

# THE SOUNDING MEGAPHONE



ISSUE 18, SEPTEMBER 2019



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Are people born gay? What Does The Bible have to say about the gay lifestyle? Does same-sex marriage undermine traditional marriage? Is the same-sex lifestyle dangerous? Can gay and lesbian attraction be reversed? This issue deals with all of these questions in this hot potato issue of The Sounding Megaphone. Wherever you stand on this issue I invite you to read this magazine and write back to us. What I have written I mean to be communicated in love. If you are wrestling with same-sex attraction there is hope for you if you will will receive Jesus Christ and the healing that He brings. God bless you.

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## ISSUE 18

### BORN THIS WAY – ACTUALLY, NO

If I really wanted to get to know you, would it be beneficial for me to see your genetic DNA? Could I gain an understanding of who you are, and why you behave the way you do, by getting to know your identical twin? Or would this information be irrelevant? Are you your own person, or are you simply a product of genetic programming? Were you born gay? Some cry out that they were born this way, that is, with a sexual orientation towards members of the same sex. Does the field of psychology confirm this claim?

Is it true that men and women are born homosexual? Has the science of psychology proved this? The modern media has given us a window into some of the science of psychology. However, the material has been selective and interpreted. For example, in 1991 the researcher Simon LeVay, who himself is a gay activist, did studies on the brains of some presumed homosexual men and found some small differences. The media quickly publicized his study around the world as evidence for

biological causes for homosexuality. However, he could not say whether these differences were a cause or result of homosexuality. Also, he could not determine whether these differences appeared from birth or were a result of HIV infection. In fact, he later admitted that he did not find a genetic cause for homosexuality and that people had misinterpreted his work. <sup>1</sup>

In 1993, not long after LeVay's study, geneticist Dean Hamer, of the National Cancer Institute, released the results of his own study claiming to have found a gene that was foundational for male homosexuality. Hamer also is a gay activist. Again, his study was publicized as evidence that homosexuals are born gay. Later, other researchers conducted a study specifically done to test, and possibly reproduce, the results of Hamer's study. However, they arrived at different findings from Hamer's. <sup>2</sup> In his study "Male Homosexuality: Absence of Linkage to Microsatellite Markers at Xq28," Rice, et al, say that it is unclear why their results differ from Hamer's and that they had even conducted a larger test than Hamer had done, yet with different results. <sup>3</sup> Hamer was later asked if homosexuality was based solely in biology. To his

credit, he replied that it was not and that at least half of the variability in sexual orientation does not come from heredity. 4 Hamer also conceded that concerning female lesbianism, studies suggested that female sexual identification has more to do with environment than heredity.5

It may surprise you to learn that between any two unrelated persons there are approximately 99.7 to 99.9 percent genes that are the same. So, how much difference do those .1 or .3 percent of variance make in a person? Can they totally reverse his or her sexual orientation and explain their behaviour? The truth is that homosexuality is a behaviour and genes have very little or nothing to do with human behaviour. No genetically caused behaviour has ever been proven in humans, only in very simple organisms. In his book "My Genes Made Me Do It" Dr. Neil Whitehead says; "But attempts by scientists to pin specific behavior down to single gene defects or specific genes are proving very difficult and often unproductive. The established genetic links to behavior usually only link to negative behaviors such as schizophrenia (see Chapter 9), and many of the findings have been retracted in the face of the repeated failure of further independent laboratory tests."6

If homosexuality is not a result of genetics, how then does it come about? It has much more to do with external influences upon a person than it does with genetics. What do some experts in this field of study say on this topic? Dr. Judd Marmor, former president of the American Psychiatric Association, and also an advocate of gay activism, admits in the chapter "Overview: The Multiple Roots of Homosexual Behavior," of his book *Homosexual Behavior: A Modern Reappraisal*, that homosexuality is not inevitable and 'effeminate' boys or 'masculine' girls *can* develop one day normal sexual relationships with members of the opposite sex. 7 Even the gay support group, P-FLAG, has admitted that no known researcher has claimed that sexual orientation is determined by genes.8

The closest that psychology comes to saying that homosexuality is genetic is to say that gays have had traits that may open the door to that life-style. However, there is a great deal of difference between having a gay gene and having traits towards homosexuality. There is no such thing as a gay gene.

So, just as a tall, athletic person may have the traits of becoming a basketball player, they were not born a basketball player. In fact, they were born very far from being a basketball player. If they one day become a basketball player, it is because a coach or someone who knows the game taught them how to play and then put them into the game of basketball. Similarly, people are not born gay. They may have certain traits which open the door towards the possibility of that life-style, but they become gay through the influence of others and their own choices. 10

It is commonly claimed by homosexuals that they have had the feelings that they do for as long as they can remember and that this is proof that they were born gay. However, there are also many testimonies of people joining the gay lifestyle somewhere in their adult life after years of living a meaningful heterosexual lifestyle. This weakens the argument that people are born gay. To claim that someone was born gay is to accept a nature over nurture explanation for sexual orientation. It is to say that because their desires are such that they were created this way. However, can anyone say with certainty that their desires were created by

God? What we can say with certainty is that our anatomy was created by God.

