

Origin of Homosexuality

“The rise and spread of homosexuality is a wholly *natural* and *predictable* consequence of the rise and spread of monotheistic religions such as Catholicism and Mormonism.”

This is one of the thesis statements in a book on which I am working. The book is called “Origin of Religions” and explores the evolution of religion and related topics. What follows is a sort of “Reader’s Digest” version of observations and evidence which support the statement “The rise and spread of homosexuality is a wholly *natural* and *predictable* consequence of the rise and spread of monotheistic religions.”

In order to understand how monotheistic religions have given rise to widespread homosexuality it is necessary to understand the true nature of religion and how the rules of evolution apply to religions in much the same way these rules apply to living things.

Living creatures are “self replicators”. As such they have instructions for copying themselves recursively. These instructions are generally encoded within genetic material such as deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) and similar constructs. These self-replicators reproduce and thereby copy themselves according to a very simple rule. The instructions which are best at getting copied into the next generation will comprise a higher proportion of the next generation. This applies to everything from viruses and bacteria to the most “advanced” forms of life such as mankind. Characteristics of successful self-replicators typically include avoiding predation along with effective control and exploitation of limited resources. The example of viruses will be particularly instructive in understanding monotheistic religions and how those religions give rise to widespread homosexuality.

A virus consists of little more than a package of chemical-based instructions for producing more copies of the virus. These instructions take over chemical machinery which originally had some other purpose and reprogram the machinery to manufacture large numbers of new infectious viral packets.

Religions can best be understood as viruses of the mind. The term “Thought Contagion” is sometimes used. Religions evolve according to exactly the same rule as other self-replicators. Those religions which are best at exploiting resources to get copied will comprise a larger proportion of future generations of religion. Advantages are applied recursively such that an advantageous characteristic will become more and more prevalent in each generation until

other variations are virtually eliminated. Aaron Lynch has applied mathematics to show that a characteristic which confers a mere one percent advantage will overwhelm less advantageous characteristics within one hundred generations.

It is not by mere coincidence that religions can be mapped onto a branching “evolutionary tree” which bears a striking resemblance to illustrations which appear in biology textbooks showing the interrelationships of various kingdoms, phyla, species and other grouping of plants and animals. Most people will be familiar with one branch of religion’s “evolutionary tree” but have not been taught to comprehend it as such. This branch could be considered to start with the collection of religions known as Judaism. Judaism is not and has never been a monolithic entity. There are many variations within Judaism. One variation is Messianic Judaism. This gave rise to Christianity which in turn gave rise to a plethora of Protestant religions. One of the Protestant religions is of particular interest as it arose very recently in North America and is known as “The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints”.

The typical education includes a little Greek and Roman “Mythology”, but large swaths of religious history are ignored. Those wide swaths include many intermediary religions and evidence of the intermixing of precursors to modern-day monotheistic religions.

The primary resource for religions is the human mind. In order to be most successful, a religion must exploit the human mind. A religion “infects” a mind and reprograms it to reproduce the religion just as a virus infects a cell and reprograms it to copy the virus. When examining the evolutionary trail of man one must conclude that the original purpose of the human mind was to copy useful behaviors. These behaviors allowed early man to exploit new resources in virtually every corner of every continent on Earth - a remarkable departure from the previous model in which species evolved to best exploit a single “ecological niche”. The manufacture and use of stone tools and weapons are obviously one such behavior. Preparation and use of skins taken from other animals allowed early man to spread into colder areas. In addition the control of fire gave early man a tremendous advantage over other animals.

The general purpose human mind which originally passed useful behaviors from one generation to the next would soon find itself copying something else. Language allowed all sorts of new possibilities - ranging from an unprecedented ability to coordinate hunting and gathering to passing along knowledge learned over generations. This clearly represented a tremendous advance over passing useful behaviors through demonstration and mimicry.

