

Myth vs. Fact regarding Homosexuality
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Every time we sin, "we crucify again the Son of God and hold him up to mockery" (Heb.6:6).

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Homosexuality is the sexual preference for and sexual behavior between members of the same sex. "Gays", between man and man, and "lesbians" between woman and woman. There has never been a time when so many young people and adults have struggled with their sexual identity. Some are asking, "Who am I sexually? Am I a man? Am I a woman? Who am I on the inside, a man or a woman? (2)

Jesus was quite clear concerning marriage and sexual union in Mark 10: "6, But from the beginning of the creation, God made them male and female. 7, For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, 8, and the two shall become one flesh; so then they are no longer two, but one flesh. 9, Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."

Two biblical truths are seen here. First, God clearly makes us either male or female (understanding since the fall that the corrupted genetic code of humans has brought about abnormalities in rare cases). Your maleness or femaleness is determined by your sexual identity at birth and not by your thought process or by philosophies or teachings that persuade you otherwise. Second, Jesus is quite clear as to who can cleave to each other or have sexual relationships with one another. On this issue Jesus gives two parameters: 1. Only heterosexual relationships are permitted. 2. Only heterosexual relationships between married men and women are permitted. (2)

There are a lot of myths regarding homosexuality. I would like to take a look at some of them.

MYTH # 1: *Some people are born homosexual.*

FACT: There is no conclusive scientific evidence for any genetic trait causing homosexuality, bisexuality, or transgendered desires. Recent news reports have focused on this lack of research (Columbus Dispatch, Feb. 14, 1999; New York Times, April 23, 1999). Yet this is the underlying assumption of many recent laws about sexual orientation. (1)

Some people have studied twins. If homosexuality were truly genetic, you would expect to find a one-to-one correlation of sexual orientation for identical twins. In other words, every time one twin was homosexual, the other identical twin would be too because they share identical genes. What some twin studies have shown is that when one twin is homosexual, the number of times the other twin is also homosexual occurs more often than the general rates of homosexuality in society. But these studies also looked at the rest of the family and they found that the rates of homosexuality among the rest of the family, including adopted brothers was 200-300% more frequent than the general rates in society. And so the data leads to the conclusion that something is causing homosexuality to occur more frequently in certain families but that it can not be genetics because the

increase even occurs in adopted brothers who do not share any genes at all with the rest of the family. (3)

In 1991 and 1992, research was published which suggested that two parts of the brain were slightly different sizes in gay men as compared with straight men.

It seemed pretty conclusive at the time – gays ARE different. The gay lobby got excited. But this was dealt a serious blow in March 2000, when research was published that showed that taxi drivers also had different brain structures. In taxi drivers, the part that dealt with navigation – the hippocampus – was larger than in non-taxi drivers. Does that mean that there is a taxi driving gene too? That some babies are pre-programmed to drive taxis?

The researchers concluded that if you use your brain differently from other people, it will grow differently. It has nothing to do with being born that way – it is down to freedom of choice. (3)

MYTH #2: *Homosexual activity is harmless, so no one should criticize it.*

FACT: The consequences of homosexual behavior are devastating, and risky homosexual acts continue even when community acceptance increases. In San Francisco, the rate of sexually transmitted diseases among homosexuals remains very high, despite a tolerant climate. Substance abuse and suicide attempts are much higher among homosexuals.

Two extensive studies appearing in the October 1999 issue of the American Medical Association's *Archives of General Psychiatry* confirm a strong link between homosexual sex and suicide, as well as a relationship between homosexuality and emotional and mental problems.

One of the studies in the journal, by David M. Fergusson and his team, found that "gay, lesbian and bisexual young people are at increased risk of psychiatric disorder and suicidal behaviors."

The youth suffering from these disorders were four times as likely as their peers to suffer from major depression, almost three times as likely to suffer from generalized anxiety disorder, nearly four times as likely to experience conduct disorder, five times as likely to have nicotine dependence, six times as likely to suffer from multiple disorders, and over six times as likely to have attempted suicide.

Females with any homosexual contact within the previous 12 months were more often diagnosed with major depression, social phobia or alcohol dependence.

Also, a recent study in the *American Journal of Public Health* has shown that 39% of males with same-sex attraction have been abused by other males with same-sex attraction.

The list of medical diseases found with extraordinary frequency among male homosexual practitioners as a result of abnormal homosexual behavior is alarming: anal cancer, chlamydia trachomatis, cryptosporidium, giardia lamblia, herpes simplex virus, human immunodeficiency virus or HIV, human papilloma virus — HPV or genital warts — isospora belli, microsporidia, gonorrhea, viral hepatitis types B and C, and syphilis.

Sexual transmission of some of these diseases is so rare in the exclusively heterosexual population as to be virtually unknown. Others, while found among heterosexual and homosexual practitioners, are clearly predominated by those involved in homosexual activity.

