

**Sexual Identity
is bogus
and
Same-sex Sexuality
is wrong**

written for my preteen daughters

Stephen Measure

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Same-sex Sexuality
Is Wrong**

STEPHEN MEASURE

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A Note to Parents

I've written a lot about same-sex sexuality and sexual identity, but I haven't let my children read any of it because my writing so far has been directed at a more mature audience. Yet recently my oldest daughter came home from middle school and asked my wife what a bisexual is. Apparently one of her classmates announced to the class she identifies as one. My daughter didn't know what the girl was talking about, which embarrassed her because it seemed to her like everyone else in the class did.

We've spoken to our daughter about sex. She has an age-appropriate understanding of it, both of the mechanics as well as the morality. We've been clear that sex is something reserved solely for husband and wife after they are married. We have also spoken to her about same-sex sexuality. We've told her that some men choose to have sex with other men and some women choose to have sex with other women, and we've made it clear this is wrong. But we've never really spoken much about the labels people place upon themselves because, frankly, the labels are bogus. Obviously the time has come to better prepare our daughter for the confusing environment she will have to navigate at school and elsewhere as she grows up. This essay is my attempt to write something at her level that will help her understand the truth beneath all the confusion.

It is written with a teen or preteen audience in mind and probably wouldn't be appropriate for younger children. It assumes that you have already spoken to your child about sex and that you agree sex should be reserved for marriage and that same-sex sexuality is wrong.

A key part of my message about same-sex sexuality revolves around the falseness of sexual identity and its harm to our culture's morals. You can read more about this in my other essays about same-sex sexuality at www.stephenmeasure.com. The bottom line is if you believe that same-sex sexuality is wrong yet you refuse to reject sexual identity, you are shooting yourself in the foot and are doing a disservice to your children.

I wrote this essay in a way that should be compatible with many different religions, but I encourage you to read it yourself first before having your child read it. And after they read it, I encourage you to talk to them about it, to answer their questions, and to provide them with your own personal guidance. There is a lot of confusion in the world today. It is your job as a parent to help your children deal with it.

The world can be crazy sometimes

Decades ago, many people used to believe that white skin made someone better than black skin. That's a pretty stupid idea, don't you think? Why in the world would skin color mean anything? That's like thinking that your hair color or your eye color make you smarter. It's ridiculous. Yet a lot of people actually believed that, and it wasn't that long ago either. Your grandparents might have been alive then. They might remember what it was like. Believe it or not, there were even separate drinking fountains for black people and for white people. There were separate bathrooms based on skin color. There were places that only white people were allowed to go.

To tell you the truth, I feel silly even writing the words "black people" and "white people" because it's such a pointless idea. Our skin color isn't actually white or black. It's just that some skin is darker than other skin, but so what? Some eyes are different colors. Some hair are different colors too. None of that matters, and our skin color doesn't matter either.

But no matter how silly and stupid it sounds, people really believed that back then. Even worse, many states and cities had laws in place to enforce stupid rules about skin color. It was illegal for black people to go to school with white people. It was illegal for them to eat at the same restaurant counters. It was the law. People were actually sent to jail. Can you imagine that? Can you imagine what it would have been like to live then?

And it wasn't just the law. Depending on where you lived, almost everyone around you might have thought that white skin made people better than black skin. Your friends might have thought that way. Your teachers might have thought that way. Celebrities too: politicians, movie stars, rock stars. Imagine everyone around you, everyone you looked up to, each and every one of them believing that skin color made some people better than others, and each and every one of them expecting you to believe the same way.

Imagine if you had lived back then with black skin. Imagine how it would have felt to have people look down on you and treat you wrong just because of the way you looked. It didn't matter what you did. It didn't matter what choices you made or how good of a person you were. They treated you bad simply because of the color of your skin—something you have no control over. Imagine how horrible that must have felt. You would have felt like the entire world was looking down on you and mistreating you and there was nothing you could do about it.

Now imagine if you had lived back then with white skin, but imagine that you disagreed with everyone around you. Imagine that you thought a black person was just as good as a white person. Imagine that you thought the laws about skin color were bad laws. Imagine that you thought your friends, your teachers, and all the celebrities were wrong. That would be hard, wouldn't it? You would feel like the entire world was against you. It would be scary, probably lonely too.

If you look back through history, it's not uncommon to see examples like this. It's not uncommon for a lot of people to have been misled by wrong beliefs. That doesn't necessarily mean they were bad people, but wrong beliefs can make even good people do bad things. So, even though it's hard, even though it's lonely, even though it's scary and it feels like the entire world is against you, whenever you find yourself in a situation where a wrong belief is believed by everyone around you, it's important to stand against it and to help others understand it is wrong as well.

