

first stone newsletter

"Let him who is without sin cast the First Stone"
And Jesus also said, "Go and sin no more." – John 8

MINISTRIES



Stephen Black,
Executive
Director

Foreword to Dangerous Affirmation: The Threat of Gay Christianity

You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending.

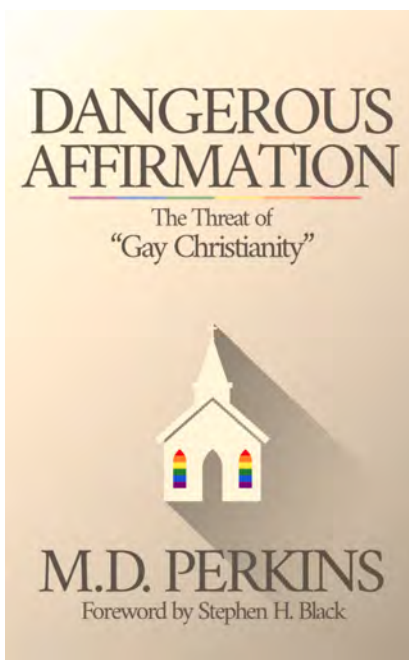
– C.S. Lewis

Those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it.

– George Santayana

Dangerous Affirmation is needed more today than ever before in history as the "gay Christian" movement poses a real threat to the church of Jesus Christ. Unfortunately, it seems we have not learned from the sexual revolution of the 1960s concerning the destruction of sexual sin. Although we cannot go back and change what has transpired, we can continue to preach the truth and work diligently to see a different ending—no matter how dark or dishonest our times may seem. Because of our failure to learn from our own mistakes, the church in America finds herself in a dark time. Nevertheless, we trust there is a day of transformation coming, as the Word of God promises.

The culture around us is sex-saturated, yet those living by their sexual appetites are unfulfilled, still longing for real love. This is true for many in so-called "affirming congregations"



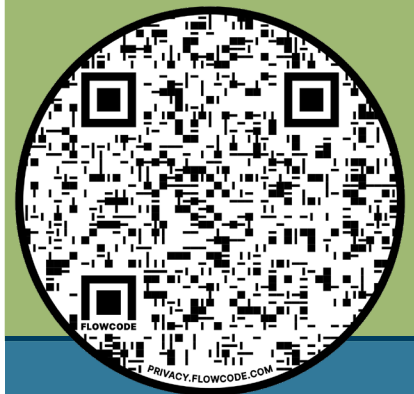
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LGBTQ+ Facts

"For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due." (Romans 1:26-27)

Studies on LGBTQ suicide rates:

- **A 2011 report using multiple studies concluded:**
 - LGB students are 2 to 7 times more likely to attempt suicide ¹
- **A Canada study² found:**
 - Suicide rates among homosexual or bisexual men were 14 times higher than heterosexual men ²
- **A New Zealand study found LGB individuals³:**
 - were over 4.5 times more likely to attempt suicide
 - nearly twice as likely to suffer from major depression
 - over twice as likely to suffer from Generalized Anxiety
 - over twice as likely to have behavior problems
 - twice as likely to have multiple disorders
- **A 2022 report from the CDC ⁴:**
 - Almost a quarter (23.4%) of high school LGB students reported attempting suicide in the last 12 months. This rate is nearly 4 times higher than the rate reported among heterosexual students (6.4%)
- **Is societal homophobia to blame?:**
 - "Studies have identified essentially the same suicide rates among SSA people in the United States, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Denmark, and Norway. Based on that finding (since these countries have varying levels of cultural acceptance), it is not likely that varying societal attitudes have much to do with suicide rates."¹⁶ (New Zealand, for example, is considered one of the most gay-friendly countries in the world).
- sexual transmission was linked as the cause (91.2%)
- A UK Health Security Agency report¹⁵ agreed, finding (reported cases of Monkeypox):
 - 95.3% of cases were men who have sex with men
 - 30.4% reported having 10+ sexual partners in the last 3 months
- In a Boston-area study of HIV+ MSM men²³, the CDC found:
 - 37.3% had engaged in unprotected anal sex over the past 3 months
 - 31.4% of cases took place with a partner of unknown HIV status
 - 23% of cases took place with an HIV negative partner
- A 2013 study of San Francisco residents²⁴ (one of the most LGBTQ friendly cities in the U.S.) found:
 - gay or lesbian persons live 15-20 years less than those married to an opposite sex person
 - transsexuals might live 25 years less than a person married to an opposite sex person
- Using statistics from 2010, a 2012 CDC webinar titled "STD Treatment Guidelines: Update on Sexual Health in Men Who Have Sex with Men"²⁵ stated that:

Health Risks:

- According to the World Health Organization, "Monkeypox... primarily affects men who have sex with men who have reported recent sex with one or multiple partners."¹⁴ The case profile substantiated this finding showing that:
 - 96.9% of cases were men who have sex with men
 - 3.1% men who did not report having sex with men



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as well—they may have affirmation, yet they lack true Christian love. The church is filled with compromise on the issues of unnatural desires, and *Dangerous Affirmation* is a clarion call to a much-needed return to biblical orthodoxy. There is power, wisdom, and common sense in God's Word—a place where we can all experience the real love of God.

There are many Christian leaders and evangelicals who have capitulated by embracing poor theology, distorted sociology, and forgetful anthropology. These men and women leaders seem happy to embrace all things LGBT as long as they call themselves "Christian." There are those who would have us rethink or revoice the Bible according to the whims of our current culture. M.D. Perkins has exposed these dangerous affirmations of leaven. For we know that "a little leaven leavens the whole lump" (Galatians 5:9). Or, as the New Living Translation (NLT) renders it, "These false teachings are like a little yeast that spreads through the whole batch of dough!"

The Bible clearly warns of the days in which we are living. It warns that many would be scoffers and mockers in teaching doctrines of impurity that turn the grace of God into acceptable lewdness in word, thought, and deed (2 Timothy 3:1–7, 2 Peter 2:1–22, 2 Peter 3:1–7). It is the American Psychological Association's "orientation gospel" that is promoted—both knowingly and unknowingly—in some of the highest places in Christianity: seminaries, Christian colleges, and churches big and small. As we write, there are those who are calling "sexual minorities" a legitimate Christian group and moving others to accept LGBT desires and behaviors in the church. These ideas are introduced through the acceptance of unbiblical, psychological word-groupings: "Gay Christian." "Queer Christian." "Same-sex attracted Christian." This book is a clear declaration to resist systemic unbelief throughout the body of Christ and a call for Christian leaders to contend earnestly for the saving faith of our Lord Jesus Christ (Jude 1:3–7).

M.D. Perkins gives us an exhortation to embrace Jesus' message of transformative grace. He calls for us to leave behind the lies of the "orientation" narrative and the so-called "grace" that leaves souls stuck in their unnatural affections—leading to the further bondage of unbelief. He is rightfully holding up the standard of biblically orthodox truth that is the very message of the cross of Christ. This holy truth has the power to deliver

those who truly love the Light and submit to Jesus Christ as Lord (2 Corinthians 4:1–6). Jesus was clear in His gospel that a saving faith will produce repentance and results in believing for an entire life of righteousness (Matthew 7:13–28, Romans 10:8–13). *Dangerous Affirmation* gives a grace-filled offering of biblical truth and of great hope for those who will believe the truth found in these pages.

Many influential Christian leaders—believing themselves to be wise and compassionate—promote the American Psychological Association's view of "orientation" as right and true. They insert this claim into their affirming theology. *Dangerous Affirmation: The Threat of "Gay Christianity"* confronts this deception head on. M.D. Perkins points us back to the authority of the Word of God as the standard by which we are to measure our behaviors, feelings, thoughts, and even our so-called "orientations." He also does an excellent job of unpacking gay celibate theology, which promotes a distorted identity through normalizing unnatural affections. *Dangerous Affirmation* is written clearly and without compromise. Many theologians today would benefit from reading this clear, concise offering of love. It is a short read that is power-packed and should be shared with every pastor and Christian leader you know.

"Why does it matter that the Bible calls homosexuality a sin? God's law is a reflection of His character and the central means He uses to bring sinners to repentance. If we were to reconfigure or redefine how the Bible speaks against lying, for instance, we would be altering one of the ways God's law is intended to convict sinners of sin. Liars would suddenly find themselves absolved of wrongdoing and no longer needy of God's gracious forgiveness in Christ because maybe they aren't truly liars after all. It is a frightful thing to alter not only God's words but also the implications that He has set on them."

