

Referenced Leaflet

Why Not Same-Sex “Marriage”?

The Purposes and Goods of Marriage Absent from Same-Sex “Marriage”

Same-sex “marriage” is not marriage because it doesn’t meet any of the purposes of marriage.¹

- (i) It can’t, of itself, be procreative.²
- (ii) It is not genuinely unitive. It doesn’t provide mutual assistance. It doesn’t involve the physical, emotional, intellectual or spiritual complementarity that a man and a woman experience in marriage.²
- (iii) The mean duration for male same-sex partnerships of whatever kind in Holland is 1.5 years.³ Female same-sex partnerships don’t last much longer. Clearly, when sex is abused either by heterosexual or same-sex-attracted persons, it doesn’t quiet concupiscence, ‘the first consequence’ of Original Sin.⁴ Rather does it aggravate the addiction.
- (iv) Accordingly, same-sex “marriage” doesn’t have anything analogous to the 3 goods of marriage, the good of children [*i.e.* producing and/or rearing children by a man married to a woman]; the good of loyalty; nor the good of lifelong commitment.⁵

A Confidence Trick — Status, Inheritance, no EU consensus on the Matter

Same-sex “marriage” is a confidence trick, mainly to do with status and inheritance rights. Same-sex pairs tend to be older, and that indicates that inheritance is the primary reason for “marriage” in their case.⁶ A majority of those practising same-sex-attracted persons who don’t want to change, though they tacitly support the homosexualist agenda, are not looking for same-sex “marriage” for themselves, nor are they looking for a civil right to adopt children.⁷ By way of comparison with same-sex civil partnerships, 1.7% of the Danish same-sex-attracted population was registered as being in civil partnership during the years 1990–1998.⁸

On Tuesday, July 16, 2014, the Grand Chamber of the European Court of Human Rights [ECHR] ruled that Finland was not in breach of the European Convention on Human Rights for not allowing same-sex “marriage”. The Grand Chamber pointed out that that Convention actually enshrines the concept of marriage as being between one man and one woman. The Grand Chamber also stated that it may not be claimed that there is a European consensus on the matter, as only 10 member states out of 27 in the EU allow same-sex “marriage”. Unfortunately since then Finland has moved to legalize same-sex “marriage”.⁹ Now 12 of the member states of the Council of Europe will allow same-sex “marriage”. That is, if the Finnish Bill becomes law, 12 altogether of the 47 states of the Council of Europe, will permit it. Only about 20 of the 200 countries listed in the CIA World Factbook permit it, or 20 of the 192 states of the UN.

Damage to Health and Life Expectancy of Same-Sex-Attracted Persons

Same-sex “marriage” does further damage to same-sex-attracted persons in that it adds to societal acceptance of homosexuality as normal. The biggest single percentage of those infected with HIV in Ireland are men infected by men. The median age of adult cases of HIV is 34 years. Men infecting men account for 46.2% of cases. 75.1% of the infected are male. 41.0% of the infected are Irish-born.¹⁰ Homosexual activity involves significant damage to the health of the same-sex-attracted person, and eventually becomes a serious threat to his/her life. The average age for the diagnosis of cancer in persons with same-sex attraction in the U.S. is 41, and same-sex-attracted men contract cancer earlier in life.¹¹ According to a Danish study, the average age of death for practising same-sex-attracted persons in a “marriage” relationship is 60. 74 is the corresponding average age of death for married men, and 78 for married women. Denmark in 1989 was the first country to give same-sex

partnerships legal recognition.¹² A Danish study has shown further that same-sex “marriage” involves an abnormally high mortality rate, among women especially.¹³ A recent Australian study has demonstrated that it is the disordered nature of homosexual activity itself, rather than societal pressures against homosexuality, that leads to a significant rate of suicide among same-sex-attracted pairs.¹⁴ The Irish Government campaigns against smoking, drink-driving and obesity. Why not a campaign in favour of the virtues of chastity and normality?

