

## Sin Saturated Counseling Conversations

After six university degrees between us, with one being a doctorate in educational psychology, the two of us concluded that psychotherapy was a hoax being perpetrated on the American public. The doctorate in educational psychology from the University of Colorado qualified one of us for the Clinical Psychologist license in California, which was never applied for. Some years later the president of the Association for Humanistic Psychology, Dr. Lawrence LeShan, said: "Psychotherapy may be known in the future as the greatest hoax of the twentieth century."<sup>1</sup> It may eventually be recognized as one of the greatest heresies of modern-day Christianity.

### Biblical Counseling Movement

One of the key reasons we left the biblical counseling movement (BCM) years ago is its problem-centeredness, which often involves sinful talk about problems in a manner similar to those in the psychological counseling movement.<sup>2</sup> **In fact, biblical counseling as conducted today is nowhere found in Scripture.** According to David Powlison, a leader in the BCM, biblical counseling as conducted in the BCM is newly arrived in the church.<sup>3</sup>

We reveal how the modern-day BCM came to be what it is by referring to Dr. Jay Adams, who developed the established biblical counseling format in

his 1970 book, *Competent to Counsel*, and thereby founded the movement. Adams set forth his methodology of counseling in his book. Adams later wrote: "Over the past 12 years I have worked assiduously to produce a body of literature in a field that, prior to that time, **virtually did not exist**: the field of biblical counseling"<sup>4</sup> (bold added). Since the day Adams birthed the BCM it has grown phenomenally. Fifty years ago there were no formalized biblical counseling programs and no formalized biblical counseling movement. Now there is a burgeoning biblical counseling movement with numerous and varied

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## SOC & the LGBT Agenda

SOC is an abbreviation for our book *The Sodomy of Christians: The Biblical View*.<sup>1</sup> In explaining our reasons for writing the book, we said at the time:

Over the past forty years of research, we have written 23 books and over 300 articles. However, until our two articles on the GRACE Report on Bob Jones University (BJU) were published, we had not written about homosexuality. We discovered that homosexuals internationally had joined hands to condemn BJU. The more we thought about this one seriously sinful and spiritually sick minority group and their mesmerizing of Americans, including many Christians, the more we were compelled to write about this subject.

An entry in Wikipedia is titled "List of Christian denominations affirming

LGBT [lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender]." First mentioned is the following statement: "Many Christian denominations do not consider homosexuality or transgender identity to be sins. These include entire religious denominations, as well as individual churches and congregations."

Prior to the list, it says: "The Evangelical Network is a network of evangelical churches, ministries and Christian Workers that are part of the LGBT community." This lengthy entry contains an extensive world-wide list of "Denominations," "Denomination-sanctioned programmes," "Unofficial Programmes," and "Programmes not affiliated with any particular denomination."

How did the church move away from a clear view of those who are involved in sodomy<sup>2</sup> to the acceptance of the entire LGBT agenda? O.R. Adams, in his book

*As We Sodomize America*, has a subtitle that describes a major facet of this transformation of the American culture. His subtitle is: *The Homosexual Movement and the Decline of Morality in America*. In his book he describes in detail a variety of homosexual practices with most of the book dealing with the relationship between the advancement of the homosexual agenda and the decline of morality. The back cover says that this book "exposes the homosexual agenda and the way propaganda has been used to gradually acclimate our society into viewing this 'alternative lifestyle' as acceptable."<sup>3</sup> Adams contends that "the homosexual movement is an integral part of the moral decline in this country."

### The Sexual Revolution

The Sexual Revolution of the 1960s through the 1980s dramatically decimated much of the traditional moral

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Dear Martin and Deidre,

Your ministry has really been a blessing to me. Just yesterday I met a girl who is going into Christian psychology training. I shared with her how all these man-made ideas of therapy never agree with each other, and if we are to really help people, we must just point them back to the truth in Scripture rather than seek to counsel them. Lots of what I'm sharing is gleaned from your PAM. So, so appreciated! Many, many thanks for all the research, and thanks for bringing understanding to the misleading influence Christians are being exposed to in the counseling movement.

Missionary to Africa

Hello, Bobgans,

Thank you so much for the *PsychoHeresy Awareness Letter* throughout the years. I thank God for your perseverance & diligence! You have helped immeasurably over the years by writing the truth for those who have eyes to see & ears to hear concerning Christian's being deceived by psychology's humanistic philosophies.