On a personal note, M.D. Perkins is a kind and gentle man who did not wake up one day desiring a battle with those who are gay-identified. He is a man who has seen the battle for truth and scriptural clarity coming to his own church and has lovingly responded in grace. I am a man who left homosexuality behind over 38 years ago. This is important because I have never witnessed this author to be unkind or unloving as a way of life toward anyone—especially someone who is living in or has lived through sexual distortion.

We are all indebted for this contribution of grace and love. I am proud to work with the American Family Association (and their American Family Studios film project *In His Image: Delighting in God's Plan for Gender and Sexuality*) in bringing bold truth with bold love. I am also blessed to call M.D. Perkins a friend.

Stephen H. Black
Pastor, Speaker, Author

Appeal by Tim Wildmon

Dear friend,

Let's see if you've heard any of these statements before:

- God made people gay and therefore being gay should be celebrated and affirmed.
- Jesus never mentioned homosexuality even once.
- The story of Sodom and Gomorrah is about inhospitality and greed, not homosexuality.
- If the Bible were written today, it would be gay-affirming.
- The Bible doesn't say anything about sexual orientation.
- Christians hate gay people and need to change their theology to be more loving.

If you've heard one or more of these statements before—whether on social media, in conversation with a family member, or even promoted by a supposedly Christian pastor—you have just encountered one of the many influences of “gay Christianity.”

The book [Dangerous Affirmation](#), written by AFA's M.D. Perkins, is intended to serve as an introduction, rebuttal, and warning. It was written to help the average person in the pew to understand what is being argued by major “gay Christian” thinkers and to respond to it biblically. Although the Bible is the primary focus, M.D. did not shy away from discussing controversial topics like homophobia, LGBT suicide rates, conversion therapy laws, and the rise of “gay celibate Christianity.” Truth demands proper application to every aspect of our life and society.

There are five central ways in which “gay Christianity” is impacting the Christian church: the rethinking of theology (chapter 1), the

rethinking of the Bible (chapter 2), the re-thinking of the church (chapter 3), the rethinking of identity (chapter 4), and the rise of LGBT activists within the church (chapter 5).

Each chapter includes a careful explanation of some facet of that problem, illustrations of how these things have been seen, and guidance for understanding these issues in light of scripture. A list of recommended resources that may help further inquiry is included at the end as well as extensive indexes to help find subjects or scriptures referenced in the book.

For those concerned about honoring God with your lives, I hope and pray that *Dangerous Affirmation* stirs you to think about the threat “gay Christianity” poses to the church and the world. I hope it renews your thinking because it presents the Word of God clearly and applies the truth accurately.

While many Christians are being won over to this immoral cause, *Dangerous Affirmation* serves as a sober-minded call to faithfulness amid cultural and religious chaos.

Please order a copy for yourself and one for your pastor from our [AFA Resource Center. \(afa.net\)](#)



Tim Wildmon
President
American Family Association



- MSM (men who have sex with men) comprised 77% of new HIV infections among men in the U.S.
- 19% of MSM overall were HIV+
- 44% of HIV+ MSM were unaware of their HIV infection
- According to the American College of Pediatricians²⁶ the list of diseases found with extraordinary frequency among MSM (men who have sex with men) include:
 - Anal cancer (17 times more likely than non MSM)
 - Chlamydia trachomatis
 - Cryptosporidium
 - Giardia
 - Lamblia
 - Herpes simplex virus
 - Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) (44+ times more than men who do not have sex with men)²⁷
 - Human Papilloma Virus (HPV)
 - Isospora Belli
 - Microsporidia
 - Gonorrhea
 - Viral Hepatitis types B & C (as a result, they are also at increased risk of liver cancer)²⁸
 - Syphilis (75%-83% of all cases are MSM)^{29, 30}
- * Sexual transmission of some of these diseases is so rare in the exclusively heterosexual population as to be virtually unknown
- An article from the CDC³² states that for WSW (Women who Have Sex with Women):
 - 26% had antibodies to HPV-16
 - 42% had antibodies to HPV-6
 - Trichomoniasis is common (Trichomoniasis is a sexually transmitted infection caused by a parasite. In women, trichomoniasis can cause a foul-smelling vaginal discharge, genital itching and painful urination.)
- JAMA (the journal from the American Medical Assoc.), published a study which used statistics from the National Health Interview Survey (2013-2014). Women exhibiting moderate to severe psychological distress was significantly higher among lesbian (28.4%) or bisexual women (46.4%) than heterosexual women (21.9%).³¹

