



"Let him who is without sin cast the First Stone"

And Jesus also said, "Go and sin no more." John 8

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Role of Christian Counseling for Persons with Unwanted Same-Sex Attraction

First Stone Ministries fully embraces the "Restored Hope Network Official Position on The Role of Christian Counseling for Persons with Unwanted Same-Sex Attraction." We are living in a day where so



many unclear messages obscure Biblical Orthodoxy concerning the healing of the sexual sinner in the Church and of the transformative grace to ensure such freedom. The person with unwanted same-sex attraction needs a clear message established on Biblical grace and on healthy relational psychology that brings gender security and integration according to God's divine intent for human sexuality. Many people are being given mixed messages in the Church and in counseling concerning God's best for them. First Stone Ministries wants a whole message — founded on solid Biblical principles and methodology—that provides hope to those who desire freedom in Christ and an identity found in Him. RHN and FSM hold that transformation involves the freedom to become whole-enough gender gifts, secure in our born genders as either male or female, and to love persons of one's own gender without any sexual intention as a person grows in rightful reliance on the gift of the opposite gender. We desire for people to find liberty in God's divine plan of human sexual relating in covenant marriage and to honor marriage. Such freedom is the domain of both singles and marrieds, and is based on a biblical anthropology. The latter guides RHN and FSM in discerning skilled psychological help and pastoral counseling for persons with unwanted same-sex attraction. Please read the following position statement which was unanimously approved by the membership of the Restored Hope Network in June of 2017. (Stephen Black).

INTRODUCTION

Restored Hope Network (RHN) believes that skilled helpers from a variety of disciplines contribute to the transformational work of Jesus Christ in the lives of persons with unwanted same-sex attraction. Chief among these disciplines is biblical theology, which also helps us to value the licensed clinical and pastoral caregivers that practice psychological methodologies. RHN rests on the foundation of a distinctly Christian worldview: we acknowledge one God who is, who made us, and who seeks to redeem those whom He has made. Thus, biblical theology is our guide for discerning which

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Testimonial videos
are now being
curated at
firststone.org



THIS PUBLICATION

This publication is produced by First Stone Ministries (FSM). Since its founding in 1976, FSM has been an independent nondenominational, Christ-centered, para-church organization. We are a full-time ministry with ordained ministers and discipleship staff and are governed by a Board of Directors to ensure financial and ethical accountability.

We are a Restored Hope Network member ministry.



Our primary purpose is to lead the sexually and relationally broken into a liberating relationship with Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Discipleship and restoration in every area of one's life is stressed; however, there is detailed emphasis on overcoming all forms of sexual brokenness including homosexuality, sexual abuse and addiction to pornography.

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expressions of the comparatively new field of psychology are best suited for persons with same-sex attraction seeking transformation. In short, biblical theology guides our use of psychology. Most helpful here is how Scripture defines the human person (theological anthropology); RHN understands God's call upon humanity as having special significance to who we are as male and female. We believe that He made us to manifest Himself in our gendered, biologically differentiated selves (Gen. 1: 26, 27) and in how we relate interdependently with our gender counterparts (1Cor 11:11, 12). St. John Paul II and Reformed theologian Karl Barth describe bearing God's image in our humanity as "a call to exist for the other, to be a gift" ⁽¹⁾; "this radical sexual duality is the root of all other fellowship" ⁽²⁾. RHN holds that God created all persons to thrive in that duality and to experience it in a variety of relationships: with family members, friends, co-workers and ministers. Bearing God's image is what it means to be human in community, whether one is single or married.

GENDER (DIS)INTEGRATION

The catastrophic impact of sin upon our gendered selves also influences our understanding and use of psychology. Scripture describes the spiritual darkness that results in worshipping mere creatures, including homosexual practice (Rom. 1:16-32), and the frustration of the entire creation due to sin's impact (Rom. 8: 18-25). Framed by a biblical understanding, we can derive from the psychological sciences keys as to how we become whole men and women, what frustrates our development as persons, and how we might resume the journey toward "submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ (Eph. 5:21)" ⁽³⁾. Especially helpful to RHN are the findings of developmental psychology as applied to gender integration. RHN distinguishes between biological gender and the formation of gender identity upon the base of one's biological gender ⁽⁴⁾. As no evidence yet exists to support an inborn predetermination to homosexuality ⁽⁵⁾, RHN takes seriously the variables that can complicate progression to adult sexual wholeness and attributes this knowledge to social scientists who have

