

Fornication – a grave sin against chastity

Fornication is defined as illicit sexual intercourse between unmarried persons.

In both the Old & New Testaments, fornication is spoken of as **grave sin** and is severely condemned.

Leviticus 21:9 - "A priest's daughter who loses her honor by committing **fornication** and thereby dishonors her father also, shall be burned to death."

Mark 7:20 - "And Jesus said, 'What comes out of a man is what defiles a man. For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, **fornication**, theft, murder, adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. All these **evil** things come from within, and they **defile** a man."

1 Corinthians 6:9 – "Do you not know that the unjust will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither **fornicators** nor idolaters nor adulterers nor boy prostitutes nor practicing homosexuals nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor robbers will inherit the kingdom of God."

Galatians 5:19 - "Now the works of the flesh are plain: **fornication**, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, anger, selfishness, dissensions, party spirit, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and the like. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."

Ephesians 5:3 – "But **fornication** and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is fitting among saints. Let there be no filthiness, nor silly talk, nor levity, which are not fitting; but instead let there be thanksgiving. Be sure of this, that **no fornicator** or impure man, or one who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has any inheritance in the **kingdom of Christ** and of God. Let no one deceive you with empty words, for it is because of these things that the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience."

Colossians 3:5 – "Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: **fornication**, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these **the wrath of God** is coming.

Revelation 19:2 – "After this I heard what seemed to be the loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, crying, "Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, for his judgments are true and just; he has judged the great harlot who corrupted the earth with her **fornication**, and he has avenged on her the blood of his servants."

Revelation 21:8 – "But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the polluted, as for murderers, **fornicators**, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their lot shall be in **the lake that burns** with fire and sulphur, which is the second death."

Revelation 22:15 – "Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates. Outside are the dogs and sorcerers and **fornicators** and murderers and idolaters, and every one who loves and practices falsehood."

Homosexuality – a grave sin against chastity

Homosexual relations are a disordered use of our Human Nature. They are not part of God's plan.

God designed the sexual organs of a man to fit the sexual organs of a woman ... that is their normal and natural use and they are not to be used in any unnatural way. A man's sexual organs do not fit another man's sexual organs. Nor do a woman's sexual organs fit another woman's sexual organs. But yet, throughout the ages, a subculture in society has practiced homosexual activity (men having sexual relations with men, and women having sexual relations with women), and recently received approval from our Supreme Court to enter into same-sex marriage. This unnatural use of a person's sexual power should never be approved because it is gravely offensive to the Divine Plan of God for human society.

1. The **complementarity of the sexes** reflects God's inner unity (Gen. 1:27-28)

That is why a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife, and the two of them become one body.

2. The **transmission of life** is accomplished through total self donation of a man and a woman. (Gen. 2: 21-24)

God created man in his image; in the divine image he created him; male and female he created them. God blessed them, saying: "Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it.

The **Catechism of the Catholic Church** describes **homosexual acts** as intrinsically disordered. They are contrary to the Natural Law because they close the sexual act to the gift of life and they do not proceed from a genuine affective and sexual complementarity. **Under no circumstances** are they to be approved.

Throughout **the Bible**, **homosexual acts** have always been presented as **acts of grave depravity**.

3. **Original Sin** deteriorates to Sodom's sin and those sinners are destroyed (Gen. 19)

*The two angels reached Sodom in the evening, as Lot was sitting at the gate of Sodom. When Lot saw them, he got up to greet them; and bowing down with his face to the ground, he said, "Please, gentlemen, come aside into your servant's house for the night, and bathe your feet; you can get up early to continue your journey." But they replied, "No, we shall pass the night in the town square." He urged them so strongly, however, that they turned aside to his place and entered his house. He prepared a meal for them, baking cakes without leaven, and they dined. Before they went to bed, all the townsmen of Sodom, both young and old--all the people to the last man--closed in on the house. They called to Lot and said to him, "**Where are the men** who came to your house tonight? Bring them out to us that **we may have intimacies with them**." Lot went out to meet them at the entrance. When he had shut the door behind him, he said, "I beg you, my brothers, not to do this wicked thing. I have two daughters who have never had intercourse with men. Let me bring them out to you, and you may do to them as you please. But don't do anything to these men, for you know they have come under the shelter of my roof." They replied, "Stand back! This fellow," they sneered, "came here as an immigrant, and now he dares to give orders! We'll treat you worse than them!" With that, they pressed hard against Lot, moving in closer to break down the door. But his guests put out their hands, pulled Lot inside with them, and closed the door; at the same time they struck the men at the entrance of the house, one and all, with such a blinding light that they were utterly unable to reach the doorway. Then the angels said to Lot: "Who else belongs to you here? Your sons (sons-in-law) and your daughters and all who belong to you in the city--take them away from it! We are about to destroy this place, for **the outcry reaching the LORD against those in the city is so great that he has sent us to destroy it**." So Lot went out and spoke to his sons-in-law, who had contracted marriage with his daughters. "Get up and leave this place," he told them; "the LORD is about to destroy the city." But his sons-in-law thought he was joking. As dawn was breaking, the angels urged Lot on, saying, "On your way! Take with you your wife and your two daughters who are here, or you will be swept away in the punishment of the city." When he hesitated, the men, by the LORD'S mercy, seized his hand and the hands of his wife and his two daughters and led them to safety outside the city. As soon as they had been brought outside, he was told: "Flee for your life! Don't look back or stop anywhere on the Plain. Get off to the hills at once, or you will be swept away." "Oh, no, my lord!" replied Lot. "You have already thought enough of your servant to do me the great kindness of intervening to save my life. But I cannot flee to the hills to keep the disaster from overtaking me, and so I shall die. Look, this town ahead is near enough to escape to. It's only a small place. Let me flee there--it's a small place, isn't it?--that my life may be saved." "Well, then," he replied, "I will also grant you the favor you now ask. I will not overthrow the town you speak of.*