Studies on LGBTQ Substance Abuse rates:

- New Zealand study found LGB individuals are nearly 2.5 times as likely to have nicotine dependence³
- Non-heterosexual women 3.42 times higher risk for substance abuse¹
- A 2016 study found that LGBTQ individuals are over twice as likely to use illicit drugs as well as more likely to smoke cigarettes and abuse pain relievers⁵

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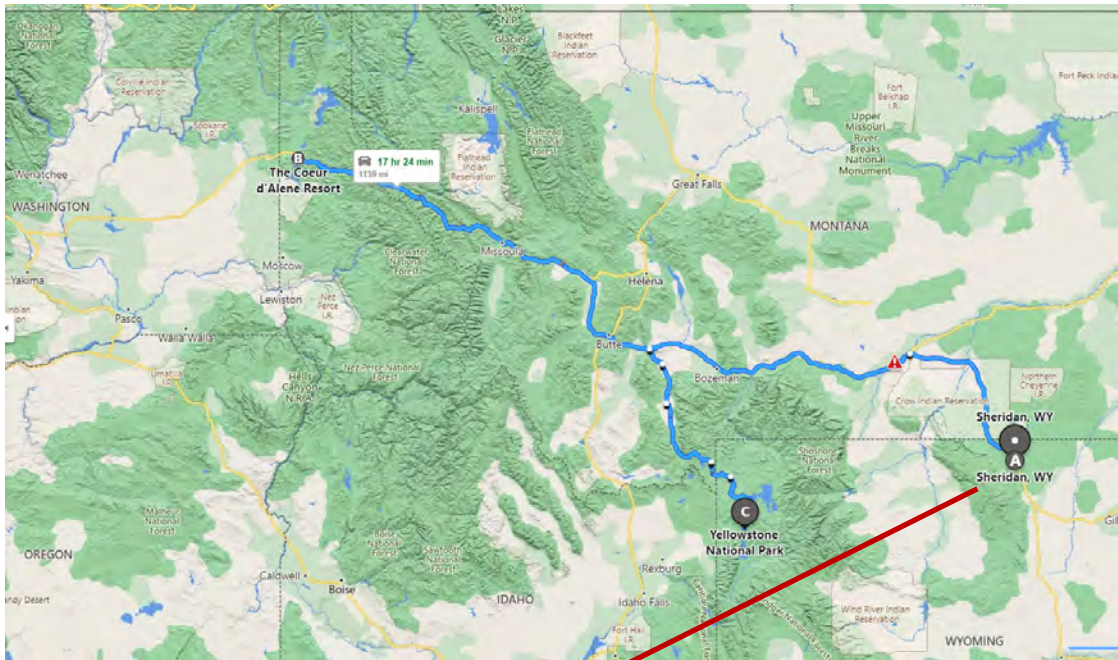
Over 416,915 views!



Ministry Travels

Between October 11 and 22nd, FSM will be travelling through Kansas, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana and Idaho for a series of speaking opportunities. If you're nearby, please try to join us!

- Wednesday the 12th, Cornerstone Church in Sheridan, Wyoming
Ministry Night for Leadership - www.cornerstoneofsheridan.org
- Saturday the 15th, Candlelight Christian Fellowship in Couer d'Alene, Idaho
Family Under Fire Conference - candlelight.org/faith-fire-conference
- Sunday 16-19, Liberty Church of Edmond, OK (Paul Blair/Dan Fisher) in Couer d'Alene, Idaho
America at the Crossroads Liberty Pastor's Conference - libertypastors.fairviewbaptistedmond.org



Epic Ministry Trip to Idaho

The First Stone Ministries staff has been incredibly blessed with serving the body of Christ this past month of October 2022. We had the opportunity to teach and testify at two major power-packed conferences, "Family Under Fire" at Candlelight Christian Fellowship, and "Liberty Pastors Training" at the Coeur d'Alene Resort. The doors also opened to teach and testify at three churches on this journey.