No one has ever discovered a gay gene. If such a gene exists, then how can it be passed on? Gay individuals can't reproduce with a partner of their own sex. So, how could such a hypothetical gene be passed on? Even if it could be proven that genetics cause same-sex attraction, would this make same-sex lifestyle right? There are those who have a genetic predisposition towards alcoholism because their mother used alcohol during her pregnancy. If someone has this predisposition, does that give them the right to abuse alcohol? No, certainly not. It merely means that they have an even greater responsibility to avoid alcohol. Similarly, if someone has same-sex attraction, they have a greater responsibility to resist this temptation and not stumble into this area of personal weakness.

Some will ask, "Weren't you born heterosexual?" The most correct answer for anyone would be, "I was born male or female, evidenced by my anatomy at birth." Sexual activity, either heterosexual or homosexual, is a choice. It is a decision that people make, some based on a

feeling they had in a given moment. However, their choice doesn't change their sexuality. The Bible answers the question for us as to where homosexual and lesbian sin comes from. We read:

*For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse. For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened.*

*Professing to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.*

*Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them. For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error. And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them*

*over to a depraved  
mind, to do those things  
which are not proper,  
Romans 1:18-28.*

Same-sex desires are “degrading passions” which people may be given over to if they turn away from God and reject His truth. I do not believe that everyone who feels same-sex attraction has been given over to this sin, but those who have gone head-long into this lifestyle seem to fit the description of what we read in these verses.

Psychology has not proven that homosexuality is genetic. In fact, some of the researchers who have conducted experiments on this topic have had their own words stretched by the media and by activists who desperately want there to be evidence for genetic homosexuality.

People have traits which open the door for the possibility of becoming gay or lesbian, but becoming gay or lesbian does not happen without the choice of the individual and also, likely, environmental influences.

**Shawn Stevens**

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## **THE BIBLE AND THE GAY LIFESTYLE**

The active homosexual and lesbian community today is diverse, spanning the spectrum of ages, classes, occupations, etc. They can be found through much of the world. They are diverse but, regardless of class or occupation, they still have one thing in common; the active homosexual and lesbian community lifestyle that they practices is sinful. I want to say upfront that I have no hatred towards those suffering from gender identity disorder. Reader, if this is your condition, then know that you are valued and that your life is precious. I do not write this to hurt you but, rather, to try to extend help. It is for sinners, heterosexual and homosexual alike, that Jesus died. He died to save us from our sins and to cleanse us from our sins, to set us free. Because of what Jesus has done for us, we can be forgiven of our sins. Being forgiven of our sins begins with recognizing our sin for what it is and coming to Jesus with it. It is because recognizing sin for what it is is so important that I am writing this article now.

The institution of marriage is under much attack and is assaulted on many fronts, from the educational establishment to the courts to

Hollywood. In our country, and in North America in general, liberal propaganda has normalized homosexuality. Many have been deeply wounded and even destroyed by the lies which daily turn men and women down the wrong path of the gay lifestyle. What does the Bible say about the same-sex lifestyle?

### **The Old Testament Teaching on Sodomy**

In the order of creation, God made man and then, we are told in Genesis 2:18 that God purposed to make a helper for man. God made a helper and that helper, or mate, was woman (see vs 21-24). This is a divine order, pairing man with woman. God blessed this institution. This is the only institution for marriage and for sexual orientation that the Bible blesses. What other sexual orientation can we read about in the pages of the Bible that God blesses? There are no others.

In the Book of Genesis, we have an account from the life of Lot. Lot was living in the ungodly city of Sodom when angelic visitors, in the form of men, came to him to warn him to flee the city. While this was happening men from the city learned of the visitors and came to Lot's home, desiring to have homosexual

relations with them. The Scriptures read:

*But before they lay down,  
the men of the city, even  
the men of Sodom,  
compassed the house  
round, both old and young,  
all the people from every  
quarter:*

*And they called unto Lot,  
and said unto him, Where  
are the men which came in  
to thee this night? bring  
them out unto us, that we  
may know them.*

*And Lot went out at the  
door unto them, and shut  
the door after him,  
And said, I pray you,  
brethren, do not so  
wickedly.*

*Genesis 19:4-7*

Lot rebuked the terrible desire of these men; "...do not so wickedly." Some have claimed that biblical prohibitions on same-sex lifestyle were only for Jews. If homosexual behavior is wickedness for Jews only, then why was the Gentile cities of Sodom and Gomorrah judged for acting in this way? This prohibition is continued elsewhere in the Old Testament. The Book of

Leviticus calls homosexual activities an abomination; “Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination.” (Leviticus 18:22). Some would again say that this was only a part of God's covenant with natural Jews. However, in verse 24, we read; “Defile not ye yourselves in any of these things: for in all these the nations are defiled which I cast out before you:” Here, we see that homosexual sin is one thing which defiled the nations. Nations, here, means Canaanite, Gentile nations. God's prohibition on homosexual sin is universal.