There were brave men and women who, decades ago, stood against the wrong idea that white skin was better than black skin. And you know what? They won. They convinced us they were right, that skin color doesn't matter. And that is why you and I look at skin color differently than people did decades ago.

Don't get me wrong. We, as a people, are still far from perfect about this. There are some who still cling to the old, wrong way of thinking, and there are others who don't understand that when we say skin color doesn't matter, we really mean it. But all in all we are dramatically better at accepting each other's varied skin colors than we were in decades past. The difference is like night and day, and it's all thanks to those brave men and women who, decades ago, were willing to stand up for what was right.

Now you have an opportunity to be brave like them. You have the chance to stand up against a wrong belief that many people in the world believe today. A lot of your friends might believe it. A lot of your teachers. Celebrities: politicians, movie stars, rock stars—most of them might believe this wrong belief. But you have the opportunity to know better. You have the opportunity to be brave.

First, let's talk about sex

Your parents have already spoken to you about sex. (If they haven't, stop

... your parents have already spoken to you about sex (or they haven't, stop reading right now and tell them it's time for you to have "the talk.") You already know this is how babies are made. You know this is something you shouldn't do until you are married. If you are a girl, this is something you should only do with your husband. If you are a boy, it's something you should only do with your wife. There are many reasons for this, but the main one is that babies come from sex, so if people only have sex when they are married, then babies will always be born into families, and that's important. But that's not the only reason why you should wait until you are married to have sex. Sex feels good for both the man and the woman, and if you have sex with only your spouse, it makes the experience more special and it strengthens your marriage. Think of it like glue. Sex is a special experience a husband and wife share with only each other, and that helps the married couple stick together throughout the many challenges in life.

Remember: Sex is special. It is used to make babies and to strengthen marriage. You should only have sex after you are married, and you should only have it with your husband (if you are a girl) or your wife (if you are a boy).

Another definition of "sex"

Did you know that some words have multiple meanings? I'm sure you do. Think about the word "fly". Sometimes that word refers to an annoying insect. Other times it refers to the action of moving through the air like on an airplane. Well, just like the word "fly", the word "sex" also has multiple meanings. We already talked about one meaning of the word "sex". That meaning is an action. It is the action through which babies are made. But the word "sex" is also used to divide humans into two categories: male and female. If you are a boy, then your sex is male. If you are a girl, then your sex is female. Another word for this is gender, which means the same thing as sex (the category). Let's look at some examples:

- "A husband and wife enjoy having sex together." - This is talking about the action that makes babies.
- "His sex is male." - This is talking about sex as a category. It is the same as gender.

As we move on in this discussion, I will sometimes write "(the action)" or "(the category)" after the word "sex" to make sure you know which definition I am referring to.

I am referring to.

Now that you know about this other definition for the word “sex”, do you understand what the words same-sex and opposite-sex mean? When we say “same-sex”, we are talking about multiple members of the same sex, like two boys or two girls. When we say “opposite-sex”, we are talking about members of both sexes, like a boy and a girl.

Remember: Sometimes the word “sex” is used to describe a category: male or female. The words “same-sex” mean members of the same sex and the words “opposite-sex” mean members of the opposite sex.

Sometimes people make wrong choices

You know it is wrong to have sex before marriage, but you also know that sometimes people choose to do wrong things. Some people choose to lie. Some people choose to cheat. Some people choose to steal. And some people choose to have sex before marriage.

You probably see this a lot on TV and in movies. The shows you watch won’t actually show people having sex of course, but as you get older, you can understand the shows are hinting that the characters are having sex, and you know some of those characters aren’t married, so you should know that those characters are making a wrong choice.

Another wrong choice some people make is to look at pornography. Do you know what pornography is? Pornography is pictures, stories, or videos of naked people or of people having sex. Sex is something special, and you are supposed to only share it with your husband (if you are a girl) or your wife (if you are a boy). That is why pornography is wrong. If you ever come across naked pictures of people on the Internet or when you are watching television, or if someone sends you naked pictures over email or on your phone, you should talk to your parents about it. They will help you avoid it.

Remember: You shouldn’t have sex until you are married. Sex should only be done by husband and wife. And you should never look at pornography.

Same-sex sexuality

There is another wrong choice some people make that we need to talk about. Did you know that some men choose to have sex with other men and some women choose to have sex with other women? That might seem strange to you, but it's unfortunately true. People make mistakes. People do wrong things. And this is one of the wrong things some people choose to do.