researched gender identity development and treatment of persons with unwanted same-sex attraction for nearly a century ⁽⁶⁾. RHN acknowledges what we do not know; in the words of Paul R. McHugh and Lawrence S. Mayer, "Explaining the exact biological and psychological origins of sexual desires and behaviors is one that has not yet been and may never be satisfactorily completed" ⁽⁷⁾. However, RHN takes seriously many factors that contribute to a person's development of same-sex attraction, including biological factors that may create a temperamental predisposition to same-sex attraction ⁽⁸⁾, how we in our unique personalities interact with families-of-origin and relationships outside our families, and the moral decisions we make in light of cultural values ⁽⁹⁾.

VULNERABILITIES OF THE SAME-SEX ATTRACTED

Influential for many strugglers are the core attachments one secures (or fails to secure) in the first four years of life with one or both parents. Attachment theorists focus on the complex, potentially frustrated dance between young children and caregivers and how these early impasses may contribute to malformed gender identification and sexual disorder later on in life ⁽¹⁰⁾. Compounding frustration in early attachment are unusually high rates of childhood sexual abuse and other mental health issues that intensify the problem one faces in resolving same-sex attraction ⁽¹¹⁾. Collective evidence cites persons who experience same-sex attraction as 2-3X more likely than heterosexual counterparts to have experienced childhood sexual abuse ⁽¹²⁾. Persons with same-sex attraction also experience a disproportionately high rate of mental health problems, including double the numbers of substance abuse, anxiety disorders, depression, and suicide risk than found in the general population ⁽¹³⁾. Adding to these vulnerabilities is new evidence that sexual orientation and identification may be unstable. Dr. Ritch Savin-Williams of Cornell University rejects the notion of a fixed sexual orientation, noting after an extensive review of the pertinent studies that "all attraction categories other than opposite-sex had lower stability over time"

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⁽¹⁴⁾. Dr. Lisa Diamond of the University of Utah, who studied with Savin-Williams, has focused much of her work on the sexual fluidity of women and their high rates of evolving sexual desires and identifications ⁽¹⁵⁾. Her most recent research also found a higher incidence of fluidity in males, especially young males, than she had anticipated ⁽¹⁶⁾. And her work was matched by a long-term study of men who forsook teen “gay” identification once they entered adulthood ⁽¹⁷⁾. RHN realizes that persons with same-sex attraction are a vulnerable population. Skilled Christian helpers who share our anthropology are invaluable in advocating for persons who face a host of issues in navigating unwanted same-sex attraction.

TRUST AND THE HEALING BOND

The helper’s skill at forming a healing bond with the client is the key to effective counseling. As healthy parents help their children internalize well-being through supportive, empathic relating ⁽¹⁸⁾, so does a counselor with client. Most caregivers agree that in spite of different counseling modalities, “the therapeutic/bond rapport is the backbone of effective counseling,” ⁽¹⁹⁾ which provides “a corrective emotional experience in which the client grows up by working through obstacles and blocks to maturity” ⁽²⁰⁾. Especially important is the skill required to identify early relational wounds and to impart love there. “The goal for the client is to no longer act out his past hurts in the present but to experience authentic feelings about his past in the present. Given therapeutic encouragement, the client’s identified conflict is redefined, transformed, and imbued with coherent meaning” ⁽²¹⁾. Love liberates the possibility for persons to see reality differently and to make choices for love that help to restore broken histories and lead to a more whole future. Skilled therapists excel at building trust over the long haul with clients. On the basis of consistent, well-boundaried care, a variety of topics related to overcoming same-sex attraction can be addressed. These include overcoming relational addictions, and the healing of abusive sexual experiences that often result in post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), a condition twice as likely in persons with same-sex attraction ⁽²²⁾. In the light of a safe advocate, one’s fear and shame begins to be absorbed by consistent care. “Here the client can discover forgiveness where she most needs to receive and give it and the chance to restore moral boundaries of truth and justice. As the counselor values and affirms the client in this process, his or her restoration as a sexual being gains momentum” ⁽²³⁾. Such restoration usually requires a lot of time. Extensive