Lesbians are at very high risk of breast cancer, at higher than average risk of cervical cancers, and in fact only 7% have never been involved with men.¹⁵

Homosexuality Not Immutable, Same-Sex-Attracted Persons Can Be Helped to Change

A recent statement from the Royal College of Psychiatrists in London affirms: ‘It is not the case that sexual orientation is immutable or might not vary to some extent in a person’s life.’¹⁶ Oddly enough, the Royal College are not in favour of therapy that would help same-sex-attracted persons achieve heterosexuality. However they do favour therapy in order to ease the sufferings of the same-sex-attracted person. Change therapy is illegal in some U.S. states, California and New Jersey, for example. Experts such as the U.S. psychiatrist, Dr Richard Fitzgibbons, and the Dutch psychologist, Dr Gerard van den Aardweg, say that same-sex-attracted persons, through therapy, can be helped to change. The change is most profound among those with religious faith. According to Dr Fitzgibbons: ‘When forgiveness and Christian spirituality are essential parts of the treatment, it has been my clinical experience that the recovery rate from the emotional pain and subsequent homosexual behavior approaches 100% in those who are truly committed to the process.’ Dr van den Aardweg points out that in the case of non-religious persons, receiving ordinary secular therapy, a significant percentage, while not experiencing profound change, can experience, through therapy, a significant easing of their sufferings.¹⁷

Sexual Abuse Perpetrated by Same-sex-attracted Persons, Adoption not in Children’s Best Interest

Given that most sexual abuse is by men, and only about 2% of the population are same-sex-attracted, it is to be concluded that sexual abuse is disproportionately homosexual in nature. As *The SAVI Report* [2002] points out: ‘Overall, almost one-third of women and a quarter of men reported some level of sexual abuse in childhood.’¹⁸ Though as little as 0.3% of the population overall avail of same-sex “marriage” where it becomes available — in Holland for example — U.S. studies have shown that children raised by non-marital couples, including same-sex pairs, are 8 times more likely to be harmed,¹⁹ and 50 times more likely to die from injuries inflicted upon them.²⁰ A recent study by the U.S. Center for Disease Control concluded that the best environment in which to raise a child is that provided by his/her biological parents.²¹ It is feared that the sexual abuse of children and adolescents will double if same-sex “marriage” is accepted, as sex abusers will use same-sex “marriage”, and adoption rights, to get access to victims. Dr van den Aardweg says that 40% of male same-sex-attracted persons have some ephebophile inclinations, [ephebophilia = sexual attraction to teenagers], and a small percentage also have paedophile inclinations, [paedophilia = sexual attraction to pre-pubertal children].²² Ireland once had unquestioning deference to priests and religious, and that led to disastrous results. Is that unquestioning deference to be transferred now to same-sex-attracted pairs? In the most comprehensive study to date on households headed by same-sex pairs, Donald Paul Sullins has shown that children raised in such households do indeed do worse at school, and suffer emotionally. That contradicts the assertion by the homosexualist side that peer-reviewed studies that such children fare as well as children in houses headed by the married mother and father of the children. See also the 2015 amicus brief from the American College of Pediatricians, Family Watch International, Loren D. Marks, Mark D. Regnerus, and Donald Paul Sullins to the Supreme Court of the United States on children who are raised by same-sex pairs, in which it is affirmed that there is an increase in the sexual abuse of children when they are raised by same-sex pairs who are “married”.²³

Indoctrination, Severe Restriction on Freedom of Expression and Religion, Abolition of Marriage

