

# SEXUAL ORIENTATION

(Josh McDowell research 2006 to present)

## “CHANGEABLE”

“A study by Wheaton and Regent University professors finds sexual orientation is changeable and that attempts to change are not harmful. The study found 23% of those participating reported a change in their sexual orientation. 10% noted a dramatic decrease in homosexual attraction, which they categorized as successful change.” (*CitizenLink* 8/10/09)

(Gary Foster, “Changeable,” *Religious Market Update*, August 25, 2009, p3; [www.garydfoster.com](http://www.garydfoster.com))

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## “IN THE MID – 1990’S, A FEW DOZEN GAY-STRAIGHT-STRAIGHT ALLIANCE CLUBS WERE IN U.S. HIGH SCHOOLS; NOW 3,200 ARE REGISTERED WITH THE EDUCATION WITH THE EDUCATION NETWORK”

“In the mid-1990s, a few dozen Gay-Straight Alliance clubs were in U.S. high schools; now 3,200 are registered with the education network, Jennings says.”

(Marilyn Elias, USA TODAY, February 2007, [www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2007-02-07-gay-teens-cover\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2007-02-07-gay-teens-cover_x.htm))

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## “STUDY FINDS NEW EVIDENCE THAT CHILDHOOD FAMILY FACTORS INFLUENCE SEXUAL ORIENTATION”

“COPENHAGEN, November 29, 2006 (LifeSiteNews.com) – A major study published last month in the prestigious peer reviewed journal, Archives of Sexual Behavior, provides striking new evidence for the influence of childhood family factors on sexual-orientation development.”

“The study used a population-based sample of 2,000,355 native-born Danes between the ages of 18 and 49. Denmark – a country noted for its tolerance of a wide variety of alternative lifestyles, including homosexual partnerships – was the first country to legalize gay marriage. The researchers assessed detailed marriage records for all Danish-born men and women marrying a same-sex partner from the years 1989 through 2001.”

“With access to the ‘virtually complete registry coverage of the entire Danish population,’ the study sample therefore lack the problematic selection bias that has plagued many previous studies on sexual orientation.”

## “Parental Influences on Sexual Orientation Development”

“The authors conclude: ‘Our study provides population-based, prospective evidence that childhood family experiences are important determinants of heterosexual and homosexual marriage decisions in adulthood.’”

“Assuming that people who marry heterosexually are almost always heterosexual – especially in a country where homosexuality carries little stigma, and gay marriage is legal – and people who marry homosexually can be presumed to be homosexual, the study’s findings offer intriguing evidence about family factors separating homosexual from heterosexual persons.”

“The following are findings from this new data:”

“-Men who marry homosexually are more likely to have raised in a family with unstable parental relationship – particularly, absent or unknown fathers and divorced parents.”

“-Findings on women who marry homosexually were less pronounced, but were still associated with a childhood marked by a broken family. The rates of same-sex marriage ‘were elevated among women who experienced maternal death during adolescence, women with short duration of parental marriage, and women with long duration of mother-absent cohabitation with father.’”

“-Men and women with ‘unknown fathers’ were significantly less likely to marry a person of the opposite sex than were their peers with known fathers.”

“-Men who experienced parental death during childhood or adolescence ‘had significantly lower heterosexual marriage rates than peers whose parents were both alive on their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.’”

“‘The shorter the duration of parental marriage, the higher was the likelihood of homosexual marriage...homosexual marriage rates were 36% and 26% higher among men and women, respectively, who experienced parental divorce after less than six years of marriage, than among peers whose parents remained married for all 18 years of childhood and adolescence.’”

“-‘Men whose parents divorced before their 6<sup>th</sup> birthday were 39% more likely to marry homosexually than peers from intact parental marriages.’”

“-‘Men whose cohabitation with both parents ended before age 18 years had significantly (55% - 75%) higher rates of homosexual marriage than men who cohabited with both parents until 18 years.’”

“-‘The mother’s age was directly linked to the likelihood of homosexual marriage among men – the older the mother, the more likely her son was to marry another man. Also, ‘only children’ were more likely to be homosexual.’”