relational damage requires extensive relational healing, and there are no shortcuts for building trust. But on the basis of such trust, the therapist/client relationship can guide one



into discovering a way through old wounds and new moral challenges. One can begin to view a new horizon opening for his or her gender destiny. “It is amazing how we can help fill in the gaps for clients who crave a greater vision for themselves as male or female but who receive little such input elsewhere” ⁽²⁴⁾. In order for therapy to be effective for persons seeking transformation, a few considerations may prove helpful:

MULTI-FACETED APPROACH

However important the therapeutic relationship may be, it has significant time limits, at most one or two 50-minute sessions a week. RHN recognizes that significant transformation in one’s identity and relationships requires more than what counseling alone can offer, namely a greater commitment to a community of faith and recovery groups which support one’s goals ⁽²⁵⁾.

DISCLOSING VALUES

It is important that the client discover the counselor’s values concerning biblical anthropology and therapy itself. Does (s)he believe change is possible? How does (s)he understand change and the process of change? A skilled helper will express with integrity his or her perspective on the goals and process of counseling. The counselor should provide ample space for sorting out the client’s difficulties when value differences arise between them. “There is an art and a science to giving clients the space to exercise their own choices and autonomy while also providing an honest expression of truth in regards to gender and sexuality. I find it helpful at the early stages of the therapeutic relationship to disclose my personal beliefs and biases regarding how I understand the human person. I give my clients a picture of how my Christian ethics may impact therapy and grant them freedom to determine whether this relationship will be helpful for them” ⁽²⁶⁾.

ASSESSING CLIENT MOTIVATION

A wise counselor will also work with the client on determining the solidity of his or her motivation; the effectiveness of the therapeutic process hinges more on the determination of the client than on the therapist. So the motivation and clarity of the one seeking help matters, and it can take time to get at what is actually driving the desire for change.

PROFESSIONAL BOUNDARIES

One should ensure that any professional counselor has professional boundaries. These include expressed confidentiality policies, terms for communication outside of sessions, length of sessions, and clear expectations of how much the helper will disclose about his/her personal life. A skilled helper recognizes that his/her ongoing work of personal integration is crucial for clear and objective dealings with the client. Any hint of the counselor blurring boundaries with the client by introducing emotional or sexual partiality is unethical ⁽²⁷⁾.

CAUTIONS

Furthermore, RHN decries any therapeutic intervention like so-called “holding” therapy or any tactile effort to approximate early parental attachment. The same applies to any use of visual sexual stimulus or nudity. RHN also rejects any behavior modification techniques designed to create an aversion to same-sex attraction on the basis that these are shaming, ineffective, and dehumanizing ⁽²⁸⁾. One should beware of any enthusiastic Christian helper who promises radical change through a new intervention. Change takes time. There are no shortcuts, and it is unrealistic to assume that therapy is going to completely eradicate same-sex attraction. A wise therapist will help a client to sort out and resolve different components of the problem (arousal/ attraction/ identity/ behavior) with varying outcomes. Therapy is not magic. Wholeness requires hard work, and is a lifetime aspiration made possible through God’s grace at work in personal effort and interpersonal help.

CONCLUSION

RHN holds that transformation involves the freedom to become a whole-enough gender gift ⁽²⁹⁾, which involves loving persons of one’s own gender without sexual intention and growing in rightful reliance on the gift of the opposite gender. Such freedom is the domain of both singles and marrieds, and is based on a biblical anthropology. The latter guides RHN in discerning skilled psychological help for persons with unwanted same-sex attraction.

FOOTNOTES

1. St. John Paul II, *Man and Woman He Created them: A Theology of the Body* (Boston: Pauline Books, 2006), 87:5.
2. Karl Barth, *Church Dogmatics III: The Doctrine of Creation* (New York: T and T Clark, 2010), 187.
3. Timothy G. Lock, *Living the Truth in Love*, Janet Smith and Paul Check eds., (San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2015), 254-

262.