### **The New Testament Teaching On Sodomy**

The New Testament teaching on sodomy is consistent with its Old Testament counterpart. The New Testament teaches repeatedly on same-sex lifestyle but even just this one passage in Romans is enough to establish that God opposes it. In the Book of Romans we read:

Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves:

Who changed the truth of

God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.

For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature:

And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.

*Romans 1:24-27*

The New Testament calls same-sex feelings “vile affections”. According to this passage same sex lifestyle, warrants a penalty, as well.

The teachings of Jesus Christ also, indirectly, confront homosexuality. Scripture records of Christ; “And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, And said, For this

cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh?" (Matthew 19:4-5). Here, we see that the teaching of Jesus Christ confronts homosexuality by upholding the God-ordained institution of the marriage of male and female. Just because Jesus didn't use the word "homosexuality" when rebuking sin, does not mean He approved of it. Jesus didn't mention by name many other sins like wife beating, money laundering or drug abuse. Jesus didn't lower standards of the Law. We read; "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled." (Matthew 5: 17-18).

Theology must not be made to fit into the Bible, rather, we must get our theology from the Bible itself. Be aware of the temptation to rationalize your own feelings.

Gay marriage promotes the devaluation of marriage. The more that high standards for marriage are lowered, the less serious people become in how they view it. Media has drawn attention to the fact that there is a pro-gay theology

movement alive in some mainline Churches. Such theology does not accept the Bible for what it says. Either it rejects the word of God as being authoritative on all issues that it addresses or it says that issues, like the Scripture's teaching on homosexuality, are misinterpreted.

Pro-gay theology says that God's command is to love Him and love our neighbour as ourself, and that this has no bearing on a person's choice to marry someone of the same sex. However, this is not true. Yes, we are to love God with all of our heart. One way that we love God is to obey Him. Mark 12:30 says; "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment." If we love our neighbour we will not involve them in homosexual sin which is offensive to God and damaging to themselves.

Pro-gay theology argues that the Bible's teaching against homosexual sin was written within the context of abusive, exploitive homosexual activity and that that is the type of homosexual activity that it condemns. Many gay Church

leaders argue that the Bible does not condemn the committed, loving, gay relationship that homosexuals claim exists. Again, this is greatly stretching the text of Scripture. From the verses we have just read, we can see that the Scripture condemns homosexual sin in very clear and direct language. It is not scholarship to invent a context for changing the meaning of Scripture passages. The most straightforward meaning of these texts condemns the homosexual lifestyle as sin. The Almighty God knew that these passages would be read throughout the ages. If He wanted to condemn only abusive excesses of homosexual activity, He could have made that clear. Are we going to say that God was shortsighted in making the kind of statements that He made?

Pro-gay theology argues that those taking the Bible literally today, concerning judgment on gay lifestyle, are like those who took and used the Bible literally to suppress women throughout the ages. However, this argument is not a fair comparison. The Bible teaches respect for women, regardless of how some have interpreted it to the contrary. The Bible includes the stories of many virtuous women such as Mary, Martha, Mary the mother of

Jesus, Elizabeth, Priscilla, etc. The first people to believe in the resurrection of Christ were women. Some Bible women are heroes such as Esther and Debra. Where are the examples of homosexuals in the Bible who were heroes of faith? There are none. The homosexual lifestyle is condemned wherever it appears in Scripture.

Gay activists have tried to argue for the decency of lifelong, loving, homosexual relationships. However, studies indicate that the average homosexual has hundreds of partners in his lifetime. The homosexual magazine, "Genre," reports that in a specific study 24 % of homosexuals had more than 100 partners.<sup>2</sup> Such studies do not show a lifelong, loving, monogamous experience but, rather, an uncommitted lifestyle and broken relationships for huge numbers of gays. Research has also shown that gay relationships are typically more abusive than heterosexual ones. "Journal of Interpersonal Violence" reports that 90% of lesbians surveyed had been recipients of one or more acts of verbal aggression by their partner, with 31% reporting one or more incidents of physical abuse.<sup>3</sup> In their book, "Men Who Beat The

Men Who Love Them,” D. Island and P. Letellier postulate that domestic violence is almost double between gay men than it is between couples in the heterosexual population. 4 The *American Journal of Public Health* found that in a five-year study which compared physical battering between urban men who have sex with men and between women who were either married to or living with men, that physical battering (annually of both severe violence and total violence) was significantly more common among men who had sex with men. 5 The Bureau of Justice Statistics (U.S. government) reports that the lowest rates of violence towards women occurred in the married relationships of traditional families. 6

The gay lifestyle is also immoral when gay couples raise children that they have obtained through adoption or through artificial reproduction. This only drags children into the extremely dysfunctional world of gender identity disorder. Some research has shown that such upbringing is damaging to children. Sociologist, Sotirios Sarantakos, conducted a study and wrote an article in the “Children Australia” in which he compared 174 elementary school children for academic

achievement and life skills, living in three types of homes : married heterosexual parents, live-in heterosexual parents, gay parents (both lesbian and gay). He found that children of married couples did the best and those from gay homes did the worst in nine of thirteen categories. These categories were : Language, Mathematics, Sports, Sociability, Attitude to learning and School, Parent-school Relationship, Sex Identity, School Related Support and Parental Aspirations. Children from gay homes scored higher in three areas : Social Studies, Personal Autonomy and Household Tasks. Overall, the study shows that children raised in gay homes suffer at school, both academically and socially, and are less likely to do as well as children from married heterosexual homes. 7 I believe that children can't take on the pressures of school and thrive at education and social development when they are wrestling with deep inner anguish and confusion.

