

ABC's *Good Morning America*

12/06/22

7:09:54 a.m.

1 minute and 25 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: New This Morning; Supreme Court Showdown; Justices Hear Arguments in Clash Between Religious & LGBTQ Rights]

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS: Now to the Supreme Court where oral arguments were heard Monday in a case with far-reaching implications for same-sex couples and free speech rights. Senior national correspondent Terry Moran is at the Supreme Court. Good morning, Terry.

TERRY MORAN: Good morning, George. This is the case of Lorie Smith, a wedding website designer who does not want to do business with gay people. The Colorado anti-discrimination law, however, requires that any business open to the general public serve all equally. Smith says that civil rights law would force her to endorse gay marriage and violate her First Amendment rights to freedom of speech. And it was clear in these argument — obvious — that the conservatives on this Court are deeply sympathetic to Smith's position. Justice Samuel Alito leading the way. He said the government cannot force someone to endorse gay marriage or any other point of view. But the liberals pushed back hard. Justice Sonia Sotomayor noting that, if the Court rules for Smith, it would be the first time in history that a commercial business open to the public would be able to deny service on the basis of race or sex or sexual orientation, the first time since the Supreme Court established those laws back in the 1960s during the civil rights era and Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson forcefully reminded the Court that religion was used to justify slavery and segregation as well, so this case, as you say, has huge implications. We are expecting a decision sometime next June, Robin.

ROBIN ROBERTS: All right, Terry, thanks so much.