Kent and I were on BART last week – the guys with the Bible – other passengers on BART - “Amazon women” got on for the Pride Parade – a guy in a black kilt – he chose to sit next to Kent!

Prophetic and pastoral in tone – further lunacy in California – the California legislature passed AB1266 Wednesday that guarantees the rights of all students to bathrooms, locker rooms, and sports teams, that conform to their sexual identity – who do they think they are!

I. THE LEGAL CONTEXT
II. THE BIBLICAL CONTEXT
III. THE PHILOSOPHICAL CONTEXT

A. Answering the critics

1. Discrimination

“It’s another form of discrimination.” – yes it is – but we discriminate against people every day of our lives – we discriminate against those who smoke, crooked politicians, people who swindle little old ladies out of their life savings, etc. – less than six percent of gays get married – this isn’t about marriage or love or equal rights – it’s about validation of their sexual sin – and anyone who doesn’t see it that way is severely discriminated against

2. Equal rights

Misnomer – they already have “equal rights” – they have all the rights heterosexuals have – they want special rights – the right to do something no one ultimately has the right to do – change the definition of “sex” – it can mean anything you feel like it means – and the definition of “marriage” – “marriage” required no definition for thousands of years

Their logic makes no sense – they want “equal rights” with heterosexual marriage yet they condemn it as a failed institution – they ask, “How can you condone Brittany Spears’ 54 hour marriage and condemn a loving homosexual marriage?” – this is illogical – 1) If they think heterosexual marriage has failed, then why do homosexuals want to get married? – 2) The divorce rate and Brittany Spears do not represent all heterosexual marriages – that is a slap in the face to the millions of committed heterosexual couples who love each other, care for their children and try to keep them away from harm – homosexuals are literally saying, “We want equal rights to the fighting and bitterness and divorces of heterosexual marriages.”

3. Civil rights

Gays liken their struggle to the civil rights struggles of the 60s – not even close – homosexuals are not a “class” of people – neither are heterosexuals – we are males and females, not homosexuals and heterosexuals – you will find many former homosexuals – you won’t find any former African-Americans – homosexual behavior is harmful – skin color is not – opposing same-sex marriage is not like opposing slavery

4. Born that way

Albert Kinsey’s study in 1940s asked homosexuals how they got that way – nine percent said they were “born that way” same number in a study of gays in San Francisco in 1970 – by 1983 35% made this claim1 – what changed?

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What changed was a study in 1991 by Dr. Simon LeVay, a neuroscientist at Salk Institute in La Jolla – examined brains of 41 cadavers – 19 homosexual men – 16 heterosexual men – six homosexual women – focused on a group of neurons in the hypothalamus structure called the “interstitial nuclei of the anterior hypothalamus” – or INAH3 – published results in Science magazine in August 1991 – found this area to be larger in heterosexuals than homosexuals – he postulated that homosexuals are born that way – the media ran with it - case closed – “official”

The findings are faulty for several reasons:

- LeVay was biased – he told Newsweek in September of 1991 that he began this study after his gay lover died – said he was determined to find a genetic cause of homosexuality or he would abandon science all together
- Most glaring oversight – he admits a “distinct shortcoming” in determining which of his subjects were homosexual and which were heterosexual – he assumed they were heterosexual if they did not say they were gay – he ignored the fact that six of the 16 “heterosexual” men died of AIDS – yet he labeled them as heterosexual
- Results weren’t consistent with his results – hypothalamus of three gays were larger than the heterosexuals’ – and three of the heterosexuals had a smaller hypothalamus than the gays – 17% of his test group contradicted his theory
- It’s unclear whether behavior affects brain structure or brain structure affects behavior – i.e. – Dr. Kenneth Klivington, also of Salk Institute, disagreed with LeVay, saying you can’t tell which comes first – brain circuitry or behavior – in 1992, Dr. Lewis Baxter of UCLA reported that behavior can affect brain circuitry – i.e. – homosexuality could affect the size and wiring of the brain
- The scientific community didn’t accept LeVay’s study – Dr. Anne Fausto-Sterling of Brown University said, “My freshman biology students know enough to sink this study.”