Many I have encountered over the years do not realize they are believing men's theories, not the Bible's truth. It is staggering! Many do not truly love God's precious Word enough to study to see the error. You are in my prayers!

Hawaii

Hi Martin and Deidre,

It has been a pleasure supporting the excellent PAM since the nineties, I believe. I have always found the newsletters and books most thought provoking

and fearless in tackling any subject the LORD has laid on your heart. My prayer is always for the message to become not just more widely known, but more widely believed in the church and in Christian media in particular.

May the LORD continue to richly bless and strengthen you to serve Him!  
Australia

Dear Bobgans,

My closest Christian friend recently asked me about the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, which he experienced at a leadership class conducted by an "industrial psychologist." Thanks to the incalculably valuable work you have posted on the PsychoHeresy Awareness website. I am giving him a copy of your article "The MBTI: Spiritual Deception."

This reminds me once again of the treasure lode of information you have amassed and generated and published and distributed through the years. God bless both of you for your ministry—your hard work, sacrifices, faithfulness, and loyalty to Jesus and all that He represents. You are an inspiration to the rest of us.  
Maine

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Bobgan,

I wanted to thank you for your new book. I really appreciate your continual efforts to expose the mixing of God's Word with the wisdom of the world. May God bless and strengthen you.

Texas

To PA Ministries,

First, let me say how much I appreciate the newsletters that you send in the mail, as we don't have the internet or email or even smart phones.

2<sup>nd</sup>, I can't begin to express how thankful I am for all the excellent information I've received from you over many years. If not for reading over and over again about the dangers of problem-centered counseling, I might not have

recognized the danger and sinfulness in it. It is not only not Biblical; it is sinful.  
California

Dear Martin & Deidre,

I want to thank you for your most recent book, *Biblical Counseling Reviews*. It serves well to encapsulate much of your previous work in a concise manner, providing a more comprehensive look at the effect of these counseling procedures than may be seen in them individually. And, your recent focus on the influence of the sexual revolution of the past few decades is a subject that cannot be ignored. I applaud your candor with the subject in your *Sodomy* book.

Prisoner

*Thank you for writing to us.  
We read every letter, even  
though we are not able to  
answer each one personally.*



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biblical counselors offering their services to Christians spread throughout much of the church — with its sinful problem-centered copycatting of the psychological counseling movement’s sinful problem-centeredness.

### Nouthetic Counseling

*The Case of the “Hopeless” Marriage* (hereafter, *The Case*) is authored by Dr. Jay E. Adams.<sup>7</sup> *The Case* is the *ne plus ultra* of nouthetic counseling. It is a perfect example of the nouthetic counseling approach originated by Adams. Therefore, **all who are trained to counsel nouthetically should desire to emulate this example, and all who train others in the nouthetic approach should hold up *The Case* as the epitome of what to copy.**

The back cover of *The Case* describes the book as follows:

*Here it is!*

You’ve heard about Nouthetic Counseling, and wondered what it’s like. People have told you all sorts of things—were they correct? Now you have the opportunity to judge for yourself. What you couldn’t do before, you now can do—**peek behind the closed door to see how a typical counseling case—from beginning to end—is conducted....**

Written by Dr. Jay E. Adams (a pastor, counselor, and author of many books), this book is a practical illustration of God’s solutions to our problems.<sup>8</sup> (Bold added).

The subtitle of *The Case* explains the contents: *A Nouthetic Counseling Case from Beginning to End*.

Our critique of *The Case of the “Hopeless” Marriage: A Nouthetic Counseling Case from Beginning to End* in our book *Biblical Counseling Reviews*<sup>9</sup> demonstrates that **nouthetic counseling**

**is not truly biblical “at every point.”** *The Case* has a biblical façade and some biblical content, but, with the amount of sinful, unscriptural conversations, it is not truly biblical “**at every point**” and is therefore seriously flawed.

In *Biblical Counseling Reviews* we clearly show that Adams’s ideal portrait of a counselor counseling a contrived couple to prove the success of nouthetic counseling fails to meet basic biblical standards of communication. The counselor does not protect the couple from violating Scripture and even encourages the kind of transparency that militates against biblical restraints. The counselee couple thoughtlessly and recklessly disobeys Scripture.