4. Pope Francis, *Joy of Love* (Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation on Love in the Family), 286.
5. Timothy G. Lock... 247-249; ‘Sexual Orientation, Controversy, and Science’: *Psychological Science in the Public Interest* (Vol. 17, Number 2, 2016), J. Michael Bailey, Paul L. Vasey, Lisa M. Diamond, S. Marc Breedlove, Eric Vilain, and Marc Epprecht, p. 76; ‘Sexuality and Gender: Findings from the Biological, Psychological, and Social Sciences’: *The New Atlantis*, Volume 50, 2016, Lawrence S. Mayer, Paul R. McHugh, pp. 29-33.
6. Janelle Hallman, *The Heart of Same-Sex Attraction* (Downer’s Grove: IVP, 2008); Julie Hamilton, Homosexuality 101.com; Elizabeth Moberly, *Homosexuality: A New Christian Ethic* (Cambridge: John Clarke, 1983); Joseph Nicolosi, *Shame and Attachment Loss* (Downer’s Grove: IVP, 2005); Christopher Rosik, ‘Change in Homoerotic Behavior and Feelings is Possible’: *Theology Matters* (Journal), Nov.2008; G. van den Aardweg, *The Battle for Normality* (San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 1997)
7. ‘Sexuality and Gender...’ p. 60.
8. Janelle Hallman, *Living the Truth in Love...*239.
9. Joseph Nicolosi, *Shame and Attachment Loss* (Downer’s Grove: IVP, 2005), 58.
10. Elizabeth Moberly, *Psychogenesis* (London: Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1983)
11. Timothy G. Lock, *Living the Truth in Love...*251, 267-270.
12. ‘Sexuality and Gender...’pp. 43-49; ‘Sexual Orientation, Controversy...’ Boys who later identify as ‘gay’ are seven times more likely than heterosexual counterparts to have had early sexual experiences with males at least five years or older than them, p. 81.
13. ‘Sexuality and Gender...’ pp. 7, 8.
14. Ibid. p. 58.
15. Lisa Diamond, *Sexual Fluidity: Understanding Women’s Love and Desire* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2009).
16. “Lisa Diamond on sexual fluidity of men and women,” www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=m2rTHDOuUBw.
17. ‘Sexuality and Gender...’p. 51
18. Janelle Hallman...227.
19. Interview with Abbey Foard, MA, NCC, LPC: April 2016.
20. Interview with Melissa Ingraham, MA, NCC, LMHC: April 2016.
21. Joseph Nicolosi...51.
22. ‘Sexuality and Gender...’p. 46.
23. Interview with Abbey Foard...
24. Ibid.
25. RHN Position Paper on ‘Transformation of Persons with Same-Sex Attraction’, 2014.
26. Interview with Abbey Foard...
27. Interview with Melissa Ingraham...
28. Ibid.
29. The concept of relational gift-giving is derived from Saint John Paul II’s *Theology of the Body* and is based upon one’s reconciliation with his or her value as either male or female.



Ministry Effectiveness (2001 to Sep 2017)



17,147 - hours given to discipleship sessions
1010 - average hours per year
875 - average number of sessions per year



50-70 - average number of participants monthly
2000+ - number of group ministry nights since 1991



125 - number of seminars



FSM Staff Needs Your Support!

Joseph Thiessen and Laura Leigh Stanlake are currently living around \$10,000 under their annual target budget. If you aren't already supporting the ministry or another staffer, please consider the importance of their work and consider including both of them in your 2018 budget.

*Join Us for Our Annual
Christmas Party*

Saturday, December 9, 2017

Potluck Dinner, Entertainment, Testimonies and Merriment

Details & Registration:

<https://2017-fsm-christmas.eventbrite.com>

The Healing Framable Art Print

Available in our online marketplace, The Healing - Art Print was painted by local artist, Kevin Thomas. On, this page and the next, you'll see what the front and back of the print look like as well as learn the artist's thought behind his painting.

frameable 11x15 print is \$30

This would make a beautiful gift to a loved one or church staff member.

Available at www.fsm-marketplace.myshopify.com

Great Christmas Gift!