With the advent of language it would not be long before something else would arise and be copied along with language and other behaviors. That something would drive the final evolution of *homo sapiens* - making us what we are today. That something was early religion.

Religion would shape man through “selection pressure”. A selection pressure may be natural or artificial. A common form of artificial selection pressure is known as “selective breeding” and is very easily understood. The great variety of domesticated dogs is entirely the result of selective breeding. Once man discovered that offspring had the characteristics of the parents it was a simple matter of time to develop dogs with desired traits. Dogs have been bred for racing, hunting, companionship, and guarding things. For example this might have begun with racing. It may have been noticed that some of the puppies of the fastest dogs were also fast. Once the connection was made then the next step was to make sure only the fastest dogs were allowed to breed.

A natural selection pressure does not require any design or intelligence. Consider a zebra on the plains. To successfully survive and breed it must have the ideal combination of camouflage, agility, speed, visual acuity, and alertness to avoid becoming dinner for predators. Natural selection pressures shaped the zebra to fit the habitat and maintains the gene pool of the zebra species at the optimum balance for reproductive success within the habitat.

Religion is able to exert considerable selection pressure on the human gene pool. For example compare the likely reproductive outcomes of the average person controlled by Judaism with the average “heathen”. The heathen is much more likely to contract a sexually transmitted disease. The sexually transmitted disease is likely to damage the reproductive organs and thereby cause the heathen to have fewer offspring. As a consequence his or her genes would be less likely to appear in the next generation. Many aspects of a kosher diet would also bode well for the reproductive outcomes of the person controlled by Judaism. Keep in mind there was no refrigeration and no easy way to get rid of parasitic worms at the time. On the other hand the heathen would live in constant peril of paralytic shellfish poisoning, trichinosis, and a number of other diseases.

The considerable selection pressure is exerted in many ways. For example consider a young Jewess. She is given two choices. One choice is to be pregnant or lactating from puberty to death (or menopause if she lives that long). The other choice is to be periodically declared “unclean” and banished from the home as unfit to be around other humans. The Jewish man is similarly pressured into procreative sex by edicts against “onanism” as well as the fact that as a result of “circumcision” masturbation is now relatively unappealing.

With each generation there would be fewer genes for brains and minds which were less susceptible to control by Judaism and more brains and minds which were susceptible to religion. If the population is isolated by geography or culture then one should assume that within a finite number of generations most brains and minds would be susceptible to control by Judaism.

It is clear that Judaism and similar religions such as Catholicism and Mormonism increase the reproductive output of persons controlled by the respective religions. This increased reproduction is not without consequence.

The gene pool of mankind is being degraded. One factor is technology. Natural visual acuity is no longer a selection pressure. As a consequence more people are being born who require corrective surgery or glasses at earlier ages. One type of diabetes is caused by an auto-immune disorder. In previous generations this would have automatically excluded the person with the disorder from reproducing. Today that person may actually live and hope to have children - children who are genetically predisposed to the same type of auto-immune disorder. Some couples can no longer conceive a child without medical intervention. These artificially conceived children are likely to require the same sort of medical intervention if they want to have children. In fact humankind's technology gives us such an advantage over other species that being able to evade predators, or even being alert for predators is no longer a prerequisite for reproduction. In large segments of the population this extends to simple disease resistance.

Technology is not the only factor in the degradation of the human gene pool. Our culture in general and religion in particular act to degrade the human gene pool. One does not often read of a black bear sow which has burned down the family den to collect insurance money on her cubs. If she does then her genes are permanently removed from the pool of bear genes. In fact a black bear sow will take considerable risks to protect and nourish her cubs. If she does not then there is no equivalent to "Child Protective Services" to reassign her "responsibilities" to foster parents. If the black bear sow does not provide optimum protection and nourishment then her cubs die along with her entries in the gene pool. A similar situation exists for male black bears. If a male black bear invests time chasing other male black bears for sexual gratification, or chasing prepubescent black bears for sexual gratification, or even chasing other species for sexual gratification, then his entries in the gene pool are curtailed or even zeroed out. Natural selection pressures apply equally to maintain optimally modulated reproductive drives just as natural selection maintains optimum visual acuity, agility, and any number of other characteristics of a wild population.