**In our recent book, *Biblical Counseling Reviews*, we discuss the sin-saturated, “in plain sight” nature of biblical counseling.**

We conclude our review of *The Case*, which demonstrates the conversational standard that Adams set for the modern-day biblical counseling movement, by saying:

Love should be the goal of all personal ministry: loving God and one another. Those who minister to couples need to protect them from the sin-saturated counseling conversations as revealed in *The Case!* which are tremendously unloving and unkind. **With all the sinful speaking enabled in *The Case*, it is apparent that *The Case of the “Hopeless” Marriage* is actually a case of hopeless counseling.**<sup>10</sup>

### “Hidden in Plain Sight”

We all know the expression “hidden in plain sight.” The idiomatic definition is “seemingly hidden, but actually not hidden and easy to find.” In our recent

book, *Biblical Counseling Reviews* (BCR), we discuss the sin-saturated, “in plain sight” nature of biblical counseling, which applies even more so to psychological counseling. Over the years we have named and exposed the sin-saturated counseling of both psychological and biblical counselors.

As we have said many times: The best way to recognize the unbiblical nature of psychological and biblical counseling is to read or hear and evaluate available literal, live (**not simply playacted**) counseling by using biblical standards. There one can see and hear how the counseling problems are discussed and what sinful conversations are actually involved.

In our writings over the years we have taken all the literal live counseling sessions of the leaders of the BCM that we could find and examined every word, every sentence, every expression, every emotion in the light of Scripture. We conclude that their counseling is contrary to the admonitions, prohibitions, and restrictions of the Word of God and is therefore sinful.

To Christians who support, promote, or practice either psychological or biblical counseling, **we continue to offer the following challenge: “Provide one live, literal (not enacted) psychological or biblical counseling session that does not violate Scripture.” To date no one has been able to provide one for us!**

### Endnotes

- 1 Lawrence LeShan, *Association for Humanistic Psychology*, October, 1984, p. 4.
- 2 Martin and Deidre Bobgan. *Person to Person Ministry: Soul Care in the Body of Christ*. Santa Barbara, CA: EastGate Publishers, 2009; *Stop Counseling! Start Ministering!* Santa Barbara, CA: EastGate Publishers, 2011.
- 3 David Powlison, “Cure of Souls (and the Modern Psychotherapies),” [www.ccef.org/cure-souls-and-modern-psychotherapies](http://www.ccef.org/cure-souls-and-modern-psychotherapies).

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## Ψ Psych Notes

**Psych Notes are selected from numerous articles from professional journals and other publications. The ones used are chosen for their possible interest to readers, but not necessarily because this ministry recommends them.**

### Personality Test Inaccuracy

**“How accurate are personality tests? Precious few personality assessments are known to be reliable, and researchers say their use outside academia is debatable.**

“If you’re looking for insight into the true you, there’s a buffet of personality questionnaires available. Some are silly—like the Internet quiz that tells everyone who takes it that they are procrastinators at the core. Other questionnaires, developed and sold as tools to help people hire the right candidate or find love, take themselves more seriously. .

“The trouble is, if you ask the experts, most of these might not be worth the money. ‘You should be skeptical,’ says Simine Vazire, a personality researcher at the University of California, Davis. ‘Until we test them scientifically we can’t tell the difference between that and pseudoscience like astrology.’

“One famous example of a popular but dubious commercial personality test is the Myers–Briggs Type Indicator. This questionnaire divides people into 16 different ‘types,’ and often the assessment will suggest certain career or romantic pairings. It costs \$15 to \$40 for an individual, but psychologists say the questionnaire is one of the worst personality tests in existence for a wide range of reasons. It is unreliable because a person’s type may change from day to day. It gives false information (‘bogus stuff,’ one researcher puts it). The questions are confusing and poorly worded.

Vazire sums it up as “shockingly bad” (excerpted from Angus Chen, “How Accurate Are Personality Tests?” *Scientific American Mind*, Jan-Feb, 2019, pp. 8-9, [mind.scientificamerican.com](http://mind.scientificamerican.com)).

