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Psychological and Medical Programs Same Sex Relationships (2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



**Learn the
Bible
at Home**

Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

Psychological and Medical Programs.

TEACH IT, DON'T DEMAND IT

Thank you for visiting this topic, my aim in this study is to dispel some of the antipathy and hostility there is toward those who love Christ, but through no fault of their own, have been born with a natural attraction toward those of the same sex gender or have this attraction, because of some medical, biological or genetic influence.

CAN HOMOSEXUALITY BE CHANGED?

In the past many churches viewed homosexuality as a disease and funded treatment programs for to cure it, but many of these programs have been disastrous. Today, a more charitable view is emerging, for some churches now accept that homosexual orientation is real, but for the homosexual person lifelong celibacy is still required for many churches to accept any possibility of personal salvation. Psychiatric, psychological and medical programs have been set up to help people who are genuinely motivated to alter their sexual orientation. Those who attend these programs do so for the following reasons:

- They have a personal desire to do so.
- They are in churches whose religious teachings compel them to do so.
- They fear homophobic bullies.
- They desire to be accepted by the heterosexual society or by their families.

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These programs may help a heterosexual or bisexual person who has experimented with homosexual activity and become addicted to it, or romantically hooked on a person of the same sex, to turn solely back to heterosexual relationships, and may help others in changing their sexual behaviour, but accountable real change of sexual orientation is nil, because such programs do not succeed in changing a person's sexual orientation, but only behaviour, through self-discipline and self-control.

Physiologist, medical practitioners and doctors: after interviewing men and woman referred to them by Christian organizations, who describe the men and women they sent as changed. The physiologist, medical practitioners and doctors after interviewing them suggested that homosexuals and Lesbians can be transformed, because the men and the women they interviewed had arrived at what they referred to as, "reasonable heterosexual functioning," however, they went on to say that the following three things should be noted.

1. Most of the people interviewed had been in programs for around ten years to bring about the change they spoke of.
2. The expression, "heterosexual functioning," embraces a shift and change in behaviour, but it does not necessarily imply a genuine change in sexual orientation.
3. The interview of the men and woman was limited to one telephone call, so it is not certain if the change that the participants referred to was a behavioural change brought about by self-determination and self-will or a very real change of their sexual orientation.

CHANGE THERAPY CENTERS

Though there are change therapy centres, that claim high success rates the following facts should be noted:

1. They have not published studies in an independent scientific peer review journal forum that gives solid evidence that a person's sexual orientation has been changed.
2. Despite the fact that some ex-gay groups claim that thousands have left homosexuality, physiologist, medical practitioners and doctors, cooperating with Christian ex-gay groups, have great difficulty finding actual people who can prove that they have actually changed their sexual orientation.
3. Change programs can be very expensive (especially if the process takes around ten years) and the mental and emotional harm some of these programs inflict can leave long lasting emotional and mental scares.

Over the year's sensational claims that capture media attention, have been made stating that a particular group has had success in changing the sexual orientation of homosexuals and lesbians, but such claims are made without any independent scientific information supporting them, which is clearly not good scientific or medical practice. There is no doubt that change therapy centres and their programs have changed the behaviour of some of those who attended them, but these changes are bought about by self-discipling, self-will and self-control, there is no proof that there has been any real change in their sexual orientation. Most attempt to deny their natural attraction to the same sex and live a celebrate lifestyle, some succeed, though the common testimony is that they still have to suppress their attraction toward another of the same sex, many others find the battle to great and give up.

CHRISTIAN HOMOSEXUAL THERAPY CENTRES

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One of the most-cruel aspects of Christian, "change therapy centres," is that the success of Christian-sponsored change or healing therapies is dependent on the perceived moral commitment of the person being treated. Meaning that those who cannot overcome their sexual orientation (which in reality is every genuine homosexual and lesbian person) are blamed for having a weak, inadequate and insufficient relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ, and because of this belief they are told, that this is why evil continues invading their lives, so they are left to live in extreme guilt, and for this reason many suicide.

PONDER FOR A MOMENT

Imagine being a man or woman that through no fault of your own, was born with a natural attraction to the same sex, or for some medical, biological or genetic influence at a very early age (probably by age five) had a very real sexual orientation deeply-rooted and imbedded in your nature, that is naturally attracted toward people of the same sex gender, which is not only your natural state of being, but is also unchangeable, because it is your natural disposition, and therefore you cannot love a person of the opposite sex, for such a thing would be repulsive and repugnant to you. Now imagine, you love the Lord Jesus Christ with all your heart, and with the same faith and devotion that a faithful heterosexual has toward him. But there is a difference, the heterosexual believer is classed as a little sinner and therefore accepted into the church, while you are classed as a great sinner and cast out of the church and in many cases condemned to eternal damnation. Yet, all you are doing is living true to the sexual orientation that indwells in your nature. With these facts in mind, is it right to cast out of the church and condemn to damnation, those who are living true to their own nature, and sexual

orientation, in a committed loving caring relationship, when they are not breaking any laws and are showing kindness to others and by faith believe in and are devoted to the Lord Jesus Christ. In a natural court of law, a person must be proved guilty beyond any shadow of doubt, before the judge sentences and condemns them. The question we must all ask ourselves (including me) is, "if I, in my heart judge these people to eternal damnation, am I 100% certain I am making a right judgment, because if not, I may be in danger of bringing judgement upon myself." For further information concerning these verses, see the title:

- Defile themselves with Mankind (1 Timothy 1:9-10).
- Abusers of Themselves (1Cor 6:9).

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THE PSYCHIATRIC, PSYCHOLOGICAL AND MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

Since the early 1970's, the treatment of homosexuality as a disease is not supported by, the American Psychiatric Association, the American Psychological Association and the American Medical Association, because it has been found that simple persuasion will not change a person's innate sexual orientation.

HOMOSEXUALS AND RECRUITMENT

There has been concern that homosexuals seek to recruit new homosexuals by preying on vulnerable and conflicted children and adolescents, but research has continually shown that the overwhelming majority of adult sexual predatory or coercive activities against children are committed by heterosexual individuals not homosexuals. Adolescents are commonly conflicted by sexual feelings and often experiment with sexual behaviour, but this adolescent experimentation is rarely solicited by adult homosexuals or adult heterosexuals, nor is it (as a general rule) representative of either orientation. There is no evidence that homosexuals successfully prey on vulnerable heterosexuals to convert them to homosexual orientation by a process commonly referred to as recruitment.

CELIBACY HOMOSEXUALS AND LESBIANS

Amongst Christianity, the only moral lifestyle for a homosexual, is celibacy as it is for some heterosexuals (i.e., Catholic priests). Celibacy as a sexual lifestyle is a viable choice for some homosexuals and lesbians and maybe attainable for certain individuals. But lifelong celibacy is not a viable lifestyle, not only for the majority of homosexuals, but also for the majority of heterosexuals, because sexual behaviour is linked to lifelong love and friendship, intimacy, pleasure, and sharing life together with a person one is bonded to in love.

THE TWENTIETH-CENTURY

In twentieth-century the Christian community generally accepts, sexually expressed intimacy is an act of love that may or may not include procreation as its primary focus. Studies of homosexuals show that gay men and lesbian women living in a committed loving sexually intimate relationship, live fuller, richer and healthier lives than those who remain celibate and there is evidence that indicates that homosexuals involved in committed long-term relationships live longer and healthier lives than

their single peers (which is similar to studies of heterosexuals). At the present time (2011), most churches advocate lifelong celibacy for the homosexual as a condition for church fellowship, and some state that unless they remain celibate, they cannot be saved, and even if they do remain celibate, they cannot have any involvement in the church other than sitting in the church pew as a guest or observer.

This raises the following two questions:

1. If a couple living together in a committed same sex relationship love one another, are breaking no laws, love the Lord Jesus Christ and obey his commandment, "to love our neighbour as ourselves," meaning do good and not harm to others, do they create a moral threat worthy of eternal damnation and expulsion from fellowship in church communities?
2. Does this harsh judgment and condemnation contradict the following royal law of Jesus?
 - **James 2:8:** If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well.
 - **Matthew 22:37-40:** "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. ³⁸ This is the great and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. ⁴⁰ On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

And when Jesus was asked, "Which commandment is the most important of all?" He answered:

- **Mark 12:29-31:** The most important is, 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. ³⁰ And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' ³¹ The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

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Paul in his letter to the Romans wrote: -

- **Romans 13:10:** Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

Here Paul shines a brilliant spotlight on the truth that the spirit underpinning the law is love, because the spirit of the law is to protect the innocent from all types of harm and hurt. Maybe the loving, compassionate and higher Christian attitude to take toward those who love the Lord Jesus Christ that are in a committed life-long same sex relationship, rather than judging and condemning, would be to apply the same Christian laws to a homosexual couples that we apply to heterosexual couples, so that both groups are held accountable to the same Christian principles.

NOTE: It should be mentioned here, the same sex couple in focus here are not heterosexual men and woman living with a same sex partner, for these couples are living contrary to their natural sexual orientation and can at anytime choose to return to what is natural to them.

The couple in focus here is men and women who through no fault of their own, have been born with a natural attraction to the same sex, or for some medical, biological or genetic influence at a very early age (probably by age five) have a very real sexual orientation deeply-rooted and imbedded in their nature, that is naturally attracted toward people of the same sex gender, which is not only their natural state of being, but is also unchangeable, because it is the natural disposition of the person, and therefore they cannot love a person of the opposite sex, for such a thing would be repulsive and repugnant to them.