When a man has sex with another man, or a woman has sex with another woman, this is known as same-sex sexuality. You might hear it called other things too, like homosexuality or "gay sex", but I think same-sex sexuality is the best way to describe it. Do you remember what "same-sex" means? It means we are talking about multiple members of the same sex (the category), like two men or two women. And "sexuality" is just talking about having sex (the action) and other things like that, so same-sex sexuality is when two men have sex together or two women have sex together. It is always wrong, and you should never choose to do it.

You know that everyone should wait to have sex until they are married, but there has been an unfortunate change in the world in recent years that might confuse you. Did you know that many places today allow same-sex marriages? A same-sex marriage is where two men or two women are married together instead of a man and a woman. That is not what we mean when we talk about marriage. That is not what marriage is supposed to be. Marriage should always be between a man and a woman, and people should only have sex when they are married. Whether someone is same-sex married or not, same-sex sexuality is always wrong.

Remember: Same-sex sexuality is where two men have sex together or two women have sex together. It is always a wrong choice.

Let's pause for a review

We've talked about a lot of things so far, so let's review:

- Sex (the action) is something a husband and wife do together after they are married. It feels good. It is how babies are made. It is something special that a husband and wife share with only each other.
- Sex (the category) describes someone as either male or female. If you are a boy, then your sex (the category) is male. If you are a girl, then your sex (the category) is female. Sometimes this is called gender.

- You should only have sex after you are married, and only with your husband (if you are a girl) or your wife (if you are a boy).
- Pornography is pictures, videos, or stories of naked people or of people having sex. You should never look at pornography.
- “Same-sex” means multiple members of the same sex (the category), like two men or two women.
- “Opposite-sex” means members of both sexes (the category), like a man and a woman.
- Same-sex sexuality is when two men have sex together or two women have sex together. It is always a wrong choice.

Everyone feels the desire to do wrong sometimes

We’ve spoken a lot about right and wrong. Some things are right, like waiting until you are married to have sex. Those are the things we should all choose to do. And some things are wrong, like lying, or stealing, or same-sex sexuality. Those are things we should all choose to not do.

It would be easy to always choose the right if you never wanted to choose the wrong, wouldn’t it? It would be easy to not lie, if you never wanted to lie. It would be easy to not cheat, if you never wanted to cheat. But, unfortunately, every one of us feels the desire to do wrong things sometimes. You can probably remember a time when you wanted to do something that you knew was wrong. Hopefully you chose to do the right thing, but before you made that choice, you might have felt the desire to do the wrong thing instead.

It is important for you to understand that it’s normal to feel the desire to do wrong things sometimes. That is part of life. It’s not bad to want to do something wrong. It’s only bad when you actually choose to do something wrong. Each of us know what is right and what is wrong, and each of us feel desires to do what is right and desires to do what is wrong. But what’s important is that we make the right choices.

Remember: Everyone feels the desire to do wrong things sometimes. We should reject the desire to do wrong and always choose the right.

Egg shells hide two things inside

Have you ever cracked a chicken's egg before? Maybe you were helping your dad make scrambled eggs, or maybe you were helping your mother bake a cake, but I bet you have cracked an egg before, or at least you have seen it done. On the outside, the egg looks like it is just a shell, doesn't it? It might be white. It might be brown. It might even be blue or green. But before it is cracked, all you can see is just the shell. And then you crack the shell, and what do you find? Is an egg just its hard shell? No, it's not. After you've cracked an egg, you will find two things hidden inside: the yellow yolk and the egg white (which is actually clear until you cook it).

Imagine if someone told you that an egg was just its hard shell. Wouldn't that be strange? You know there are two things inside an egg. You know there is both a yolk inside as well as an egg white. But you can't see them before the shell is cracked, can you? They are hidden by the shell.

Remember: After you crack an egg shell, you find two different things hidden inside.

Identity Shells

Now that you have the picture of egg shells in your mind, I want to talk to you about a different kind of shell. This isn't something you can see or feel. It's not an object like an egg shell, but it acts in the exact same way. What I'm talking about is an identity shell. Just like an egg shell hides two things inside: the yolk and the egg white, an identity shell also hides two things inside: a person and an action.

Let's look at an example. Lying is wrong. People might feel the desire to lie, and they might even choose to lie, but that doesn't change the fact that lying is wrong. It is an action. It is a choice. And it is something that is wrong for people to do.