MYTH #3: *No one chooses to be homosexual, so it must be inborn.*

FACT: While homosexual desire may feel very natural to some people, this does not mean it is inborn, positive or unchangeable. There is overwhelming evidence that homosexual desire arises from traumatic childhood experiences, such as sexual abuse or a troubled family environment. These desires can be overcome through counseling. And—people always choose sexual behavior, even if the feelings aren't chosen, unhealthy desires don't have to be acted upon.

MYTH #4: *A homosexual can never change to become a heterosexual.*

FACT: Thousands of people have overcome homosexual desire. A network of ex-homosexual organizations called Exodus (206-784-7799) has several hundred affiliates around the world. Exodus helps strugglers through Christian support groups, prayer, and biblical teaching. Some psychologists can help homosexuals overcome homosexual desire through individual counseling as well. Many ex-homosexuals go on to marry and have children.

The Spitzer report from the *Archives of Sexual Behavior*, which will publish in October, surveyed ex-homosexuals who were out of the lifestyle for five years, and it found that 64% of the men and 43% of the women considered themselves to be heterosexuals after they received treatment.

MYTH #5: *The Bible doesn't condemn homosexuality. Therefore, a person can be a proud homosexual and a Christian, too.*

FACT: Scripture is very clear about homosexuality. There are dire warnings in the Bible about homosexual practices, both for individuals and for communities. Read Genesis 19, Leviticus 18:22, Leviticus 20:13, Romans 1:26-27, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, 1 Timothy 1:10, 2 Peter 2: 6-10, and Jude 6-7. Some say that because Jesus did not explicitly mention homosexuality, it must be permitted. But He never mentioned rape or incest either—are we to believe these are acceptable? And Jesus was God, who had already made His will known in the Old Testament. Jesus affirmed in Matthew 19 and Mark 10 that marriage is ordained for one man and one woman. How can those who call themselves Christians deliberately twist the word of God? (1)

I would like to draw your attention to relationship between homosexuality and pedophilia.

Although most homosexual activists publicly deny that they want access to boys, many homosexual groups around the world are working aggressively to lower the age of sexual consent. Their cause is being aided by the professional psychiatric and psychological associations, which have moved in recent years toward normalizing pedophilia, much as they did with homosexuality in the early 1970s.

Kevin Bishop, an admitted pederast (pedophile), is promoting the work of the North American /Man-Boy Love Association (NAMBLA) in South Africa. Bishop, who was molested at the age of six, is also an admitted homosexual who is blunt about the relationship between homosexuality and pedophilia. "Scratch the average homosexual and you will find a pedophile," said Bishop in an interview with the Electronic Mail & Guardian (June 30, 1997).¹ (1. Angella Johnson, "The man who loves to love boys," *Electronic Mail & Guardian*, June 30, 1997, <http://www.mg.co.za/mg>.)

Bishop is on a crusade in South Africa to have "age of sexual consent laws" abolished, and he is looking for help from NAMBLA to accomplish his goal. He says children must be empowered "by teaching them about loving relationships at an early age, and giving them the opportunity to make an informed decision about having [sex]." He also approves of incest, noting, "Two women psychologists in America say the healthiest introduction to sex for a child should be with their [sic] parents, because it is less threatening and the emotional intimacy more comfortable." 2 (*Ibid*)

The Gay Report, published by homosexual researchers Jay and Young in 1979, revealed that 73 percent of homosexuals surveyed had at some time had sex with boys 16 to 19 years of age or younger.

The Australian Federation for the Family in the latter part of 1990 submitted a 46-page document on homosexuality to the Criminal Justice Commission in Queensland. This was in response to a government inquiry into whether to decriminalize homosexuality. Federation spokesman Jack Sonnemann says homosexuality is devastating to any culture that encourages its lifestyle. He says, 'People with an alcohol problem do not need more ready availability of drink, they need to learn to run dry.' His meticulously documented submission points out some frightening facts apart from the horrifying spread of AIDS among homosexuals (4):

- Homosexuals commit between 33% and 50% of all recorded instances of child molestation.
- Homosexual teachers have been involved in 80% of recorded teacher-pupil sexual interactions.
- Homosexuals have accounted for about half of all molestations among those who work with children.

Who has the right to determine what is good or bad, or what is morally right or wrong in the culture? If the majority agrees on a set of standards, what happens when that majority is replaced by a different majority? The majority in power once believed abortion was wrong, but now the majority in power doesn't believe this, so rules have been changed. The majority in power once believed the institution of marriage should be one man for one woman. But this has changed also. Many are allowing "gay marriage". So how long before polygamous or pedophilic relationships are allowed, which some people start to advocate? Who is to say they are wrong, if the majority agrees with them?

The Bible is the Word of God, and Genesis is literal history. Its science can be trusted. Therefore, we have an absolute authority. (5)

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