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English 1101

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English Essay- To what extent homosexuality is genetically determined?

Throughout decades the term “gay” has been repeatedly mentioned and everyone has their own view upon it. Many studies and observations have been made from this topic, and are still being studied today. Observations and studies have led researchers to elaborate more in depth, on how or what extent is homosexuality genetically determined. Homosexuality is a case in which thousands might differ, This topic is very sensitive, but it is a frequently seen scenario. As of many researchers, some believe that being homosexual is part of the human body, while others believe that it’s a psychological mind set. There are many factors where one can say that becoming gay or growing up as gay person is a psychosocial. Some factors that might have led to the awakening of becoming gay is the environmental society, family, and religion. This impacts them when they’re little, teens or sometimes in their adulthood. There are cultures where they accept a different kind of sexuality and establish their sentimental status. In the books, “The Gene”, chapter “The Last Mile” by Siddhartha Mukherjee and “The End of Eddy” by Edouard Louis and the articles “The Innate, Immutable Argument Finds no Basis in Science” by Dean Byrd, “Everything you Need to Know About Being Gay in Muslim Countries” by Brian Whitaker, “ ‘God Made You This Way,’ Pope Is said to Have Told Gay Man,” by Jason Horowitz, and “Born or Bred” by Newsweek Staff. They talk about environmental society, family, religion and behavior statuses which have impacted many of the gay people and have managed their sexuality preferences. Although some of them will be supporting how it’s genetic,

it points out how it's a psychological mind set. These articles would classify the different factors in which each one corresponds to a relationship towards how they feel and what led them naturally to become what they are, or generally stating the influence that has driven them through that pathway.

Family is the most important factor in life. Every family shows their children education, love, and provides them care. No matter what happens, family will always be there for one, and most important, they'll be the ones who to go to when there's a problem or any situation affecting. In the article "Born or Bred" by Newsweek Staff it talked about a adult who's name is Mike and was 49 years old. Mike had a family of his own, he was married for 18 years and had a son who was a teen but there was something that led him to be confused of himself, his sexuality preferences. Mike stated he loved his wife but he also liked going to gay bars. Time passed by and his loving wife passed away and Mike stated, "I went on binges, just like an alcoholic would do. [After my wife died] Saturday nights were terrible. I'd go to a heterosexual bar and end up jumping in my car and going to some bath or gay bar. I was at a point in my life where either I was a homosexual and I was going to be open and public about it, or I was not going to be a homosexual and be otherwise." For Mike it was hard to express himself, he was confused on what he preferred but had an idea on how to express while going to the gay bars. In Mike's case, family comes in as (a influential towards him for not having a dad being with him or not having a males) presence through his childhood which led him to have preferences or ideas on looking at same sex. "I never had a man in my life who taught me how to be a man I never had a role model I realize how my dad's failure to be present for me screwed me up." As of this being said

family is a huge factor in where a person looks into to figure out how or where their life can become to be. Maybe without a female or male presence it can take a huge step and confuse someone because of what they usually say, a women has to be with a man. There's been cases where a boy doesn't have a dad and doesn't turn out gay but could have the presences of an uncle, grandpa or a close male friend or relative who can talk to them about feelings towards an human being. Overall, families presence and teaching matter has influential factors that help a person at any age come out.

Behavior is that attitude of a person or generally how they act. While growing up everyone sees different things, such as love, t.v shows and mainly family. The actions that cause behavior to change are because of the society that someone lives in, and how they respond towards it. The majority of the family can tell different behaviors if a male is gay but for a women it can be a little more difficult because there are females where they choose to play "male sports". In the book, "The End of Eddy" by Edouard Louis chapter "Mannerisms" he spoke about a young kid who was confused in life about his sexual orientation. His gestures were ladylike "...hands waved frequently every which way , twisting about, stirring up the air." He couldn't control in the actions he does, it just came naturally. There was once where he decided to try on his sister's clothes for curiosity, and he found himself beautiful but then he'll feel idiotic by the clothes he had been wearing. These kind of behaviors tend to qualify as experimenting with different styles or appearance to justify what feels right. For example some males like to dress as a usual male will do, while other tend to dress more feminine as others. Each behavior leads to a different path in how someone sees it. As of Eddy he doesn't know, because he feels

he doesn't have any masculine features but does have female features. “ Then there were my tastes, always automatically turned toward the feminine without my knowledge or understanding why.”(Louis 17) Everyone has different taste and in society many classify sport for males and dolls for females, which sometimes plays a bumpy road because a child might say to themselves “ If I play with dolls, then I am a girl”. But growing up some of the behavioral factors naturally reveal themselves and conclude how it can influence them later on.

