



THE UNTOLD STORY

Introduction:

One of the popular, misunderstood and challenging problems we face today is the topic of homosexuality. Homosexuality is a modern issue in the sense that it has become the subject of studies in recent times. The issue of homosexuality and the moral evaluation of homosexual acts have increasingly become a matter of public debate. Since homosexuality is a highly controversial topic, it draws charged up emotions and different points of view.

"LGBTQ" is an abbreviation that originated in the 1990s and replaced what was formerly known as "the gay community." The abbreviation was created to be more inclusive of diverse groups. LGBTQ stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered, and Queer (questioning) individuals/identities.

But to understand this issue, we need to understand what a man or a woman with same sex attraction is going through. We should genuinely comprehend the suffering that these people who are made in the "likeness and image of God" have to endure. Within the homosexual community there are people who wish more or less to lead a quiet life with their same sex partners.

But we need to understand that there are also the militant homosexuals. They are the people who not only engage in same sex behaviour, but also want the rest of the world to embrace and celebrate that behaviour. The militant homosexual message of gay lifestyle of hedonism has pervaded every corner of the world.



Psychiatric, Psychological and Health Associations:

One of the world's largest and the most influential psychiatric bodies is the American Psychiatric Association (APA). From the 1970's the Gay Liberation Front activists along with political supporters demanded that homosexuality be removed from the list of diseases. In a key vote in December 1973, the Board of Trustees overwhelmingly endorsed the recommendation of the gay activists and christened it as a harmless sexual orientation. In the following year, the Board's decision to delete homosexuality from the association's compendium of psychiatric disorders was put to vote and was supported by only 58 percent of the membership.

It is doubtless the first time that an 'allegedly' scientific fact was established by vote! Please bear in mind that the APA was abolishing a disorder, by the show of hands, which was very disturbing. After the APA declassified homosexuality as a mental disorder, the American Psychological Association Council of Representatives followed in 1975. Thereafter

other major mental health organisations followed, including the World Health Organisation in 1990. In fact, APA has recommended the World Health Organisation that the category of classification on psychological and behavioural disorders associated with sexual development and orientation be deleted from ICD-10.

Political and Corporate leaders:

Many politicians and world leaders actively promote the homosexual agenda. They have enacted laws to favour the gay community. The US senate in 2011, voted to not only repeal the military law on sodomy, but also the military ban on sex with animals (bestiality). Some rich countries have tied foreign aid to the poorer nation's acceptance of the homosexual agenda. These prosperous countries are pushing homosexual lifestyle as "human rights" issue. Latin America, Africa and Eastern Europe are all concerned that the homosexual agenda is being hard-pressed on them. Some of the corporate giants like Apple, Amazon, Levi's, Microsoft, Nike, Starbucks, etc., have all come out

unabashedly to support the gay marriage.

In India too, the gay community clamoured for repealing section 377 from the Indian Penal Code. In 2009, the Delhi High Court rendered a momentous verdict to de-criminalise homosexuality. Four years later, the Supreme Court restored section 377. In 2016, India decided to abstain on a vote at the UN Human Rights Council on the LGBT issue.

The Media:

The media has been the main ally of the gay community. TV shows, magazines, blogs, movies, books, social networking sites, the homosexual movements' message is almost everywhere. You could find examples of all kinds of entertainment media which presents same sex couples as perfectly normal and common. Movie studios are also in the action to promote the gay agenda. Each of these stories clearly is pro-gay. The media is spreading the gay agenda and forming the public opinion on this issue.

We do not hear any story from the media which presents the counter viewpoint. The strategy is to make the homosexual people to look like victims of both natural law and church teachings. The destructive message that gay is OK has spread like wildfire. Those who oppose the same sex behaviour as sinful, is accused of as 'hate filled bigots', 'narrow minded idiots', 'illiterate' and 'inhuman'.

“Born that way” theory:

Many studies have revealed that scientific findings do not support the jubilant oratory of gay activists. The whole idea that “gay” people are “born that way,” genetically pre-programmed to be attracted to their own sex, lacks evidence. If that was not the case, then why do identical twins, with identical genetics, not have uniformity of sexual orientation? (Bailey et al: 2000; Bearman and Brueckner: 2002) This proves it is not just genetic.

A rigorous new report in 'The Journal' claims that “sexual orientation is immutably determined by biology” are not supported by scientific evidence. Studies published in 'The Journal – The New Atlantis', of August 23, 2016, by Dr. Paul McHugh & Dr. Laurence Mayer, also claims that the “gender identity is somehow fixed and innate”, fixed human property independent of biological sex – so that a person might be a 'man trapped in a woman's body' or 'a woman trapped in a man's body' are not supported by scientific evidence. (The Journal is a well-known journal of science, technology and ethics based in



Parents have a decisive role in the formation of child's personality. Decades of research show that children need both a father and a mother in order to develop into an emotionally mature adult.