### APA’s War on Masculinity

“The American Psychological Association now claims that ‘traditional masculinity is psychologically harmful.’ ‘The main thrust of the subsequent research is that traditional masculinity—marked by stoicism, competitiveness, dominance and aggression—is, on the whole, harmful,’ the APA claims. Its new guidelines insist that, gender refers to psychological, social, and cultural experiences and characteristics associated with the social statuses of girls and women or boys and men.’ If gender is just a state of mind, then masculinity easily becomes a mental illness. That is what happens when the inmates run the APA’s asylum” (excerpted from “American Psychological Association,” [frontpagemag.com](http://frontpagemag.com), 1/8/19, quoted by Friday Church News Notes, 1/19/8/19, Way of Life, <https://www.wayoflife.org/pdf/20190118.pdf>).

### Suicide Interview

“**Leigh Jones**, News Editor: More than 47,000 Americans took their own lives in 2017. Government records show the nation’s suicide rate is the highest it’s been in at least 50 years. And that’s not an anomaly. Joseph Guthrie is a psychiatrist who practices in Virginia. He’s watched the suicide rate steadily rise since 1999.

“**Guthrie**: And despite all our best efforts in psychiatry to research these causes, to improve access to mental healthcare, early detection and treatment, we are obviously not successful in mitigating that rise in suicide rates.

“**Jones**: Acute mental health problems are those that often require hospitalization. Guthrie says the number of patients who fit in that category hasn’t

really changed over time. But now he sees more people in his outpatient clinic who suffer from a more general malaise: hopelessness. And that, he says, is a cultural problem.

“**Guthrie**: What is associated with hopelessness are feelings that people are not connected, that they don’t belong, that they are not loved, that they have no purpose.

“**Jones**: People mired in hopelessness struggle finding meaning in their lives. And they don’t have a worldview that offers an alternative perspective.

“**Guthrie**: I think that is an unfortunate consequence of this prevalent belief that there is no truth. This sort of post-modern idea that there are no absolute truths. And so, you know, if life really doesn’t mean anything, why should I continue to suffer?

“**Jones**: When they can’t solve what Guthrie calls the very profound problem of existence, nihilism sets in.

“**Guthrie**: Then I think that’s what leads them down that path of just utter hopelessness, lack of alternatives, and choosing to not, essentially not exist anymore.

“**Jones**: The secular culture doesn’t have an answer for that utter hopelessness, but Guthrie—who’s also a Christian—says the church certainly does. The first step is for Christians to overcome the idea that only an educated professional can help.

“**Guthrie**: That is part of that coming alongside and bearing one another’s burdens. . . . and before things get too far down the road of a severe depression . . . There is a significant opportunity to identify individuals with those problems and begin to help them restore hope in a very meaningful way” (excerpted from “Life Expectancy—Suicide,” World Radio, <https://worldandeverything.org/2019/01/life-expectancy-suicide/>).

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## Psych Notes *(continued from page 4)*

### Inflammation & Depression

“Inflammation is a buzzword, and a 41 million+ Google hit for a reason: it appears to underlie just about every chronic disease plaguing Americans today....many researchers are convinced that depression may have a significant inflammatory component....

“What causes inflammation in the body that can affect the brain? ... the list is long, but these are the contributors that I see most commonly in my practice: Sugar.... Food Intolerances... Autoimmunity.... Here are some top therapeutic foods: Coconut Oil.... Turmeric.... Fermented Foods” ...

“Incidence of mental illness is rising, partly from changes in diagnostic criteria, commercializing mental illness, collusion between doctors and patients around the ‘quick fix,’ and partly because our bodies and minds are crying out in protest about this toxic world we live in” (excerpted from Kelly Brogan, “Confessions of a Renegade Psychiatrist,” <https://kellybroganmd.com/confessions-of-a-renegade-psychiatrist/>).

### Practice a Bit of Luddism

“There’s nothing wrong with being a Luddite. It enables critical reflection and evaluation of the technological world we’re building.... Traditional Luddism involves ‘breaking technology’ or refusing ‘to participate in sociotechnical systems.’ ...

“The good thing about Luddism is that it enables critical reflection and evaluation of the world we have built and are building. At times, we need to break away, to deconstruct the systems within which we find ourselves embedded and to evaluate how the technologies we take for granted influence who we are and can be. This is why some Luddism is important for society.