Throughout years researchers have tended to have a look more in the factor of a genetic factor towards being gay. Researchers have drawn this into identical twins, in which they can see and compare within each other because of their identical DNA. In the chapter “The Last Mile” of the book “The Gene” it spoke and gave many details in where a professor named J. Michael Bailey had tried experimenting with non and identical twins. Bailey’s experiment took place in 1978, and during this time, gay wasn’t acceptable, which made many males hide their preferences rather than confronting them and showing their real love. Bailey gathered a total of 110 males and the results he received were surprising because no one actually thought the percentages would be high. In the chapter it stated “Among the fifty-six pairs of identical twins, both twins were gay in 52 percent.*Of the fifty-four pairs of nonidentical twins. 22 percent were both gay-lower than the fraction for identical twins...” A large percentage came out in both identical twins in coming out to be gay, and there was also one case where there was twins who didn’t know the other existed and coincidentally ran into each other, “Two Canadian twin brothers were separated within weeks of birth. One was adopted by a prosperous American family. The other was raised in Canada by his natural mother under vastly different circumstances. The

brothers, who looked virtually identical, knew nothing of each other's existence until they ran into each other by accident in a gay bar anada.” (Mukcherjee 374) With the study professor Bailey performed many would think it's because of a gay gene but if it were to be a gay gene in the human body every single twin in the experiment would have came out gay. Overall the gay experiment was a matter of way to figure out if a “gay gene” actually exists in human bodies.

Is homosexuality really considered genetic? This is a frequently asked question and mostly because everyone has their different views. In the chapter of The Gene “The Last Mile” it explains how there might be a “gay gene” or a “gay location” which has influenced many of the homosexual people. Researchers have found that there is a possibility of a “gay gene” or “gay locations” (Last Mile 378) through human bodies and with the studies and experiments done with the gay brothers they concluded that there might be a such thing of a “gay gene/location”. With the astonishing results of the twins, professor Bailey, went more into detail of how being gay is genetic. hammer decided to make a family tree to see if there was any gay family members. “Hammer plan to use the cohort to create elaborate family trees to determine if sexual orientation run in families to describe the pattern of it's inheritance aunt to map the gene.” In other cases, those who argue it's genetic some may consider gay as a natural psychological view. “ Influences such as families, friends, schools, religious beliefs and social structure clearly modified sexual behavior...” As of the twin study, what if there was a gay twin and the other wasn't wouldn't both turn out to be gay if there was an actual gay gene and mainly because of DNA are identical. Well in this case both twins were both gay because of the energy and environment their family provided them. Also if there was any type of gay gene involved while

in pregnancy how is it scientifically proven that a baby will fall into that pathway. There can be a coincidence that any family member from either side of a parent two being gay because there are millions of people who turn gay and get out of the closet so they could express who they really are. Also turning out to be gay is like a journey, where a person takes themselves on an experimental hunt. In the book, "The Gene" it refers to family, friends, schools, religion beliefs and social structure influence are the cause of sexual behavior in a person. By what they are exposed to finalizes them to see different view at any time of age. Like in the story of Mike and later said the story of Dr. Anne.

Society has a huge impact on every human, mainly because they learn and see stuff in an everyday world where it can change them for the rest of their life. An environment can be from home to school, outside, or even in their own neighborhood. As of the studies of the twin, many can refer to it as a environmental factor. If both twins were gay it could've been because of the environment they live then and what influence them from their surroundings. In the article The Innate Immutable Are Human Find No basis In Science by A. Dean Byrd it states about the twin study and " This study actually provides support for environmental factors. If homosexuality were in the genetic code all of the identical twins would had been homosexual." Which is psychologically true because what if one twin came out to be gay while the other was straight. There is no genetically scientific reason that demonstrates that there is any type of cell or location where a gene can be gay because as in the research that with that performed by researchers and professor Bailey, it specifically states how half of the twins experimented were both gay but the rest of them weren't. What if there was a gay twin and the other wasn't wouldn't

