

Homosexuality and Truth

“---but speaking the truth in love, we grow in all things into Him who is the head, Christ.” –Ephesians 4:15

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Homosexuality and Truth

Goal: Insight and Equipping.

We hope to gain deeper *insight* into the subject so we can be better *equipped* to address it.

- I. “Homosexuality” is a term with a three-fold application.
 - A. Homosexual condition/orientation: To be sexually aroused primarily by members of the same gender.
 1. The homosexual condition is involuntary.
 2. The homosexual condition usually appears early in life and is deeply ingrained. (“I felt different”)
 - B. Homosexual behavior: Sexual contact with a member of the same gender.
 - C. Homosexual identity: Homosexuality becomes a primary identifying characteristic, usually accompanied by acceptance of homosexuality as being normal and moral.
- II. World-view determines our position on homosexuality.
- III. A Biblical world-view includes the concepts of Created Intent and Fallen Nature.
 - A. Created Intent: We are created beings whose Creator has a specific intention for our existence and behavior.
 1. That intention extends itself to our sexual behavior.
 2. We reject any behavior falling short of created intent to be both sinful and harmful.
 - B. Fallen Nature: We are born imperfect physically, psychologically and spiritually.

IV. Dialogue Approach: Challenge both the ACCURACY and IMPLICATIONS of an argument.

Argument One

“Homosexuality has been proven to be inborn”

A. Response: Challenge the *accuracy* of the claim.

1. “Inborn” studies have not been REPLICATED.

2. “Inborn” studies have not been EMBRACED by the scientific community.

“There is no consensus among scientists about the exact reasons that an individual develops orientation --- no findings have emerged that permit scientists to conclude that sexual orientation is determined by any particular factor or factors.”

-American Psychiatric Association

B. Challenge the *implication* of the claim.

1. Several UNHEALTHY conditions may be inborn.

2. “Inborn”, therefore, does not mean “NORMAL” or “GOD-ORDAINED.”

Argument Two

“Homosexuality is Immutable”

A. Challenge the *accuracy* of the claim.

B. Challenge the *implication* of the claim.

1. Several conditions seem PERMANENT.

2. “Immutable” does not, therefore mean, “NORMAL” or “GOD-ORDAINED.”

Argument Three

“Objections to Homosexuality are based on Homophobia”

A. Challenge *accuracy* of the term.

1. “Phobia”: IRRATIONAL dread of object or experience.
2. “Homo” - SAME

B. Challenge *implication* of the term.

1. PREJUDICE: Ignorant belief in the SUPERIORITY of one person over another.
2. CONVICTION: Deeply held belief based on WORLD-VIEW.

Argument Four

“Jesus Said Nothing about Homosexuality”

A. Challenge *accuracy* of statement.

1. The Gospels are not EXHAUSTIVE.

“And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which, if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.”

-John 21: 25

2. Jesus spoke to CREATED INTENT.

“Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning made them male and female, and said, ‘For this reason, a man shall leave his mother and father and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.

Therefore what God has joined together, let no one set asunder.”

-Matthew 19: 4-6

B. Challenge *implication*.

1. The Gospels are not the ENTIRE CANON.

“All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.”

-II Timothy 3:16

2. We have no record of Jesus condemning
INCEST, BESTIALITY or SPOUSAL ABUSE;
surely we wouldn't legitimize them!

Argument Five

“The Church has been wrong in the past”

A. Concede *accuracy* of the statement.

B. Challenge *implication*.

1. Errors in PAST positions do not prove
errors in CURRENT position.

2. Errors in METHODS of holding or promoting
positions do not prove the error of the
position itself.

Our 3-fold challenge:

Know the Word

Know the Issues

Apply the Word to the Issues

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Homosexuality and Truth™

A Seminar to Equip the Church

Goals

Insight and Equipping

“The servant of the Lord must not strive, but be gentle to all, apt to teach, patient, in meekness instructing those who oppose themselves if perhaps God will grant them repentance according to the knowledge of truth.”

-II Timothy 2: 24-25

I. **“Homosexuality” is a term with a three-fold application.**

A. Homosexual condition/orientation: To be sexually aroused primarily by members of the same gender.

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B. Homosexual Behavior: Sexual contact with a member of the same gender.

C. Homosexual Identity: Homosexuality becomes a primary identifying characteristic, usually accompanied by acceptance of homosexuality as being normal and moral.

II. World View determines our position on
homosexuality.

III. A Biblical World View includes the concepts of Created Intent and Fallen Nature.

A. Created Intent: We are created beings whose Creator has a specific intention for our existence and behavior.

1. That intention extends itself to our sexual behavior.

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Approach: Challenge both the ACCURACY
and IMPLICATIONS of an argument.

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**Argument Two: “Homosexuality is
Immutable”**

A. Challenge the *accuracy* of the claim.

NARTH

National Association for Research and Treatment of Homosexuality

“Ex-Gays?”

Mark Yarhouse and Stanton Jones

Intervarsity Press

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Created Intent:

Permanent, Independent, Monogamous, Heterosexual

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