“We all should practice some Luddism in our lives. I am not saying we

should destroy the IT systems at work and insist that everyone write memos in cursive on yellow notepads or etch them into stone tablets. That isn’t what Luddism involves anyway. I’m calling for people to exercise their freedom to be off and while doing so, to reflect on and evaluate their relationships to the digital networked technologies they put aside or left behind” (excerpted from “There’s Nothing Wrong with Being a Luddite,” *Scientific American Mind*, Jan-Feb, 2019).

### Exercise Antidepressant

“Research has found that exercising for as little as 30 minutes per day can be an effective natural antidepressant....

“A few years ago, researchers from Duke University compared exercise to antidepressant medication.... One group did aerobic exercise three times per week, the second took sertraline (Zoloft), and the third group combined exercise and sertraline. After 16 weeks there was no difference in the level of depression among the groups, suggesting that both medication and exercise were equally effective. But after 10 months, those who exercised were 50 percent less likely to be depressed” (“Natural Antidepressant,” *UCLA Healthy Years*, Vol. HY 18H, p.8).



### Sin-Saturated Counseling

*(continued from page 3)*

4 Jay E. Adams. *Update on Christian Counseling*, Vol. 1 and 2. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1977, 1979, 1981, Introduction to Vol. 2

5 Jay E. Adams. *Competent to Counsel*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1970, p. xv.

6 “Counseling,” [google.com](https://www.google.com).

7 Jay E. Adams. *The Case of the “Hopeless” Marriage: A Nouthetic Counseling Case from Beginning to End*. Stanley, NC: Timeless Texts, 2006.

8 Adams. *The Case of the “Hopeless” Marriage*, *op. cit.*, back cover.

9 Martin and Deidre Bobgan. *Biblical Counseling Reviews*. Santa Barbara, CA: EastGate Publishers, 2018.

10 *Ibid.*, p. 64.



## SOC & the LGBT Agenda

*(continued from page 7)*

### Endnotes

1 Martin & Deidre Bobgan. *The Sodomy of Christians: The Biblical View*. Santa Barbara, CA 93110, 2017.

2 “Sodomy,” “Sexual activity that involves oral or anal copulation, whether with the same or opposite sex,” <https://legaldictionary.net/sodomy/>.

3 O. R. Adams, Jr. *As We Sodomize America: The Homosexual Movement and the Decline of Morality in America*. Enumclaw, WA: Winepress Publishing, 1998, 2001, back cover.

4 Bobgan, *The Sodomy of Christians: The Biblical View*, *op. cit.*, pp. 78-84.

5 Alfred Charles Kinsey, Wardell B. Pomeroy, Clyde E. Martin. *Sexual Behavior in the Human Male*, Philadelphia, PA: W. B. Saunders, 1948.

6 Alfred Charles Kinsey, Wardell B. Pomeroy, Clyde E. Martin. *Sexual Behavior in the Human Female*. Philadelphia, PA: W. B. Saunders, 1953.

7 “Alfred Kinsey,” Wikipedia, referencing David J. Ley. *Insatiable Wives: Women Who Stray and the Men Who Love Them*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2009, p. 59.

8 Alfred C. Kinsey, Wardell B. Pomeroy, Clyde E. Martin, and Paul H. Gebhard, “Concepts of Normality and Abnormality in Sexual Behavior” in *Psychosexual Development in Health and Disease*, Paul H. Hoch and Joseph Zubin, eds., New York: Grune & Stratton, 1949, p. 23.

9 Linda Mintle, “Pornography and the Brain,” *Christian Counseling Today*, Vol. 22, No. 1, p. 19.

10 Mary Sykes Wylie, “The Unspeakable Language of Sex,” *Psychotherapy Networker*, Vol. 40, No. 1, p. 16.

11 Martin & Deidre Bobgan, “Elyse Fitzpatrick: Sex Counselor,” *PsychoHeresy Awareness Letter*, Vol. 26, No. 5, Sept-Oct, 2018, pp. 1, 3; “Elyse Fitzpatrick Revisited,” Vol. 26, No. 6, Nov-Dec, 2018, p. 8.

12 William Cutrer and Sandra Glahn. *Sexual Intimacy in Marriage*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications, 1998 2001, 2007.