“Dr. Laura” Schlessinger once infamously described homosexuals as “biological errors”. Gay and Lesbian activists were angry and made this very clear. “Dr. Laura” did not apologize or back down. The activists remain angry at “Dr. Laura” to this very day. Interestingly nobody bothered to ask the essential question: If homosexuals are indeed “biological errors” then why can’t “mother nature” seem to “fix” them? Part of the answer lies within degradation of the human gene pool by technology and culture as described above. But there is far more than that. You will soon come to understand why and how monotheistic religions *actively select* for homosexuality.

We have covered some examples of characteristics of a religion which would increase fecundity of people when their minds were controlled by the religion. The next evidence and examples of interest are obviously the characteristics of a human mind which would render it more susceptible to control by religion. These would be the characteristics described within the gene pool which affect the structure and development of a human brain which is predisposed to harbor religion.

One can quickly narrow the search for likely characteristics by limiting the characteristics to be considered to those which are unique to humans or which are much more strongly manifest in humans than other primates. Two very obvious candidates should immediately come to mind. One is a near obsession with knowing our origins. Another is humankind’s capacity for guilt.

Earlier this year the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) cut the ribbon on a four billion dollar facility called the Large Hadron Supercollider. Four billion dollars represents a lot of curiosity about our surroundings. Curiosity is a characteristic not only of humans, but also frequently attributed to housecats. Kittens in particular seem inclined to explore and sniff through any cupboards which are inadvertently left open. Once a cat or kitten has explored something and determined it is not edible then they generally move on or take a nap. Human curiosity is far more persistent. Human curiosity also represents a characteristic which does not immediately appear to enhance human reproductive success. Human curiosity gathers no food and there is risk in exploration which provides no return. So according to Darwinian Theory this type of curiosity should not have evolved. Yet the investment of four billion dollars would seem to evidence something far beyond a natural curiosity.

The chicks of many birds have brightly colored throats. When the chicks detect the arrival of a parent the chicks all signal that they should be fed by opening their beaks upward and chirping. The combination of chirping and the bright throats trigger a response to regurgitate partially digested food into the beaks

of the eager chicks. Both the behavior of the chicks and the response of the parents are innate - encoded in the bird's DNA and not learned.

It is time to consider life in the distant past - in the days before science. Before Newton's apple. When the nighttime skies - free of pollution and stray light - must have been both mysterious and wondrous to behold. In that time - when the heavens were controlled by deities instead of physics - a curious child might ask "from where did it all come?" This would have signaled the parent to regurgitate the religious explanation of things into the mind of the waiting child.

This serves to enhance the replication of the religion which in turn enhances the reproductive success of the people harboring the religion. Therefore the gene pool is increasingly dominated with genes which describe a brain with ever greater curiosity about the origin of things.

If you have managed to wrap your mind around this concept then you should begin to understand that it was religion itself which shaped mankind and not any deity or deities.

Many other candidates which might be "hooks" into the mind exploited by the religion should come to mind. Perhaps our ability to appreciate artworks such as the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel is really about making our minds a hospitable place for the religions which we harbor. Likewise the feeling of being "spiritually moved" by the music of a choir such as found in a Catholic Church or Mormon temple should be considered as nothing more - and nothing less - than a connection point for religion to latch onto the mind.

