



The Bible & LGBTQ+

Love Like Christ

1 Cor. 13: If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. ³ If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. ⁴ Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant ⁵ or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶ it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. ⁸ Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰ but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away.



Love Like Christ

¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. ¹² For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.

¹³ So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.



Love Like Christ

2 Cor. 5:16-17: From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

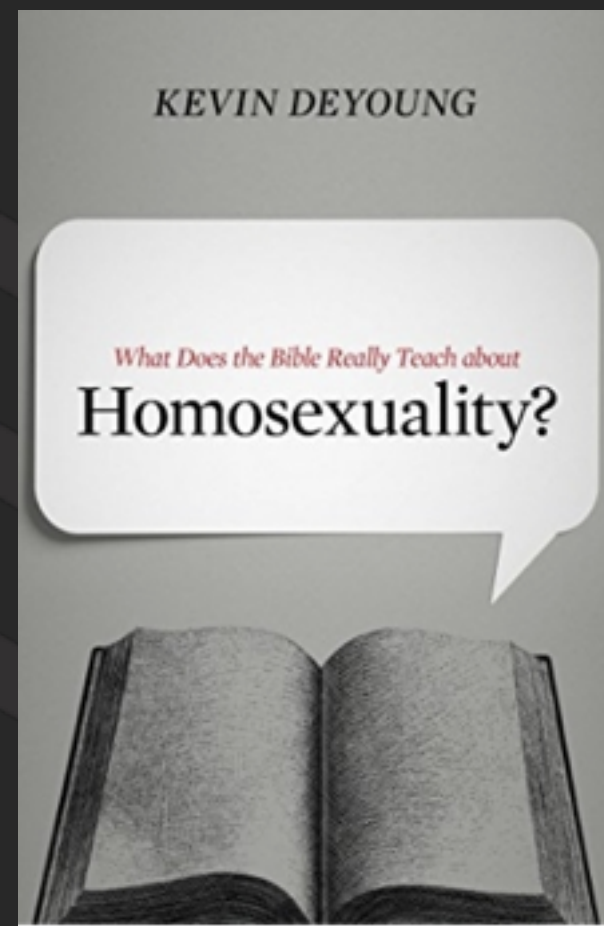
Ephesians 6:12: For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.


Romans 2:4: Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?



What Does the Bible Really Say About Homosexuality?

By Kevin DeYoung





*Our feelings matter. Our stories matter.
Our friends matter. But ultimately, we
must search the Scriptures to
see what matters most.*

God's Design in Genesis

Genesis 1-2 Gives us God's Design for Marriage:

- 1. The way in which the woman was created indicates that she is the man's divinely designed compliment.**
- 2. The nature of the one-flesh union presupposes two persons of the opposite sex.**
- 3. Only two persons of the opposite sex can fulfill the procreative purposes of marriage.**



God's Design in Genesis

Genesis 1-2 Gives us God's Design for Marriage:

4. Jesus reinforces the normativity of the Genesis account.

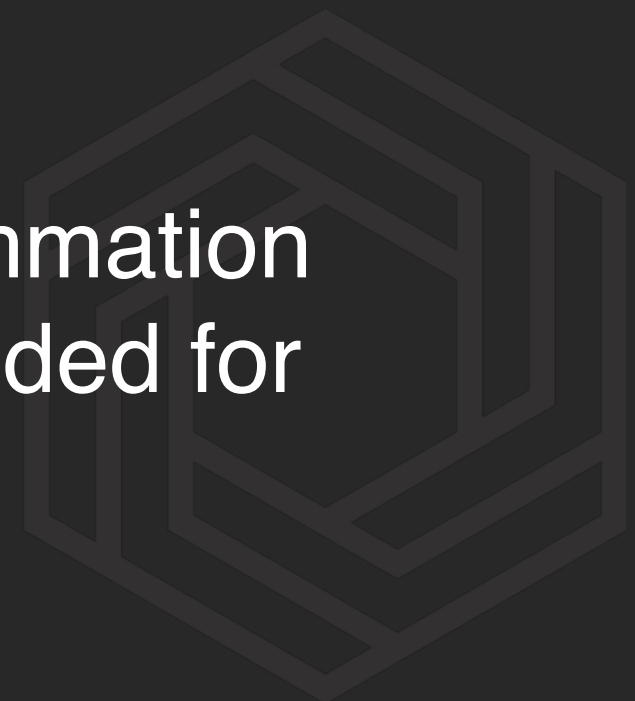
- **Matthew 19:4-6:** He answered, “Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, ⁵ and said, ‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’? ⁶ So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.”