Noteworthy – that was 22 years ago – many studies have been done with twins – psychologist Dr. Michael Bailey of Northwestern (gay-rights advocate) and psychiatrist Richard Pillard of Boston University School of Medicine (an open homosexual) did a series of “twin studies” – assumes if a “gay gene” is present it would affect identical twins – not true

5. It’s about “love”

No one denies love to gays – they are like every human being – we all need to be loved – nothing prevents a homosexual from being loved outside a sexual relationship from family members and friends

But when love is used in a sexual way outside of heterosexual marriage it isn’t love – it’s lust – “love” for my neighbor’s wife isn’t “love,” it’s lust – how can it be “love” when so few of them will ever end up married – when their lifestyle brings much greater incidence of depression, disease, and death – when most of them will have hundreds of sexual partners

B. The case for heterosexual marriage

O’Reilly’s challenge – F-A-M-I-L-Y

1. Foundation of society

“Same-sex marriage” would have seemed like an oxymoron 30 years ago – like “the darkness of the sun” – “flat earth” – “flying pig” – same logic used in Roe v. Wade in 1973 – Supreme Court invented a “right to privacy” that is not found in the constitution to validate giving a woman the right to kill a baby in her womb – most sacred of all places in the universe – Justice William O. Douglas in a contributing case, Griswold v. Connecticut, said he “discovered” this “right to privacy” in the “emanations” from the “penumbra” mystically hidden in the third and fourth Amendments to the Constitution and between the ninth and tenth Amendments. What is a “penumbra”? It is

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2 “Is This Child Gay?” Newsweek, 9 September, 1991, p. 52.
a cloudy shadow around the moon. – the “penumbra” logic has struck again – pigs are flying somewhere because “same-sex marriage” is now the law in California.

Heterosexual marriage IS THE FOUNDATION OF SOCIETY

- Provides the best source of emotional and sexual intimacy for males and females
- Heterosexual marriage is the birthplace of the next generation – the school that teaches them – the resident doctor which kisses the boo-boos – disciplines them – helps shape their worldview and emotional lives
- The home provides love, acceptance, encouragement, education, safe environment

Some attack the heterosexual home because of statistics on divorce and violence – they use this as the baseline for their argument!

Heterosexual marriage:

- Civilizes man – highest percent of crime is done by unmarried men
- Protects women – best way for a woman to be protected from crime and poverty is to get married to a man
- Socializes children
- Provides economic stability for society – men are inclined to work – mom and dad take care of kids – keeps kids out of trouble and the family off welfare

“F” could also stand for ‘financial’ stability – children raised in heterosexual homes are:

- Seven times less likely to live in poverty
- Six times less likely to commit suicide
- Half as likely to commit crime
- Half as likely to become pregnant out of wedlock
- Develop better academically and socially
- Will be healthier emotionally and socially as adults

Changing the meaning of “marriage” doesn’t change 5,000 years of accepted terminology regarding the key relationship between a man and woman that formed the bedrock of all society. This has now been turned on its head – by a group of non-elected judges

2. **Advances culture**

British anthropologist J. D. Unwin reached this conclusion after conducting exhaustive research to investigate the assertions made by Sigmund Freud. Unwin discovered that Freud's call for the liberation of sexual behavior had grave consequences for society. In his research Unwin chronicled the historical decline of eighty-six different cultures spanning 5000 years and found that "strict marital monogamy" was central to social energy and growth.

Indeed, no society flourished for more than three generations without it. Unwin wrote, "In human records there is no instance of a society retaining its energy after a complete new generation has inherited a tradition which does not insist on prenuptial and postnuptial continence" (by which he meant abstinence from sex outside of marriage). – couldn’t “same sex marriage do that? – first – only 4% of gays want to marry! – second – research by the American College of Pediatricians shows that “homosexual couples provide a far less safe and stable environment for children. They note that violence among homosexual partners is two to three times more common than among married heterosexual couples, and homosexual partnerships are significantly more prone to dissolution than heterosexual marriages, with the average homosexual relationship lasting only two to three years. Homosexuals are more likely to experience mental illness, substance abuse, suicidal tendencies, and shortened life spans.

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conclude, ‘Given the current body of research, the American College of Pediatricians believes it is inappropriate, potentially hazardous to children, and dangerously irresponsible to change the age-old prohibition on homosexual parenting, whether by adoption, foster care, or by reproductive manipulation. This position is rooted in the best available science.’”