### APA Guidelines

*(continued from page 8)*

<https://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2019/01/traditional-masculinity-american-psychological-association/580006/>

3 David Wexler, “Shame-O-Phobia,” *Psychotherapy Networker*, Vol. 34, No. 3, p. 23.

4 Holly Sweet, “Women Treating Men,” *Psychotherapy Networker*, Vol. 34, No. 3, p. 34

5 David Wexler, *op. cit.*, p. 23.

6 Carl Sherman, “Man’s Last Stand,” *Psychology Today*, Vol. 37, No. 4, p. 71.

7 Terrence Real quoted by Sherman, *ibid.*

8 Gary R. Brooks. *A New Psychotherapy for Traditional Men*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass Publishers, 1998, pp. 41-42.

9 Steven Stosny, “Case Studies,” *Psychotherapy Networker*, Vol. 33, No. 2, p. 65.



## **SOC & the LGBT Agenda** *(continued from page 1)*

foundation of the United States. As external standards of behavior lost their influence, all forms of sexual restraint were called into question and sexual liberation gained ground and accelerated rapidly. Every deviation from God's design that demanded acceptance, even beyond tolerance, emerged through the Sexual Revolution.

Alfred Kinsey's contribution to "the homosexual movement" and the "moral decline in this country" has been well-documented.<sup>4</sup> His most influential books are *Sexual Behavior in the Human Male*<sup>5</sup> and *Sexual Behavior in the Human Female*.<sup>6</sup> These books brought sexuality front and center and engendered interest in sex and its many possible variations. Readers were shocked at his statistics, but they did not realize the inherent bias and serious research flaws in Kinsey's contribution to the homosexual agenda and moral decline in this country.

Kinsey's own personal sexual preferences no doubt influenced much of his research and particularly his research conclusions. He, himself, was bisexual. He and his wife "agreed that both could have sex with other people as well as with each other. He had sex with other men, including his student."<sup>7</sup> As a strong Darwinian, Kinsey contended that one had to look at the sexual practices of animals to determine what is acceptable for humans.<sup>8</sup>

In addition to Kinsey, academics in the fields of anthropology and psychology were eager to throw off the influence and restraints of biblical Christianity. Following the earlier influence of Sigmund Freud, who contended that there was a direct relationship between a person's sex life and mental-emotional problems, humanistic psychologists, such as Abraham Maslow, and anthropologists, such as Franz Boaz, Margaret Mead, and Ruth Benedict, worked assiduously to throw off such restraints, not

only through their teachings and flawed research, but some through personal participation in homosexual activities.

### **The Influence of Pornography**

Another influence is pornography with its ready online availability and its addictive facets, whereby the more one does it, the more one lusts for more at a more intense dose, just like with drugs. Neuroscience reveals: "The surging of dopamine from viewing porn eventually subsides, leaving the person wanting more. More novel and intense pornography is then needed to achieve the same excitement as before."<sup>9</sup>

**Christian couples who are involved in the same kind of uncleanness (sodomy) implicitly support the LGBT agenda through their actions.**

Mary Sykes Wylie reveals in her article "The Unspeakable Language of Sex": "While in America in 1991 fewer than 90 different adult magazines were being published, by 2010 or so, there were 2.5 million adult websites, catering to every taste, imaginable and unimaginable."<sup>10</sup> Pornography pops up everywhere on the internet where it is amply available, accessible, affordable (free), anonymous, and addictive. The internet has indeed become a venue for secret sin that enslaves the souls of its victims.

### **Sodomy: The Gateway to the LGBT Agenda**

In *SOC* we restrict ourselves to the two sex acts of sodomy, as these have been the gateway into the acceptance of the entire LGBT agenda by those in the church. Based on much evidence presented in *SOC*, we conclude that the heterosexual involvement in the practice of sodomy is a major reason for the LGBT agenda being accepted

by Americans and by many who call themselves Christians.

As heterosexuals become engaged in sodomy themselves, they become more open to the idea of homosexuality being normal. After all, they are doing the same things! **The sequence is this: the practice of homosexual acts of sodomy by heterosexuals opened the door to swallowing the whole homosexual agenda.** God's sexual design is coitus within heterosexual marriage. It's the only kind of sex by which a couple can have a child. It is God's design for sexual procreation and pleasure, no matter how people may want to justify what they are doing sexually.

