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Assignment: English Essay

The endless debate over whether or not homosexualty is genetic or choice has increase public concern. For example, questions common asked among society today, what role do family, culture, evolution and religion play? To what extent is homosexuality a choice? Articles, "The Last Mile" a chapter of a book *The Gene*, by siddhartha Mukherjee, "God Made You This Way,' Pope Is Said to Have Told Gay Man", by Jason Horowitz, "Everything you need to know about being gay in Muslim countries", by Brian Whitaker, "The Innate, Immutable Argument Finds no Basis in Science," by Dean Byrd, "Homosexuailty: Born Or Bred", by NewsWeek Staff discuss the causes of homosexuality. People often wonder if there's a gay gene or if homosexuality is caused by environmental factors, such as an absent of father or mother, upbringing, experiences, etc. Having a homosexual desire and engaging in homosexual act clearly is made by a choice, they can choose whether to enter into a homosexual relationship or not. For example, some people choose to write with their left or right hand this is absolutely their own preference. "We knew that genes were only part of the answer. "We assumed the environment also played a role in sexual orientation, as is does in most, if not all behavior" -Hamer and copeland. Thus, environmental influence, absent of father/mother and experiences are the cause of homosexuailty.

In the article, "Homosexuality: Born Or Bred" by NEWSWEEK STAFF, discusses sexual preference can be changed. A guy named Mike a widower who was married for 18 years and has a son, behind their back was roaming gay bars and engaging in homosexual encounters. According to the text, "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. I was very angry toward my dad. And I never knew why. I felt I'd been castrated by women. When i into therapy, the resentment toward my mother was far greater than toward my dad. There was a lot of anger, a lot of deep feeling at not having your mother accept your maleness. When i started loving myself, when i started to know who i was, my maleness came with it." This shows he was lost in his identity he came to a self-discovery after releasing his anger toward his father. After long months of therapy, Mike has not engaged in any homosexual encounters and happily says he is cured. Therefore, homosexual can be cured through therapy session and homsexuality is changable. This is a choice for them to choose if they want to stay gay or not. Only yourself can decide what is moral for you. No one should be force to be changed everything is up to you be who you want to be.

In the article, "The Innate Immutable Argument Finds No Basis in Science", by Dean Byrd, similar to Mike's story, this time a women made a change in her life as she had made a choice. According to the article, "My interest in gender issues preceded my own life change. When I first got involved in feminism, I was married. My poor husband, who was a very decent guy, tried as hard as he could to be sympathetic. But he was shut out of what I was doing. The women's movement opened up the feminine in a way that was new to me, and so my involvement made possible by becoming a lesbian. My ex and I are still friends. It is true I call

myself a lesbian now because this is the life I am living, and I think it is something you should own up to. At the moment, I am in a happy relationship and I don't ever imagine changing it. Still, I don't think loving a man is unimaginable." This change comes from her own decision a journey she discover and importantly it can be changed anytime. She did admit loving a man again is possible. Furthermore, she chose her own path, in her and Mike's case can claim that genetic doesn't exist in this situation and can prove they aren't born this way.

In the article, "Everything you need to know about being gay in Muslim countries", by Brian Whitaker, addresses the issue how family, culture, and religion play a role on homosexual. As we all know, Muslim's are very conservative and have strict rules so being gay in the countries is basically a crime. Muslim's religious can influence a person's sexual identity, their over controlling would make them hard to breathe. In the text it stated, "In 2007, under pressure from Islamist members of parliament, Kuwait amended its penal code so that anyone imitating the opposite sex in any way could face up a year in jail and or a fine of 1,000 dinars. Within a couple of weeks at least 14 people were thrown into prison for the new offence". Throughout history, marriages have been decided by their family they are forced to adhere the culture restriction which makes you more desirable. Yet, some still choose to be gay even with the prohibition not just them but all around the world faces the same trouble. It's like whether you choose to write with your left or right hand, choosing between pizza or sushi. Everyone makes a choice no one is born to either only eat pizza there are other choices to make in the world.

On the other hand, People views homosexuality is born this way after discovering a connection in the brain. In the text it states, "The hypothalamus in the brains of males was more than twice as large as that of women. All the homosexual had die of AIDS, as has seven of the

heterosexuals including one women. What emerged with almost startling clarity was that, with some expectation, the cluster known as INAH3 was more than twice as large in the heterosexual males as in the hoomosexual." This shows the hypothalamus the structure of the brain might influence sexual preference as the hypothalamus in gay men differs from straight men. However, this study was criticized because they stated all homosexual in the study were believed to have died of AIDS when in fact they found out the brain of a homosexual died because of lung cancer. In the text it stated, "It's important to stress what I didn't find. I did not prove that homosexuality is genetic, or find a genetic cause for being gay. I didn't show that gay men are born that way, the most common mistake people make in interpreting my work. Nor did I locate a gay center in the brain". Therefore, genetic is a way for an excuse for those who are gay can use this saying as a handy weapon against the harsh treatment by family and society. It would made it easier for them to be accepted and they felt comfort when they put homosexual aspect as genetic.

In the article, "The Last Mile", by Siddhartha Mukherjee, Bailey studied the twins to learn if being gay is biologically determined. Studies of identical and fraternal twins suggest that there is a genetic influence on sexual orientation. In the text it states, "Among the fifty-six pairs of identical twins, both twins were gay in 52 percent. Of the fifty-four of identical twins, both twins were both gay- lower than the fraction for identical twins, but still significantly higher than the estimated of 10 percent gay in the overall population". These studies show that people with the identical twins genetic are more likely to share sexual orientation than those fraternal twins. Genetics itself cannot cause sexual orientation, but they do play a part. Bailey also found in male homosexuality was not just genetic, he states, "Influences such as families, friends, schools,

religious beliefs, and social structure clearly modified sexual behavior". Subsequently, they have not been able to find if there is any gene or combination of genes that will make someone gay as genetics as is very complex.

To conclude, homosexual people are choosing to be honest and authentic side of them self that led by the direction of their hearts. Whereas, Genes can't entirely control our behavior but environment does and it plays an essential role in how we develop our behavior. Up till now they haven't enough prove that it's homosexual is genetic. As you can see, psychosocial has a more effect as there is environmental factor and religion involved. It's all up to the person if they want to be gay, straight or bisexual is a decision a choice.

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