God's Design in Genesis

Genesis 1-2 Gives us God's Design for Marriage:

5. The redemptive-historical significance of marriage as a divine symbol in the Bible only works if the marital couple is a complementary pair.

- In the creation story, God creates in complementary pairs: sun and moon, morning and evening, day and night, sea and dry land, plants and animals, and finally man and woman. In every pairing, each part belongs with the other, but neither is interchangeable.
- Consider also the marriage supper of the lamb at the consummation of all things. Complementary instead of sameness is needed for this to make sense.





Leviticus

Leviticus on Homosexuality

Leviticus 18:22: You shall not lie with a male as with a woman; it is an abomination.

Leviticus 20:13: If a man lies with a male as with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination; they shall surely be put to death; their blood is upon them.

- **Are these verses still relevant?** Doesn't Leviticus say a lot of goofy things like not eating bacon or wearing clothes made from two kinds of fabric?

Here are 5 Reasons commands in Leviticus still matter:



Leviticus on Homosexuality

1. No disciple of Jesus should start with the presumption that the Mosaic commands are irrelevant. Jesus insisted that he did not come to abolish the tiniest speck from the Law (Matt. 5:17-18) but rather to fulfill it.

- **No doubt things have changed in the new covenant:** All foods have been declared clean (Mark 7:19; Acts 10:8-11:18); holy days have been rendered optional (Romans 14:5-6); the entire sacrificial system of temple, priest, and sacrifice has been superseded (Hebrews 7:1-10:18).
- **However:** Laws in the old covenant not clearly changed by the new covenant should not be simply discarded.



Leviticus on Homosexuality

2. There is no indication in the New Testament that Leviticus should be treated as particularly obscure or peripheral.

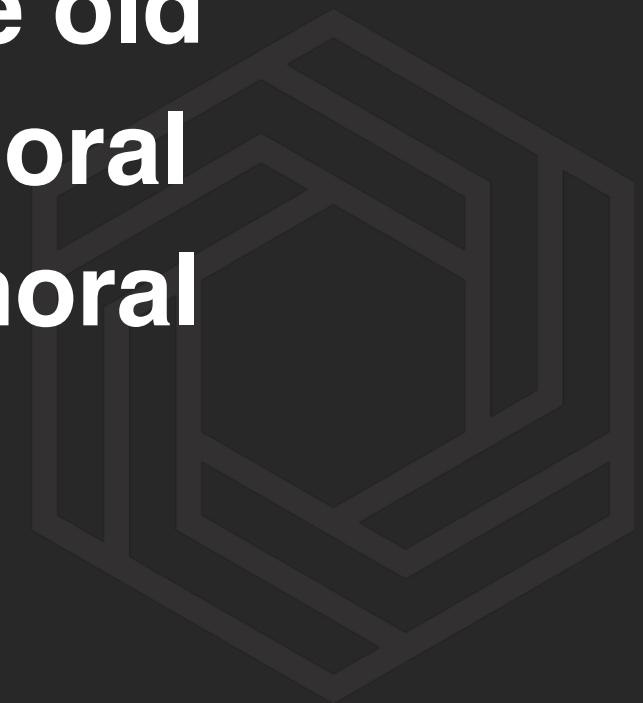
- Jesus referred to Leviticus 19:18 (Love your neighbor as yourself) more than any other verse in the Old Testament, and the New Testament refers to it ten times.
- Both Peter and Paul quote Leviticus calling people to holiness (2 Cor. 6:16; 1 Peter 1:16)
- Paul found in Leviticus moral obligations still binding for Christians in the new covenant: Paul uses Leviticus to address incest (1 Cor. 5) and homosexuality (1 Cor. 6)



Leviticus on Homosexuality

3. Paul's term for "men who practice homosexuality" (1 Cor. 6:9; 1 Tim. 1:10) was derived from two words – arsen (man) and koite (bed) – found in Leviticus 18:22 and 20:13. There are no instances of the word (arsenokoitai) prior to Paul.