But imagine if there was someone who enjoyed lying and didn't want to ever stop. Let's call him Tom. Imagine Tom didn't want to tell the truth. He was comfortable lying, and he didn't want to change. Now, remember there are two things here. There is Tom, the person who wants to lie, and there is the action of lying itself.

But imagine Tom is tired of people telling him that lying is wrong. Imagine

But imagine Tom is tired of people telling him that lying is wrong. Imagine he wants to force everyone to accept his lying. He wants to stop people from telling him to tell the truth. Can you think of a way he could do that? What is some way he can hide the action of lying?

I'll give you a hint. Remember the egg shell and the two things that are hidden inside: a yolk and an egg white. Because they are enclosed inside the egg shell, you can't see them as separate until you crack the shell. That is what Tom wants. He wants some way to force people to treat lying as an inseparable part of him. He wants to hide the action of lying. He wants to make it seem like it isn't a choice.

So Tom creates an identity shell. An identity shell is just like an egg shell. It is an outer shell that hides two things inside. An egg shell hides a yolk and an egg white inside. And an identity shell hides two things as well: a person and an action. But remember, an identity shell isn't an actual object like an egg. It's not something you can hold in your hands or see with your eyes. An identity shell isn't actually real. An identity shell is just a word. It's just a label. In the case of Tom, the identity shell he creates is the word "must-lie". He says that "must-lies" are people who *must* lie. He has taken the action of lying, and he has hidden it inside an identity shell. And by doing this he has made it seem like he is inseparable from lying. He has made it seem like he can't stop lying and he shouldn't be expected to. He has made it seem like he *must* lie.

You know there are things about us that can't be changed: our height for example. Perhaps you wish you were taller. Perhaps you wish you were shorter. Either way, once you stop growing, you are stuck with the height you are, and that's okay. Another example of things that can't be changed is our skin color. Remember what we talked about when you first started reading this? There was a time when people actually thought that skin color mattered. They actually thought that having lighter colored skin made someone better than having darker colored skin. That's an incredibly stupid idea, isn't it? Skin color is out of our control. We can't choose to have white skin. We can't choose to have black skin. We just have whatever color of skin we are born with.

When Tom uses his identity shell, when he calls himself a "must-lie", he is trying to make it seem as if lying is like his height or his skin color. He is trying to make it seem like lying is part of who he is. He is trying to make it seem like he doesn't have a choice. He is trying to make it seem like he can't choose to not lie.

That's review.

Inside an egg shell, there are two things hidden:

- A yolk
- An egg white

And inside an identity shell, there are two things hidden:

- A person
- An action

A “must-lie” is an example of an identity shell. It contains the following two things:

- A person who wants to lie (Tom in this example)
- The action of lying

Identity shells are used to force people to accept wrong choices. Tom wants people to accept his lying, so he calls himself a must-lie, which is an identity shell hiding the action of lying inside. Because the action of lying is hidden inside, it makes it seem like he can't choose to not lie. But that isn't true. We always choose our actions. And that is why identity shells are so dangerous. They are used to force you to accept wrong choices. And that is why you should always reject them. Whenever you see an identity shell, crack it open and reveal what is inside. Separate the person from the action. Actions are not inseparable parts of us like skin color. Actions are chosen. And we should never choose to do something that is wrong.

Remember: An identity shell hides an action inside. They are used to force you to accept wrong actions. You should always crack them open and reveal the action that is hidden inside. We choose our actions, and we shouldn't choose to do wrong things.

Sexual Identity

Now that you've learned about identity shells, it's time to learn about the identity shells many people are using today. Remember at the beginning how I said there was a wrong belief that was believed by many in the world today? This is what I was talking about. You will see it in your school. You will read about it in books. You will see it in TV shows and movies and in songs on the radio. The wrong belief I'm talking about is “sexual identity”.

Have you heard the words “gay”, “straight”, or “bisexual”? Those are the different types of sexual identity. According to the belief of sexual identity, humans are one of three different things: gay, straight, or bisexual.