The first was Cornerstone Church in Sheridan, WY with our dear friends and pastors, Tony and DeAnn Forman. We also shared with two other churches in the Coeur d'Alene area. We gathered with several hundred believers Sunday morning at Family Worship Center in Hayden, IA with Pastors Steven and Kristina Hemmings, for the long service. On Monday night the staff shared testimony at The Altar in Coeur d'Alene with Pastors Tim and Cindy Remington; a wonderful evening of worship and testimonies!

We were also able to spend some glorious time worshipping God in His creation in Yellowstone National Park and the Grand Tetons! This is a trip we will never forget.

Day 1 – Tuesday, Oct 11

First full day drive from Oklahoma City to Cheyenne, WY.



Cornerstone Church, Sheridan, WY. L-R: Tony, Jim, DeAnn, Stephen, Laura Leigh, Laura Beth, Aaron, and Joseph

Day 2 – Wednesday, Oct 12

Evening service at Cornerstone Church, Sheridan, WY — wonderful time with pastors Tony and DeAnn Forman and local pastors and leadership from the Sheridan area; sharing on causalities of LGBTQ+ sin and brokenness with testimonies.

Day 3 – Thursday, Oct 13

Travel day from Sheridan, WY through the Bighorn Mountains, and through Yellowstone Eastside, North parts of the park, and then we traveled to Butte, MT for a good night of sleep.

Day 4 – Friday, Oct 14

Drive to Coeur d'Alene, IA for our first event on Friday evening. Laura Beth Smalts and Laura Leigh Stanlake shared with a lady's event at the Autumn Tea, an annual event for Candlelight

Christian Fellowship. This was a very successful time of helping women and encouragement from scripture.



Yellowstone L-R: Aaron, Joseph, Jim, Laura Leigh, Laura Beth, and Stephen

Day 5 – Saturday, Oct. 15

Family Under Fire Conference, at Candlelight Christian Fellowship, First Stone Ministered freedom realized through extensive teaching an overview of LGBTQ+ sin and how to find lasting freedom. We also screened the movie In His Image with a Q&A discussion after. The conference was from 9AM to 5PM and was packed! This event came by invitation of Pastors, Jason Murray and Paul Van Noy.

Day 6 – Sunday, Oct 16

Morning: Church service at Family Worship Center - Hayden, IA. Thankful for the invitation by Pastors Steven & Kristina Hemming. Wonderful service of how freedom is realized taught by Stephen Black and the amazing testimonies of the FSM staff.



Family Worship Center, Hayden, ID L-R: Joseph, Aaron, Laura Leigh, Kristina, Steven, Stephen, Laura Beth, and Jim

Evening: The Liberty Pastors Training began at the beautiful Coeur d'Alene Resort. This event ran from Sunday evening through Wednesday morning. Our team served many pastors the next three days.

Day 7 – Monday, Oct 17

Occupied our information booth all day for the pastors training

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and hearing many helpful topics. In the evening we all shared at The Altar church, a faith-based recovery program, sharing the life of God in freedom realized and testimonies!



The Altar Church, Couer d'Alene, ID
Tim & Cindy Remington



Day 8 – Tuesday, Oct 18

Occupied our information booth all day for the pastors training and hearing many helpful topics. In his session, Stephen Black presented a hard-hitting wake up call to pastors; The LGBTQ+ Agenda is real! His presentation brought 5 more invitations for us to speak in the Coeur d'Alene area in the future.

Day 9 – Wednesday, Oct 19

Liberty Pastors Training ends, and the staff travels to West Yellowstone.

Day 10 – Thursday, Oct 20

Worship and rest for our staff in an all-day awe of God's creation of Yellowstone and the Grand Tetons. Stop in Jackson, WY for the night.