The Healing

Several years ago, I was preparing to have a garage sale by cleaning out the garage. One of the furniture items that I was placing in the sale was a large chest of drawers with a large mirror attached to it. In a sad attempt to move the mirror, I broke it. The mirror shattered into many pieces. One large piece fell and cut open my leg below my kneecap. Unfortunately, all of the proceeds from my garage sale went to the emergency room visit that day.

During the time of garage sale, I was also preparing to have an art show. Through my art, I was developing a new style expression that was truly inspired by my own spiritual healing journey, while I was working through Living Waters at First Stone Ministries. This Christ inspired imagery was a personal pathway that enabled me to listen closely to the words of the Father and his desire for my life. Through each painting, I grew in greater understanding of myself, and the Father's love for me.

The imagery of the cross represents *the healing* that one experiences through the meditation of Christ's death on the Cross. *Isaiah 53:5 "But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on Him, and by His wounds, we are healed."* Rather than ugly, I found the scar on my leg quite beautiful because it showed the evidence of healing in my life. To me, the scar reflected the inward healing that I had experienced through Christ on the cross. Because of Christ, I am able to be in full relationship with our loving Heavenly Father.

Years later, I do not think about the scars anymore. Instead, my life is filled with the joy that comes through Christ. I am thankful that through Christ I am made new. Only through Christ, I have been able to truly experience freedom. *2 Corinthians 5:17 "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"*

Praises!

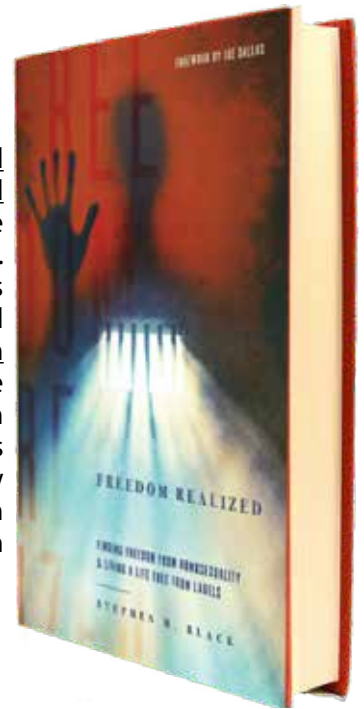
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Thomas', with a large, stylized initial 'K'.

Kevin Thomas

Freedom Realized!

Finding Freedom from Homosexuality and Living a Life Free From Labels

There are a couple of unique and significant differences about Freedom Realized from other books dealing with overcoming homosexuality. First, Freedom Realized reports data from a survey of 1200+ people who have come through First Stone Ministries over the last 25 years. It reveals that people, in fact, do find lasting freedom. The conclusion reveals statistics from 185 confirmed respondents. The data clearly reveals that people who spent at least one year in pastoral care, in support group ministry and sought the Lord Jesus Christ fully, found lasting freedom. The second part of Freedom Realized addresses problems in 'ex-gay' ministry—what works and what doesn't. The book addresses some of the deceptive messaging from the mixture of antinomianism and psychology that lowers the bar of holiness and freedom that the Gospel of Jesus imparts. The third empowering and hopeful part of the book will communicate how freedom is realized. The fourth part of the book is very exciting! It contains insights from seasoned leaders with over 20 years of experience each. They share their messages on how FREEDOM is REALIZED!



SOFTCOVER | HARDCOVER | EBOOK

www.freedomrealized.org

ENDORSEMENTS

"I love this book the way I love Stephen Black. His voice is as passionate and as pastoral as it is prophetic. Stephen wisely sets the tone for 'Freedom Realized' in the recent history of Exodus' demise; Black then applies the real Gospel of Jesus Christ to homosexuality. In spite of the topic's complexity, Stephen cuts a clear and narrow way up the middle of what has become a contentious topic. He also paves a way for caregivers by giving statistical evidence for the effectiveness of truthful pastoral care. I have yet to meet a man who bears as patiently and tenderly with strugglers as does Stephen. His embodiment of truth and grace is echoed by the solid voices he enlists at book's end to declare: Jesus makes willing, wounded hearts whole. Thank you Stephen for your significant contribution to this wholeness."

Andrew Comiskey, M.Div.