Pentecostalism has always shunned the sin of homosexual activity. The Assemblies of God, which is the largest Pentecostal denomination in the world, issued this statement in 1979, saying that homosexuality represented the “alarming erosion of

national moral standards”.<sup>11</sup>

Many who struggle with gender identity disorder already know that it is sin and are dealing with the problem. They have taken the courageous steps of repenting from this lifestyle and may be involved in Christian based reparative therapy that involves prayer and counseling. They are grieved at the impulses felt inside of them and are not justifying those feelings. They want to change. There is great hope for such ones. However, there are many who struggle with gender identity disorder who have not yet come to this place of recognition and repentance. Perhaps they have been told by a teacher or counsellor that there is nothing wrong with being gay, that it is just an alternative lifestyle. It could be that you have this struggle and have been patted on the back and told not to worry about it, but to just accept these feelings as being your own sexual orientation. Yet, the pats and platitudes have not resulted in inner peace. There is a storm within you and you must find relief. Friend, teachers and counsellors may mean well in their advice, but you need an answer from a Higher Source. The gay lifestyle must never be dismissed as an innocent thing. Sexuality is

something created by God and God, alone, has the right to set boundaries on sexual conduct. Do not settle for an answer from anyone less than God Himself. How does one find God's answer and will regarding gender identity disorder? The answer is found in God's Book, The Holy Bible.

Jesus Christ died to save and change both heterosexual and homosexual sinners. His love reaches out today to those who will respond to His call. Accepting the same-sex lifestyle as an alternative and acceptable outlet for sexual expression does not lead to inner peace or to a right relationship with God, or with others. Homosexual activity is sodomy, one of the sins of Sodom. Friend, “do not so wickedly.” The timeless Word of God calls it an abomination. Jesus taught a marriage picture that was between a man and a woman. Friends, counselors or media personalities, and even some Church leaders, may condone what God condemns but we will answer to God for our lives one day. Friend, do not choose the dysfunctional road of gay lifestyle. Studies reveal the uncommitted, short-lived and abusive relationships it produces. Such an environment is agony for children

who are raised within it. Instead, choose God's higher road of holiness, wholeness and love made possible through the redemptive death of Christ.

God bless you.

Shawn Stevens

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Scripture taken from the King James Version.

## **SAME-SEX MARRIAGE DESTROYS FAMILY AND TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE**

At the outset I would like to say I have no malice towards individuals who claim to be gay. This article is not meant to bash people who claim to be gay. Rather, it is an attempt to look objectively at the consequences to allowing gay marriage in society.

On February 1, 2005, “The Civil Marriage Act” was introduced by Paul Martin's Liberal government in the Canadian House of Commons. It was passed on June 28, 2005, by the House of Commons and, on July 19, by the Senate. One day later, it received royal consent and Canada became the fourth country in the world to legalize same-sex marriage, nationwide. Conservative Party efforts to have the law re-examined were voted down. Alberta premier, Ralph Klein, called for a national referendum which would allow Canadians the opportunity to express their wishes on this topic. The request was rejected. One of the most serious claims that those who oppose same-sex marriage make is that it destroys families and traditional marriage.

How does same-sex marriage destroy the family and traditional marriage? There are a number of ways. For one, same-sex marriage devalues traditional marriage. The traditional marriage of a man and a woman, joined together in holy matrimony, is a high standard that many Canadians adhere to today. To change this standard by legalizing same-sex marriage weakens and lowers the standard which many have been willing to faithfully uphold. Why does this matter? There has long been a supportive relationship between families and government. They both serve to protect each other. Families fund government with tax revenue, and care for children and dependents who would otherwise have to be cared for by the state. Families also exist for the raising of children with moral values which will be constructive to society. Government in turn is to protect families by governing them well and providing a legal system of protection for them. Government should make laws which help families hold standards high and strengthen them. However, when governments change the very definition of marriage they wound families and attack marriage. Same-sex marriage lowers the standard of marriage and this makes it harder for parents to pass on a standard which is

high to their children. It cuts at the values of families and marriage and challenges high values rather than supports them. It also supports a same-sex model for marriage and family which is fundamentally dysfunctional. How does same sex-marriage wound families? It gives official government licence to the idea that children do not need to be raised by a mother and a father.

