

Should homosexual partners be able to adopt?

Brandon Wegner

Reporter

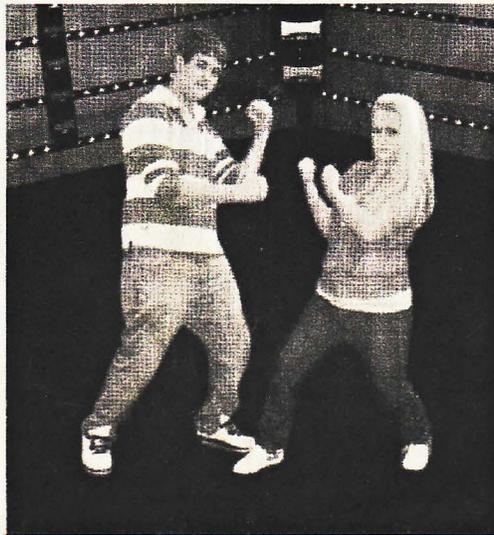
In the United States only 11 states allow same-sex marriage. Most do not because our government is generally based off of religion and the Bible. Also, if one is a practicing Christian, Jesus states in the Bible that homosexuality is detestable act and sin which makes adopting wrong for homosexuals because you would be raising the child in a sin filled environment. Leviticus 20:13 states "If there is a man who lies with a male as those who lie with a woman, both of them have committed a detestable act; they shall surely be put to death. Their bloodguiltiness is upon them." Finally, God made man and woman with many necessarily different traits and characteristics, and a child needs both a mother and a father not two dads or two moms. Adoption is a very good thing and helps many families, but it should not be for homosexual partners.

For instance, if the majority of states in the U.S do not allow homosexual marriage, why should homosexual couples be allowed to adopt? More than a third of people think that single people and gay couples should not be allowed to adopt children, according to a report published recently in Time Magazine. When a bill to introduce the possibility of homosexuals adopting was put into congress, it was almost immediately disapproved. According to the Wisconsin law, the only adults who can adopt are unmarried adults or a husband and wife married under law. Adoption by same-sex couples is prohibited by a majority of countries as well. Though homosexual adoption is only legal in 11 states in the U.S, many Christian activists are trying to change that.

In all cases, same-sex partners adopting children robs children of the potential of growing up with a traditional family consisting of a mom and a dad. A child needs to grow up with two different gendered parents so they experience both qualities that God bestowed on a mother and a father, a man and a woman. Studies demonstrate that there is, in fact, a difference between non-heterosexual and heterosexual parenting. Children raised by non-heterosexual parents are placed at risk of many different things. A child adopted into homosexuality will get confused because everyone else will have two different-gendered parents that can give them the correct amount of motherly nurturing and fatherly structure necessary for raising a child. A traditional father is someone who teaches structure and sets reasonable boundaries in a loving way. A traditional mother is someone who teaches a child right from wrong in a loving way. To grow up to be well-balanced adults, children need role models of both sexes. According to The Week Magazine, boys without fathers under-achieve, especially since there are now fewer male teachers in primary schools. This is not to say that a gay couple cannot do this, but it is highly unlikely. Dr. Cameron, Chairman of the Family Research Institute said that children of gay parents are more apt to report sexual confusion, are more apt to be socially disturbed, are more apt to abuse substances, are less apt to get married, are more apt to have difficulty in attachment and loving relationships, and are more apt to have emotional difficulties. Why would anyone want to put a child through all these difficulties?

In a Christian society, allowing homosexual couples to adopt is an abomination. Leviticus 18:22 clearly states "You shall not lie with a male as one lies with a female; it is an abomination." God made man and woman with the intention of them getting married to each other and having children. As Christians, same-sex partnership is against many Christian beliefs so why would it be okay for them to adopt children? Through Moses, God says in Leviticus 20:13 "If a man lies with a man as one lies with a woman, both of them have done what is detestable. They must be put to death; their blood will be on their own heads". God also says homosexuality is a perversion, not a life choice. In today's world, many Christian people generally base their values and beliefs on the Bible, and using that guideline, homosexuality is wrong, which leads us to the conclusion that homosexuals adopting is wrong because a child should not be raised in a sinful environment.

In short, the answer, if one has not yet came to that conclusion is this; homosexual partners should not be able to adopt. Gay couples adopting children is illegal in a majority of the world and many are working to make it illegal everywhere. Also, it is not right with God. A child needs a mom and a dad, because that is how God intended it to be. Homosexual partners should not be able to practice adoption because though adoption is a good thing, it should be reserved for heterosexual parents.



Who sets standards of a suitable parent?

Maddie Marquardt

Copy Editor

According to administrators at the Evan B. Donaldson Adoption Institute; "Laws and policies that prevent adoption by gay or lesbian parents disadvantage the tens of thousands of children mired in the foster care system that need permanent, loving homes."

Speaking of, there are over 163 million orphans in the world. There are 60.3 million married couples in the US alone. Out of those couples most of them have children of their own, or chose not to have children. Currently in America, there are 520,000 unfortunate children in the foster care system. According to the North American Council on Adoptable Children, of those in foster care, 120,000

are available for adoption, but only 50,000 find permanent homes each year. Which brings me to the real question, why then shouldn't homosexual couples in committed relationships, who pass the adoption agencies standards be legally able to adopt orphaned children?

Whether or not homosexuality is right or wrong, it is very present in society, and will not be disappearing anytime soon. That said, would society prefer to leave children without a home or bouncing around the foster care system rather than having them be nurtured and cared for in a stable home environment, even if they are being raised by a same-sex couple?

First, I would like to make clear that my stand-point on this issue is not about homosexuals, it is simply about meeting the needs of children. The very needs of children who are in dire need of a home, a family, and the chance for a good life. Although the country is split on whether or not homosexuals should legally be allowed to marry, most Americans agree that the foster care system is not the ideal living situation. According to statistics by the Foster Care Alumni, only 54 percent of

children in the foster care system earned a high school diploma, and only 2 percent went on to college and earned a Bachelor's degree. 51 percent were reported unemployed, and 25 percent had been homeless.

One of the main arguments against homosexual couples adopting or fostering children is that the parent's homosexuality will influence their children's upbringing and also affect their sexual orientation. All of the research to date has reached the same indisputable conclusion about gay parenting: the children of lesbian and gay parents grow up as successfully as the children of heterosexual parents. In fact, not a single study has found the children of lesbian or gay parents to be disadvantaged because of their parents' sexual orientation.

According to an article in the International Adoption database, researchers wrote, "Good parenting is not influenced by sexual orientation. Rather, it is influenced most profoundly by a parent's ability to create a loving and nurturing home -- an ability that does not depend on whether a parent is gay or straight."

It is common knowledge that we as humans are all flawed; however, some are more flawed than others. How then, can members of American society sit back and judge whether or not someone is a suitable parent simply by their sexual orientation? Shouldn't we leave such an important decision up to professionals who scrutinize the couple, based on numerous characteristics, not just one-narrow minded one such as sexuality? Whether or not homosexuality is morally correct, homosexuals are human beings, who are as compassionate, caring and suitable parents as heterosexuals.

