

National Black Church Initiative

P.O. Box 65177
Washington DC 20035
[202-744-0184](tel:202-744-0184)
dbc2002@gmail.com
www.naltblackchurch.com

Contact:
Rev. Anthony Evans
202-744-0184

May 1, 2013
For Immediate Release

NBCI Decries Anti-Gay Violence in France

Black Church Calls Targeted Abuse Inhumane

Washington DC - The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI), a coalition of 34,000 churches comprised of 15 denominations and 15.7 million African American churchgoers, is appalled by recent violent attacks against our gay brothers and sisters in France. Although the church stands firm in its stance against gay marriage, violence towards any human is against God's will and must be collectively stopped by lawmakers and the community.

Following momentum behind marriage equality legislation approved on April 23 by the French National Assembly, protesters against the measure went to violent lengths to voice their principles, including vandalizing LGBT community centers, attacking patrons in gay bars, and two brutal anti-gay attacks against homosexual citizens. This abhorrent display of violence is unacceptable and inhumane, and NBCI calls on community leaders to stand against this type of discrimination.

Rev Anthony Evans, NBCI President says "Our history of disagreement with our gay brothers and sisters on the subject of marriage is undeniable. However, as we have in the past and will continue to do today, NBCI stands firmly against violence of any kind as a means of demonstration. It is against the church's beliefs and a blatant disregard for the teachings of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ. We love our gay brothers and sisters and will continue to press for condemnation of this action and lead the way for civil and peaceful discussions on society's issues."

In the midst of this violence, the Black Church urges France and indeed all nations to conduct dialogues and the legislative process with transparency, peace, and inclusiveness. No conviction is worthy of violent attacks and those who resort to righteous anger will in the end answer to God.

About NBCI

The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI) is a coalition of 34,000 churches working to eradicate racial disparities in healthcare, technology, education, housing, and the environment. NBCI's mission is to provide critical wellness information to all of its members, congregants, churches and the public. NBCI offers faith-based, out-of-the box and cutting edge solutions to stubborn economic and social issues. NBCI's programs are governed by credible statistical analysis, science based strategies and techniques, and methods that work. Visit our website at www.naltblackchurch.com.