3. **Maintains better health**

Should go without saying that homosexual practices involve unsanitary practices, especially for males – psychiatrist Jeffrey Satinover lists the health risks for gays

- A significantly decreased likelihood of establishing or preserving a successful marriage
- A twenty-five to thirty-year decrease in life expectancy
- Chronic, potentially fatal, liver disease—infected hepatitis, which increases the risk of liver cancer
- Inevitably fatal immune disease including associated cancers
- Frequently fatal rectal cancer
- Multiple bowel and other infectious diseases
- A much higher than usual incidence of suicide

Another well-kept secret is how physically dangerous homosexual behavior is. I’m not going to describe the kinds of sexual activity practiced by homosexuals, but just let me say that our bodies, male and female, are designed for sexual intercourse in a way that two male bodies are not. As a result, homosexual activity, 80% of which is carried out by men, is very destructive, resulting eventually in such problems as prostate damage, ulcers and ruptures, and chronic incontinence and diarrhea.

In addition to these physical problems, sexually transmitted diseases are rampant among the homosexual population. 75% of homosexual men carry one or more sexually transmitted diseases, wholly apart from AIDS. These include all sorts of non-viral infections like gonorrhea, syphilis, bacterial infections, and parasites. Also common among homosexuals are viral infections like herpes and hepatitis B (which afflicts 65% of homosexual men), both of which are incurable, as well as hepatitis A and anal warts, which afflict 40% of homosexual men. And I haven’t even included AIDS. Perhaps the most shocking and frightening statistic is that, leaving aside those who die from AIDS, the life expectancy for a homosexual male is about 45 years of age. That compares to a life expectancy of around 70 for men in general. If you include those who die of AIDS, which now infects 30% of homosexual men, the life expectancy drops to 39 years of age.

Bottom line – free sex = free sickness

4. **Insulates children**

James Dobson says there are over 10,000 social studies that show the advantages of children raised by a mother and a father – homosexual activists have inconsistent logic – when it comes to children they say that the sex of the parent makes no difference, men and women are the same – but when it comes to their own sexual preference, they build their whole identity of the sex of their partner! – while homosexuals only comprise 2-3% of the population, they commit 1/3 of all child molestation cases

[University of Texas-Austin, June 2012: Dr. Mark Regnerus leads a team of researchers on another peer-reviewed homosexual “parenting” study labeled: “How different are the adult children of parents who have same-sex relationships?” The study was published in the journal *Social Science Research*. Their summary – “[T]he data show rather clearly that children raised by gay or lesbian parents on average are at a significant disadvantage when compared to children raised by the intact family of their married, biological mother and father.”

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7 Frank Turek, *Correct, But Not Politically Correct* (Charlotte, NC: Cross Examined, 2008), 84.
Focus on the Family’s “Citizenlink” summarized, “According to [Regnerus'] findings, children raised by homosexual parents are more likely than those raised by married heterosexual parents to suffer from poor impulse control, depression and suicidal thoughts, require mental health therapy; identify themselves as homosexual; choose cohabitation; be unfaithful to partners; contract sexually transmitted diseases; be sexually molested; have lower income levels; drink to get drunk; and smoke tobacco and marijuana.”

5. **Live longer**

In April 1993 three researchers presented a paper to the Eastern Psychological Association in which they analyzed the age of death for nearly seven thousand homosexuals and heterosexuals by obituary notices in a large number of gay and a smaller number of large non-gay newspapers. They found that the gay male life span, *even apart from AIDS and with a long-term partner*, is significantly shorter than that of married men in general *by more than three decades*. AIDS further shortens the life span of homosexual men by more than 7 percent. – various estimates from seven to ten years to as high as 25 years

6. **Yields the next generation**

Can’t happen in homosexual marriage – they have to “borrow” children produced by heterosexual couple – can’t produce their own

IV. **THE SOCIAL CONTEXT**

A. **The demise of the family**

Same as Israel – when they forgot God they began to intermarry – we’ve already done that – the marital choice is most important in the world – best form of earthly love – best way to make good citizens – best way to advance culture – can’t happen without God

B. **Blurred morality**

Context of sin – polls follow Supreme Court – we now kill babies in the womb – can’t tell the difference between a boy and a girl – think that two men make a family – no wonder crime increases – when morality is so loosely defined, anything goes!