both turn out to be gay if there was an actual gay gene and mainly because they're DNA are identical. Another example shown in the article is about "Lesbian activist and biologist Dr. Anne Fausto-Sterling of Brown University" (Newsweek Staff 4) who was happily married but felt it wasn't right for her said "my interest and gender issues preceded my own life changes. When I first got involved in feminism... The women's movement opened up the feminine in a way that was knute to me, and so my involvement made possible by becoming a lesbian... At the moment I am in a happy relationship and I don't ever imagine changing it." (Newsweek Staff 4) In this situation of Dr. Anne, readers can have an insight, that no matter how old the person is, there can be an influence in the world that could change a preference in which sex you would like as if it's a male person is interested in a male or a female interested in a female. This is why environmental factors influence in a person's view on their kind of love lives.

Lastly religion. Religion is a cultural view and many religions don't accept males or females being homosexual. There are different kinds of religions in the world but in some there is a possibility where it can be a blessing while in others it can be a sin. In the articles, "Everything you Need to Know About Being Gay in Muslim Countries" by Brian Whitaker, and "'God Made You This Way,' Pope Is said to Have Told Gay Man," by Jason Horowitz it talks about different kinds of views in it. Some people might be guided by their values and beliefs and this is why they choose to follow and respect the way their parents or family have taught them. In Muslim culture being gay isn't a right decision. There can be friendly friendships with two same sexes but if any of the couple goes beyond that point there are going to be consequences. In Muslim religion they are restricted from having a partner of the same

gender. “There are also reported cases where people suspected of being gay have been arrested by police seeking to elicit bribes or turn the suspects into informers.” (Horowitz 4) There for a Muslim religion it is very strict on having to have the usual tradition of arranged marriages because if a person comes out of the closet and says they’re gay their family will physically attack them. But in the other article, “‘God Made You This Way,’ Pope Is said to Have Told Gay Man,” by Jason Horowitz it has another perspective in which a “Chilean survivor of clerical sex abuse”(Horowitz 1) named Juan Carlos, told the Pope he was gay and the Pope responded “God had made him gay and that both God and the pontiff loved him that way” (Horowitz1) which many found incredible to hear. A Pope doesn’t have agree on accepting a gay person, but he understood and didn't make him aside as the Muslim religion does. “The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that people with “homosexual tendencies” “must be accepted with respect, compassion, and sensitivity,” but it also calls a “deep-seated” homosexual inclination and its acts “intrinsically disordered” and “contrary to the natural law.”(Horowitz 2) If God created same sex preferences, people shouldn’t be ashamed of one another because overall everyone is equal and there shouldn't have to be any regulations affecting them. Juan Carlos, was a victim of sexual abuse, but he was confused because he liked it. He didn't have the right reaction towards it. “In the interview, Mr. Cruz said that since the article in El País was published over the weekend, some of those gay Catholic friends had written to him saying of the pope, “Did he really tell you that? I feel so relieved.” Another wrote, “I’m in the gym and I feel like crying.” Mr. Cruz said he wanted to reveal the pope’s remarks because “people have to know this man like he really is.”(Horowitz 5) Many who were catholic and turned out to be gay,

who heard this reaction, were astonished because they had been hiding themselves and were too scared to come out because of thoughts in religion. Religion is a very powerful key because sometimes people believe if you mistreat your religion then they turn into “bad people”, But as shown in the two different perspectives religion does affect a person because turning out gay brings consequences, while other hide their real identity to not have a tough life in the outside world. Some try to hide their relationship, but some tend not to because they want to express their feelings out.

To conclude, every factor comes along together when it come to being homosexual. There have to be factors that impact a person's life to go along that path line. As of being a year old, people can start viewing different perspectives in life. Also another reason why the term gay can be considered a psychological reference is because as shown above people have changed their preferences as a adult, and if someone was born gay they would have mentioned it right when puberty or while growing up and seeing different sexes in their life. Every moment done in the past or coming from the future will produce a change, like Mike and Dr.Ann. If it wasn't for Dr.Ann in being part of feminist participations she wouldn't have opened her eyes to see what she really likes, and Mike situation of not having a male presence in his life had an affect as well. Overall, factors in the world canmake differences in where, or who a person actually becomes.

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