Same-sex families place children in a home which is highly unstable. The hard facts about same-sex relationships are that they are usually short-lived and highly unstable. This type of union does not provide the satisfaction and fulfillment that people are searching for and statistics bear this out. One study shows that 60% of male homosexual relationships last less than one year and that most lesbian relationships last under three years. 1 Same-sex relationships are rarely marked by faithful commitment. Gay psychiatrist and psychologist couple, McWhirter and Mattison, set out to disprove the claim that gay relationships usually don't last. They did a study of 156 couples who had been together between one and thirty-five years. They found that only seven had been able to achieve sexual fidelity and of those

seven, none had been together more than five years. In other words, out of 156 couples there was no couple who had been faithful to their partner beyond five years.<sup>2</sup> A study conducted by M. Pollak, "In Western Sexuality: Practice and Precept in the Past and Present Times" concluded that most homosexual partnerships did not last beyond two years. **3** Homosexual relationships are this unstable because they are dysfunctional by nature. How can it be right to place a child in a family situation as unstable as this?

As well as homosexual relationships being less stable for a home environment, there is research showing that they are generally more abusive than heterosexually married households. A study done in "Journal of Interpersonal Violence" reported a study which showed that 90% of lesbians surveyed said that they had been the recipients of one or more acts of verbal aggression from their partners with 31% admitting to there being physical abuse in the relationship. **4** In their book, "Men Who Beat the Men Who Love Them," D. Island and P. Letellier claim that domestic violence is almost twice as great among gay men than it is among those in the heterosexual population. **5** The

United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, reports that women in traditional families are subject to the least amount of abuse as compared to women in other kinds of relationships. **6** Should children be brought into same-sex homes when studies like these have shown them to be more abusive?

By legalizing same-sex marriage, the door has been opened to challenge other aspects of marriage law. Winston Blackmore and James Oler are a part of a cult which is an off-shoot of the Mormon Church. They have been accused of being married to more than one wife, a crime in Canada, punishable by a maximum of five years in prison. Blackmore's lawyer argues that marriage laws have changed, referring to same-sex marriage. **7** The question can be asked, "If marriage can be changed to accommodate the homosexual community, why can't it be changed to accommodate other models such as polygamy?" It is allowed for Muslims in many countries to practice polygamy. What will the changing of the law on marriage in Canada potentially mean for those who are looking for legal support for polygamy?

Adoption by same-sex couples will probably also lead to supporting reproductive technologies such as artificial insemination, which is the only way for gay people to reproduce from themselves a biological child. They may claim this as a victory for their own personal rights but how is this better for their child, being born into a family, without having both a mother and a father?

By giving same-sex marriage legal acceptance the door is opened for other forms of communication that will start trumpeting this acceptance, such as children's books, films, entertainment, etc. This will be in the face of the larger straight society but we won't have legal grounds to stop its influence. Acceptance of the gay lifestyle will be expected as a part of being a good citizen even though it goes against the values of millions. Canadian families and Canadian marriages are too important to have them shattered by same-sex legalization. For these reasons, same-sex marriage should be overturned in our nation. By supporting the dysfunctional union of same-sex partners, our country is undermining families and opening the door for the parenting of children and raising of children in extremely unstable circumstances.

Is it unloving to challenge the same-sex lifestyle and same-sex marriage? No. It is unloving to condone behaviour which the Bible and professional psychological studies show are unstable and dysfunctional. Research shows huge percentages of homosexual relationships being short-lived. Research speaks to abuse being disproportionately higher in homosexual relationships than in heterosexual relationships. Such professional research only confirms what the Bible says about the homosexual lifestyle being cursed. It says in the Scripture; "Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination." (Leviticus 18.22). Love brings a warning to those participating in a dysfunctional lifestyle and calls them to a better way. Love protects children from being raised in such dysfunctional homes. Love defends traditional marriage and family. May love prevail in our great land.

Shawn Stevens

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*Scriptures taken from the King James Bible.*

## **PREVENTING AND REPAIRING GENDER-IDENTITY DISORDER**

What if someone said to you that no one *has* to be gay? What if someone said that the gay lifestyle is a choice, not an orientation? There is a great deal of misinformation in the world today concerning gender-identity disorder. Many think that they are born with same-sex attraction but, actually, this has never been proven. Instead, much research shows that this condition is developed through a process of thinking and conditioning.

How does thinking and conditioning lead a person into having gender-identity disorder? It can happen when boys start to perceive themselves as being different from other boys at school. Similarly, girls may have the same perception of themselves as being different. They may have been made to feel different by others at school who don't accept them. This becomes a seed which grows in them as they reflect on these feelings more and more. Other factors then come into play. Perhaps the boy has a very negative experience with his father. Perhaps his father is rough and

abusive and, as a result, the boy hates everything masculine. This can lead to him, in his own mind, becoming more and more like a girl. Or, perhaps he does not have a father in the home at all. This makes it much harder for the boy to develop positive feelings about manhood. In fact, any dysfunctional home can set up a child for gender-identity disorder. The turmoil that the child feels can be processed in different ways, one of which is manifested in this kind of sexual deviation. Then when children are introduced to a same-sex experience by a friend, they become vulnerable. When they do experiment with same-sex activity, the experience is affirmed by the partner who has become a friend and a support. This is part of the conditioning. The boy or girl is very vulnerable. Once the boy or girl has made the experience known, often other heterosexual friends drop them as friends and they feel like they have burned the bridges behind them. Many times, the only ones who accept them are others with this disorder, or so they feel, and, so, it is difficult to leave this lifestyle.