With the sexual revolution having broken down the barriers that used to exist, homosexual activities are easily accepted, ignored, or tolerated by most of society. As heterosexuals are fornicating at an increasing rate, with more and more heterosexuals living in sexual relationships prior to marriage or for however long they decide to stay together, who could be concerned about the sexual practices of anybody else?

A single short question, such as the following, will reveal what your pastor, teacher, friend, or other person believes: "Do you believe that either of the two sex acts of sodomy is sinful?" A negative response will reveal what the individual does or is open to in the marriage bed.

Christians need to examine themselves in light of Romans 1:18-32. For instance, how might verses 24-25 apply to heterosexual couples engaging the acts of sodomy:

Wherefore God also gave them up to **uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies** between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than

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the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. (Rom. 1:24-25, bold added.)

The general term “uncleanness” would include all sexual activity outside His design of one man and one woman in a committed relationship uniting organically through coital intercourse. The Bible does not list all of the forms of sexual sin. The word “uncleanness” covers them all. Sodomy is a perverse use of the organs of sex created by God for procreation and pleasurable intimacy through coitus. Joining body parts in unnatural ways mocks God’s design for sexual intimacy.

We are not saying that all Christians who are involved in sodomy in the marriage bed directly support the LGBT agenda, but we are saying that personal involvement in or support for either of the sex acts of sodomy has been the primary path of those who do support the LGBT agenda. For example, we have written two articles about Elyse Fitzpatrick<sup>11</sup> and a book that she highly recommends titled *Sexual Intimacy in Marriage*, which supports the two sex acts of sodomy.<sup>12</sup> Fitzpatrick and the authors of *Sexual Intimacy in Marriage* have revealed their support for marital sodomy, yet we do not know exactly where they stand on the issues related to the LGBT agenda. However, because Fitzpatrick is a very popular author and speaker with a large following and because the book she recommends has a wide Christian readership, many Christians are being led into marital sodomy, which will lend further support to the LGBT agenda. Christians who are involved in the same kind of uncleanness (sodomy) implicitly support the LGBT agenda through their actions.

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## START MINISTERING MUTUAL CARE

The Lord is clear in His Word how the church is to function with evangelists, pastors and teachers equipping the saints “for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ” (Eph. 4:11-13). Those in leadership could not possibly accomplish all the work of the ministry to bring every believer “unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.”

Those who are maturing in the faith are called and equipped to come alongside and serve one another. In addition to Galatians 6:1-2, there are other verses that direct believers to comfort, edify, admonish, teach, and exhort one another, all as expressions of love and care for one another’s spiritual well-being and growth (e.g., 1 Thes. 5:11; Heb. 3:13; 10:24).

1 Peter not only says to minister to one another, but tells how to speak “as the oracles of God,” meaning according to the Word of God, not according to the prevailing wisdom of men:

As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen (1 Peter 4:10-11).

Speaking forth the “oracles of God” would be Christ-centered, rather than problem-centered. The conversations would involve much of the Word rather than complaints about other people.

We urge all believers to grow in grace, in faith, and in the knowledge of

our Lord Jesus Christ and to be ready to minister to one another as the Lord provides opportunities and wisdom. New believers can certainly testify of the Lord’s work in them, which can be a great encouragement to others. As believers talk with one another they will find opportunities to give a word of comfort, encouragement, and exhortation. They may have opportunities to remind one another of essential truths of Scripture that need to be emphasized. They may be sought out for personal ministry by those who are enduring trials and various problems of living.

Those who are trusting the Lord and His Word are ready vessels for the Holy Spirit to work through them. As they have been walking daily with the Lord through both sunny and stormy days, they are equipped to minister in some of the most difficult situations that fellow believers may be experiencing.

We thank God for those individuals who, without counseling certificates, degrees, manuals, books or programs, are **not intimidated** by any lack of counseling education or training and who thereby depend fully on the Lord as they minister to others, just as believers were doing prior to the rise of the psychological and biblical counseling movements. We say to all who have been prepared by the Lord and are dependent on Him rather than on the wisdom of men: **Go forth and minister by grace through faith.**

Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen (Heb. 13:20-21).