Author and Speaker

Founder and Executive Director of Desert Stream Ministries

Kansas City, MO

www.desertstream.org

"It's one thing to be delivered from homosexuality. It's another thing to become a powerful, passionate, and uncompromising witness for the Lord, but that's exactly who Stephen Black has become through the amazing grace of God. Here, in this very important volume, he debunks the myth of "gay Christianity," exposes the dangers of today's compromised gospel, and gives practical, hope-filled instructions to those struggling with same-sex attractions."

Michael L. Brown, Ph.D.,

Author of "Can You Be Gay and Christian?"

Host of *The Line of Fire* radio broadcast

www.askdrbrown.org

*"A powerful testimony peppered with practical plans for anyone who **has** struggled, **is** struggling, or **will** struggle with same-sex attraction. Stephen's life proves: There's help... there's hope... there's freedom!"*

June Hunt

Founder, CEO, CSO (Chief Servant Officer)

Host of *Hope for the Heart*

Author of *Counseling through Your Bible Handbook*

www.hopefortheheart.org

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“Truth! Refreshingly, Stephen Black doesn’t have a politically correct bone in his body. He’s also a “bottom line” believer, who deftly zeros in on the heart of an issue by carefully listening to the Holy Spirit in Scripture and through prayer. For those who have wearied of continuously going around the same mountain while experiencing little freedom from homosexual confusion, this book is a finely targeted, guided missile designed to put God back in the driver’s seat. For it is only from that posture of faith and humble submission that believers can appropriate the power of the Cross for the destruction of Satan’s schemes and the eternal transformation of the soul. I highly recommend this book.”

Dr. David Kyle Foster

Author of “Sexual Healing – God’s Plan for the Sanctification of Broken Lives” and “Love Hunger”
Founder and Executive Director, Mastering Life Ministries and Pure Passion Media

www.purepassion.us

*“Stephen Black is a courageous culture warrior and a prophetic pastoral encourager. For over 25 years he has overcome some of the most extreme circumstances of life by the grace of Jesus Christ as you will read in **Freedom Realized**. **Freedom Realized** reveals that there is true, transformative grace to overcome homosexuality and that real freedom can be found through a devoted relationship with Jesus Christ as Lord.*

And he has faced staggering pain and adversity. On the very day he took a bold, biblical and national stand against the deceptive message of so called “gay Christianity,” he lost his daughter, Charity, to unexpected death. He entered into a season of unspeakable grief as both a dad and as a spiritual leader. Yet, Stephen stood strong with tenacity and courage. He continued standing despite the growing animosity directed towards those who once proclaim freedom from homosexuality. He has endured a great test! Stephen is a testimony of God’s freedom realized in the midst of great testing.”

Jim Garlow, Senior Pastor

Skyline Church, La Mesa, CA

Author of several books, the latest: *Well Versed – Biblical Answers to Today’s Tough Issues*

www.jimgarlow.com and www.skylinechurch.org

“Freedom Realized is a book that covers many areas of the ‘ex-gay’ movement with clarity. It’s easy to read and written in plain English, so the average person (like me) can read it. I feel it is an important book for parents and other loved ones to read, as it’s truthful but not brutal. Many of the first books on the subject of homosexuality shredded the poor hurting moms and dads that were trying to find help for themselves and for their lost child. Stephen doesn’t do that in this book. We, as parents, need to read more about this topic, so we have an understanding and be equipped to answer questions that might be asked of us by our loved ones. This book is a good place to start and gives a great list of other books in the back. I also enjoyed the sixteen short teachings by tried and true people who have testimonies of their own. Personally, the first section on the downfall of Alan Chambers and Exodus was wonderfully written history. It was good and difficult to read at the same time. Stephen put into words the deep hurt that I have been unable to really communicate. The introduction about Exodus explains my pain, as it was like the death of my family and my brother Alan delivered the fateful blow. It was so hard to lose so much in such a short time. Thank you, Stephen, for giving me words to tell others. I sincerely appreciate your ongoing love for Frank and me and the work you carry-on through your writing and ministry.”

