

It's not that feminism has co-opted homosexuality or vice versa; both are the inevitable consequence of a failure to adhere to the higher vision of the union of the sexes that lies at the heart of the Judeo-Christian tradition. Absent that vision, sex as a naked, despiritualized sort of pleasure will join with the natural difference of interests between the sexes to reinforce their opposition and thereby destroy the family.

Feminism is not really a political movement and homosexuality is not really about sex. They are each merely different symptoms of the same profound spiritual malaise which is now spreading throughout the culture.

Q. What do you think of the homosexual drive for political "minority status," and is that justified?

A. No, it is not justified because homosexuality is changeable. On the other hand, there is no question that people who have identified themselves as homosexuals for either all or part of their lives are subject to irrational and vicious personal attacks. There is no place for that in civilized society. There is a clear distinction between being properly opposed to the gay activists agenda and being improperly opposed to people who wrestle with their sexual problems.

Q. Increasingly, one hears that there is not only heterosexuality, homosexuality, and bisexuality, but now we are told that there is an "entire spectrum of sexual orientations."

Does the concept "sexual orientation" mean anything, that is: Is heterosexuality merely an "orientation," one of potentially many and on the same footing as others? Or is the phrase just nonsense?

A. There is no such thing as sexual orientation of any sort. The genetic structures that underlie human behavior include a very complex set of physiological responses that constitute biological sexuality. Those physiological mechanisms can be triggered under innumerable circumstances. The human mind, however, rooted in the brain, is subject to an almost infinite degree of plasticity in the ways that it will symbolize experience.

Under the right circumstances, for human beings in contrast to animals, whose nervous systems are far more "rigid," almost anything can become sexualized and therefore become a symbolic stimulus to sexual response.

When I hear the phrase "sexual orientation," I think, "There's another 'stop thought' meant to paralyze reason."

Q. Sometimes we hear of young people being encouraged to "dabble" in homosexual relationships to discover their "orientation." Can a person casually experiment or dabble in homosexuality in young adult years with immunity from psychological effects?

A. There are two issues here. First: Someone with a relatively healthy upbringing who has not been badly hurt by early experiences could experiment with any variant of sexuality without its leading to a more-or-less permanent habit of one sort or another.

However, someone whose early upbringing was filled with a certain kind of suffering is at risk of discovering a seemingly attractive but false form of comfort for that suffering in various "perverse" forms of sexual expression. They are at risk.

There is a larger question, one which has been almost entirely lost from our understanding of human nature. It is a fact that the first sexual experiences have a dramatic impact in shaping certain expectations about what one's sexual experience is and should be. For instance, early exposure to pornographic images, especially if coupled with masturbation, can diminish the capacity of an individual imperfect real person.

This can produce subtle, even imperceptible, impediments to intimacy.

Q. How do you view the attempts of the homosexual image creators to establish the victimhood status of homosexuals, exemplified by the symbol of the pink triangle? Do you see homosexuals as victims?

A. Oftentimes, homosexuals have been victims of horrific childhood experiences. One study examined over 1,000 homosexual men and found more than 40% were subjected to childhood sexual molestation. It is also true that people who wrestle with homosexuality or identify themselves or are perceived as homosexuals are treated with contempt and cruelty.

The important thing is for the individual wrestling with homosexuality not to become fixated on the idea of victim status as a false compensation for what he or she really wants: a kind of fulfillment that can only be found in deep, rich, marital, and family intimacy.

On the political side, there is no doubt that with great savvy and understanding of mass psychology, gay activists, like feminist activists before them, like socialist revolutionaries before them, and like French revolutionaries before them, have found in the coupling of victim status to political agitation an extremely potent instrument to disrupt the social order.

Q. To what extent do you see homosexuality leading to sadism and masochism, especially among younger people, typified by piercing, tattooing, scarifying, branding, and other acts of mutilation?

A. I wouldn't say that homosexuality per se leads to these other things; it's that A) once certain sexual taboos are overthrown, everything becomes permissible; and B) for those people whose early experiences of deprivation have been linked to much pain there can develop a progressively worsening addiction to ever-more extreme forms of sexual stimulation.

Such a psychological configuration is going to be found more commonly among people who have broken sexual taboos of any sort.

Q. Are homosexuals more inclined to engage in pedophilia and pederasty than heterosexuals, and are lesbians prone to that behavior?

A. Lesbians are not prone to that behavior, and are much less prone to it than heterosexuals. Pedophilia is almost exclusive to males. Among males, pedophilia is at least three, and perhaps as much as 11, times more frequent among homosexuals males than heterosexual males.

Activists correctly point out that the majority of pedophiles are heterosexuals, but this is because homosexual males constitute less than one thirty-third of the male population. A recent issue of the Journal of Homosexuality, published by prominent activist, devoted an entire issue to the debate among gay activists as to the degree to which pedophilia is a core component of the homosexual worldview.