Hurry, escape there! I cannot do anything until you arrive there." That is why the town is called Zoar. The sun was just rising over the earth as Lot arrived in Zoar; at the same time **the LORD rained down sulphurous fire upon Sodom and Gomorrah** (from the LORD out of heaven). He overthrew those cities and the whole Plain, together with the inhabitants of the cities and the produce of the soil. But Lot's wife looked back, and she was turned into a pillar of salt. Early the next morning Abraham went to the place where he had stood in the LORD'S presence. As he looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah and the whole region of the Plain, **he saw dense smoke over the land rising like fumes from a furnace.**

4. Homosexuality is called **an abomination** and cuts the people off from God (Lev. 18:22)

You **shall not lie with a male as with a woman**; such a thing is **an abomination**. You shall not have carnal relations with an animal, defiling yourself with it; nor shall a woman set herself in front of an animal to mate with it; such things are abhorrent. **Do not defile yourselves by any of these things** by which the nations whom I am driving out of your way have defiled themselves. Because their land has become defiled, I am **punishing it for its wickedness**, by making it **vomit out its inhabitants**. You, however, whether natives or resident aliens, **must keep my statutes and decrees forbidding all such abominations** by which the previous inhabitants defiled the land; otherwise the land will vomit you out also for having defiled it, just as it vomited out the nations before you. **Everyone who does any of these abominations shall be cut off** from among his people. Heed my charge, then, **not to defile yourselves by observing the abominable customs** that have been observed before you. I, the LORD, am your God.

5. Both shall be put to death for **this abominable deed** (Lev. 20:13)

If a man lies with a male as with a woman, both of them shall be put to death for **their abominable deed**; they have forfeited their lives.

6. Homosexuality is called **unnatural, shameful** and a **perversity** (Rom. 1:27)

The wrath of God is indeed being revealed from heaven against **every impiety and wickedness** of those who suppress the truth by their wickedness. For what can be known about God is evident to them, because God made it evident to them. Ever since the creation of the world, his invisible attributes of eternal power and divinity have been able to be understood and perceived in what he has made. As a result, **they have no excuse**; for although they knew God they did not accord him glory as God or give him thanks. Instead, they became vain in their reasoning, and their senseless minds were darkened. While claiming to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for the likeness of an image of mortal man or of birds or of four-legged animals or of snakes. Therefore, God handed them over to impurity through the lusts of their hearts for the mutual degradation of their bodies. They exchanged the truth of God for a lie and revered and worshipped the creature rather than the creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. Therefore, God handed them over to degrading passions. **Their females exchanged natural relations for unnatural, and the males likewise gave up natural relations with females and burned with lust for one another. Males did shameful things with males** and thus received in their own persons the due penalty for their perversity. And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God handed them over to their undiscerning mind to do what is improper. Although they know the just decree of God that **all who practice such things deserve death**, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

7. **Active homosexuals** will not enter the kingdom of God (1 Cor. 6:9)

Do you not know that the unjust will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither **fornicators** nor idolaters nor **adulterers** nor **boy prostitutes** nor **practicing homosexuals** nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor robbers will inherit the kingdom of God.

8. Those who engage in homosexual acts are called **sinners** (1 Tim. 1:9-10)

We know that the law is good, provided that one uses it as law, with the understanding that law is meant not for a righteous person but for the lawless and unruly, **the godless and sinful**, the **unholy** and **profane**, those who kill their fathers or mothers, murderers, the unchaste, **practicing homosexuals**, kidnapers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is opposed to sound teaching, according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, with which I have been entrusted.

Homosexual

ho·mo·sex·u·al (ho´me-sèk¹shj-el) adjective

- Of, relating to, or having a sexual attraction to persons of the same sex.

Gay

gay (gâ) adjective

1. Showing or characterized by cheerfulness and lighthearted excitement; merry.
2. Bright or lively, especially in color: *a gay, sunny room*.
3. Of, relating to, or sharing the lifestyle and concerns of the homosexual community.
4. Homosexual.
5. Given to social pleasures.
6. Dissolute; licentious.

noun

A gay person, especially an openly gay person in contemporary society.

Usage Note: The word *gay* is now standard in its use to refer to the American homosexual community and its members; in this use it is generally lowercased. *Gay* is distinguished from *homosexual* in emphasizing the cultural and social aspects of homosexuality. Many writers reserve *gay* for male homosexuals, but the word is also used to refer to homosexuals of both sexes; when the intended meaning is not clear in the context, the phrase *gay and lesbian* should be used. Like the other names of social groups that are derived from adjectives (e.g., *Black*), *gay* may be regarded as offensive when used as a noun to refer to particular individuals, as in *There were two gays on the panel*; here a phrase such as *gay people* should be used instead. But there is no objection to the use of the noun in the plural to refer to the general gay community, as in *Gays have united in opposition to the policy*. (American Heritage dictionary)

Lesbian

lesbian (lèz¹bêen) noun

- A gay or homosexual woman.
 - From the putative homosexuality of Sappho, lyric poet of Lesbos.

The Catholic Church makes a distinction between:

- A) **Homosexual** – a person having a sexual attraction to members of the same sex.
- We speak of “**attraction**” or “**inclination**” and not “**orientation**”
 - “**orientation**” implies a pre-volitional component to which a person responds ... and it gives the impression that this is something that can’t be changed. ... when indeed it can be managed and not acted on.
- B) **Gay** – a person who engages in sexual actions with members of the same sex.