If same-sex “marriage” is legislated for in Ireland, it will lead, almost inevitably, to indoctrination through the education system, a severe restriction on freedom of expression and religion, and a bid to abolish the legal recognition of marriage. Persecution has already started in England, and Scotland, Scandinavia, the U.S., and Canada, for example. Catholic adoption agencies in England have had to close down because they refused to give children for adoption to same-sex pairs. Catholic adoption agencies in Northern Ireland are to cease their involvement in adoption for the same reason. Daniel McArthur, a Protestant baker who owns Asher’s Bakery, Co. Antrim, has been fined for refusing to bake a cake with a homosexualist motto in icing on it. Tony Miano, an American street evangelist, was arrested in Dundee, Scotland, on January 9, 2014, on charges of “homophobic” aggravation, but charges were dropped. Brendan Eich, who was briefly CEO of Firefox Mozilla in California, was forced out of his post when it was discovered that he has made a contribution of \$1000 to the campaign in favour of California Proposition 8 there, a legal proposition in favour of traditional marriage. Professor Brendan Bain a West-Indian Christian, an expert on AIDS, was fired by the University of the West Indies when he advised a Belizean group that homosexual activity is dangerous to those who practise it and to public health generally. Masha Gessen, a homosexualist activist, says that the institution of marriage should not exist.²⁴ All these stories are readily accessible on the Internet.

The Government Doesn’t Trust You to Vote the “Politically Correct” Way — General Scheme of a Children and Family Relationships Bill 2014

The Government doesn’t trust the people to vote the “politically correct” way on this issue in 2015. That is why the Government intends, before the referendum on same-sex “marriage” to have dealt with some “extraneous” related issues by legislation entitled the ‘Children and Family Relationships Bill 2014’.²⁵

Glossary

Procreative Purpose of Marriage: The aspect of marriage that requires that a married couple be open to the children that God may send them and resolve to raise them as true followers of Jesus Christ. The unitive and procreative aspects of marriage form an unbreakable bond.*

Complementarity: that man and woman should live together, complement each other (*mutuum adiutorium*); intimate cooperation between the man and the woman in a marriage.

Original Sin: The personal sin of disobedience committed by the first human beings resulting in the deprivation of original holiness and charity and the experience of suffering and death. It also describes the fallen state of all human beings, including the experience of concupiscence, ignorance of God and suffering and death.*

Concupiscence: The disorder in our human appetites and desires as the result of Original Sin. These effects remain even after Baptism and produce an inclination to sin.*

Median: the middle value of an odd set of values by rank, or the average of the middle two values in an even set of values by rank.

*Definitions from ‘Glossary’, *An Irish Catholic Catechism for Adults* (Irish Episcopal Conference: Veritas 2014), p. 565, p. 563, p. 551 respectively.

Background Reading

Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith:

Persona Humana, Declaration on Certain Questions Concerning Sexual Ethics (1975)
Section VIII.

Letter to the Bishops of the Catholic Church on the Pastoral Care of the Homosexual Persons (Rome 1986) §§8–16.

Some Considerations Concerning the Response to Legislative Proposals on the Non-Discrimination of Homosexual Persons (1992), Section II Applications, §10–16.

John Paul II, Angelus Address, Sunday, February 20, 1994; Angelus Address, Sunday, June 19, 1994.

Catechism of the Catholic Church (1994), “Chastity and homosexuality”, §2357–2359.

Considerations Regarding Proposals to Give Legal Recognition to Unions between Homosexual Persons (2003).

Irish Bishops

Irish Episcopal Conference, *Irish Catholic Catechism for Adults* (Veritas: Dublin 2014).

Jem Sullivan, *Irish Catholic Catechism for Adults Study Guide* (Veritas: Dublin 2014).

Dr Kevin Doran, ‘Marriage and the Common Good’, Address by Bishop Kevin Doran given at Iona Institute event, Roscommon, 27th November 2014, www.elphindiocese.ie

Irish Catholic Bishops Conference, *The Meaning of Marriage*, www.catholicbishops.ie

Various Authors and Experts

Rev. John Harvey, O.S.F.S. *The Homosexual Person: New Thinking in Pastoral Care* (Ignatius Press: San Francisco 1987).

The Truth about Homosexuality: The Cry of the Faithful (Ignatius Press: San Francisco 1996).

with Gerard V. Bradley, Editors, *Same-Sex Attraction: A Parents’ Guide* (St. Augustine’s Press, South Bend, Indiana 2003).

Homosexuality and the Catholic Church: Clear Answers to Difficult Questions (Ascension Press, West Chester, Pennsylvania 2007).

