

Gay couple who received religious pamphlets instead of wedding programs alleges discrimination in suit

 [nydailynews.com/news/national/gay-couple-religious-pamphlets-wedding-programs-article-1.3760456](https://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/gay-couple-religious-pamphlets-wedding-programs-article-1.3760456)

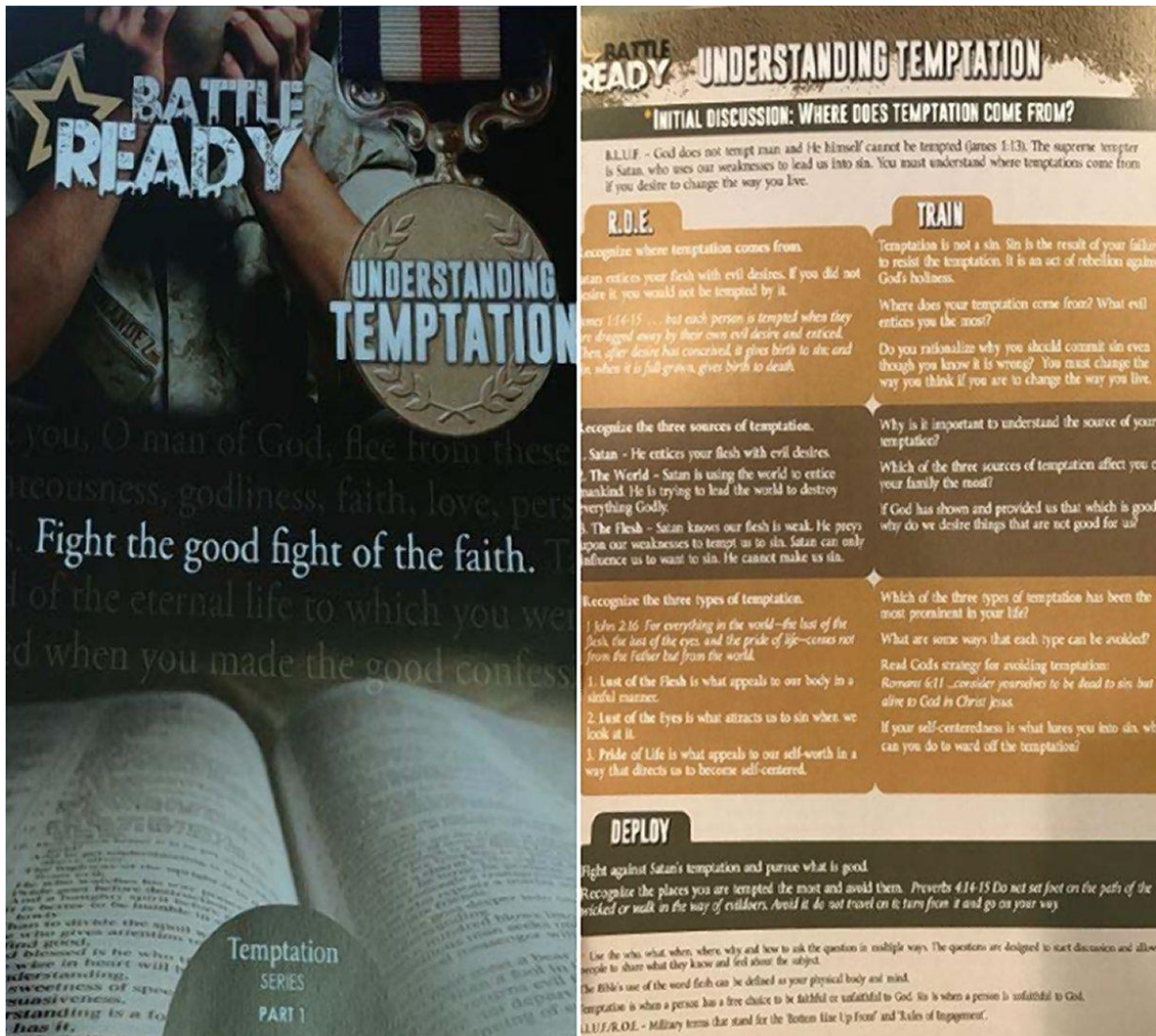
BY Victoria Bekiempis Leonard Greene

A gay couple is suing a printing company for sending them pamphlets about weakness of the flesh and "temptation" instead of the colorful customized wedding programs they ordered.