“-‘Persons born in large cities were significantly more likely to marry a same-sex partner – suggesting that cultural factors might also affect the development of sexual orientation.’”

“‘Whatever ingredients determine a person’s sexual preferences and marital choices,’ conclude the study’s authors, ‘our population-based study shows that parental interactions are important/’”

“Reference: ‘Childhood Family Correlates of Heterosexual and Homosexual Marriages: A National Cohort Study of Two Million Danes,’ by Morten Frisch and Anders Hviid, Archives of Sexual Behavior Oct 13, 2006”

(Linda Ames Nicolosi, “Study Finds New Evidence that Childhood Family Factors Influence Sexual Orientation,”)

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## **“THE REVOLUTION IN PARENTHOOD THE EMERGING GLOBAL CLASH BETWEEN ADULT RIGHTS AND CHILDREN’S NEEDS”**

“In Canada, with virtually no debate, the controversial law that brought about same-sex marriage quietly included the provision to erase the term ‘natural parent.’ With that law, the locus of power in defining who a child’s parents are shifts precipitously from civil society to the state, with the consequences as yet unknown.”

“In Spain, after the recent legalization of same-sex marriage the legislature changed the birth certificates for all children in that nation to read ‘Progenitor A’ and ‘Progenitor B’ instead of ‘mother’ and ‘father.’ With that change, the words ‘mother’ and ‘father’ were struck from the first document issued to every newborn by the state. Similar proposals have been made in other jurisdictions that have legalized same-sex marriage.”

“Meanwhile, in India new guidelines on assisted reproductive technology issued in June of 2005 by the Indian Council of Medical Research state that ‘the child born through the use of donor gametes [i.e., sperm or eggs] will not have any right whatsoever to know the identity of the genetic parents.’”

“In recent decades a powerful consensus among social scientists has emerged about the benefits of marriage for children. The New York Times not long ago reported: ‘From a child’s point of view, according to a growing body of social science research, the most supportive household is one with two biological parents in a low-conflict marriage.’”

“Children raised by divorced or never-married parents face an increased risk of living in poverty, failing in school, suffering psychological distress and mental illness, and getting involved in crime. Children raised outside a married family are less likely to graduate from college and achieve high-status jobs. When they grow up, they are more likely to divorce or become unwed parents.”

“In terms of children’s physical health and well-being, marriage is associated with a sharply lower risk of infant mortality, and children living with their own married parents are more physically healthy, on average, than children in other kinds of families. Most tragically, children not living with their own two married parents are at significantly greater risk of child abuse and suicide.”

“Increasing number of people are realizing that marriage has important benefits for children. What many do not know is that there is something about the marriage of a child’s own mother and father (as opposed to a remarriage) that on average brings these benefits. On many important indicators of child well-being, such as teen pregnancy, educational failure, delinquency, and child abuse, children raised in married stepparent families look more like children of single parents than children raised by their own, married mother and father.”

“More than seventy reputable studies document that an astonishing number -anywhere from one third to one half – of girls with divorced parents report having been molested or sexually abused as children, most often by their mothers’ boyfriends or stepfathers.”

“A separate review of forty-two studies found that ‘the majority of children who were sexually abused...appeared to come from single-parent or reconstituted families.’ Two leading researchers in

the field conclude, ‘Living with a stepparent has turned out to be the most powerful predictor of severe child abuse yet.’”

“There have been a number of scholarly reviews of the literature on same-sex parenting. One of the most thorough was prepared by Steven Nock, a sociologist at the University of Virginia, who was asked to submit a brief for a major same-sex marriage case in Canada. After reviewing several hundred studies he concluded that all of the articles ‘contained at least one fatal flaw of design or execution’ and ‘not a single one of those studies was conducted according to general accepted scientific standards of research.’”

(Elizabeth Marquardt, “The Revolution in Parenthood The Emerging Global Clash Between Adult Rights and Children’s Needs,” Institute for American Values, (2006):5,11,19-21)

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