Q. In your recent book, you write of the opposing views toward homosexuality among Orthodox Jews and Christians and liberal Jews and Christians. How do you explain the dramatic shift in support of homosexuality within Christianity, and especially in the Catholic Church in the United States and Canada, as also among Reformed Jews?

A. The former is no more genuine Christianity than the latter is genuine Judaism. Paganism has always embraced polysexuality.

Q. What are the major implications of the homosexualists infiltration of the churches?

A. I would view this phenomenon as a symptom rather than as a primary event. It reveals the complete lack of confidence in

the Judeo-Christian understanding of reality.

Q. In many Catholic dioceses, pro-homosexual pastoral ministers and others are trying to make parishes "gay and lesbian welcoming" or "inclusive." What effect do you think that will have on parishioners and on Christianity in general?

A. The whole concept of inclusivity is a bit of propaganda right out of 1984. First, the term automatically implies without stating so that anyone opposed to the agenda pointed to by the word is of necessity "exclusive."

It destroys their faith. Because they know perfectly well, either via "natural law" or via their familiarity with Scripture, or simply through common tradition, that something is not right in what they are being told. The only way that they can make peace with this contradiction is either by repudiating the false leadership or by repudiating what their hearts tell them.

Q. What do you think will be the impact on young children of gay and lesbian celebrations in Catholic churches, on children who will see homosexuals and lesbians at church, social functions, in schools, and so on?

A. Anything that normalizes homosexuality will increase confusion about sexuality and sexual roles, will distance future adults from the traditional model of the family, and will increase the likelihood of vulnerable youngsters, those of a certain kind of background, to pursue, either temporarily or permanently, homosexual.

Q. What effect do you think AIDS education has on young children?

A. Its chief impact is to desensitize children to boundaries which were previously considered taboo. AIDS education among at-risk populations has been going on for 15 years now, and yet epidemiologists have confirmed in independent studies around the country that the incidence of "unsafe sex" reached a bottom about six years ago and has been climbing steadily upward ever since.

Unsafe sexual practices were never reduced by more than 50%. This is touted as a success, but when dealing with a fatal illness, it is actually a terrible failure.

Right now, 30% of all 20-year-old young men who consider themselves homosexual will either be HIV positive or dead of AIDS by the time they are 30, according to these studies. And yet, the success rate for homosexual change—in spite of the absence of a coordinated national effort to identify the causes of homosexuality and to help people overcome it—is greater than 50%. That is to say, as or more successful than change rates produced by "safe sex" and AIDS education.

SALUTE TO ALVIN BROWN

HON. BILL EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mr. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to a dedicated and tireless public servant, Mr. Alvin Brown. Mr. Brown is the former director for community development with the Department of Agriculture. In this capacity, he oversaw the Empowerment Zone and Enterprise Community Program for the administration and worked to ensure that designated communities had the necessary assistance and know-how available to them.

I am delighted to take just a minute to highlight the significant contributions that Mr. Brown has given as Director of the EZ/EC

Program. His service to my constituents in the Eighth Congressional District of Missouri and to countless other communities was the embodiment of public service at its finest! Alvin, we greatly appreciate your commitment to bettering America's small communities.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit for inclusion into the RECORD a copy of a letter sent to the President and Agriculture Secretary Glickman from myself and Mr. DE LA GARZA recognizing the achievements of Alvin Brown.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 17, 1996.

The PRESIDENT,
The White House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: We are writing to express our sincere appreciation for the work and accomplishments of Mr. Alvin Brown in his capacity as Director for Community Development with the Department of Agriculture. As Director of this office, Mr. Brown administered the Empowerment Zone and Enterprise Community Program set forth by your Administration with great distinction and effectiveness. His assistance and expertise were extremely important to many communities including the ones designated in our respective Congressional districts.

Throughout his tenure as Director, Mr. Brown traveled extensively throughout the designated communities to provide technical assistance and creative solutions to the tasks at hand. His services were particularly valuable to rural areas such as the ones that we represent. Speaking from first-hand experience in working with Mr. Brown, he provided an invaluable service to our constituents as they sought to work through the guidelines of their new designation. He personally took the time to visit our respective Enterprise Communities and has continued to offer guidance for enhancing economic development opportunities.

Alvin Brown is an exemplary public servant. As Members of Congress with newly designated Enterprise Communities in our district, we are mindful and greatly appreciative of the efforts put forth by Mr. Brown.

Sincerely,

BILL EMERSON,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Department
Operations, Nutrition, and Foreign
Agriculture.

E (KIKI) DE LA GARZA,
Ranking Democrat,
House Committee on Agriculture.

CONGRATULATIONS VENICE HIGH
STUDENTS ON NATIONAL
SCIENCE BOWL VICTORY

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, as a kindergarten-through-high school graduate of the Los Angeles Unified School District, I am particularly proud to congratulate five LA Unified students from my district who recently won the prestigious National Science Bowl contest.