Anita Worthen

Co-Author of *Someone I Love Is Gay*

www.newhope123.org



Tranzformed Screening

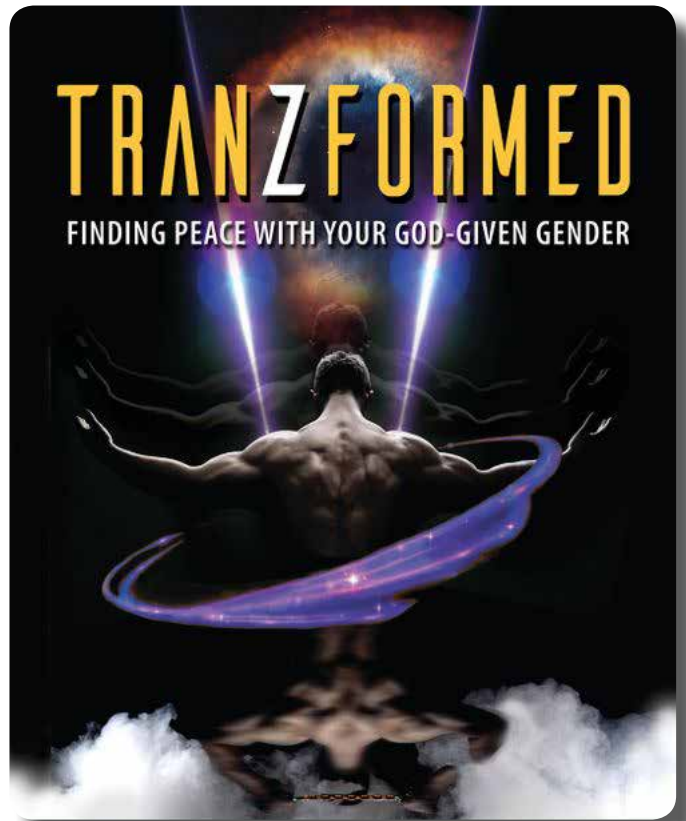
by Laura Leigh Stanlake

We are pleased to have the powerful documentary “Tranzformed: Making Peace with Your God-Given Gender” as a resource to offer the community. This documentary addresses the cultural discussion happening around us concerning transsexuals and transsexuality. Beginning with Caitlyn Jenner, Jazz Jennings and the Target restroom policies, this discussion has moved into mainstream television, church discussions and courtrooms.

Earlier this month, First Stone was scheduled to show this documentary for the benefit of the community. But, we found ourselves on the radar of a local activist mom and a regional newspaper serving the LGBTQ+ community. It was quite a flurry of minor opposition for a few weeks. They made some progress, however, and they brought about the necessity of postponing the screening until we could bring a full-offering of ministry alongside the film.

We look forward to screening this film in the new year. It is an excellent offering of 15 person's stories of their transitions INTO living as another gender and then their transitions OUT back to the genders assigned at birth. The film addresses the spectrum of gender dysphoria expressions as well as a separate issue of genetics and born gender. It is thoroughly educational and useful to equip us all for the larger cultural conversation. First Stone will offer the screening followed by a Q&A through written submissions, live testimony and resources. We can't wait for you all to see this film.

The local activist has called the film “soul crushing” without seeing the full film and has positioned herself as an advocate of the transgender community. Viewers of the documentary have said it is helpful and equipping to a more informed and compassionate response. We look forward to offering this to you. We will let you know when we have re-scheduled.





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Healing Tee \$20



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Stephen's Blog

Check out Stephen's new blog!

www.stephenblack.org



BENEFITS FSM | FIRST MONTH FREE
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Support Groups

Our **Parents, Family & Friends** group meets each month on the 1st and 3rd Friday from 7-9:30pm, except for holidays and any conflicting FSM events. If you have someone in your family or friendship circle who needs support from other biblically-grounded people, we encourage you to apply for admission to this group.

For information and application on any of our groups,
please visit <http://www.firststone.org/support-groups>



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"Human beings are innately created in the image of God – male and female. This is Imago Dei in the Latin. This means we are innately 'heterosexual' by design, and designed to create life. No one is born gay, it is a lie, the science is in, and science reveals no one is born gay. Anyone who says, "people are born gay," they are lying!"

–Stephen Black

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