## American Jews and Gay Rights: How Social Approval-Seeking Has Led to the Betrayal of Judaism and the Fueling of an Insane Movement

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You can dress a pig in a tutu, but that doesn't make it a ballerina. You can frame the quest for equal status for homosexuality as "civil rights," but that doesn't make it so.

Why have American Jews come out so strongly in favor of gay rights? Seven factors have contributed to this phenomenon.

- 1. Underdog-ism. Fired by the edict to seek justice for the oppressed, Jews reflexively side with the underdog, regardless of the reasons for that group's situation. Especially since bureaucratic machinations and legal short-cutting have failed African Americans, a seemingly easier population allows Jews to feed their righteousness habit without major personal sacrifice.
- 2. The numbers game. Members of a microminority would logically want to form coalitions with other minority groups, thus making "a majority of minorities" for political strength. If another group has plenty of money, even better. Uniting against the putative Straight White Christian Male Oppressor simplifies matters rhetorically and provides company in shared misery.
- **3. De-fanging religion.** The prevailing logic is that since Christians vastly outnumber Jews, undercutting the credibility of religion as a factor in the

- shaping of custom and policy is "good for the Jews." The violence done to democratic procedure, civic virtue, and plain common sense has been overlooked by American Jews, or dismissed as collateral damage. Judaism itself, of course, which places great emphasis on family harmony and respect for the sexes' differences as well as for their shared humanity, is reconceptualized to fit the gay rights movement.
- **4. The battle of the sexes.** The wacko variety of feminism, that pits woman against man-as-a-whole while retaining rights to his component parts—phallus from a "lover" or a dildo, sperm from a bank, etc.—has converted neuroticism into a noble cause. Women emotionally unable to make a marriage work (or happen), such as Betty Friedan and Gloria Steinem, turned their personal failure into political triumph through projecting their own hostility onto men and generalizing their unfortunate experiences to the entire female population. The irony in the case of the Jews is especially rich. Where once the rate of homosexuality was lower than the national average because of the model of the warm father and the strong mother. the rate is now the same due to the overapplication of androgyny and a role reversal that makes for a pathogenic family dynamic. Of course, the idea of Mom as castrator—of either her husband or her son—is now beyond the pale.

## 5. The myth of values-neutral science.

Jews pride themselves on their objectivity, careful thinking, and esteem for the scientific enterprise. But science grounded in reason, including an understanding of the spiritual nature of the human race, has become a scientism serving undeclared ideological interests. All research starts with moral assumptions and is motivated by some conception of a problem to be solved. The very idea of a "problem" is rich in values. The pretense otherwise has led to the domination of the major mental health organizations by gay psychiatrists, psychologists, and their ilk. Special committees, not only in mental health organizations but at the National Education Association, the American Library Association, and major newspapers, see that gay correctness guidelines are followed, and relieve the people at the top from the moral conflict necessitated by actually dealing with public dialogue on the subject.

**6. Surface impressions.** Jews are prominent in the arts and entertainment fields. The explosion of sanitized gay images—and drag played for laughs—in recent movies and TV shows works to de-sensitize the public against what they once regarded—and largely still do regard—as, well, queer. Popular literature, and the insistence on the equation of the merit of a homosexual artist's work with the merit of homosexuality, add to the mix. But the logic doesn't really hold. B. B. King flacks for a diabetes home test kit, but that hardly makes diabetes a condition of good health.

## 7. Redefining gays, redefining Jews. When social approval is god—the approval of the "best and brightest." that

is—Classic God goes by the board. The resulting new-and-improved Judaism is just right for championing the new-andimproved homosexuality. But attraction to members of one's own sex is the same as it ever was—a product of a dysfunctional family dynamic, sometimes with other significant persons adding influence. Gay sex is still the desperate attempt for fulfillment of the child's need for love, something not achievable through sexualized means. It is still associated with fractitious and tormented relationships—and, for lesbians, "bed death" (loss of desire) over the long haul. It still fuels substance abuse and dangerous thrill-seeking as an escape from the emotional distress that underlies the attraction. Untreated homosexuality still drives eating disorders. Same sex attraction still springs from suppressed rage that, in women, increases the likelihood of breast cancer. It still prevents normal families from forming, and fractures existing heterosexual families. It's still preventable, and, more than ever, is effectively treatable.

American Jews have got to stop worrying about what certain people think and start worrying about what God thinks. And while they're at it, they should start worryng about what the Constitution thinks—about freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and the consent of the governed. As the Declaration of Independence declared, all men are created equal. But a psychopathology is just that. Just as Jews wouldn't accept being redefined as vermin and exterminated, they shouldn't redefine a disorder as a state of health. Doing so exploits and harms gays, and where's the justice in that? #