When people use those words, this is what they mean:

- Straight – someone who has sex (the action) with the opposite sex (a man with a woman)
 - Also called heterosexual
- Gay – someone who has sex (the action) with the same sex (a man with a man or a woman with a woman)
 - Also called homosexual (or a lesbian if it is a woman who wants to have sex with women)
- Bisexual – someone who has sex (the action) with both sexes (men and women)

Did you notice something about those definitions? They combine both a person and an action. And what word is used to describe a label that hides a person and an action inside? That’s right, an identity shell! Every time you hear someone tell you they are gay, or homosexual, or bisexual, or anything like that, remember that is an identity shell. Crack the identity shell and reveal the person and the action that are hidden inside. So let’s crack those identity shells wide open and show what is actually there:

- Straight:
 - A person who wants to have sex (the action) with the opposite sex (the category).
 - In other words, a man who wants to have sex with a woman, or a woman who wants to have sex with a man.
 - The action: sex
- Gay:
 - A person who wants to have sex (the action) with the same sex (the category).
 - In other words, a man who wants to have sex with a man, or a woman who wants to have sex with a woman.
 - The action: same-sex sexuality
- Bisexual:
 - A person who wants to have sex (the action) with both sexes (the category).
 - In other words, someone who wants to have sex with both men and women.

- The action: sex or same-sex sexuality

Remember, every time someone tells you they are gay or bisexual, you need to crack open the identity shell and reveal the truth inside. When someone tells you they are gay, that means they are a person who wants to do something that is wrong, and they are trying to claim that doing wrong is an inseparable part of them. They are trying to claim that same-sex sexuality is as much a part of them as their height or their skin color.

Why do people do this? Why do they hide the choice they actually have? They do this because it makes it difficult to tell them that what they want to do is wrong. Just like in the example of Tom. He wanted to force everyone to accept his lying. He wanted to make everyone think that lying was an inseparable part of him. In the same way, people who call themselves gay want to force everyone to accept their same-sex sexuality. They want to force everyone to believe that same-sex sexuality isn't wrong.

You might have heard the acronym LGBT. This is a collection of identity shells, most of which are used to force people to believe that same-sex sexuality isn't wrong. The L stands for lesbian. The G stands for gay. The B stands for bisexual. The T, however, is not related to the other three. It stands for transgender. The word "transgender" is an identity shell like gay, lesbian, and bisexual, but it's a different (and far more confusing) topic than what we are discussing now, so I won't say anything further about that here.

Remember: Sexual identity is the belief that we are gay, straight, or bisexual. But those words are just made-up labels. They are identity shells. They hide the action of same-sex sexuality inside and make it appear like it isn't a choice. Those words are used to force you to believe that same-sex sexuality isn't wrong.

Same-Sex Attraction

Now let's talk about the word "want." As I said before, it is normal for everyone to want to do wrong things sometimes. That is part of being human. Sometimes we might want to lie. Sometimes we might want to steal. Sometimes we might want to look at pornography. It's okay that we want to do wrong things, but it's not okay when we choose to do them. It's the choice that matters, not the desire.

When someone wants to have sex (the action) with their same sex (the

category), this is called same-sex attraction. When someone wants to have sex (the action) with the opposite sex (the category), this is called opposite-sex attraction. In other words, if Adam (a boy) wants to have sex with Bill (a boy), then Adam feels same-sex attraction. If Adam (a boy) wants to have sex with Sara (a girl), then Adam feels opposite-sex attraction.

Opposite-sex attraction is often a good desire. It is what leads men and women to be married. If no one felt opposite-sex attraction, then husbands and wives wouldn't have sex together, and if they didn't have sex together, then there would be no babies, and if there were no babies, then there would be no humans at all.

But opposite-sex attraction can also cause people to do wrong things. Feeling opposite-sex attraction might make Tom want to have sex with Sara, but if he chooses to have sex with her before they are married, then he has made a wrong choice.

Same-sex attraction, on the other hand, is never a good desire, but it doesn't have to be a problem either. Same-sex attraction is just the desire, the want, to do something that is wrong. In this case, it is the desire to have sex (the action) with members of the same sex (the category). In other words, it is the desire for a man to have sex with other men, or for a woman to have sex with other women. Remember, all of us feel the desire to do wrong things sometimes, and same-sex attraction is no different. It doesn't matter if we feel the desire to do something wrong. What matters is that we choose not to.

Some of you might have felt same-sex attraction already. Others of you might feel same-sex attraction in the future. And there are some of you who might never feel it your entire life. In all cases, that's okay. The fact that you feel same-sex attraction doesn't mean anything bad about you. It just means you want to do something that is wrong. I'm sure you want to do other things that are wrong as well. The solution is the same in all cases: You should reject your wrong desires and choose to do what is right.