Conservative estimates suggest there is in excess of one million gay fathers and around the same for lesbian mothers (2011). In contrast to what some may think, no evidence has emerged to suggest that:

- The quality of same sex parenting is lacking in quality, love and discipling.
- The quality of children's growth is in anyway diminished or that the overall well-being of the children is compromised by having same sex parents.
- The sexual orientation of the parents is automatically conferred upon the child, whether the child is biologically related to one of the parents or adopted.

THINGS BOTH HOMOSEXUAL AND HETEROSEXUAL GROUPS GRAPPLE WITH

- Meeting compatible partners.
- Sexual desires before committed relationships are established.
- Ending a relationship, separation and closure.
- Infidelity, sexual abuse and disrespect.

All of the complex challenging issues surrounding these matters are the same for both heterosexual and homosexual groups.

HETEROSEXUAL AND HOMOSEXUAL RELATIONSHIPS

While celibacy works for some people, gay, lesbian or straight, it is not a viable alternative for the vast majority, many homophobic people attempt to reduce gay and lesbian people and their relationships to issues of sexual behaviour, when in fact, a committed life-long gay or lesbian relationship is not solely about sex, but includes everything that a life-long heterosexual relationship includes, it's about sharing a life together with someone you love, supporting and comforting each other in the highs and lows of life etc. In the same way that a Heterosexual relationship is not a matter of mechanical actions toward each other, but rather, a matter of a loving heart, likewise it is with gay and lesbian couples in life long relationships

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MYTHS ABOUT HOMOSEXUAL BEHAVIOURS

MYTH NO 1: there is still an existing myth, that homosexuals engage in highly promiscuous sexual behaviour, it is true that there are some homosexuals that do engage in such behaviour, but there are also heterosexuals that do the same thing, yet we don't judge all heterosexuals by the promiscuous behaviour of those amongst them. It should be recognized, that there is a significant heterosexist bias that causes people to highlight homosexual promiscuous behaviour, while ignoring the same behaviour of heterosexuals. If we condemn the entire gay community for promiscuous behaviour, it is only right we condemn the entire heterosexual community for the same behaviour. In fact, we would be far more in our right to condemn the heterosexual community, for it is heterosexuals, who rape woman and sell young girls as sex slaves on the black market, the world's third biggest black-market trade next to weapons of war and drugs.

MYTH NO 2: homosexuals are more promiscuous than heterosexuals, one study which appears to support the idea that homosexuals are highly promiscuous was published by Bell and Weinberg, and is often cited by

the Christian right, and even some secular sources, but their data is highly suspicious, and certainly cannot be generalized to the entire homosexual population. One only has to open their eyes and look at the multi-billion-dollar sexual industry promoted by heterosexuals through magazines, movies, T.V and the internet and it becomes clearly evident that heterosexuals cannot cast the first stone. Surely, to be fair and just if the entire homosexual community is to be condemned, because of the promiscuous behaviour of some, the entire heterosexual community should be condemned along with them. There are worldwide gay and lesbian couples who are in a loving committed life long relationship, of which many are raising children and some who love the Lord Jesus Christ, that simply wish to be treated the same as heterosexual couples in similar relationships, which raises the following question:

- If a gay couple living in a life-long loving relationship with two children aged seven and eight, came to the Lord, would the right Christian response be to tell the two parents to separate and share the children, or to live as a couple, but remain celibate (something almost impossible for a loving couple to do) or treat them as we would treat any married couple.

A THOUGHT WORTH PONDERING

If through no fault of their own, a small percentage of the human population is born with a natural attraction to the same sex, or for some biological or genetic influence at a very early age (probably by age five) have a very real sexual orientation deeply-rooted and imbedded in their nature, that is naturally attracted toward people of the same sex gender, which is not only their natural state of being, but is also unchangeable, because it is the natural disposition of the person, and because of this they cannot love a person of the opposite sex, for such a thing would be repulsive and repugnant to them. And a small percentage of this group love the Lord Jesus Christ, do we have the right to condemn the love of such couples, and reject and judge them to eternal damnation. Maybe, we at the same time are in danger of bringing judgment on ourselves, since we all have dwelling within our own fallen bodies, sinful aberrations and dysfunctions, and not one of us stands before Christ free of sin, and not one of us is saved without God's abundant grace.

I, like the Jews of old who had to work their way through adopting Gentiles into their midst and work out-together what that meant for each group, still have certain questions that I am working through myself and for that reason my aim in these articles is not to tell anyone what they should or should not believe. The aim is to simply present information that hopefully will help the reader come to their own conclusion, especially those who have been influenced to dehumanize homosexuals and lesbians by the collective consciousness of their generation (as I was), or who have been influenced by certain religious leaders to harshly judge, reject and condemn everyone to eternal damnation who is in a same sex relationship.
