



Solutions to Homosexual Behavior

World Congress of Families VI
Madrid, Saturday 26th of May – 2012
Palacio de Congresos

Plenary Session: The Homosexual Lobby

By Richard Cohen, M.A.

After struggling with unwanted same-sex attraction from the time I was in elementary school, I began to experiment with male friends in high school. In college I had a boyfriend for three years, but deep in my heart I longed to marry a woman and have children. The journey was difficult and painful—discovering why I had experienced homosexual feelings and healing the wounds that had created those desires. Finally, after many years and many tears, I came out of homosexuality and fulfilled my heterosexual dreams. Today, I have been married for 30 years and we have three beautiful children.

After my own healing, I felt called to help those who experience unwanted same-sex attraction. For 23 years as a psychotherapist, I have helped thousands of same-sex attracted men and women fulfill their heterosexual potential. I have assisted hundreds of parents reconcile with their homosexual children. Presently, I train therapists and ministry leaders worldwide how to help same-sex attracted men and women and their loved ones.

I love and respect all gays and lesbians. I believe in the individual's right of self-determination. If someone decides to live a gay life, I respect that. If someone wishes to seek change, I respect that too.

It is my honor to be here today to share with you how to assist homosexual persons and resolve this phenomenon on the family, community, and national levels. To this end, I will share three major principles:

1. People are not essentially born with homosexual feelings.
2. Homosexuality is principally an emotionally based condition.
3. Solution is not laws but love.



1. People are not essentially born with homosexual feelings.

There have been many scientific studies conducted over the past three decades trying to purport a genetic, biologic, or hormonal basis for same-sex attraction. Many of the researchers were homosexually oriented, trying to prove that they were born this way. However, in 2008, the American Psychological Association stated that people are *not* essentially born with same-sex attraction (SSA).

“Although much research has examined the possible genetic, hormonal, developmental, social, and cultural influences on sexual orientation, no findings have emerged that permit scientists to conclude that sexual orientation is determined by any particular factor or factors.”

American Psychological Association © 2008
<http://www.apa.org/topics/orientation.html>

2. Homosexuality is principally an emotionally based condition.

In my professional experience, there are three main desires that drive homosexual feelings:

- 1) Need for same-gender parent's and/or peers' love
- 2) Need for gender identification
- 3) Fear of intimacy with the opposite sex

Scientific research over the past 80 years has identified many potential causes of same-sex attraction in men and women. My colleagues and I have observed that homosexual thoughts and desires represent 1) unresolved issues of the past and, 2) unmet needs for love. Most case histories of those who experience unwanted same-sex attraction demonstrate that such feelings have originated in early childhood and preadolescence. Same-sex attraction may symbolize an unconscious pursuit for parenting—a man seeking paternal love in the arms of another man, and a woman seeking maternal love in the arms of another woman. It may also represent a need for bonding with same-gender peers because she or he did not experience sufficient attachment with those of the same gender in the preadolescent years of development.

During puberty those normal needs for bonding with the same-gender parent and/or same-gender peers became sexualized/eroticized. At this point the world tells them, “You are born gay,” or “You are born lesbian.” This is not true. We are born men or women, either sons or daughters of God. Clinical observations and research indicates



those who experience unwanted same-sex attraction are stuck in early stages of psychosexual development due to unreconciled childhood trauma.

If a man seeks to join sexually with another man, it means there is something lacking within; he doesn't experience the fullness of his own masculinity and gender identity. By joining with another man, he hopes to complete this lost part of himself. The same holds true for the woman seeking to join with another woman. However, sexual relations will never satiate that need for love, because it is that of a child; and children do not want or need sex. The same holds true for heterosexual men and women seeking to meet their primary love needs through inappropriate sexual activities. They are acting out from unresolved wounds and unmet love needs.

In many cases men who experience same-sex attraction were overly attached to their mothers and detached from their fathers and the masculinity they represent. As a result of these relationships, the son becomes internally more feminine and unable to have a successful heterosexual relationship with a woman. The same may hold true for the daughter who is overly attached to her father and detached from her mother. She internalizes her father's masculinity and rejects her mother's femininity. Many women who experience same-sex attraction were abused or deeply traumatized by men. Not wanting to repeat that abuse, they turn to other women for affection.

3. Solution is not laws but love.

The solution to the homosexual dilemma facing every family, faith, and nation today is to set love in order. We need to lay down the weapons of judgment and truly demonstrate the love of God to all same-sex attracted men and women. If we simply oppose gays and lesbians without offering unconditional love, we exacerbate their already wounded hearts.

In Luke 10:25-37 we learn the story of a man who was beaten and left for dead on the side of the road. A priest and Levite walk right past him. Only a good Samaritan stops to care for him. This is a modern day parable teaching us how to treat all wounded persons. Please reach out and assist all same-sex attracted men, women, and adolescents. **You are the solution to solve homosexuality!** Men, please reach out to same-sex attracted men and show them healthy masculine love. Women, please reach out to same-sex attracted women and show them healthy feminine love. If one person, or one family, would embrace one same-sex attracted man or woman, we would solve the homosexual dilemma. Love is the greatest medicine to heal all pain. God commands us to love one another. Same-sex attracted men and women are waiting for your love.



Listen to your same-sex attracted loved one or friend. *Learn* about their lives. *Love* them without ceasing. Accepting them does not mean that you endorse their sexual behavior. Higher love sees beyond that and looks to the heart within. Most homosexual relationships are temporal; therefore you will be the last one standing in their lives. Love wins! Empower them to be the man or woman God created them to be. What legacy will you leave behind? Did you demonstrate the truth and love of God?

If you would like more information to solve the homosexual dilemma facing every family, faith, and nation today, please read *Coming Out Straight* and *Gay Children, Straight Parents*. Both books will provide you with practical principles to solve this situation.

For more information: www.ComingOutLoved.com