

Homosexuality in Islam, Christianity & Science

In the Name of God the Beneficent the Merciful

Homosexuality in Islam and Christianity

On September 15, 2020, Barbados' Governor General announced that the recognition of same-sex unions and the hosting of a referendum to legalise same-sex marriages was one of the proposed initiatives of the government.

Is this initiative better for Barbados?

Is this a step in the right direction?

Does this initiative coincide/correspond with Barbadian values?

We, the Muslim community of Barbados, strongly disagree with this proposal as the acceptance and/or legalisation of same-sex unions and marriage contradicts our Islamic teachings and moral values. Along with this, we do not consider it to be a step in the right direction as:

- It also goes against the teachings and values of the Christians who form the major part of our Barbadian society.
- It does not coincide with the natural design of the human body
- It cannot be scientifically proven to be 'natural'.
- It impacts the development & sustainability of society as it dismantles the family institution.

The Islamic Perspective:

Islam's position on homosexuality has been clear from the time of the revelation of the Quran, to our Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) 1400 years ago to this very day. From the Islamic standpoint, homosexuality is a forbidden action, a major sin and anyone who partakes in it is considered a disobedient servant to Allah, that will acquire his displeasure and disapproval.

Some Quranic Verses on Homosexuality:

- Chapter 7, Verses 80-81:

We sent Lot (as a messenger and) he told his people, "Do you commit such a terrible (shameful) act (of homosexuality) that none in the universe (neither man nor jinn) had ever committed before you? (80) You approach (make advances to) men with lust instead of marrying women! No, you really are people who overstep the limits (of morality and humility)." (81)

It is very clearly mentioned in the following verse of the Holy Quran that the people of Lot (Peace be upon him) were punished for this immoral act of theirs:

- Chapter 11, Verse 82:

"When our order (punishment) came, we made the upper portion of the land the lower portion (the cities were lifted and then thrown upside down) and we rained down on the land continuously falling stones of pottery clay."

The Christian Perspective; The Bible on Homosexuality:

- Leviticus chapter 20, verse 13: "If a man lies with a male as with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination; they shall surely be put to death; their blood is upon them."

- New Testament of the Romans 1:26-27: "That is why God abandoned them to their shameful desires. Even the women turned against the natural way to have sex and instead indulged in sex with each other. And the men, instead of having normal sexual relations with women, burned with lust for each other. Men did shameful things with other men, and as a result of this sin, they suffered within themselves the penalty they deserved."

- In the Genesis 19: 1-25, Leviticus 20:13, and Judges 19: 1-25 they refer to homosexual acts as something that should not be done and as evil in the eyes of God.

- In the New Testament Romans 1:24-27, in Corinthians 6:9-11, God tells us that sex was designed for only one relation – within marriage,

exclusively between a man and woman and homosexual activity is a violation of God's instructions. These things are all sins, and those who commit these sins must repent for them.

- It is mentioned in Romans 1:26-27, that men abandoned natural sex functions of women and engaged in unnatural sex with men. These words make it clear that homosexual behaviour is unnatural because it is a rejection of God's design for sex.

- The vast majority of academic and biblical scholars agree that the bible prohibits homosexual activities. Nearly all of today's translations of the Bible are also in agreement that God prohibits homosexual practices.

Understanding Homosexuality from a Scientific Perspective:

- Scientifically, homosexuality is not natural nor is it something that is born within a person. Decades of scientific research have failed to find a "gay gene" or a sole biological cause for same-sex attraction.

- Studies done on identical twins have proven that there is no such thing as a "gay-gene". If homosexuality is governed by the natural genetic makeup, then if one twin is gay, the other should also be definitely gay due to having identical DNA. However, this is not the case.

- Something is natural if it is functioning the way it was designed to function. However, homosexuality goes against the natural function of the body. Male and female bodies can fit together naturally because their genes have fashioned their sexual anatomies to complement one another. Their reproductive organs work together harmoniously to produce new humans – a clear indication that natural design favours heterosexual rather than homosexual unions.

- The American Psychological Association, the American Psychiatric Association, and even gay researchers recognize that homosexuality cannot be reduced to biology alone. Instead, they

acknowledge that social factors seem to play a key role in the development of homosexuality.

- Can homosexuality be considered 'normal' and moral simply because it is occurring and becoming more widespread?

- The argument that homosexuality is 'normal' and moral simply because it is occurring by humans who are part of the 'natural world' is not a valid argument. The absurdity of this argument is exposed when we consider that murder, rape and theft all take place in nature.

Homosexuality-Its Impact on The Sustainability of a Society:

- The family is one of the major social institutions which are the fundamental building blocks of society and perform several functions to preserve social stability and growth.

- One of the primary functions of the family as a social institution as mentioned by sociologists, is to reproduce in order to ensure the sustainability and continuation of society.

- Homosexuality contradicts and cannot fulfil this function of the family and thus, it fragments the natural build-up of this social institution which is crucial for the sustainability and positive development of a society.

How should we (Barbadians) Respond?

Engage in dialogue with the government to express our disapproval on this initiative.

When the need arises to vote, make the right choice by voting against this.

Accepting Homosexuality:

Definitely not a step on the 'straight' path towards a better Barbados.

After all, God did create Eve for Adam (peace be upon them both).