

Exploring Same Sex Attraction with a missional perspective

Rev. Dr. Ann Gillies

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1. What does God's word say about sexual sin?
2. What is the truth about SSA?
3. What is the mission of the church?

1. What does God's word say

Romans 1:21

When we fail to glorify God; our thinking becomes futile
Our foolish hearts are darkened

Romans 3:22 – 24

Righteousness from God
comes **through faith**
in Jesus Christ to all who believe.
There is no difference

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God
and are **justified freely** through **the redemption**
That came from Christ Jesus

The mission of Jesus

To seek and save the lost

***Impacted by SSA 39yrs. Studied it for 20 years**

Ex husband physical and sexual abuse at his hands; boyfriends
Son's story LGBT community for 10 years. Out for 10 years.

The truth is we live in a

- sexually **confused** society!
- **Morality** in our society is **scoffed** at.

- **Sexual expression** of any kind – no matter **the cost is applauded.**
- bombarded by confusing pronouncements of ‘**born that way**’,

Slide What youth are pressured to believe

*Sex is a **human right** (not a privilege of marriage)
 Any attempt to restrict sexual expression is **discrimination and oppressive**
 Sex is seen as **entertainment**
 You can be any ‘gender’ you want*

Slide Pornography

90% of boys & **80%** of girls
 have accessed some type of Porn
 by the age of **18**

Average age of beginning on this slippery **slope is 12**
10% of Christian men
 Are addicted to Porn

2. **What is the truth SSA?**

THE topic of

homosexuality, bi-sexuality; transgender

- **sexual fluidity** in whatever form it manifests, is **important**
- **affects the lives** of human beings who experience it
- **impacts family and friends.**

There’s a difference between have Same Sex Attraction thoughts
 and acting on them.

What is frightening in our culture is that such **thoughts are not discouraged** and
 acting on such thoughts is encouraged...

Sow a thought; reap an action
Sow an action; reap a habit
Sow a habit; reap a character
Sow a character; reap a destiny

Steven Covey

It begins in the mind; as a thought.

Same-sex attraction includes *any desire* toward another individual of the *same gender*, in reality or fantasy, that may involve erotic feelings, sexually charged sensations or a *strong preoccupation* with *nonsexual physical* affection such as being held, hugged, casually touched or cuddled.

Hallman 2008

The presence of SSA does *not preclude the presence of opposite-sex attraction* or behaviors.

What is sexual orientation?

American Psychological Association describes **sexual orientation** as:
“an enduring pattern of attraction, behavior, emotion, identity and social contacts”

Terms such as:

lesbian, gay men, bisexual men and bisexual women are preferred by people **who identify** this way.

This is where the acronym- LGBT comes from

No longer is same-sex behaviour something we do
... it **has become who we are~!**

The **percentage** that **identify as LGTB** is approx. **3** percent in total. NOT 10%.

There are now an *increasing* number of youth who are *experimenting* with SS behavior; but the # *identifying* as LGBT has remained *steady at 3%* for several decades.

According to **Stats Canada 2011** – only **0.8 percent** of all couples were same-sex
And only 1% identified as SS; while 1% identified as Bi-sexual

Despite these stats, a recent 2011 gallop poll of over 1000 Americans, believe that a **whopping 25%** of the population is gay or lesbian!

And... Contrary to *popular belief* – homosexuals (gay/lesbian) are **not born** that way

no one knows what really causes SSA and the behaviour of homosexuality
Past studies searching for a gay gene have **NOT been validated**
NO scientifically validated evidence

Most studies show a significant combination of
deep trauma wounds:

such as exposure to violence abuse; parental relationships
insecure attachment to parents;
rejection of birth gender
and trauma in the womb;
generational transmission (**as in family**)

*(experiences of child sexual abuse
triples likelihood of later homosexual behavior)*

Laumann, Gagnon, Michael, & Michaels (1994)

CSA is associated with a number of *long-term effects*,
including those related to *sexual health*

(Roller, Martsof, Draucker, & Ross, 2009).