## APA Guidelines Ψ

The American Psychological Association (APA), America's largest professional organization of psychologists, has introduced a set of detailed guidelines for clinicians who treat men and boys. The "APA Guidelines for the Psychological Practice with Boys and Men" covers 36 pages. The APA claims that "traditional masculinity is psychologically harmful."<sup>1</sup>

Why is the APA concerned about masculinity? Men on the whole are either not that interested in going to counseling or they are repelled by the whole idea of counseling. It is also well-known that men are generally biased against in therapy. As one social psychologist says:

If you're a man who holds traditional values, why would you go see a psychologist when the starting point is that traditional masculinity is the problem?... Part of the problem among men is that one of the markers of traditional masculinity is independence and **rejection of help.**<sup>2</sup>

The evidence is in. Counseling is a functional environment for women and a dysfunctional environment for men. Most men naturally avoid it. However, they are often compelled to become involved. Once men are put into the one-down position in therapy, their masculinity is easily and often offended by the counselor. It has been said that many men conclude that they must become like women to succeed in psychotherapy.

The *Psychotherapy Networker* (PN), a journal for psychotherapists, devoted an entire issue to "The Secret World of Men: What Therapists Need to Know." One PN therapist confirmed that:

Men usually get therapy only because someone else has insisted on it. When I ask men in an initial therapy session, "What are you doing here?" the answer I hear is

"My wife told me I needed to be here." Other times, it may be their boss or their grandmother or their doctor, or even a probation officer.<sup>3</sup>

Another PN therapist affirmed the same fact by saying, "Men more often came into therapy under pressure from someone else, frequently an unhappy spouse."<sup>4</sup> Also, the psychotherapist writers for PN would **all** no doubt agree with one of them who bluntly says that "even with men who know they need help is the very idea of sitting in a room, talking *out loud* about all this touchy-feely stuff; it creeps them out" (italics in original).<sup>5</sup>

**Counseling is a female-friendly activity....**

Men in counseling are often caught between the proverbial "rock and a hard place." They are yanked out of their reluctance to express the very feelings that women demand and are then criticized for expressing them. They often go into counseling wary and come out wimps. *Psychology Today* discussed this topic in an article titled "Man's Last Stand: What Does It Take to Get a Guy into Therapy?"<sup>6</sup>

One author-therapist, Terrence Real, refers to these as "wife mandated referrals." He says, "The average man is as likely to ask for help with a psychological problem as he is to ask for directions." Real gives the reason: men do not consider counseling to be "manly."<sup>7</sup> This is doubly true among Christian men who are biblically knowledgeable and by conscience and common sense know they should not be there.

Of the total of those in counseling, the men who enter **voluntarily** are small in number. Gary Brooks, in his book *A New Psychotherapy for Traditional Men*, says, "Traditional men hate psy-

chotherapy and will do most anything to avoid a therapist's office." He continues, "In fact, I believe that men's aversion to therapy is so powerful that it's wise to assume that most male clients, at some level, don't want to be there."<sup>8</sup> Thus men are encouraged, intimidated, or brow-beaten into it by this culturally sanctioned phenomenon of counseling.

In *Psychotherapy Networker* one therapist reveals through humor the situation of men in counseling. He says:

You've heard the jokes. Every couples therapist has skid marks at the front door from husbands being dragged into the office.<sup>9</sup>

As much as men are not attracted to counseling, virtually all avenues in and out of the church force them into it. Again, counseling is a female-friendly activity, which obtains male clients mostly through intimidation, exaggerated claims, expectations of others, or coercion. Behind most men in psychotherapy or in biblical counseling is a woman, a court, an employer, a church denomination, or, as we have demonstrated elsewhere, a mission agency.

Absent a woman behind getting a man into counseling, the counseling movement would be seriously damaged, since up to one-third of the counselees (men) could disappear. Moreover, if the other personal, cultural, promotional, and legal incentives and mandates towards counseling were removed, men, on their own, would avoid it all together.

If women were not in counseling as counselees, the men would not be there either and the whole problem-centered counseling mania would disintegrate.

### Endnotes

1 "APA Guidelines for the Psychological Practice with Boys and Men," American Psychological Association, August 2018, <https://www.apa.org/about/policy/boys-men-practice-guidelines.pdf>.

2 Amanda Mull, "Psychology Has a New Approach to Building Healthier Men," *The Atlantic*, Jan 10, 2019,

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