4. It is important to understand the difference between ritual impurity and moral impurity. Ritual impurity issues in the old covenant were done away with in Christ. However, the moral purity standards still remain. Homosexuality fits in the moral purity category.



Leviticus on Homosexuality

5. The sexual ethic put forth in Leviticus 18 and 20 is reaffirmed in the New Testament (minus the issue of sex during menstruation). Adultery is still a sin (Matt. 5:27-30). Incest is still a sin (1 Cor. 5:1-13). Even Polygamy is more clearly rejected (1 Cor. 7:2; 1 Tim. 3:2)





Romans 1

Romans on Homosexuality

1. Wrath revealed - Romans 1:18-20: For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. ¹⁹ For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. ²⁰ For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.

- **All are accountable**
- **Active suppression of the truth**



Romans on Homosexuality

2.First Exchange - Romans 1:21-23: For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²² Claiming to be wise, they became fools, ²³ and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

- **Futile Thinking and Darkened Hearts**
- **Exchange the Creator for the Creation**



Romans on Homosexuality

3.Second Exchange - Romans 1:24-25: Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, ²⁵ because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

- **Exchanged truth of God for a lie**
- **God gives them over to the lust of their hearts**



Romans on Homosexuality

4.Third Exchange - Romans 1:26-27: For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; ²⁷ and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.

- **God gives them over to dishonorable passions**
- **Exchange natural relationships for unnatural**



Romans on Homosexuality

- **The issue here cannot be pederasty because there is no record of adult-youth sexual intimacy among women in the ancient world. Likewise, the issue cannot be master-slave relationships or other sexual abuse more generically because Paul speaks of both parties being “consumed with passion for one another.”**
- **The issue is exchanging the natural relationship between a man and a woman for unnatural same-sex relationships.**
- **The word for natural “relations” (kresis) in Romans 1:27 does not speak to the state of our desires, but to the state of our design, which is why the KJV has “natural use” and the NASB has “natural function.”**



Romans on Homosexuality

5. Death Deserved - Romans 1:28-32: And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. ²⁹ They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, ³⁰ slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, ³¹ foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. ³² Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

- **Given over to a debased mind**
- **Approve of what God calls evil**



Romans on Homosexuality

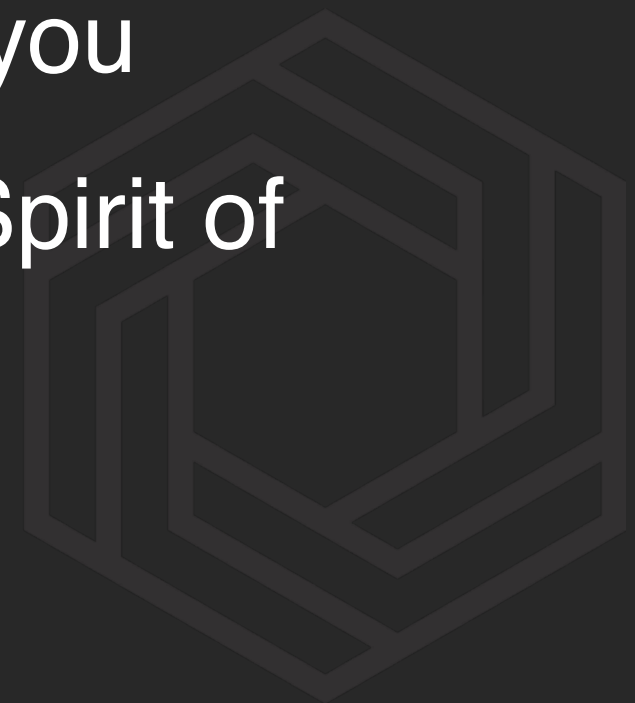
Also, consider creation allusions throughout Romans 1:18-32

- Creation of the world is mentioned in v.20
- The Creator is mentioned in v.25
- The language of animals, birds, and creeping things echoes Genesis 1:30
- The Greek in v.23 mirrors the Septuagint (Greek) version of Genesis 1:26, with both passages using identical words for image, likeness, man, birds, four-footed animals, and creeping things
- The language of a lie (v.25), and shame (v.27), and the sentence of death (v.32) are allusions to the fall in Genesis 3
- Paul is saying homosexuality is contrary to God's design