On the eve of their wedding day, Stephen Heasley and Andrew Borg, an Australian couple who were married last year in Pennsylvania, opened a package from Vistaprint and were horrified to find 80 copies of a pamphlet entitled, "Understanding Temptation: Fight the good fight of the faith.

"Satan entices your flesh with evil desires" and sin is the result of your failure to resist the temptation," the pamphlet read. "It is an act of rebellion against God's holiness."

They said the pamphlets were discriminatory, and intended to intimidate them because of their sexual orientation.



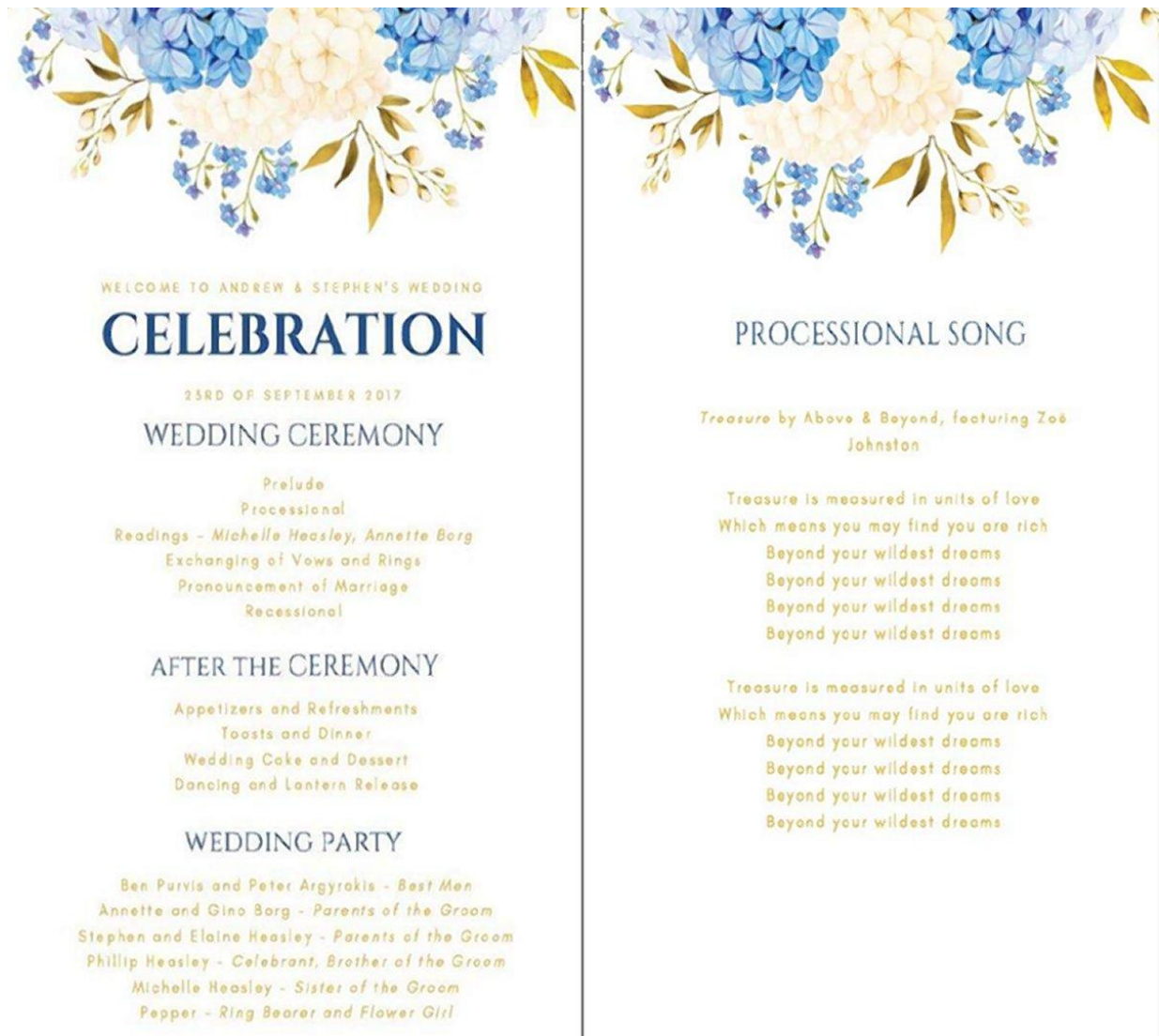
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(Courtesy of Wigdor LLP)

Borg and Heasley said they spent weeks designing a wedding program that captured their love and the importance of their wedding day, only to be shocked when they opened the box.

