

# Health Risks

## HIV/AIDS

Reporting in 2008, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimated over 56,000 people in the U.S. became infected with HIV in 2006. By the end of that year, over 1.1 million in the U.S. lived with HIV/AIDS, including undiagnosed cases. With 37 states reporting to the CDC, 13- to 24-year-old Men having Sex with Men (MSM) had the greatest percentage of increase in diagnoses of HIV infection from 2005 to 2008 and exceeded the number of diagnoses among those aged 45-54 by 2005.

"Gay, bisexual, and other [MSM] represent approximately 2 [percent] of the US population, yet are the population most severely affected by HIV and are the only risk group in which new HIV infections have been increasing steadily since the early 1990s," according to the CDC. "In 2007, MSM were 44 to 86 times as likely to be diagnosed with HIV compared with other men, and 40 to 77 times as likely as women." "Among those who were infected [in 2008,] nearly half (44 percent) were unaware of their HIV status," the CDC said.

## OTHER HEALTH RISKS\*

Infectious hepatitis (A&B), multiple bowel and other infectious diseases, Syphilis and Human Papilloma Virus (HPV), Genital warts, Herpes, Gonorrhea, & other viral and non-viral STDs.

## CONDOM INFORMATION

In 2003, the CDC said, "No barrier methods for use during oral sex have been evaluated as effective by the FDA." In 2007, the Surgeon General said, "Condoms provide some protection, but anal intercourse is simply too dangerous to practice."

The condom industry claims a 98 percent effective rate for proper vaginal condom use. This rate does not, apply to anal or oral sex.

The New York County District Branch Task Force on Homosexuality concurred without question that societal rejection damages those who are rejected. However, if all criminal discrimination were to stop today and the punitive laws against homosexuals were repealed immediately...the homosexual 's inner anxieties would still not be eliminated.

"The Annals of Homosexuality," <http://www.narth.com/docs/annals.html> (July 27, 2009)

A 2001 Netherlands study in the Archives of General Psychiatry reports that "psychiatric disorders (including mood disorders, anxiety disorders, and substance abuse disorders) were more prevalent among homosexually active people compared with heterosexually active people" even though, as the authors admit, "Compared to other Western countries, the Dutch social climate toward homosexuality has long been, and remains, considerably more tolerant." (Sandfort et al. "Same-sex Sexual Behavior and Psychiatric Disorders: Findings from the Netherlands Mental Health Survey and Incidence Study NEMESIS," Archives of General Psychiatry 58:85-91, 2001.)

\* Health Implications Associated with Homosexuality"  
Medical Institute of Sexual Health (1999).

J. Santinover, M.D., Homosexuality and the Politics of Truth,  
(Grand Rapids, MI; Baker Books, 1996), p.51

T.E. Schmidt, "Straight & Narrow? Compassion & Clarity  
in the Homosexuality Debate", p. 121.

"U.S. Syphilis Rate Rises, Worrying Health Officials",  
Washington Post, (November 1, 2002)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

# Can Sexual Orientation CHANGE?

**Ex-Gays  
prove that  
homosexuals  
*can* and *do*  
change to a  
heterosexual  
orientation!**



Parents and Friends of Ex-Gays & Gays (PFOX)

A nonprofit organization supporting families  
and the ex-gay community.

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# Homosexuality

Some American Psychiatric  
and Psychological Association  
Members Support Change

## SEXUAL ORIENTATION

is a combination of sexual attractions/feelings and behavior associated with those feelings. It is a developmental process not genetically determined. There is no medical test for a "gay gene."

## SEXUAL REORIENTATION

is changing one's attractions/feelings from gay or bisexual to heterosexual.

## CHANGING ORIENTATION

supports an individual's objective to change his or her orientation from gay or bisexual to heterosexual.

## TRANSGENDER OR GENDER IDENTITY DISORDER (GID)

is a broad term that refers to someone whose gender expression differs from their actual sex, such as transvestites, drag queens, cross-dressers, and transsexuals. Transgenderism is a mental disorder according to the American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic & Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Edition (2000), and is treatable with therapy to affirm one's biological gender.

