

WGS. 101 INTRO TO WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES FALL 2014
SESSION #18- IN-CLASS WRITING

Name _____

Analyzing The 2003 *Goodridge* Decision: Write for about five minutes.

Chief Justice of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court Margaret Marshall decision in the 2003 *Goodridge* decision ruled that:

*The marriage ban on same-sex couples “works a deep and scarring hardship”

* the primary purpose of marriage is not procreation, but rather “the exclusive...commitment of the marriage partners to one another”

* the court’s decision “does not disturb the fundamental value of marriage in our society”

*”Barring an individual from the protections, benefits and obligations of civil marriage solely because a person would marry a person of the same sex, violates the Massachusetts Constitution”

*The Massachusetts Constitution “forbids the creation of second class citizens”

In what ways does Marshall’s decision connect with classic texts such as “The Declaration of Sentiments” (1848), Lucy Stone and Henry Blackwell’s “Marriage Protest” (1855) and Susan B. Anthony’s “Speech After Being Convicted of Voting in the 1872 Presidential Election”?

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