



John McWilliams is a thoughtful Presbyterian pastor and missiologist. He is a friend of OnebyOne and has done much research in the physiology of homosexual sex. He presents an honest and clear presentation on the facts of same-sex behavior. Dr. McWilliams writes.....

### **Homosexuality Can Be Bad For Your Physical Health**

There are many people who are advancing the claim that same-sex marriage is equal to heterosexual marriage. I admit there are things that same-sex couples can do which are exactly like that of heterosexual couples.

However, there are important areas of same-sex relationships, especially among men, where the parallels break down significantly. Normal sexual relations is one of those areas. Although marriage is about much more than sex, most people would agree that normal, healthy sexual relationships play an important part in a marriage and should be some of the most intimate, safe and joyful times a couple can share together.

In an opposite-sex marriage where both partners are committed, monogamous and healthy, normal sexual relationships pose no dangers at all to either partner. In fact, the only reason to use protection would be to avoid a pregnancy. That is not the case for same-sex marriages.

For instance, it has been scientifically documented and proven beyond any doubt, that normal sexual relations between two healthy gay men, *including those in committed, monogamous relationships*, always come with numerous inherent physical dangers which simply never exist in normal sexual relations between healthy, committed and monogamous heterosexuals. In fact, non-Christian pro same-sex individuals and organizations openly recognize, write, and warn people about these dangers all the time. They feel it's their ethical responsibility to do so.

So given the facts, one might assume that pro same-sex Christians and organizations would do the same thing and in a pastoral and discrete way, proactively educate and warn Christians about these dangers, especially those involved in same-sex relationships. However, that assumption is wrong. In fact when it comes to these dangers, my experience has shown time and again that pro same-sex Christians and organizations react to these dangers with intolerance, anger and an unwillingness to even discuss them. You have to wonder why so many pro same-sex Christians keep these dangers quiet, while non-Christians freely acknowledge them and warn people about them all the time.

I have personally researched and compiled these dangers in a study paper called "Homosexuality: Blessing or Sin? The Part Of The Discussion We Never Really Seem To Discuss." If you'd like to see what these dangers are, how they have been scientifically documented and which national pro same-sex Christian ministries have chosen to avoid even talking about them, just go to my ministry website at [www.JBMCW.com](http://www.JBMCW.com) and on the homepage click on the "Articles" tab and look for "Homosexuality: Blessing or Sin.

In the paper I make the case that the inherent nature and constant presence of these dangers clearly indicates a serious flaw in the picture of same-sex marriage being painted by pro same-sex Christians. The fact that even committed, monogamous relationships between completely healthy partners are always subject to these dangers, indicates to me they are not of God's design. Does it make sense that God would design sexual relations for people which by their very nature present serious inherent health dangers to those involved in them?

I realize of course that people may disagree with my theological conclusions, but disagreeing with my theology doesn't make these dangers go away. Therefore those who advocate for same-sex marriage and who are aware of these dangers, but deny or ignore them, are in fact displaying behavior which literally puts homosexually-identified Christians at risk. One has to wonder why any Christian would purposefully do that.

I have shared these dangers with numerous top leaders in the Christian same-sex community and respectfully asked for their comments. One executive director of a large national Christian pro same-sex ministry responded by telling me that it's likely my sources were homophobic. I then pointed out to him that among others, my sources include The Centers For Disease Control in the U. S., National Health Services in England and Dr. Stephen Goldstone, a nationally respected and honored non-Christian gay surgeon in New York City who has written about these dangers in detail to specifically warn the gay community about them.

After that he changed his tune and rather than continuing to label my sources as homophobic, he chose to switch tactics and make me out to be an unloving and intolerant person for bringing such things up in the first place, as if attacking me would somehow make the dangers go away. Yet in the end, and in spite of all the facts presented to him, he maintained the false claim that there are virtually no differences between normal homosexual and heterosexual sexual relations.

So the questions remain. Why do so many pro same-sex Christians and ministries seem so reluctant to discuss or even acknowledge these dangers, when non-Christian pro same-sex organizations freely acknowledge and warn people about them all the time? What possible reasons or benefits are there for pro same-sex Christians who are aware of these dangers to keep them quiet?

Here's my take on it. It doesn't bode well for your theological position if you claim for instance, that a same-sex relationship between two healthy, monogamous and committed men is as God-designed and God-blessed as a relationship between a healthy, committed and monogamous man and woman, and then have to add a caveat admitting that the same-sex relationship always comes with serious inherent physical dangers. After all, if God has designed and blessed same-sex and opposite-sex relationships equally, why does one always come with inherent dangers while the other does not?

I certainly realize that when a straight Christian man who isn't in favor of same-sex marriage writes an article like this it will be interpreted in various ways. My motives will be called into question and my sincerity will be challenged. So be it. Yet, for the record, the reason I wrote this article was to expose the many pro same-sex Christians who are turning a deaf ear and a blind eye to certain dangers of same-sex relationships and by doing so are choosing to put many gays and lesbians at risk.

The fact that I disagree theologically with my gay brothers and sisters regarding same-sex marriage, doesn't mean I don't love them and it certainly doesn't mean I wish them harm. In spite of how much I disagree with them on this subject, my love and respect for them will not allow me to stand idly by and remain silent about the things which threaten to do them harm. However, the fact is that many pro same-sex Christians are currently doing just that. For the life of me, I can't see how Jesus would be pleased with that kind of behavior.

John McWilliams is a graduate of Princeton Seminary and has pastored two PCUSA congregations. In 1998 he left the pastorate for a calling to full-time mission work where his main responsibilities focus on the training of pastors and Christian leaders in various countries around the world. He works for International Bible Training, Inc. [www.ibtonline.org](http://www.ibtonline.org).