## LESS THAN 3% OF THE POPULATION IS HOMOSEXUAL

"2.8 percent of the male, and 1.4% of the female, population identify themselves as gay, lesbian, or bisexual." (2003 Amicus Curiae brief filed with the U.S. Supreme Court in *Lawrence v. Texas*, 123 S. Ct. 2472, by a coalition of 31 gay activist groups.)

## GAY GENE AND DNA STUDIES

According to the American Psychiatric Association, there are "no replicated scientific studies supporting any specific biological etiology [cause] for homosexuality." (2000) And according to the American Psychological Association, "Although much research has examined the possible genetic, hormonal, developmental, social, and cultural influences on sexual orientation, no findings have emerged that permit scientists to conclude that sexual orientation is determined by any particular factor or factors." (2008)

In the identical-twin study in 2000 by Dr. Michael Bailey, et. al., with at least 5,000 participants, 20 percent of homosexual men had a twin brother who was also gay, while 24 percent of lesbian women had a twin who was also gay. Thus 80 percent of gay men and 76 percent of lesbian women had an identical twin that was heterosexual, suggesting an environmental component in the development of sexual feelings and identity. These identical twins were reared together. (Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, 78, 524-536) In the famous 1991 "gay gene" study reported in Science magazine, researcher Dr. Simon LeVay, a homosexual, said, "It's important to stress what I didn't find. I did not prove that homosexuality is genetic, or find a genetic cause for being gay. I didn't show that gay men are born that way, the most common mistake people make in interpreting my work. Nor did I locate a gay center in the brain..."

In a July 1993 gay-gene study reported in Science magazine, researcher Dr. Dean Hammer, a homosexual, formerly of the National Institute of Health (NIH), said, "These genes do not cause people to become homosexuals..."

## EX-GAYS PROVE THAT CHANGE IS POSSIBLE

I lived as a lesbian and as a transgender for over 30 years; then I found a way out. I've been living a heterosexual life for over 20 years, proving change is possible. -- Marjorie

As a questioning teen, I was told that I was born gay. I later found out that no one is born gay and change is possible, so I chose to pursue change. Today as an adult I help questioning youth overcome unwanted same-sex attractions. -- Charlie

According to the American Psychological Association, "mental health organizations call on their members to respect a person's right to self-determination." (Answers to Your Questions for a Better Understanding of Sexual Orientation and Homosexuality, APA, 2008)

Dr. Robert L. Spitzer, According to the American Psychological Association, "mental health organizations call on their members to respect a person's right to self-determination." (Answers to Your Questions for a Better Understanding of Sexual Orientation and Homosexuality, APA, 2008). He added, "It is often said that those who try to change their sexual orientation become very depressed as a result. That was not the case for subjects of this study. There was in fact a marked decline in depression after their effort to change." (Archives of Sexual Behavior, Vol. 38, No. 5, October 2003, p 403. 200 subjects, 143 men and 57 women, were personally interviewed by Dr. Spitzer.)

Dr. E. Mark Stern, Ed. D., APA Fellow and Professor Emeritus of the Graduate Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Iona College N.Y. -- "Significantly, the American Psychological Association did admit [at its August 2001 conference] that there was no body of evidence to prove that reorientation therapies are harmful." (NARTH)

Dr. Douglas Haldeman, a homosexual, at the 2000 American Psychological Association meeting, said, "There appear to be many dissatisfied homosexually-oriented individuals who seek psychological or spiritual intervention to achieve a goal they identify as a change in sexual orientation... [Some]...particularly those who have experienced less invasive styles of conversion therapy, seem not have been affected adversely."

In 2002 he said, "The reason that the (APA 1998) Resolution on Appropriate Therapeutic Responses to Sexual Orientation does not ban conversion therapy outright is that the same arguments for diversity and autonomy can be used to support those who seek to change their sexual orientation..." (Gays, Patient Rights: The Implications of Sexual Orientation Conversion Therapy, Professional Psychology: Research & Practice, Vol. 33, No. 3, 260-264, 2002.)

No one is born "gay." There is no scientific or DNA test to determine if an individual is homosexual. Sexual orientation is a matter of self-affirmation and public declaration.