Washington D.C. This article analysed the scientific evidence of LGBT issues published to date in scientific journals)

As a matter of fact, The American Psychiatric Association maintains that “There is no consensus among scientists about the exact reasons that an individual develops a heterosexual, bisexual, gay, or lesbian orientation. 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”

Factors influencing same sex attraction:

Parents have a decisive role in the formation of child's personality. Decades of research show that children need both a father and a mother in order to develop into an emotionally mature adult. Other factors that influence homosexual behaviour are unhealthy childhood relationships, distorted concepts of gender, sexual abuse, emotional and psychological issues, etc. The American Psychiatric Association agrees the view of many scientists, that "nature and nurture" both play complex roles in influencing the homosexual behavior.

Jeopardy of homosexual lifestyle:

A study published by Dr. Susan Cochran, in 'American Psychologist' (Vol. 56, No. 11), affirm that there are findings that homosexual and transgender individuals have higher rates of mental health problems, supported by scientific



In the Sacred Scriptures, homosexual acts are condemned as a serious decadence and even presented as the sad consequence of rejecting God.

evidence. One such finding, which is of great concern, is that these sexual minorities "show higher rates of major depression, generalised anxiety disorder, substance abuse, and suicide compared to the general population." Another study published in Psychological Reports (2005;96:693-697) has shown that the life expectancy for homosexuals is about twenty years shorter than that of the general public.

Further, in a study published in the journal

'Pediatrics' establishes that teens that self-identify themselves as homosexual are five times more likely than their heterosexual counterparts to attempt suicide. Children navigate the developmental stage more easily, perform better in academic tasks at school, have fewer emotional disorders and become better functioning adults when they are reared by a father and a mother. Therefore, the militant gay movements' message that "gay is good" is completely false. This lie is confusing society and hurting the individuals themselves.

The Holy Scriptures:

In the Sacred Scriptures, homosexual acts are condemned as a serious decadence and even presented as the sad consequence of rejecting God. "For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions. Their women exchanged natural intercourse for unnatural, and in the same way also the men giving up natural intercourse with women, were consumed with passion for one another. Men committed shameless acts with men and received in their own persons the due penalty for their error. And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind and to things that should not be done." (Rom. 1:24-27)

In Genesis chapter 3, we find that the truth about persons being an image of God has been obscured by original sin. The human body retains its "spousal significance" but this is now clouded by sin. Thus, in Genesis 19:1-11, the deterioration due to sin continues in the story of the men of Sodom. There can be no doubt of the moral judgement made there against homosexual relations.

In Leviticus 18:22 "You shall not lie with a male as with a female; it is an abomination." and again in 20:13 "If a man lies with a male as with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination; they shall be put to death; their blood is upon them."

Aligned with the backdrop of the above



explanation of theocratic law, an eschatological perspective is developed by St. Paul when, in his first letter to the Corinthians 6: 9, he proposes the same doctrine and lists those who have homosexual behaviour as among those who shall not enter the Kingdom of God

Finally, in chapter 1, of St. Paul's first letter to Timothy, in full continuity with the scriptural position, singles out those who spread wrong doctrine and in verse 10 explicitly names as sinners those who engage in homosexual acts.

These elucidations from the Sacred Scriptures does not off-course authorise us to conclude that all those who suffer from this anomaly are personally responsible for it, but it does attest to the fact that homosexual acts are intrinsically disordered and can in no case be approved of.

The Church teachings:

The Catholic Church distinguishes between two elements of the same sex attraction. There is the natural good attraction that human beings feel towards others human beings that can be even emotional. All these things are perfectly valid. The only thing the Church says “disordered” is when this becomes sexual. When the Catechism of the Catholic Church (#2357) says that “homosexual acts are intrinsically disordered”, they are saying that the same sex desire cannot be fulfilled according the design of our bodies. The one flesh union is what God originally created. Two men or two women cannot recreate this. Only a male and a female can. When we act outside of marriage, whether it is heterosexual or homosexual it is sinful.

The Church's compassionate response:

It is deplorable that homosexual persons have been and are the object of violent malice in speech or in action. Such treatment deserves condemnation from the Church's hierarchy and the faithful, wherever it occurs. It reveals a kind of disregard for others which endangers the most

fundamental principles of a healthy society. The intrinsic dignity of each person must always be respected in word, in action and in law. Catechism of the Catholic Church # 2358 states “Every sign of unjust discrimination in their regard should be avoided. These persons are called to fulfil God's will in their lives and, if they are Christians, to unite to the sacrifice of the Lord's Cross the difficulties they may encounter from their condition.” Persons with same sex attraction unquestionably deserve our respect and compassion. But the proper reaction to wrongs committed against homosexual persons should not be to claim that the homosexual condition is not disordered.

Conclusion:

The contemporary debates in the secular world, often advances arguments and makes assertions that are inconsistent with the teachings of the Catholic Church. The Catholic Church, who is our “the Mother and Teacher”, has always taught that the area of homosexual behaviour is sinful. Two men or two women wanting to get “married” is a violation of what God has designed for those individuals, no matter how much love they feel for each other. The Catholic Church also teaches that what you do in this life has eternal consequences. Therefore Christians are called to never defend and support the sin of homosexual acts and their lifestyle.

