

Letters To The Editor

A Reply To Gays

Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed for ever! Amen. For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. Their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural, and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in their own persons the due penalty for their error.

Romans 1:24-27

Dear Editor,

We the Executive Committee of Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship at Lafayette would like to offer a reply to last week's letter inaugurating a 'Gay Association' here.

Even if most students believe that morality is only a relative judgement, solely dependent upon what an individual considers to be right or wrong, we do not believe that such a social consensus makes the sexual lust of one man for another, with all the inherent results, right.

We assert that each individual person (not just Man with a capital 'M') has been created in the image of God and as such each individual is totally dependent upon God for his or her very existence. That is why, when the Bible says that men lusting after each other is completely wrong it not only means that man is rebelling against, disobeying the God who made him, it also means that he is denying the very nature of his being. Homosexuality is unnatural, the very antithesis of the way God created man, especially in the area of his sexuality. Hence we assert that the founding of a Gay Association, even if it is legitimized by the administration, does not make homosexuality right. Individual men are not just responsible to themselves, they are responsible to God and God has said that men who commit such unnatural acts are sinning in His sight.

But we are not in a position where we can simply condemn sin and forget the individual who has chosen to sin. Finally, we assert that the only way an individual can escape sin and the scars that are caused by it is to be born into a new and living

relationship with God. And that relationship can only come into being through the work of Jesus Christ, first by His death on the cross, then, because of His bodily resurrection from death, His work in the life of the individual forgiving him of his sins.

We hasten to point out that not only men who lust after other men are in need of forgiveness for their willful rebellion, in need of a living relationship with Jesus Christ that will transform, utterly change their entire lives. We every single one of us, need that forgiveness and grace if we are ever to be the whole person that God intends us to be.

Homosexuality is not the only direct rebellion against the God who created us. The guy whose only goal is to find a woman, manipulate and use her, and then forget her knows what Jesus meant when He said "You have heard it said 'You shall not commit adultery'. But I say to you that every one who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart." (Matthew 5:27-28) And that selfishness, making the fulfillment of one's own desires the top goal in one's life is not limited to just the men on campus. Further, sin is not limited to the misuse of our sexuality. Covetousness, internal longing after that which belongs to God and other men causes men to make idols of material success, scholarly fame, athletic achievement or whatever else would make us worship ourselves instead of God.

So we, who have been created in God's image, stand before our Creator shaking our fists at him, insisting we are our own gods, that we have no need of Him. And even when we reap the due penalty of our sin in our own bodies, we try to ignore the fact by legitimizing it with words - in this case, by forming a Gay Association, we try to fool ourselves into believing that what is wrong is right.

We cannot change ourselves, we need the God who created us, we need a living relationship with Jesus Christ himself, who alone paid the penalty of our rebellion when he died upon the cross. We can only come individually and personally before the God who is there and surrender our rebellious lives and ask him to forgive us on the basis of Jesus' finished work on the cross.

If you don't believe that man's attempt to make seem normal that which is wrong is a

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sufficient answer to the wrongness in your own life, then we urge you to seek out, to read God's propositional truth to man — the Bible. The Gospel of John is a good place to start if you want to find out God's alternative to man's fitful rebellion. If you are struggling with the question of homosexuality, if the Gay Association falls far short of providing the answer, then we want you to know that we the 'Exec.' of Inter-Varsity are willing to help.

If all this seems far-fetched

and unreal, we who write this letter simply say that we have met the living Lord Jesus and He has totally changed our lives. Only because we on the 'Exec.' have an individual, living relationship with Him (and not us only, but all the other born-again Christians at Lafayette) do we see any reason to write this letter and make the claims we do. Jesus Christ is the only final reality.

For the Executive Committee
S.W. Ferguson, President
I.V.C.F. Box 491