

Is there any way to know if you're a homosexual?

How do you know if you are a homosexual?

There is no cut and dried answer because all sexuality is on a continuum from near exclusive heterosexuality on one end to near exclusive homosexuality on the other.

Kinsey set up a sliding scale from 0 (heterosexuality) to 6 (homosexuality) with 3 (equally heterosexual and homosexual) in the middle. All people fit somewhere on the scale. We are born with the capacity to respond to either sex and our culture teaches us how we are to respond to each one.

Basically we define ourselves as heterosexual or homosexual according to our erotic responses to one sex or the other. If our primary erotic interest is in the opposite sex, we call ourselves heterosexual; if it is in the same sex, homosexual.

Of course, this preference pertains to adult patterns over a period of time and it may alter in any given individual, so that it is generally unwise to label ourselves at any particular point in life and then feel obligated to remain fixed in that sexual category.

The most significant aspect of any intimate relationship is its emotional content, so that a mere sexual impulse toward a member of the same sex does not necessarily make us homosexual. We are homosexual at any time in our lives when our emotional as well as our sexual involvement is with a member or members of our own sex.

What causes homosexuality?

Books and books have been written on this topic, but not one of them has come up with an answer that cannot be disproved by experience, observation or unprejudiced testing. It is as pointless to ask this question as it is to ask what causes heterosexuality. To our knowledge, no one has a valid answer to either question. Besides, as explained above, all sexuality is part of a

continuum and it is to be expected, therefore, that homosexuality will develop as part of human sexual experience. The cause of homosexuality is of no concern to us since we do not want either to increase or decrease homosexuality, and usually, when the cause of a phenomenon is sought it is because we want to create more of the phenomenon or get rid of it.

Many people think that a single homosexual encounter, particularly at an early age, will make an individual homosexual. There is no evidence to support this assumption. Unless an individual already has a strong homosexual component, a single experience or several experiences will in no way prevent him or her from becoming or remaining heterosexual.

The avowed fear that a homosexual seduction will make a youngster into a homosexual is patently absurd.

In prisons or boarding schools or any place where only one sex is present, a great deal of homosexual activity occurs, but only those who are truly homosexual will continue such practices after the opposite sex becomes available to them.

How do you identify a homosexual?

You don't. Part of the mythology surrounding homosexuality is that you can tell who homosexuals are, either by their looks or their actions or their professions, but the truth is that most homosexuals look and act just like heterosexuals and are outwardly indistinguishable from them. Often very manly looking men are homosexuals, and effeminate looking men are heterosexuals; feminine looking women are homosexuals, and masculine looking women are heterosexuals.

In any event, the terms "masculine" and "feminine" are culturally defined and vary from time to time and culture to culture. Though a small number of homosexual men and women do fit the stereotype picture of them,

there is absolutely no fool-proof way of identifying homosexuals unless they tell you that they are what they are.

Do homosexuals play sex roles?

For the most part role playing has become very unfashionable among homosexuals. At one time, since the only model available for homosexuals to base their relationships on was the heterosexual marriage in which there was a husband and wife, homosexuals tried to act out these respective roles. Now the tendency is simply for two people who love each other to get together and make a life for themselves.

A good relationship does not just happen, however, it is something that we must be prepared to work for, and that is true no matter what our sexuality may be.

Is homosexuality unnatural?

Kinsey is reputed to have said that the only unnatural act is one that you cannot perform.

It might be pointed out that anything "created" by human beings — clothes, houses, airplanes, etc. — is "unnatural". Society is no way prepares us for all the emotions and appetites that we will experience in life, and for its own ends society sets up taboos against certain kinds of behavior.

The fact is that homosexuality exists among mammals, and a sexual urge felt by an animal is acted upon by that animal with any other animal of its species that is available, regardless of the sex of the other animal.

As far as we know homosexuality has existed among human beings in all times and all places, and the attitudes toward it have varied from extreme approval to extreme disapproval. Nature did not intend anything. People impute motives to nature that nature could not have, so that all notions of natural and unnatural are philosophical, rather than scientific, and most of them have theological implications.

The Judeo-Christian tradition had sanctions against any kind of

sexual activity that was not intended to beget children. At the time when this tradition began it was absolutely essential for the survival of the people that as many babies as possible be produced. We do not need so many children now. The world is over-populated, so the basis for the biblical prohibitions no longer exists, and a great many passages in the Bible are being re-interpreted in the light of modern circumstances and a new emphasis on existence in this world.

Do homosexuals molest children?

There is a study being done now on that subject, but to our knowledge there is certainly no more, and probably less, child molestation committed by homosexuals than by heterosexuals. It causes a greater uproar, however, if a homosexual molests a little boy than if a heterosexual molests a little girl.

The vast majority of homosexuals prefer to relate to their contemporaries, and homosexuals are no more inclined to force their attentions on others than heterosexuals are. This fear of child-molestation is rooted in the erroneous assumption that homosexuality is learned, and that the child might be taught to be a homosexual.

How many homosexuals are there?

Nobody can give a truly accurate answer to that question because it is impossible to do a head count of an entire population. It is also impossible to guarantee the truth of the replies from all the people who are counted. The current statistics estimate that anywhere from 3 per cent to 10 per cent of the adult population is predominantly

homosexual. It is a sizable number in any case, found the world over.

Is homosexuality legal in Canada?

Yes!

Homosexual acts are legal in private between two (and only two) consenting adults, twenty-one or more years of age.

What is the legal position of the homosexual in Canada?

Let us start out by stating, very clearly, that it has never been illegal to be a homosexual in Canada.

In 1969 the law was changed to permit consenting heterosexual or homosexual adults (over the age of twenty-one) to commit acts of "Gross Indecency" in private.

Heterosexual couples, under the age of twenty-one, who are legally married to one another, are exempted from the age provision noted above.

Fellatio or cunnilingus (oral contact with the male or female sex organs) has been adjusted to be Gross Indecency, as has touching or manipulating another consenting person's genitals. This is an indictable offense.

Section 153 (part 2) of the criminal code states (2) (a): "An act shall be deemed not to have been committed in private if it is committed in a public place or if more than two persons take part or are present."

This is an abridged version of a pamphlet compiled and edited by members of the Community Homophile Association of Toronto (CHAT).

Copies of this pamphlet and other gay publications can be obtained by writing CHAT, 223 Church St., Toronto, Ontario M5B 121 or call Keith at 455-4787.

Brewery develops plan to woo working class

HAMILTON (CUP) — Carling-O'Keefe Breweries is trying to convince union members to support the South African controlled company because of its treatment of Canadian workers president Wilmot Tennyson told a business administration class at Mohawk College recently.

Workers and students buy the bulk of the beer in Canada.

Tennyson detailed the plan to woo the working class. The three part program includes:

No more layoffs after two year's seniority. Workers who would otherwise be laid off in a work shortage would be sent into the community to help with special projects for citizens while receiving full pay from Carling-O'Keefe. According to Tennyson, every employee would, in fact, be a company representative.

Time clocks are being done away with to make the worker feel the company puts more trust in his/her efforts. The company president's number is also distributed to all employees and the worker is "welcome to call the president if he has ideas for improving the company".

When Carling-O'Keefe has "proved itself right internally", the effect will spread to other workers, Tennyson believes. He feels union men outside the company will recognize that it (sic) deserves their support for its labor policies. He did not comment on the labor policies of its parent South African company, however.

Carling O'Keefe is owned by Rothman's of Pall Mall Canada Ltd. which, in turn is controlled by Rembrandt Tobacco Corporation of South Africa.



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