If gender-identity disorder is a result of thinking processes and conditioning, then what can parents do to help protect their son or

daughter against developing gender-identity disorder? Firstly, if you have a dysfunctional marriage, start there. Face your own problem head-on, pray for help and get counselling. Build a strong functional home and the chances of your child becoming gay will be slim. Invest quality time into your family. Set examples your children will want to follow. A boy who has been loved, affirmed and mentored by a strong and kind father-figure is very unlikely to develop gender-identity disorder. Conversely, a girl who has been loved, affirmed and mentored by a strong and kind mother is more than likely to steer away from the path of same-sex-attraction.

What are signs to look for that may indicate that your child is prone to gender-identity disorder? One sign would be that of your children coming out and saying that they are really the opposite sex, or if your child cross-dresses as the other sex. Also, if there are instances of cross-sexual roles in their games, playing or making believe, this may be an early indicator. If they have strong desires to be involved in games or activities that are usually practiced by the opposite sex, or if they strongly want to play with friends of



the opposite sex and not other children of their own sex, this also could be an early indicator. All of these things should be taken seriously by parents. However, it should be stated that girls abandon these types of behaviours much more easily than boys do and, in the case of girls, all, except for the first sign mentioned, may just be normal tomboy phases that they pass through.

Reparative therapists talk of the three “A”s in helping children adhere to proper identity. They need affection, attention and approval. Without healthy, steady doses of these requirements provided by a parent of the same sex, a child will grow to resent that parent and, possibly, their gender. Fathers and mothers must work on strengthening their bonds with their children. As one parent is trying to strengthen this bond, it is equally important that the other parent does not impede his or her efforts. If there is tension in the marriage and if this tension involves one, or both, parents putting down the other or the other's gender, then this will, possibly, do injury to their child's developing sexual identity.

Another important rule for parents to follow is, if in counselling over your

child's same- sex tendencies/attractions, to find out from your counsellor what their views are concerning gender-identity disorder. If they do not view this kind of behaviour as a disorder, you have the wrong counsellor. They are a part of the great world of misinformation. Regardless of how many degrees they have, they will not be able to help you with your problem because they don't really view it as a problem. They might even say, “Don't worry, your son is just getting in touch with his feminine side.” This is not the kind of advice that you need. Your child's future relational, sexual and spiritual life is too important to have the wrong advice directing them at this pivotal time. There are counsellors out there who will handle gender-identity disorder for what it is, a disorder.

What should a single mother do for her son who has no father in the home? She should find a healthy, male role model for her son and find ways of including this role model in her son's life. Also, she should encourage masculinity in her son. Be a mom, but do not smother him with mothering activities.

Some individuals struggling with

gender identity-disorder are surprised to learn that the condition is treatable and that many people recover from it and lead heterosexual lives. *The National Association For Research and Therapy of Homosexuals (NARTH)*, is an organization founded by psychiatrists who believe that gender-identity disorder is fully treatable. It is an organization that, by 2007, had swelled to 1,500 members. They report:

*"Based on our review of 600 reports of clinicians, researchers, and former clients - primarily from professional and peer-reviewed scientific journals, we conclude that reorientation treatment has been helpful to many and should continue to be available to those who seek it. Further, mental health professionals competent to provide such care ethically may do so.*

***1. There is substantial evidence that sexual orientation may be changed through reorientation therapy.***

*Treatment success for clients seeking to change unwanted homosexuality and develop their heterosexual potential has been documented in the*

*professional and research literature since the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. What Research Shows reviews 125 years of clinical and scientific reports which document that professionally-assisted and other attempts at volitional change from homosexuality toward heterosexuality has been successful for many and that such change continues to be possible for those who are motivated to try. Clinicians and researchers have reported positive outcomes after using or investigating a variety of reorientation approaches." 1*

The fact that same-sex attraction is reversible is often challenged by gay advocates. However, study after study confirms that people can change their orientation from gay to straight. Homosexual activists have entered, and influenced, many areas of society, even the educational system. Many times, groundless propaganda is passed off as fact by professional people. One university textbook reads;

“Decades of research all point to the fact that sexual orientation is not a choice, and that a person's sexual orientation cannot be changed. Who one is drawn to is a fundamental

aspect of who we are.”<sup>2</sup> Although sources, such as this, maintain that same-sex orientation is genetic, it is well understood that many lesbians report making entry into such a lifestyle in midlife, after marriage or divorce to the opposite sex, and without having had feelings of same-sex attraction previously. This shows that they were not born this way but that they changed through conditioning.

Even the renowned Dr. Robert Spitzer has come out and said that same-sex orientation can change and is not fixed. Who is Dr. Spitzer? He was a member of the *American Psychological Association*, and was probably the most influential psychologist in turning that organization in the direction of supporting homosexuality. He was regarded as one of the biggest friends of the gay and lesbian community, until he made the evidence of his research known; he has since suffered a fury of backlash from this community.

