

Homosexuality And The Black Community

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Is Gay REALLY the New Black?

Do African-Americans have a special responsibility to fight for LGBT equality?

Some time ago, it was suggested by one of our contributors to include pieces on the LGBT community. As recent events continue to unfold about gay rights and with the announcement by University of Missouri All-American defensive lineman Michael Sam that he is gay. (As a top draft choice, he is likely to become the first openly Gay NFL player.) I believe this article is timely.

When I was growing up in the 60s and 70s, the term "gay" meant "happy". As a heterosexual

male I was taught that homosexuality was wrong, ungodly and to shun men who acted like "sissy's".

In my college sociology courses, I learned about societal "taboos" and "stigmas" and that these attitudes developed as ways to identify acceptable and non-acceptable behavior in society. Homosexuality was a behavior, a life-style that was in the closet or on the fringe because it was not accepted by the mainstream.

Over time, taking lessons from the Civil Rights Movement, women and later homosexuals organized, rallied and lobbied - eventually reversing previous attitudes about sexuality and gender. Today they are "the" power minority group.

The LGBT Movement often makes analogies or draws parallels between their struggle for equality and that of blacks during the Civil Rights era.

Is this a legitimate claim or not?

Unprecedented Shift In Attitudes About Gay Marriage

According to the Pew Foundation polling , **African-American support for gay marriage** has jumped 10 points in the past two years. Obama's endorsement — which looks like it came as tides were starting to turn among African-Americans — undoubtedly helped raise support by 6 points in 2012.

At the state level, however, the shift is even more pronounced. PPP [surveyed Maryland two weeks after Obama gave his public endorsement in May](#).

What it found was incredible: In March, 56 percent of black respondents said they would vote against a gay marriage referendum that was scheduled to be on the ballot in November. Only 39 percent supported it.

But by late May, 55 percent of black voters said they planned to support it, while only 36 percent opposed it. That added up to a 36-point swing in two months. Maryland voters approved the same-sex marriage referendum in November.

PPP found a similar shift in South Carolina. Overall, the state is opposed to making same-sex marriage legal. But in September 2011, [PPP found that](#) only 15 percent of African-Americans thought it should be legal. Last December, [it found that](#) 63 percent of African-Americans believed at least civil unions should be legal.

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I begin with an excerpt from an article published in the NY Daily News.



Via [NY Daily News](#)

When President Obama sounded off about Seneca Falls, Selma and Stonewall during Monday's inaugural address, it got me thinking about how fragile the links between those events actually are, despite his attempt to paint them as part and parcel of a single progressive movement throughout our history.

For example, early feminists often had little interest in assisting what was then called the Negro with his (or her) problems. By our standards, many of them were racists. After their victories, we still had some way to go.

Today, we are at a similar stage. Too many black Americans have little more interest in keeping the ladder out for gay people than early feminists had in doing the same for black people.

It won't do to euphemize it as a matter of black people resenting the gay movement taking on the civil rights banner, with its calls of "gay is the new black." This isn't a battle over political theory or jostling over who's been more oppressed; it's good old-fashioned homophobia.

Yes, homophobia is American, not African-American. Blacks neither taunted Rutgers student Tyler Clementi into killing himself nor murdered Matthew Shepard in a field on the outskirts of Laramie, Wyo.

And to the extent that homophobia has been more deeply rooted in the black community than in the white population, this is changing.

The percentage of blacks who favor gay marriage is about the same now as the percentage of whites, according to a Pew poll taken during the last election season. “One of the striking results in the 2012 exit polls was the support for legalizing gay marriage among black voters,” that poll noted.

However, rising support isn’t enough — we must keep going. When Michael Richards spouted the N-word on stage, he was shamed by the nation for weeks. It won’t do for Tracy Morgan to get a mere slap on the hand for crowing that he would stab his son if he turned out to be were gay.

As a consequence of its painful heritage, black America has a special responsibility: to be further ahead of the curve than whites on accepting gay people as full citizens.

The Bible cannot be used as an excuse to hold us back. We should remember that racists once also appealed to the Bible to justify segregation, slavery and all manners of hatred. Let’s be progressive for real this time around.

