

AMSPECBLOG

Marion Barry, D.C. Comic

By Doug Bandow on 5.2.09 @ 9:45AM

In a moment of unintended hilarity, Washington, D.C. city councilman Marion Barry explained why he opposed gay marriage:

D.C. Councilman Marion Barry told church leaders and other opponents of gay marriage Tuesday that he opposed the city council's decision to recognize same-sex marriages performed outside the District.

Calling himself "a politician who is moral," Barry said he would have voted against the measure if he had been present at the April 6 session.

Forget the substantive issue and focus on Marion Barry's claim that he is "moral." It should set off convulsive laughter in the council chamber and across the District. As my Cato Institute colleague David Boaz observes:

Barry is a career politician with 29 years on the public payroll (not counting six months in jail); four wives, one of whom went to jail for embezzling from the federally funded "jobs program" they co-founded; countless extramarital relationships, many of them consensual; a federal conviction for crack use while mayor; eight years of unpaid taxes; and a virtually unbroken trail of graft and scandal in his four terms as mayor.

You wonder what the politicians who are not moral are like.

Indeed.

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