It will surprise many readers that gender-identity disorder, for many people, just wears off on its own, even without counselling. In fact, this is especially true of young people. A study was done by *USA ADD Health*

*Survey – Savin-Williams and Realm*, which discovered that a large number of 16- year-olds who claimed to have same-sex attraction usually had their feelings wear off by the age of 17. In this study, a very small percentage of those who said they had same-sex attraction at age 16 still had this attraction to the same sex when they were 17. Further study showed that of those males who report same-sex attraction at age 17, by age 22, 75% had switched to opposite-sex attraction. <sup>4</sup> It can be concluded that same-sex attraction is not fixed but is changeable and, for young people, is usually reversed on its own.

Imagine the rage of a teenage boy who, although he has friends, has experienced some level of rejection in his life, either at home or at school. This rejection, however small it may be, is enough to generate some feelings of not fitting in at school. He meditates on these thoughts. He is introduced to a group of gay teens. They befriend him and this acceptance is intoxicating. They argue that their lifestyle is fine and that they were born this way. He starts to question his own sexuality and may even feel some attraction to the same sex. He comes out of the closet and

announces that he is gay. In the extremely cliquey, image-sensitive teen culture, that he is a part of, all of his straight friends reject him, including members of both the same and opposite sexes. He lives with the stigma for a year and then realizes the feelings that he had, or thought he had, have worn off. He is not gay, but he has crossed over into this world and feels like he has burned the bridges behind him. If he has participated in this lifestyle, he may even have a sexually-transmitted disease. His name and his reputation have been used. Imagine the inner rage that he might feel, if he learned that losing these feelings is the usual experience, the normal experience, of most people his age who thought that they were gay. Whether he comes to understand this, or not, he is deeply frustrated by his experience and his choices. Is he a sinner, responsible for his actions? Yes, but he is also a victim. He is a victim of gay activism. Sadly, most school officials will not offer protection from this kind of victimization. It is not responsible for a school counsellor to affirm the same-sex attraction feelings of someone who is an adolescent.

How can one know that gender-identity disorder is reversible? He can find a reassuring answer in the

Bible. It is the Bible which condemns a homosexual lifestyle as sin. It says; "Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination." (Leviticus 18:22). However, the Bible also says; "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." (John 8:36). Friend, the Bible extends the hope of freedom to those bound in sin. Come to Jesus Christ to find this freedom and forgiveness. Put your faith in Him and commit your life to following Him.

Even though public schools are unlikely to protect a young person from the exploitation of gay activist groups, there is somewhere that a young person (or someone of any age) can turn, the Church of Jesus Christ. The person who struggles with gender-identity disorder can come to a Bible-believing church where he or she may be shown love. It will be a tough love that maintains that the gay/lesbian lifestyle is sin and must be repented of. Facing such a truth is a major step towards wholeness. Even more important a step is to repent and put faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. With Jesus in a person's heart, the battle to overcome gender identity-disorder is very winnable. A person's attractions may change

immediately or there may be a process of healing. Reparative counseling is available by organizations such as NARTH. There is great hope for all who will come and make their surrender to God and to His way. God bless you.

Shawn Stevens

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Scripture taken from the King James Version.

## **The Homosexual Agenda Does Not Belong in a Human Rights Campaign**

When you think of human rights, what do you think of? Perhaps you think of Black Americans being given freedom from slavery in Lincoln-age America. Or, perhaps you think of women being given the right to vote. Perhaps you think of political prisoners being freed as a result of international pressure placed upon a regime. These would all be good examples of human rights being championed. However, imagine adding to this list a man's plight to get his surrounding culture to accept, affirm and applaud his sexual disorder and sexual involvement with another man. This falls short of human rights.

Human rights have been fought for, and achieved, in all arenas of life. They have been fought for in families, in schools, in courts and in parliaments. Courts and parliaments owe it to the citizens that they serve to protect their human rights. They also owe it to their citizens to keep a respectful distance from issues that are not in the sphere of human rights but do directly challenge and contradict the faith convictions and consciences of people. When courts and parliaments do cross

this line and do call on their citizens to violate their moral consciences, they unravel the very fabric of society. It is a violation of human rights to insist that people accept gender identity disorder as being an acceptable sexual orientation. To use the legal, or governing, system to achieve this end is to take away people's freedom. It is to take away their freedom to believe, their freedom to think, their freedom to feel and their freedom to follow conscience.

Governments that support gay activism have not considered enough how much harm this does to citizens when it supports gay activist causes. By taking sides with the gay movement, many governments directly oppose the beliefs, and statements of faith, of Christian Churches, maintaining that the Churches are wrong and that gays are right. I realize that current laws in Canada allow Churches to refuse to preform marriages for gays and lesbians. Still, how long can we count on current legal protection? Current laws and current positions can be amended to take away the religious freedom of Christians. To prevent this from happening, governments should not entertain supporting gay legislation. Once laws have been

passed legitimizing gender identity disorder, it spreads quickly in society, in our school systems and in other forms of public life. Then the Church and individual Christians have to stand against social institutions, both governmental and private, which oppose our faith position. We are then forced to have to defend our beliefs in our very places of work. Governments should never put a citizen in this position. Governments should, instead, protect the right of citizens to object to the gay lifestyle. The right to object to such a lifestyle is deeply based in a person's right to follow their own conscience and their sacred cherished faith. This is the moral sphere of faith, conscience and creed and governments should not tamper with their citizen's rights in this way.