Additional Thoughts

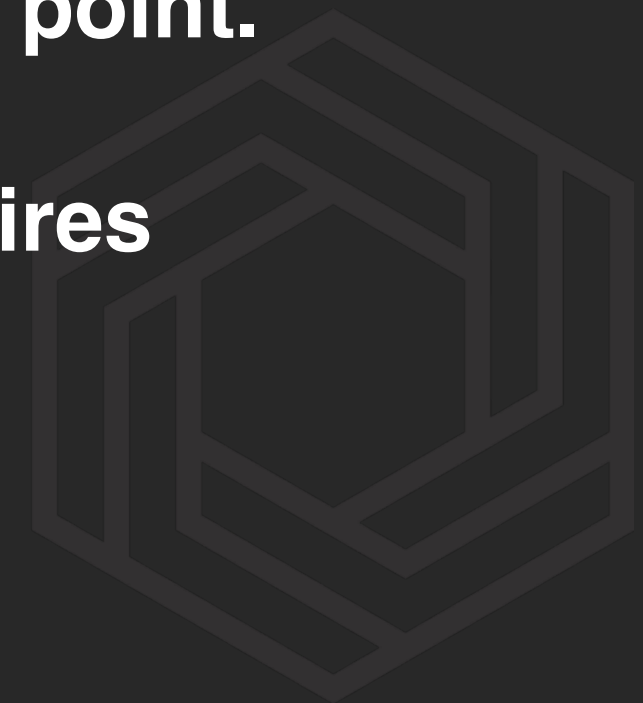
1 Cor. 6:9-11: Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality,¹⁰ nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.¹¹ And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.



Additional Thoughts

1 Timothy 1:8-11: Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully, ⁹ understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, ¹⁰ the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine, ¹¹ in accordance with the gospel of the glory of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted.

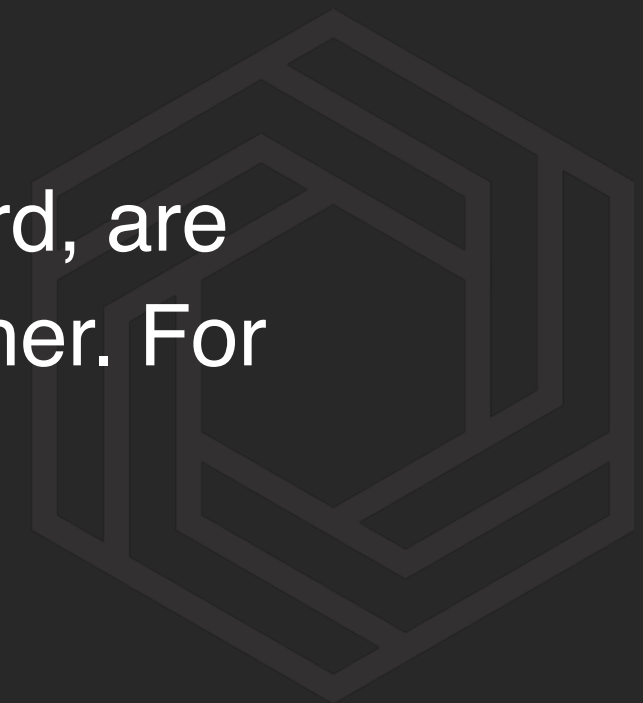
- **The Bible says nothing good about homosexual practice at any point.**
- **Homosexuality is no worse of a sin than any other sin and requires the same saving grace that Christ offers all of us for our sins.**