In biology there are many examples of *symbiotic* relationships between species. Lichens are a pioneer "species", that is to say lichens are among the first living things to begin growing in new terrestrial habitat. Lichens are frequently found on rocks uncovered by glacial retreat and even on new rocks formed by recent lava flows. Lichen is not really a "species" because lichen is formed by two distinct organisms. One organism is a fungus. The fungus provides structure, protection, nutrients, and a place in the sun. The other partner in the symbiotic relationship is a photobiont - usually an algae - capable of photosynthesis. The fungus derives the energy to grow from the photobiont. This is not classic parasitism. The reproductive success of each partner is enhanced. The algae is protected from drying out and is therefore able to live and reproduce in an otherwise inhospitable environment. The fungus is not able to photosynthesize, yet is able to benefit and colonize rocks otherwise devoid of any food source.

Symbiotic relationships also occur in more advanced plants and animals. Humankind is very much fascinated with the partners in one such example. Humankind attaches all sorts of significance to flowers. But that is not the original purpose of a flower. Flowers are meant to attract pollinators. The pollinators may be hummingbirds, bees, or even bats. The pollinator gets a sip of nectar, but there is no free lunch. The flowers can't go on a date - but a pollinator can be tricked into carrying gametes from one flower to another. The real trick is upping the probability that the gametes are carried to flowers of the same species. This is accomplished in several ways - some of which result in interesting examples of co-evolution. There are many examples of co-evolution between flowers and their pollinators. One classic example of co-evolution involves Charles Darwin. Darwin observed a species of orchid in Madagascar with nectar at the end of spurs eight to twelve inches long. Darwin surmised the presence of a Hawkmoth with a long proboscis which could reach the nectar. Darwin never observed the hawkmoth, but the rare moth was observed many years after Darwin's death. The orchid has rewarded moths with longer than average proboscises over generations. And as a result the hawkmoth gene pool has been pressured to optimize the hawkmoth with ever longer proboscises to take advantage of the exclusive nectar supply. The orchid benefits because it has little competition for the pollinating services of the hawkmoth. The particular species of hawkmoth travels directly from one orchid to the next orchid of the same species.

There are other symbiotic relationships between plants and animals. For example many plants produce elaborate fruits around their seeds. These fruits represent a considerable investment of precious energy by the fruiting plant. Animals would at first seem to get a "free lunch". But the plant gets something too. The seeds within the fruit are distributed far from the parent.

Ruminants - such as dairy cows - are another example of a symbiotic relationship. The dairy cow is obvious, but where is the symbiotic partner? The partner is unseen in the cow's complex stomach. There bacteria break down cellulose - the stuff which gives wood and grass its stiffness. The cow eats grass - which has negligible nutritional value to mammals - and the bacteria go to work. Evolutionary pressures have optimized the cow to take advantage of bacteria - and part of that is a physical structure to harbor the bacteria - specifically the cow's complex compartmented stomach. The cow's brain has also been optimized. It includes innate programming to operate the stomach and pass the food back up for additional chewing so the bacteria can act more quickly upon the cellulose.

The human capacity for guilt was mentioned earlier as a possible "hook" which religion might use to latch onto the human mind. Please consider now religion

and humans as partners in a symbiotic relationship - with the human brain evolving to better fit the religion and the religion evolving to better control the human mind.

Guilt comes in many varieties - many of them related to sex. In particular there is guilt over having the “wrong” (non procreative) kind of sex. There is even guilt over “coveting” the wrong kind of sex. Once one comprehends guilt as a “hook” by which religion is able to latch onto a mind and thereby control it and one correctly comprehends the characteristics of religion which allow it to ramp up reproduction with edicts to “be fruitful and multiply” then it is logical to assume that religion is selecting for brains which “want” the “wrong” kind of sex because this increases guilt opportunities for the religion.

One kind of “wrong” sex is homosexual sex. The inescapable conclusion is that monotheistic religions such as Catholicism and Mormonism have been selecting for bisexual and homosexual desires for centuries. Selecting genes for homosexual desire worked very well for religion - up until World War Two. Up until that time most communities were small - homosexuals and latent bisexuals would not reach “critical mass” in most communities. The control over guilt-ridden minds by religion would have been greatly enhanced as small communities enforced taboos. All that changed with Adolph Hitler and the war in the Pacific. That great sloshing of humanity broke the grip of communities which had kept the homosexual desires of citizen in check. Many homosexuals did not return to their small towns. In the United States many homosexuals remained wherever they were discharged from the military. This would set the stage for the “Stonewall Riots” in New York City. San Francisco is another city where servicemen were discharged. Again many of those were homosexual and they chose not to return to the sexual oppression of their small towns. The resulting concentration of homosexuals in San Francisco causes that city to be widely considered as the “gay capitol” of the world.