The Bible states in no uncertain terms; “Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination.” (Leviticus 18.22). Opposing legislation such as same-sex marriage as well as other bills which give political support to the same-sex lifestyle is not about denying equality or denying rights. It is not about discriminating against a people group. It is not about

intolerance of people. It is not about being homophobic. It is not about denying human rights. Opposing same-sex lifestyles and same-sex marriage is about obeying God. It is also about preserving values and protecting families.

Propagation of sexual disorders should not be considered a human right. Rather, governments, legal systems, institutions and places of employment should encourage and protect the rights of people to object to lifestyles that violate their conscience and their sacred beliefs.

**Shawn Stevens**

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## SAME-SEX LIFESTYLE IS DANGEROUS

It is dangerous to cross a freeway, blindfolded. It is dangerous to jump from the rooftop of one building to another. It is dangerous to hand-feed a tiger. These things are self-evident. However, did you know that it is dangerous to participate in the same-sex lifestyle?

In spite of what the modern media has told us, the same-sex lifestyle is very harmful and is connected to many risks. The *U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)* reports that men who have sex with other men (since 1977) have a HIV prevalence that is sixty times higher than the general public's. Active homosexuals account for the largest group of people who are found HIV positive by blood donor testing. <sup>1</sup> It has also been found that medical, psychological and relational pathology is significantly higher in the homosexual population than in the rest of society. According to the *National Association for Research and Therapy of Homosexuality*, homosexuals are more likely to develop mental health concerns, eating disorders, paranoia, personality disorders, anxiety and depression. <sup>2</sup> They claim; "Researchers have shown

that medical, psychological and relationship pathology within the homosexual community is more prevalent than within the general population. ... Overall, many of these problematic behaviors and psychological dysfunctions are experienced among homosexuals at about three times the prevalence found in the general population – and sometimes much more."

<sup>3</sup>They also claim that according to an objective synthesis of the clinical and research literature derived from hundreds of sources: forty percent of adolescent homosexuals report suicidal tendencies: homosexuals have the highest number of sexually transmitted diseases; social discrimination does not account for all of this harm; it is a result of a deviant and dysfunctional lifestyle. According to the *Center for Disease Control* for the United States, homosexuals account for the single largest exposure category of males who have AIDS in the United States. The XIII International AIDS Conference, in Durban, South Africa, presented a study which says that 16% of a surveyed 1,397 homosexuals with HIV admitted having sex with a partner who was unaware of their disease. <sup>4</sup> It is shocking that so

high a percentage of infected homosexuals would not disclose the truth about their deadly disease to their partner. It is nothing less than murder and all for lust and sexual gratification. If those statistics are shocking, then what should we make of the University of San Francisco's study which claims that 36% of homosexuals who practiced unprotected anal, oral or vaginal intercourse didn't inform their casual sex partners of their serostatus. 5 If a percentage of 36 is shocking then consider that in Los Angeles, in a study of bi-sexual men with HIV it was found that over 54 % did not disclose their infected status to their sex partners. 6

While HIV is a deadly disease, it is not only HIV that is rampant in the gay community, but other diseases are as well. HVP, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, syphilis and gay bowel syndrome are among the diseases which can be commonly found among the homosexual community.8 The CDC studied 3,492 homosexuals between ages of fifteen and twenty-two and found that one in six had sex with women, too. Of those who had sex with the opposite sex, one in four said that their sex was unprotected and nearly 7% of the men in this study had HIV. 9

Some will feel that exposing this kind of evidence is a form of gay-bashing. However, it is evidence such as this that may help steer someone away from the dangers of sexually transmitted diseases which, in so many cases, are closely linked to the gay lifestyle. Prejudice involves prejudging someone for no good reason, but sincerely warning someone of real dangers is not prejudice; it is love. The health and welfare of people is more important than the offense that some may feel over these words. I hope what I have written will be taken in the spirit that it is given and that is to bring a helpful warning of real danger to those at risk.

Sexually transmitted diseases take and ruin people's lives. Active homosexuals have the highest rates of sexually transmitted diseases. Statistics and reports should be a red flag of warning to all who would venture down this deadly path. They serve to confirm what the Bible tells us that homosexual relations are cursed. A lifestyle like this is wrong. We read "Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is

abomination." (Leviticus 18:22)  
Studies suggest mental health, as well as physical health, is at great risk for anyone who would engage in this destructive and dysfunctional lifestyle. If you are considering living out the gay lifestyle, look long and hard at the repercussions others have suffered for choosing this way of life. I have not written this out of dislike for those struggling with gender identity disorder. You are loved and your life is precious and of enormous value. It is because your life is precious, that I plead with you to protect it by abstinence from the same-sex lifestyle. There is hope and help for those who would courageously turn from the same-sex lifestyle to God and His ways. I hope that you never have the horrible experience of having sex with someone who has a sexually transmitted disease and, knowingly, does not disclose that information to you. God bless you.

**Shawn Stevens**

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