C. **Loss of free speech**

A prime candidate for the football coaching job at Stanford University was disqualified because he held biblically based views on homosexual behavior. Ron Brown, an assistant coach at the University of Nebraska, had called homosexual behavior a sin while talking on a Christian radio show in 1999. Alan Glenn, the assistant athletic director of human resources at Stanford, said: "Brown's religion was definitely something that had to be considered."

Courtney Wooten, the social director of Stanford's Queer Straight Social and Political Alliance made it clear that Brown's beliefs were a problem: "We're a very diverse community with diverse alumni. Wow, it would have been really hard for him here. He would be poorly received by the student body in general.

Brown noted the different standard held for Christians who don't toe the line on homosexual behavior. He stated, "If I had been discriminated against for being black, they would've never told me that. They had no problem telling me it was because of my Christian beliefs. That's amazing to me." 

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D. Religious freedom

R. Albert Mohler, Jr., President, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky – “The homosexual agenda cannot succeed unless religious liberty is forfeited. This may well be the most significant religious liberty issue of our time.”

We have lost the culture war – lost the media – lost academia – lost freedom of speech – now we are losing the family – next will come the church

What will the church be in the coming generation? – adapt to the new morality and forget God? – or will we cling to God even if it means losing our property, freedom, and status? – will this be the start of a new “dark ages” in America – Isaiah 63:10 – “But they rebelled And grieved His Holy Spirit; Therefore He turned Himself to become their enemy, He fought against them.”

Encouragement – fertile ground for the gospel – our primary job is not to save America! – the America I knew in my childhood is gone – little sign of returning – government can’t help – courts are beyond reach

E. Where do we go from here?

1. Proclaim the Gospel

Now is not the time to act like sore losers – we don’t march in the street – wave banners – shout at reporters – attack the opposition

What do we do?
- Pray for the deceived souls who fall into gay lifestyle
- Live in loving, compassionate way to all people
- Proclaim – as the world gets darker the Gospel will appear brighter – people can’t live in sin without reaping the consequences – God will prepare hearts to be saved after they have wallowed in sin

Luke 8 – parable of four soils – Luke 8:5 – “The sower went out to sow his seed...” – Luke 8:11 – “…the seed is the word of God.” – we are the sowers – 2 Corinthians 4:7 – “But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves.” – we sow the seed – we tell people about the saving work of Christ – that message is sown on:
- Hard soil – “trampled...birds ate it” – Luke 8:5 - Satan distorts it
- Rocky soil – “grew up...withered away” – Luke 8:13 – “receive with joy...no firm root...believe for awhile...in time of temptation fall away”
- Thorns – “hear...go on their way...choked with worries riches and pleasures...no fruit.” – Luke 8:14
- Good soil – “grew up...produced crop a hundred times as great” – Luke 8:8 – the Gospel produces fruit – not logic, education, arguing,

[Riley – broken leg – couldn’t see it] – homosexuals are broken inside – can’t see it – only the Gospel can heal

2. Live the Gospel

Governor Brown, on signing SB1172 on September 30, 2012 – it outlaws mental health professionals from offering any type of reparative therapies for minors aimed at altering sexual orientation or gender identities and expressions. – he said, “This bill bans non-scientific 'therapies' that have driven young people to depression and suicide. These
practices have no basis in science or medicine and they will now be relegated to the dustbin of quackery.”¹⁴ – California Is First State to Ban Gay ‘Cure’ for Minors – where will they get help now?

This doesn’t mean living a pharisaic life – ignoring sin and patting ourselves on the back – living the gospel means adopting the values of the gospel:

- Acknowledging sin – all sin
- Repentance
- Forgiveness – better than Christmas!
- New life in Christ

Three areas:
- Private – be bold – might lose job!
- Public – jobs, school, neighbors
- Church – place for all to deal with their sin – pornography – adultery – homosexuality – pre-marital – open conversation – confidential support – healing community

Live a counter-culture life – truth and grace – don’t “drink the Kool-Aid” of the popular culture – all moralities are okay – there is no truth

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What is happening in your world regarding the recent decisions of the Supreme Court?

2. What are the strongest statements of those who support same-sex marriage? How would you answer them?


4. What changes will these decisions bring socially?

5. What should be the reaction of the church to this situation?

6. Will these decisions change your life in any way? How?