Why do some people feel more same-sex attraction than others? Why do some people feel more opposite-sex attraction than others? There are probably multiple reasons, but the experiences in our life definitely play a role, just like they do in all other areas of our lives. Think about yourself. Think about your values. Think about your dreams. Think about the way you look at life. Now think about your family: your parents, your siblings. Think about your friends. Think about the shows you watch, the music you listen to, and the books you read. Think about the examples you try to follow. Can't you see a connection between who you are becoming and what is all around

you? Imagine how different you might be if you had lived a completely different life than you have. What if you had been born into a different family or into a different religion? Your life could have been very different.

Remember what I said at the beginning about how people used to think about skin color? Why is it that so many people used to think that white skin was better than black skin? Why is it that you and I know that that isn't true? Is it because we are different from the people who lived back then? Is it because we are better? Were they all bad people and we are all good people? No. The only reason for the difference is they lived then, and we live now. We aren't different from them. We aren't better. We have just been blessed to live in a time when we would be taught that skin color doesn't matter. So much of what we are is the result of the world around us, and same-sex attraction and opposite-sex attraction are no different. If someone is raised in an environment where same-sex sexuality is encouraged, like it is encouraged in the world today, then they will be more likely to feel same-sex attraction. There is nothing magic about sexual attraction. We develop it in the same way as other preferences or desires. The attractions we learn to feel are influenced by the world around us, just like everything else about us.

As you grow older, you will probably hear of more and more of your classmates deciding they are gay or bisexual. You will experience this far more often than your parents did growing up. This is sad. It's sad those children are choosing to wrap themselves inside an identity shell. It's sad they are trying to hide a wrong action inside that shell with them. It's sad they are claiming that same-sex sexuality is a part of them. It's sad they are expecting you to accept a wrong action and to pretend it is right. But what's saddest of all is it didn't have to be that way. Many of the kids who say they are gay or bisexual today might not have made that decision if they had been raised in your parent's generation. I want you to think about that every time one of your classmates declares they are gay or bisexual. I want you to say to yourself, "If they had grown up when my parents grew up, they might not think that about themselves." And I want you to recognize how sad that is. Their life could have been so different. It could have been so much better.

Let's review:

- Opposite-sex attraction is the desire to have sex (the action) with the opposite sex (the category). It is the desire of a man to have sex with women, or the desire of a woman to have sex with men.
 - Opposite-sex attraction can be a good desire if it leads a man and a woman to marry each other and to have a family, but it can be a bad

desire if it leads them to have sex before marriage.

- Same-sex attraction is the desire to have sex (the action) with the same sex (the category). It is the desire of a man to have sex with men, or the desire of a woman to have sex with women.
 - Same-sex attraction is always a bad desire because same-sex sexuality is always wrong.

Remember: Many of you will feel same-sex attraction at some point in your lives. Feeling a bad desire doesn't make you a bad person. All of us feel the desire to do wrong sometimes. What matters is that we choose to not do it.

Choose to reject identity shells

I'm not going to lie to you. What I have told you here will make some people very angry. They don't like it when someone says that same-sex sexuality is wrong. They don't like it when someone points out that the words gay, lesbian, and bisexual are just identity shells. They don't like it when someone defends choosing the right.

But that is the way it has always been. Go back in history and you will find people who wanted to do wrong things or to follow wrong beliefs. And every time someone else stood for what was right, it made those people angry. Remember how people used to think about skin color? Remember they used to think that white skin made someone better than black skin? That was a wrong belief and it led people to do wrong things. Back then, when someone stood up and said that skin color didn't matter, people were very angry with them. Sometimes they even attacked them. But brave men and women stood up for what was right regardless of the consequence to themselves, and because of their bravery, you and I have been blessed to live in a world that rejects those wrong beliefs about skin color.

I hope you choose to be brave. I hope you choose to stand up for what is right. I hope you reject identity shells. I hope you don't call yourself "gay", "lesbian", "bisexual", or "straight", and I hope you don't use those words to describe others either. Even calling yourself "straight" isn't helpful. When you do that, it feeds into the idea that sexual identity is actually real, but it isn't. The whole idea is bogus. We aren't asking "gay" people to become "straight". What we are asking is for everyone to reject sexual identity altogether. We are asking everyone to reject identity shells, to crack them open and reveal what is hidden inside. Like an egg shell hiding its yolk and egg white, identity shells hide a person and an action inside. They are used to

egg white, identity shells hide a person and an action inside. They are used to force us to accept wrong actions. Crack them open. Focus on what is inside. Focus on what is really important. It's the person that matters and the choices that person makes. Always remember that.

Remember: Don't use identity shells like "gay", "lesbian", "bisexual", or "straight". Separate the person from the action and always encourage others to choose the right.

Author's Website



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