis Supports Same-Sex Civil Unions**

**教皇方济各支持同性民事伴侣关系**

Pope Francis has become the first leader of the Roman Catholic Church to support “civil union” laws for same-sex couples.

教皇方济各成为罗马天主教会第一位支持同性伴侣“公民结合”法律的领导人。

Speaking in a film documentary, the pope called for the creation of such laws. He said that “Homosexual people have the right to be in a family. They are children of God.”

教皇在一部纪录片中呼吁制定这样的法律。他说“同性恋者有权组建家庭。他们也是上帝的孩子。”

“What we have to create is a civil union law. That way they are legally covered,” Francis said. “I stood up for that.”

“我们要创造的是一部民事联盟法。这样他们就可以得到法律保护了，”弗朗西斯说道，“我对此表示支持。”

The statements represent a break from the Church’s teachings and his strongest comments yet on the issue.

这些声明是对教会教义的一次突破，也是他对这个问题迄今为止最强烈的回应。

The comments came in “Francesco,” a documentary about his life and the social issues that concern him. The film was shown for the first time in Rome on Wednesday.

这些评论来自《弗朗西斯科》——一部关于他的人生和他所关心的社会问题的纪录片。这部电影周三在罗马首映。

The movie examines his support for migrants and refugees, the poor, and his work on the issue of sexual abuse by Catholic clergy. It also explores his ideas on the role of women in society, and the Church’s relations with those who identify as LGBTQ.

这部电影考察了他对移民和难民、穷人的支持，以及他对天主教神职人员性虐待问题所作的工作。本书还探讨了他对女性社会角色的看法，以及教会与那些被称为“少数群体”的人的关系。

While serving as Archbishop of Buenos Aires in 2010, the future pope opposed efforts to legalize same-sex marriage. But he supported the idea of civil unions as one way to prevent the approval of same-sex marriage in Argentina.

在2010年担任布宜诺斯艾利斯大主教期间，这位未来的教皇反对同性婚姻合法化。但他支持公民结合的想法，认为这是阻止阿根廷同性婚姻获得批准的一种方式。

After being elected pope, Francis once said in 2013, “Who am I to judge?” while answering a reporter’s question about homosexuals in the church. He has not publicly expressed support for civil unions until now.

在当选教皇后，弗朗西斯曾在2013年在教堂回答记者关于同性恋的问题时说：“我凭什么评判?”直到现在，他还没有公开表示支持公民结合。

The Reverend James Martin is an American clergyman who supports the Church’s efforts to reach members of the gay community. He wrote on Twitter, “Pope Francis's support for same-sex civil unions is a major step forward in the church's support of LGBTQ people.” Martin added that it “sends a strong signal to countries where the church has opposed such laws.”

詹姆斯·马丁牧师是一位美国神职人员，他支持教会去接触同性恋群体的成员。他在推特上写道：“教皇方济各支持同性民事结合是教会在支持‘少数群体’人士方面的一大进步。”马丁还补充道，这“向某些国家反对此类法律的教会发出了强烈信号。”

Filmmaker Evgeny Afineevsky told Catholic News Agency that the pope talked about civil union laws during an interview for the movie. The news agency says the Vatican’s press office did not answer its questions on the pope’s comments.

电影制作人叶夫根尼·阿菲涅夫斯基告诉天主教通讯社，教皇在接受电影采访时谈到了公民结合法。该通讯社表示，梵蒂冈的新闻办公室没有就教皇的评论作出回应。

Another person interviewed for the film is Juan Carlos Cruz. He is a survivor of clergy sexual abuse whom Francis at first discredited during a 2018 visit to Chile.

另一位接受这部电影采访的人是胡安·卡洛斯·克鲁兹。他是一名牧师性虐待事件的幸存者，弗朗西斯在2018年访问智利时曾抹黑他。

Cruz, who is gay, said they have since repaired the relationship. In one of the meetings, Cruz said Francis told him that God made Cruz gay. The filmmaker used Cruz’s story to document the pope's understanding of sexual abuse and changing ideas about gay people.

克鲁兹是同性恋，他说他们已经修复了关系。在一次会面中，克鲁兹说弗朗西斯告诉他上帝让克鲁兹成为同性恋。电影制作人用克鲁兹的故事记录了教皇对性虐待的理解以及对同性恋者观念的转变。

In 2003, under Pope John Paul II, the Vatican said that “respect for homosexual persons cannot lead in any way to approval of homosexual behavior or to legal recognition of homosexual unions.” That statement was written by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger of Germany. He became Pope Benedict XVI, the predecessor to Pope Francis.

2003年，在教皇约翰保罗二世的领导下梵蒂冈表示，“尊重同性恋者不等于再任何方面表示支持同性行为或在法律上承认同性恋结合。”这一声明是由德国枢机主教约瑟夫·拉辛格撰写的。他成为教皇本笃十六世，是教皇方济各的前任。

I'm Jonathan Evans.

乔纳森·埃文斯报道。

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