Gerard J. M. van den Aardweg, Ph.D., *The Battle for Normality: A Guide for (Self-)Therapy for Homosexuality* (Ignatius Press: San Francisco 1997).

Dr Joseph Nicolosi, *The Gay Psyche — A Psychologist’s Insight*. Special CD and booklet offer. Available from Human Life International (Ireland) Guadalupe Centre, Main Street, Knock, Co. Mayo.

Dale O’Leary, *The Gender Agenda: Redefining Equality* (Vital Issues Press: Lafayette, Los Angeles 1997).

One Man, One Woman: A Catholic’s Guide to Defending Marriage (Sophia Institute Press: Manchester, New Hampshire 2007).

Melina Selmys, *Sexual Authenticity: An Intimate Reflection on Homosexuality and Catholicism* (Our Sunday Visitor, Huntington, Indiana 2009).

Robert R. Reilly, *Making Gay Okay: How Rationalizing Homosexual Behavior is Changing Everything* (Ignatius Press: San Francisco 2014).

Catholic Medical Association, *Homosexuality & Hope: Questions and Answers About Same-Sex Attraction* (1999; 2003; 2008; 2010).

The U.S. Catholic psychiatrist, Richard Fitzgibbons, MD, and the Dutch Catholic psychologist, Gerard J. M. van den Aardweg, Ph.D., both have several articles on the Internet, and they are very well worth reading. Both are members of the National Association for Research & Therapy [NARTH], www.narth.com, as is the U.S. psychologist, Dr Joseph Nicolosi.

Dr Fitzgibbons is Director of the Institute for Marital Healing, Conshohocken, Pennsylvania, U.S.A., and has appeared frequently on EWTN.

¹ Archbishop Karol Wojtyła [(St.) Pope John Paul II], *Love and Responsibility* (Krakow 1960; Vatican City 1979; London 1981; 1982) ‘Index’, s.v. **marriage, ends of**, pp. 30–1; 66–9; 218. ‘Ends’ here is another word for ‘purposes’; [St.] John Paul II, *Man and Woman He Created Them: A Theology of the Body* [translated by Professor Michael Waldstein (Pauline Books and Media 2006)].

² Paul VI, *Humanae Vitae* (1968) §12 **Union and Procreation**; *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (Veritas: Dublin 1994) §2357.

³ Dr Gerard van den Aardweg, ‘Gay Marriage: Some Data’, March 2014. Supplied by Dr van den Aardweg, the prominent Dutch Catholic psychologist, and expert on homosexuality.

⁴ Pius XI, *Casti Connubii*, §59; *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (Veritas: Dublin 1994), §1607, §494, §§2514–2516; Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, *Letter to the Bishops of the Catholic Church on the collaboration of men and women in the Church and in the World* (Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith 2004) §§7, 8.

⁵ Rt Rev. Mgr Gerard Sheehy, Chairman of Editorial Board, *The Canon Law Letter and Spirit — A Practical Guide to the Code of Canon Law* (Veritas: Dublin 1995) Can. 1101 §2, pp. 616–617. In Latin those goods are called respectively *bonum prolis*, *bonum fidei*, and *bonum sacramenti*.

⁶ Patricia Morgan, ‘What happens to marriage and families when the law recognises “Same-Sex Marriage”?’’, Submission to HoC [House of Commons] (Same-Sex Couples) Bill Committee, 1 March 2013. Society for the Protection of Unborn Children, 3 Whitacre Mews, London SE11. Point 18 i. The evidence cited by Patricia Morgan is from Norway and Sweden, but Dr Gerard van den Aardweg has noticed this link with inheritance also.

⁷ Dr Gerard van den Aardweg, ‘Gay Marriage: Some Data’, March 2014. Supplied by Dr van den Aardweg. About 2% of the population are same-sex-attracted, but [in contrast to the figure for same-sex **partnerships** (1.7% of same-sex-attracted persons in Denmark)] only 15% of this 2% avail of same-sex “**marriage**”, i.e. 0.3% of the general population. The latter is based on Dutch statistics.