Noah Bray-Ali, David Dickinson, Le My Hoang, Candice Kamachi, and Christopher Mayor, all students at Venice High School, claimed a first place victory earlier this month in this contest, which tests students' knowledge of computer science, biology, physics, chemistry, and other topics in a grueling 2 day competition. The contest is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy.

As a member of both the Science and National Security Committees of the House, I have a keen appreciation for the value of science education. It is clear from the hearings these committees convene on the challenges facing our Nation in the 21st century that our future economic prosperity and security depend on cutting-edge scientific advancements. And, in order to make those advancements, we need to continue to teach and train students who will become our future scientists and engineers. I am pleased that Venice High and other schools in LA Unified are prepared to fill that need.

The Venice High students faced many obstacles in their way to victory. They competed against 54 other high schools from around the Nation representing 39 different States. Most amazingly, they successfully competed even though they started their school year without a physics teacher and had to rely on self-discipline and the help of a substitute teacher for the first few months of the school year.

In addition, these students faced many of the challenges students everywhere face as a result of dwindling resources and the sometimes dangerous atmosphere that students encounter on their way to school. Venice High has, in recent years, experienced problems with gang violence, but with strong support from family and teachers, the students have been able to pursue their goal of academic excellence.

I also wish to congratulate Coach Richard Erdman, and Walter Zeisle of the Department of Water and Power, whose agency generously sponsored the student's trip to Washington.

A TRIBUTE TO THE MOTHERS OF
ST. PAUL AME CHURCH

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, this weekend mothers all over the country will be honored. On Saturday, in my district, a special tribute is being paid to the mothers of the St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church in East Orange, NJ, pastored by the Reverend Donald C. Luster.

In the African-American community, our female elders are honored with the title of mother. The women being honored by St. Paul's are all at least 80 years old and have served their families, our community, and the church faithfully for many, many years. These women have seen history in the making. They have made sacrifices so that others would be better off.

Our communities were better off because of women like these who treated all children like their own. It was not unusual for "Miss Rose" to reprimand you for something you did wrong and then tell your mother about it when she came home from work. These women were the strength of our communities. In many cases, they were, and still are, our salvation.

Mr. Speaker, reading the biographies of these women is like reading a copy of Who's Who. The group contains business owners, educators, a nurse, those active in politics, and seamstresses but most important, they are all mothers. They are mothers who love

their children, their grandchildren, their great grandchildren, and their great-great grandchildren. And all of these children love them.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure my colleagues will join me as I offer my best wishes to all mothers, especially to the honorees—Mrs. Ophelia Love Achoe, Mrs. Armeller Brown, Mrs. Lucretia F. Counts, Mrs. Edith Cowan, Mrs. Ethel Green, Mrs. Alma Powell Gamble, Mrs. Alma Jones, Mrs. Luella Powell Koonce, Mrs. Era Worthy, Mrs. Florence V. Luster, Mrs. Daisy Tolliver—and their families.

THE HOPE FOR AMERICA

HON. ROBERT K. DORNAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mr. DORNAN. Mr. Speaker, here are words of wisdom to save our souls.

THE HOPE FOR AMERICA

Remarks by Dr. Billy Graham, Congressional Gold Medal Presentation, Capitol Rotunda, Washington, DC, Thursday, May 2, 1996

Mr. Vice President; Speaker Newt Gingrich; Majority Leader Bob Dole; Senator Strom Thurmond; Members of the House of Representatives and the Senate; distinguished guests and friends.

Ruth and I are overwhelmed by the very kind words that have been spoken today, and especially by the high honor you have just bestowed on both of us. It will always be one of the high points of our lives, and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for this unforgettable event. We are grateful for all of you in the Senate and House who have had a part in it; and President Clinton for his support in signing the resolution.

As we read the list of distinguished Americans who have received the Congressional Gold Medal in the past—beginning with George Washington in 1776—we know we do not belong in the same company with them, and we feel very unworthy. One reason is because we both know this honor ought to be shared with those who have helped us over the years—some of whom are here today. As a young boy I remember gazing at that famous painting of Washington crossing the Delaware. Only later did it occur to me that Washington did not get across that river by himself. He had the help of others—and that has been true of us as well. Our ministry has been a team effort, and without our associates and our family we never could have accomplished anything.

I am especially grateful my wife Ruth and I are BOTH being given this honor. No one has sacrificed more than Ruth has, or been more dedicated to God's calling for the two of us.

However, I would not be here today receiving this honor if it were not for an event that happened to me many years ago as a teenager on the outskirts of Charlotte, North Carolina. An evangelist came through our town for a series of meetings. I came face-to-face with the fact that God loves me, Billy Graham, and had sent His Son to die for my sin. He told how Jesus rose from the dead to give us hope of eternal life.

I never forgot a verse of Scripture that was quoted, "As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name" (John 1:12, KJV). That meant that I must respond to God's offer of mercy and forgiveness. I had to repent of my own sins and receive Jesus Christ by faith.

When the preacher asked people to surrender their lives to Christ, I responded. I had little or no emotion; I was embarrassed to stand with a number of other people when I