So to review, religion acts as a selection pressure causing the human brain to be more susceptible to control by religion. One feature which increases such susceptibility is guilt associated with homosexual desires. Therefore religion *actively selects* for genetically-based homosexuality within *homo sapiens*.

This is not just a theory - there is corroborating evidence. There is only one rational explanation for all those people who express absolute certainty that homosexuality is a choice. Those people have genes for brains which are attracted to males and female partners for sexual gratification - and therefore potential for guilt-inducing desires and liaisons. Their mistake is assuming that everyone else is a latent bisexual like themselves - attracted to both males and

females - and able to choose an opposite-sex partner with sufficient “chemistry” for a long-term partnership.

If one is not convinced of the viral nature of religion then further comparison is in order. The pattern of a spreading religion is analogous to the spread of a virus. Each is spread by contact with a source of infection. Viruses do not spontaneously arise. Likewise, one does not often hear of a person spontaneously converted to Christianity - as might be expected with an omnipresent deity touching hearts here and there. Instead “conversion” to Christianity occurs only when a susceptible minds comes in contact with an infectious person or object such as a religious text. This rule applies to all religion. It is spread solely by contact with infected persons or infectious communications.

Similarities between computer viruses and religion are also instructive. Natural viruses rely upon random mutation to create new and more successful varieties of viruses. Designers of computer viruses improve upon existing designs and then release the new versions into cyberspace. This is similar to people who engineer new religions - such as Mormonism - to enhance personal power and profit.

Christians arriving in North America were faced with a theological conundrum. They had been assured that their God was just and loving. They had also been assured that the only way to God was through the son Jesus Christ. Yet here were people who had obviously lived in North America for generations and knew nothing of Jesus Christ and as such would be doomed to eternal damnation - by the just and loving Christian God. A little religious engineering by Joseph Smith fixed the problem. He added some “latter day” prophecy to basic Christianity - the indigenous peoples of North America were the descendents of a lost tribe of Israel and through evil had lost the word of God. But no need to worry, they could be brought to salvation through the teachings of Moroni. It was suddenly possible to intercede retroactively on behalf of previous generations - neatly fixing the problem of all those generations of people being subject to eternal damnation just because they never heard the message of Christ.

In the case of Mormonism we know some of the names of the designers. Like Judaism, Mormonism is not a monolithic religion. There are “sub species” - more branches on the evolutionary tree of religion. The Original Mormonism was designed by Joseph Smith Jr. A slightly different version was espoused by Brigham Young. Other branches include “Church of Jesus Christ” which claims one Sidney Rigdon as the one true successor to Joseph Smith Jr. and Wisconsin-

based “Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Strangite)” which claims one James J. Strang as the one true successor to Joseph Smith Jr.

Religion evolves. The evidence is recorded in history for anyone who will look. The evolution and behavior of religion is analogous to that of viruses. The assisted evolution of religion is even more analogous to the evolution of malicious software regularly released on computer networks - with the founders of various religions playing a role similar to the designers of the malicious software.

Cyberspace provides additional instructive examples - email which evolves over time to be most successful at persuading susceptible minds to forward it being typical.

It is finally important to note that even if the book of Genesis is taken literally then religion would still cause homosexuality within a finite number of generations unless one assumes continual divine intervention to prevent it. The same rules of recursively applied selection pressure make the rise and spread homosexuality inevitable. Bisexuality and every other sort of guilt-inducing “deviancy” have similar roots.