Day 11 – Friday, Oct 21

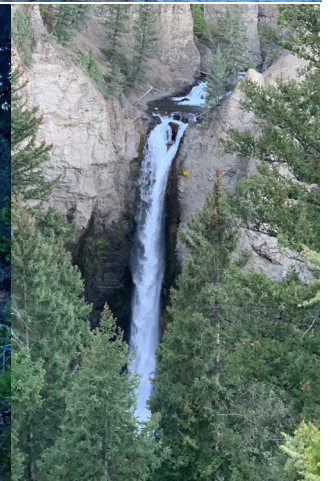
Traveled all day through amazing scenery in Wyoming, Utah, and finally into Colorado Springs. Wow, what a drive; We spent over 15 hours in the car that day. Home is becoming more attractive!

Day 12 – Saturday, Oct 22

Colorado Springs to OKC! Home!

So grateful to God and thankful for all the prayer covering!

This was an EPIC TRIP where lives were changed forever!



- cocaine use (5.1 vs. 1.8 percent)
- heroin use (0.9 vs. 0.3 percent)
- use of hallucinogens (5.0 vs. 1.6 percent)
- use of inhalants (3.7 vs. 0.3 percent);
- methamphetamine use (2.3 vs. 0.6 percent)
- misuse of prescription meds (2-3 times more)
- A 2016 study found that LGBTQ individuals are over twice as likely to use illicit drugs as well as more likely to smoke cigarettes and abuse pain relievers⁵

Studies on Mental Illness:

- A 2016 study found that LGBTQ individuals are more likely to have mental illness⁵
 - any mental illness (over twice as likely)
 - serious mental illness (3 to 4 times more likely)
 - major depressive episode (3 times more likely)
 - major depressive episode with severe impairment (3.4 times more likely)
- A 2019 study found that transgender individuals are far more likely to have mental illness⁶. These findings are significantly higher than when including lesbian, gay, and bisexual identifying individuals. The study found transgenders are more likely (compared to the general population to have:
 - Bipolar Disorder (8.5 times higher)
 - Anxiety Disorders (5.2 times higher)
 - Schizophrenia (6.8 times higher)
 - Dissociative Disorders (13 times higher)
 - Personality Disorders (16 times higher)
 - Eating Disorders (8 times higher)
 - Autism (9.4 times higher)
 - substance abuse (3.8 times higher)
 - tobacco use (2.3 times higher)

Genetic Cause?

- The Laumann study⁷ found that where an individual is raised has a significant influence on their likelihood of having a homosexual partner:
 - MALES / FEMALES (Respectively):
 - Rural area: 1.2% / .7%
 - Medium-Sized town: 2.5% / 1.3%
 - Urban area: 4.4% / 1.6%

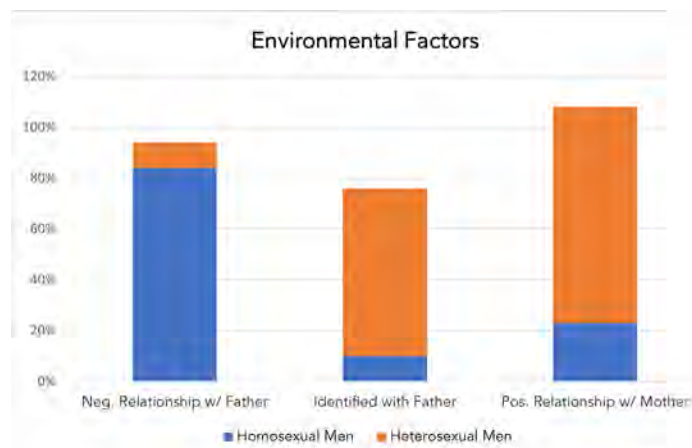
If sexual orientation were strictly genetic, environmental upbringing would have no bearing on their desire for the same sex.