⁸ Patricia Morgan, ‘What happens to marriage and families when the law recognises “Same-Sex Marriage”?’’, Submission to HoC [House of Commons] (Same-Sex Couples) Bill Committee, 1 March 2013. Society for the Protection of Unborn Children, 3 Whitacre Mews, London SE11. Point 9.

⁹ www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/human-rights-court-cannot-be-forced-to-redefine-marriage-24798. *The Guardian*, Friday, November 28, 2014.

¹⁰ *HIV in Ireland, 2013 — In Brief, 27 May 2014* (Health Protection Surveillance Centre [HPSC]).

¹¹ Ulrike Boehmer, *et al.*, ‘Cancer Survivorship and Sexual Orientation’, *Cancer* (May 9, 2011).

¹² Dr Gerard van den Aardweg, ‘Gay Marriage: Some Data’, March 2014. See also Sheila Rule, ‘Rights for Gay Couples in Denmark’, *The New York Times* (October 2, 1989).

¹³ Morten Frisch, Henrik Brønnum-Hansen, ‘Mortality among men and women in same-sex marriage: a national cohort study of 8333 Danes’, *American Journal of Public Health* (2009), 99: 133–137.

¹⁴ Delaney Michael Skerret PhD, Kairi Kolves PhD, Diego de Leo MD, PhD, DSc, FRANZCP, AO, ‘Suicide rates among lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender populations in Australia: An Analysis of the Queensland Suicide Register’, *Asia-Pacific Psychiatry* (April 2, 2014).

¹⁵ Robert R. Reilly, *Making Gay Okay* (Ignatius Press: San Francisco 2014) p. 218.

¹⁶ Royal College of Psychiatrists’ statement on sexual orientation. Position statement PS02/2014. April 2014.

¹⁷ Dr Richard Fitzgibbons MD: “The healing of homosexual attractions and behaviors”, ‘Origin and Healing of Homosexual Attractions and Behaviors’, Catholic Education Resource Center,

www.catholiceducation.org/articles/homosexuality/ho0011.html; communication by e-mail. from Dutch Catholic psychologist Dr van den Aardweg.

¹⁸ ‘Characteristics of Sexual Abuse and Violence in Childhood’, *The SAVI Report — Sexual Abuse and Violence in Ireland* (Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland: October 2002) xxxiii, 176.

¹⁹ Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, *Abuse, Neglect, Adoption and Foster Care Research National Incidence Study of Child Abuse and Neglect (NIS-4) 2004–2009* (March 2010).

²⁰ Patricia G. Schnitzer, PhD, Bernard G. Ewigman, MD, MSPH, ‘Child deaths resulting from inflicted injuries: household risk factors and perpetrator characteristics’, *Pediatrics* (2005) 116:687-93.

²¹ Matthew D. Bramlett, PhD, National Center for Health Statistics; Laura F. Radel, M.P.P., Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, *Adverse Family Experiences Among Children in Nonparental Care, 2011–2012* (National Health Statistics Reports), Number 74 (May 7, 2014).

²² The opinion of Dr Gerard van den Aardweg, the prominent Dutch psychologist and expert on homosexuality, given in the previously-mentioned document, ‘Gay Marriage: Some Data’, dated March 2014.

²³ Donald Paul Sullins, ‘Emotional Problems Among Children with Same-Sex Parents: Difference by Definition, January 25, 2015, *British Journal of Education, Society and Behavioural Science* 7(2): 99–120, 2015. Amicus Brief to the Supreme Court of the United States of America from the American College of Pediatricians, Family Watch International, Loren D. Marks, Mark D. Regnerus, and Donald Paul Sullins (2015).

²⁴ John Paul II, *Memory and Identity* (2005). Accounts of the instances of persecution listed are available on the Internet. Masha Gessen, a homosexualist activist, said that ‘it’s a no-brainer that the institution of marriage should not exist.’ The comment was made in May 2012 on a panel at the Sydney Writers’ Festival in Australia.

²⁵ www.adfam.ie/Downloads, Leaflet on the Children and Family Relationships Bill.