One indication that the black community has turned a corner on this issue will be from celebrities. Black America has yet to see the equivalent of Ellen DeGeneres’ famous coming-out.

[Read more Gay The New Black](#)

[Read more do African Americans Need To Accept Homosexuality?](#)

What Is More Detrimental to the Black Community: Gay Marriage vs. Interracial Marriage

In light of the all the media buzz about Good Morning America host Robin Roberts publicly announcing her same-sex relationship ([here](#)), and in the wake of the Duck Dynasty Phil Robertson controversy ([here](#)), I wondered to myself: “why are we as a society so fascinated in who’s f*cking who!?”

[Read More here...](#)

The Rise Of Heterophobia

I found this article over at the website [RooshV](#)

A new psychological disorder called **heterophobia** is infecting America. Promoting a heterosexual or traditional family lifestyle is becoming increasingly shamed while criticism of homosexual lifestyle is no longer allowed. Our culture is making it clear that when it comes to sex, only heterosexuality can be ridiculed, especially when it is practiced by men.

I believe we’re only 10-15 years away from when homosexuality or bisexuality will be seen as a

superior lifestyle to heterosexuality. We're already at the stage where homosexual couples are seen as more virtuous than male players (mainstream media criticizes game incessantly, but no such effort has been done on homosexual couples). Any lifestyle choice that involves men wanting to sleep with beautiful, thin women will be linked to misogyny and hate, while lifestyle choices involving men wanting to sleep with other men is seen as progressive and open-minded.

[Read more about: The Rise Of Heterophobia](#)

What Is the Gay Agenda?

I clipped this from Jesse's Blog...

Someone complaining about a "gay agenda" is a prime example that people do not wish to embrace equality. Thinking a homosexual is any different of a person from a heterosexual person is the equivalent to a white person thinking they are different from a black person. Not on the exterior, but their ego inside sees the makeup of that person as being different, like a Nazi remorselessly murdering a Jewish person, for the sole reason that the Jewish person is Jewish.

"Gay agenda" is human agenda. "Gay rights" are human rights. We, as people, need to make one of two conscious decisions; either admit that you do not believe in equality, and your ego is a blindfold of ignorance when looking at another human being, or we are all human, and we all share each others struggles and we must support each other for us all to prosper. And if you make the first decision, I will not have prejudice against a fellow brother or sister of mine, like you do, because that is justification enough to hate your existence.

You see, complaining about a *rise* in *homosexual* support, and *homosexual* content in the world, is like when *people* about *blacks* wanting equality after slavery. Yes, we don't, usually, murder *gay people* for the sake of being ...

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Rev. William Owens of the Coalition of African-American Pastors (CAAP) and the National Organization for Marriage has never hidden his Rev. Bill Owens opposition to gay rights, and he's stepping up his opposition by partnering with the conservative Heritage Foundation so that they can "work together to stop this nonsense."

The conference, scheduled for October, will work to halt what Owens sees as a gay agenda, which gained momentum after the Supreme Court ruled that the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) was unconstitutional.

"The adults are confused and they're confusing the children," he said, sharing his belief that gay people are just straight people who've been made to believe that they are gay

“How can two men rear a child? How can a man be a mother? Tell me that,” added Owens.

[Read more... Pastor Calls For Launching Of New 'Civil Rights](#)

GLAAD Report: Gay characters on network TV still on the rise

The number of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) characters on broadcast TV is again on the rise, according to a new report from The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD). The group's 14th annual TV study found that 18 LGBT characters will account for 3% of primetime scripted series regulars in the 2009-2010 broadcast TV season. That's up from 1.3% in 2006, 1.1% in 2007 and 2.6% in 2008.

New LGBT characters include bisexual Ella on Melrose Place, Southland's gay police officer John Cooper, Modern Family's gay couple Mitchell and Cameron, and coming-out high schooler Kurt on Glee.

ABC continues to lead the networks with eight LGBT characters, or 5% of its 168 total series regulars. Fox, which had no regular LGBT characters two years ago, now has 4 characters (4%). NBC has 3 characters (3%), The CW has two (3%), but CBS had no LGBT characters out of its 132 regulars.

[Read more: GLAAD Report: **Gay** characters on network TV still on the rise](#)