

A Biblical Evaluation of Homosexuality

By Dr. David A. DeWitt

- *Is homosexuality genetically determined?*
- *Is homosexuality normal?*
- *Is homosexuality moral?*

On April 20, 1997, *The Chronicle* of Muskegon, Michigan carried an article on Mel White, who calls himself a Christian homosexual. Here are some excerpts from that article.

“White has come to give a workshop on ‘Soul Force a campaign in justice in the spirit of Jesus, Gandhi and [Martin Luther] King.’ ... For 23 years, he tried to deny his homosexuality. He went through Christian therapy, electric shock therapy, even an exorcism ‘to cast out the demons of homosexuality.’ ‘We laugh now, but those were horrible years,’ he says. ‘Finally, after trying to commit suicide and failing, his ex-wife, Lyla, said to him: ‘You better choose life.’ In 1993, White was installed as Dean of the Cathedral of Hope Metropolitan Community Church in Dallas with 14,000 congregants, the nation’s largest gay-lesbian congregation. ... Since then, he has dedicated his life to a ministry of change, countering what he called the ‘religious rights’ and fundamentalists’ ‘urge to purge’ anyone who is homosexual. ... I’m trying to create a community where we can live together,’ he says. ... ‘God loves her gay and lesbian children’” [pages 1A and 2A].

In this article we see the three basic assumptions of the homosexual community (or at least the “Christian” one) with which they attempt to “educate” people, namely, that homosexuality is: (1) genetic, (2) normal, and (3) moral.

Is Homosexuality Genetic?

In 1940, 9% of homosexuals claimed they were “born that way.” By 1983, it was 22%. In 1990, it was 35%.

In 1991, in San Francisco, neuroanatomist Simon LaVay reported finding a unique cluster of brain cells in homosexual men. In 1993, Dean Hamer reported genetic research which indicated a genetic tracing of homosexuality from mothers to gay sons. After being challenged by other scientists, Hamer responded, “We did not say Xq28 underlies’ sexuality, only that it contributes to it in some families” [D. H. Hamer, et. al., “Response to N. Risch, et. al.,” *Science*, 262 (1993), p. 2065].

These reports have led to a general feeling among people that homosexuality is genetically determined. But that is not what the research shows. Here is what we can conclude:

- (1) Homosexuality, like most traits, may or may not be rooted in our genetic structure. If it is, that does not make it acceptable. The same might be said for rapists, serial killers, mass murderers, tyrants, and pedophiles.
- (2) Our genetic code only gives us a possible predisposition toward certain acts. Just because I am genetically capable of murder does not mean I must commit murder. It is also like the correlation between height and basketball. If I am seven-feet tall, my likelihood of playing basketball increases. But it is also more likely if I live in Chicago than if I live in Godthab, Greenland.
- (3) Scientific research can never tell us how things should be. At best, science can only tell us how things are. So a genetic tie to homosexuality is irrelevant with respect to it being right or wrong.

The Bible tells us that because of the sin of Adam and Eve, all of creation is perverted (Romans 8:20-23), so why would sexuality be an exception? To find evidence of that perversion in genetics should be no surprise.

Is Homosexuality Normal?

Suppose you had a friend or relative with the following symptoms:

- Unlikely to have a successful marriage
- Five-to-ten-year decrease in life-span
- Chronic, potentially-fatal, liver disease
- Probable cancer
- Possible genetic ties to the condition, but actions rooted in behavior
- Affected person denies they have a problem and creates their own subculture

Would you conclude your friend or relative should be accepted as normal?

The condition just described is alcoholism. In general, society has said “NO! This condition should not be considered normal, in the sense of being okay.”

Now suppose you had a friend or relative with these symptoms:

- Unlikely to have a successful marriage
- 25-to-30-year decrease in life-span
- Chronic, potentially fatal liver disease
- Probable cancer
- Possible genetic ties to the condition, but actions rooted in behavior
- Affected person denies they have a problem and creates their own subculture

This is a description of homosexuality. If alcoholism is unacceptable, then why not homosexuality?

By the way, alcoholism has a 30% likelihood of being eliminated in any given person. Homosexuality has a 50% likelihood. Besides that, homosexuality involves a high probability of promiscuity, substance abuse, depression, suicide, and pedophilia. Throughout history, no human culture has ever permitted long-term homosexual relationships as part of a healthy society. Also, a homosexual preference is never ever observed in any animal society. A sexually deprived animal might mount a tree stump, but that doesn't mean it is his sexual preference.

Is Homosexuality Moral?

In the final analysis, the question of sexual preference cannot be determined by science or society. Science can only tell us what is observable, not what is right. Society can only tell us what people think is good according to people not what is good according to God. Even if homosexuality did not hurt anyone, that would not determine its goodness. In the Bible, God says:

(1) Marriage is for males and females who can be fruitful and multiply (Genesis 1:26, 27; 2:18, 21-24; Matthew 19:4-6).

(2) Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed because of homosexuality, evaluated as *sensual conduct of unprincipled men* (Genesis 19:1-29; 2 Peter 2:7-10). Sodomy has been a synonym for homosexuality all through Judeo-Christian history, and it is always condemned.

(3) *If there is a man who lies with a male as those who lie with a woman, both of them have committed a detestable act; they shall surely be put to death. Their bloodguiltiness is upon them* (Leviticus 20:13). There is no context here of Canaanite temple prostitution, as claimed by the homosexuals. Rather, it is listed with other perversions, like sex with an animal (Leviticus 20:23). This is part of the law which Jesus Christ said would not pass away (Matthew 5:17-19).

(4) *...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 ...those who practice such things are worthy of death* (Romans 1:26-27, 32).

(5) *Or do you not know that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, shall inherit the kingdom of God* (1 Corinthians 6:9-10).

(6) *Just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them, since they in the same way as these indulged in gross immorality and went after strange flesh, are exhibited as an example, in undergoing the punishment of eternal fire* (Jude 7).

(7) Homosexuality is part of a downward spiral described in Romans 1:

- *they did not honor Him [God] as God* (v. 21)
- *they exchanged the truth of God for a lie* (v. 25)
- *they do not ... acknowledge God* (v. 28)
- *they ... give hearty approval to those who practice them* [such things] (v. 32)

Therefore, God gives them over to degrading passions and a depraved mind (vv. 24, 26, 28).

These verses do not just condemn bad forms of homosexuality, as is claimed by the “Christian” homosexuals. The context and the words used here constitute a condemnation of the harshest kind on homosexuality itself.

Questions and Answers

Q: *Is homosexuality genetically determined?*

A: No. It is morally determined as an act of the human will. Genetics can only provide the possibility not the act itself.

Q: *Is homosexuality normal?*

A: No. *USA Today*, April 15, 1993, reported “only 1.1% say they have been exclusively gay.” Both now and throughout history, homosexual acts are associated with disease and perversions, not normal social life.

Q: *Is homosexuality moral?*

A: No. It is immoral. The Bible never ever supports any kind of homosexuality in any passage. Homosexuality is called an abomination before God. It receives as great of a condemnation as words could possibly describe.