- Twin study researchers found:
 - weak-moderate genetic effects on masculinity/femininity
 - Larger influence from older siblings²⁰
- UK study of 14,000 children called the Avon study¹⁹ found:
 - father present in home = greater effect on masculinity (boys)
 - older brother = greater masculinity in both boys & girls^{21, 22}

- older sister = boys were more feminine but not less masculine²²
- * Masculinity tends to be predominate

Environmental Factors:

- Negative relationship with father (indifferent/uninvolved)⁸:
 - homosexual men: 84%
 - heterosexual men: 10%



- Identified with father in childhood (men)⁸:
 - homosexual men: 10%
 - heterosexual men: two-thirds
- Positive relationship/identified with mother (women)⁸:
 - homosexual women: 23%
 - heterosexual men: 85%
- A negative relationship with the same-sex parent reduces the desire to identify with that parent, increasing the likelihood of gender non-conformity⁹ and "has been considered to be an excellent predictor of homosexuality."^{10, 11}

Prevalence of Childhood Sexual Abuse:

- Of 327 homosexual and bisexual men participating in an ongoing cohort study pertaining to risk factors for HIV infection who completed a survey regarding history of sexual abuse, 116 (35.5%) reported being sexually abused as children.¹². Those abused were also more likely to:
 - have more lifetime male partners
 - report more childhood stress
 - have lied in the past in order to have sex
 - have unprotected receptive anal intercourse
- In a study of over 34,000 participants revealed that individuals who had engaged in same-sex behavior or experienced same-sex attractions were much more likely to have experienced childhood sexual abuse.¹³
 - **Women:**
 - bisexuals (5.3 times more likely)

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- lesbians (3.4 times more likely)
- heterosexual (2.9 times more likely)
- **Men:**
 - bisexuals (12.8 times more likely)
 - gay men (9.5 times more likely)
 - heterosexual (7.9 times more likely)

Effects of Same-Sex Parenting:

A 2015 study in the *Linacre Quarterly*³³ looked at the effects of same-sex parenting. They concluded that children of LGB couples:

- are only 65% as likely to graduate high school as children of heterosexual couples
- 42% described challenges trusting people
- 35% less likely to make normal progress through school
- Many LGB couples obtain children through artificial insemination or in vitro fertilization. Young adults conceived through artificial insemination were more confused, felt more isolated from their families, were experiencing more psychic pain, and fared worse in areas such as depression, delinquency, and substance abuse than a matched group of children who were conceived naturally.

Media Influence:

- There is increasing pressure from certain groups such as GLAAD (Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation) to have more LGBTQ representation in media. Their most recent report¹⁷ from June 1,



Arthur episode: "Mr. Ratburn and the Someone Special"

2021, to May 31, 2022 showed:

- 92 characters (11.9%) are LGBTQ in primetime programming
- That is up 2.8% from the 2020-2021 season
- There are an additional 49 LGBTQ characters
- The CW Network has the most with 17.1% being LGBTQ
- *Insider* has compiled a database of LGBTQ cartoon characters.¹⁸ They state:

- There are 259 LGBTQ cartoon characters
- Cartoon Network is #1 with 19 LGBTQ-inclusive shows
- There are currently at least 38 non-binary cartoon characters

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A Biblical Equipping Response to LGBTQ+ & Sexual Purity

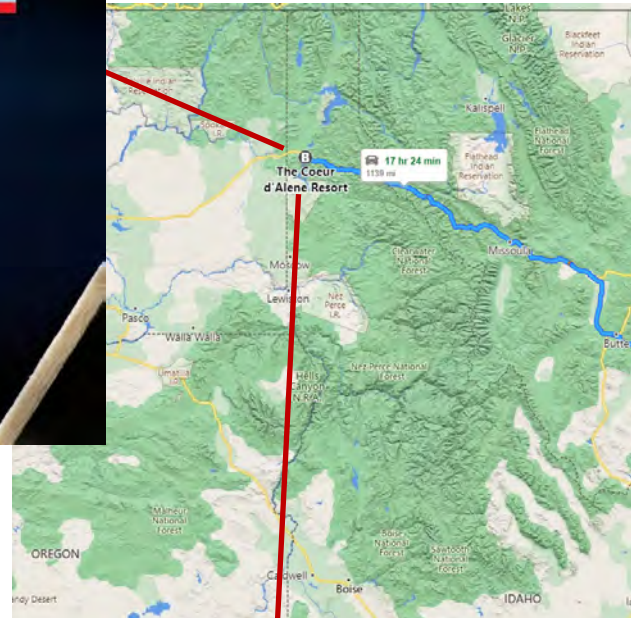
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As we continue to journey across our nation to tell of God's amazing work in our lives and of the hope we have in Him, please pray all those who hear would be able to agree wholeheartedly in repentance and in righteousness.

(see page 6 for journey details)