A **2009 study** found the majority of *participants felt CSA influenced*
how they came to *view themselves* as sexual beings,
experiencing shame, confusion and low self-esteem
in regard to their sexuality (p.53)

and *questioned* whether the abuse accounted for *their sexual problems*,
contributed to their sexual orientation or caused their relationship and intimacy
issues (p. 55).

Roller, Martsof, Draucker, & Ross, 2009

29% of adult children of homosexual parents report molestation by parent
Compared to 0.6% of adult children of heterosexual parents!!!

Complex trauma is definitely prevalent in the lives of SSA individuals.
Truly this population has *experienced deep brokenness and pain*

This is the place where we begin to *understand the need to understand!*
This is the place **of grace!**

We have all **experienced the sexual brokenness** at some level. Many believer's have been able, with surrender to God to

Bring *every thought into the captivity* of Christ
And therefore *avoid the devastating* results of acting out our thoughts.

For those of us who have acted... *once or 1000* times;
Christ holds out his hand of *grace and truth* to us...
As he held it for the *woman caught* in adultery

The grace and truth of God's word can bring us to our *knees in obedience*;
Or *harden our hearts*

What happens **if we don't surrender sexual thoughts** to Christ?

We reap and action
If we continue
We reap a habit
If we continue
We reap a character

And if we sow this character we reap a sexual destiny

*Let me show you what **this destiny** looks like*

Slide *sexual exposure*

In the realm of Gay and Lesbian behaviour... addictive qualities

- *Modal (most occurring) range for number of life time partners – 100-500*
- *15% had between 500 & 1, 000*
- *10.2 to 15.7% reported having had more than 1,000 partners*

- *Modal for Lesbian partners – 6-10*
- *7.6% had between 26 and 50*
- *3.4% had over 50 partners*

Average lifespan 42 years of a gay man. Experimentation and abuse is rampant in this community!

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- **Average number of lifetime partners for heterosexual men – 7**
- **Average number of lifetime partners for heterosexual women – 4**

Autostraddle (2013)

You've heard the saying... **sex begins in the mind?**
 It sure does and if we **dwell on impure thoughts**
 we will reap and impure harvest
 Spirt, soul and body!

McWhiter and Mattison authors of *The Male Couple* (themselves gay)

Indicate in a study of **156 males** in homosexual relations,
none of the couples with a relationship lasting
more than 5 years were monogamous.

*They consider **promiscuity to be definitional** to male homosexuality*

A German sexologist, (also homosexual) says **fidelity** between homosexual men living in a committed relationship is a **myth**.

3. **What is the mission of the church**

We need to *filled with love and armed with truth*

Wounded and broken People are messy!!! Sexual temptation is life long –

Galations 6

*Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin,
 you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently.*

But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted.

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

How are we to respond? Speaking the truth in love!
Uncompromised truth!

My son in **LGBT** lifestyle;

Love them, but *don't affirm* their behavior.

i.e. – no sleeping together in our home!

We've allowed the ways of **our culture** to dictate **our lives...**

STAND UP for truth.

The Christian church in Canada has **become so diluted** it is no longer attractive!

If you don't stand for something you'll fall for anything!

So how can we remain free of sexual sin...

Slide How can an young man (or woman)

How could the woman caught in Adultery *go and sin no more?*
The way of the **Cross** = death to self.

Here's the question:

Does my behaviour **honour the Creator's** plan for human sexuality?

Slide I Corinthians 6:19

*Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit,
who is in you; whom you have received from God
You are not your own; you were bought with a price!*

Our **identity is in Christ** – not our sexuality

Slide Romans 12:1-2 read!

Slide Matthew 16:24

Then Jesus said to His disciples,
If anyone **desires to come after me**, and follow me
Let him deny himself,
Take up **his cross**
And follow me!

Your **HISTORY** need not determine your **DESTINY!**

**Church we need to repent from our sexual sin;
We need to repent of our attitudes;
We need to repent of our failure to stand for truth~
We need to repent of our laziness
WE need to turn from our wicked ways;
embrace the cross;
surrender ourselves – body, soul and spirit
to the Lord Jesus**

How are we set free?

By denying our own selfish desires

By no longer conforming to the pattern of this world

Come to the Cross!

And BE TRANSFORMED

As you come to the altar today!

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