Although the pamphlets make no reference to gays, the couple was convinced that the message was intended to as a judgment about their lifestyle, according to their lawyers, David Gottlieb and Michael Willemin.

They paid \$79.49 for the programs they never received.



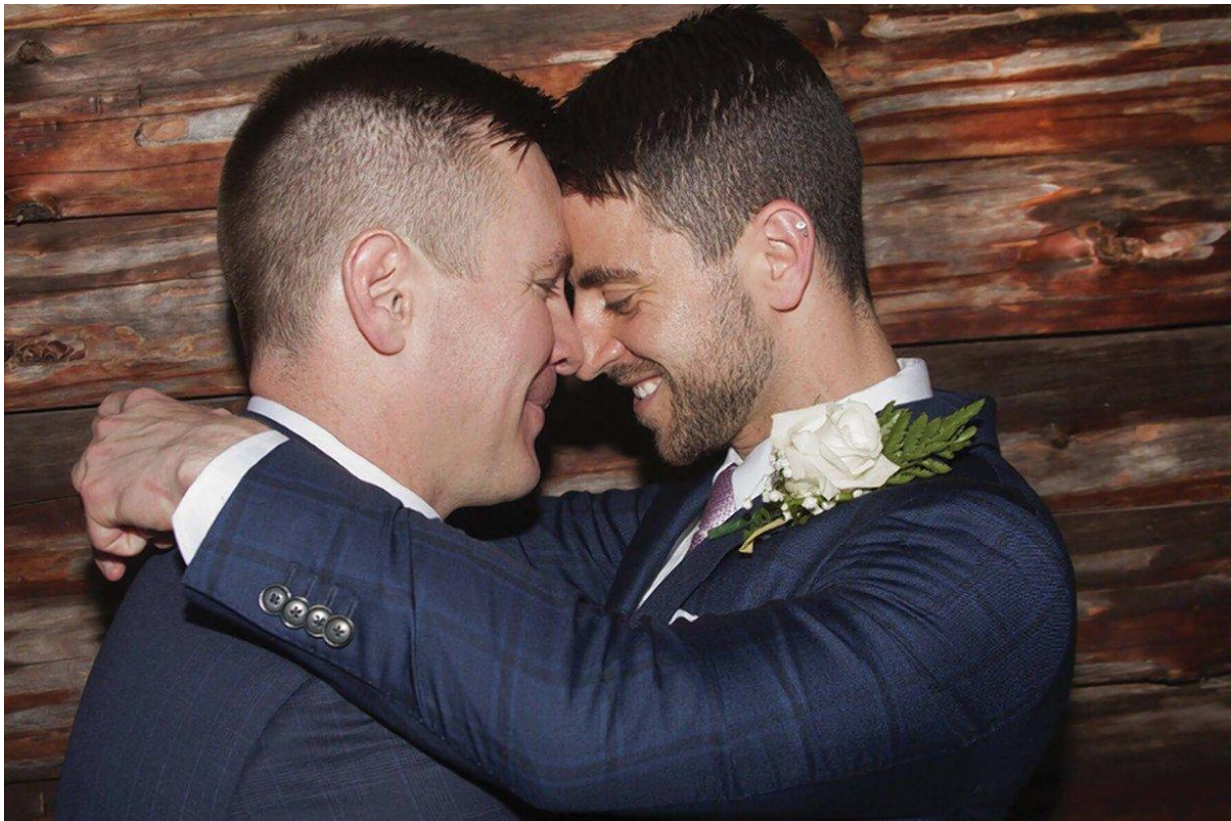
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"This conduct is morally repugnant and Vistaprint must be held accountable," the lawsuit says.

Sara Nash, a spokeswoman for Vistaprint, said the company would never discriminate against customers based on sexual orientation.

"We pride ourselves on being a company that celebrates diversity and enables customers all over the world to customize products for their special events," she said. We have just been made aware of this incident in the last few hours. We understand how upsetting it would be for anyone to receive materials such as these the night before their wedding and we have immediately launched an internal investigation.



(Courtesy of Wigdor LLP)

"Until we have had the opportunity to complete our investigation, we cannot comment further."

The federal lawsuit was filed in Massachusetts District Court.

Borg and Heasley live in Australia, but got married in Coatesville, Pennsylvania, so their friends could attend the wedding.