Formation

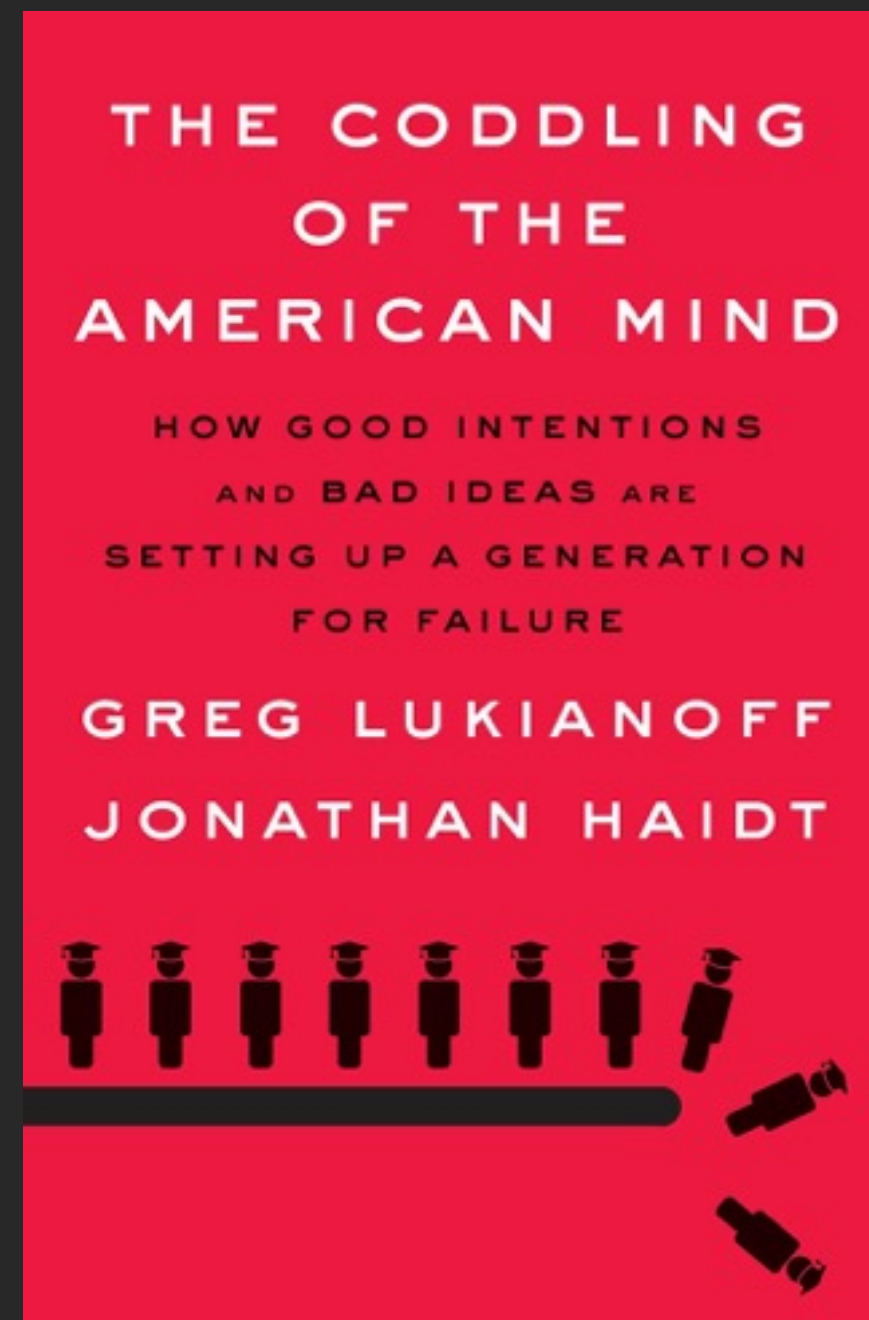
Deut. 6:4-9: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. ⁵ You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ⁶ And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. ⁷ You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. ⁸ You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹ You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

2 Cor. 3:18: And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.



Formation

The Coddling of the American Mind by Jonathan Haidt & Greg Lukianoff



Formation

The Coddling of the American Mind by Jonathan Haidt & Greg Lukianoff

This is a book about three Great Untruths that seem to have spread widely in recent years:

1. The Untruth of Fragility: *What doesn't kill you makes you weaker.*
2. The Untruth of Emotional Reasoning: *Always trust your feelings.*
3. The Untruth of Us Versus Them: *Life is a battle between good people and evil people.*

While many propositions are untrue, in order to be classified as a Great Untruth, an idea must meet three criteria:

1. It contradicts ancient wisdom (ideas found widely in the wisdom literatures of many cultures).
2. It contradicts modern psychological research on well-being.
3. It harms the individuals and communities who embrace it.

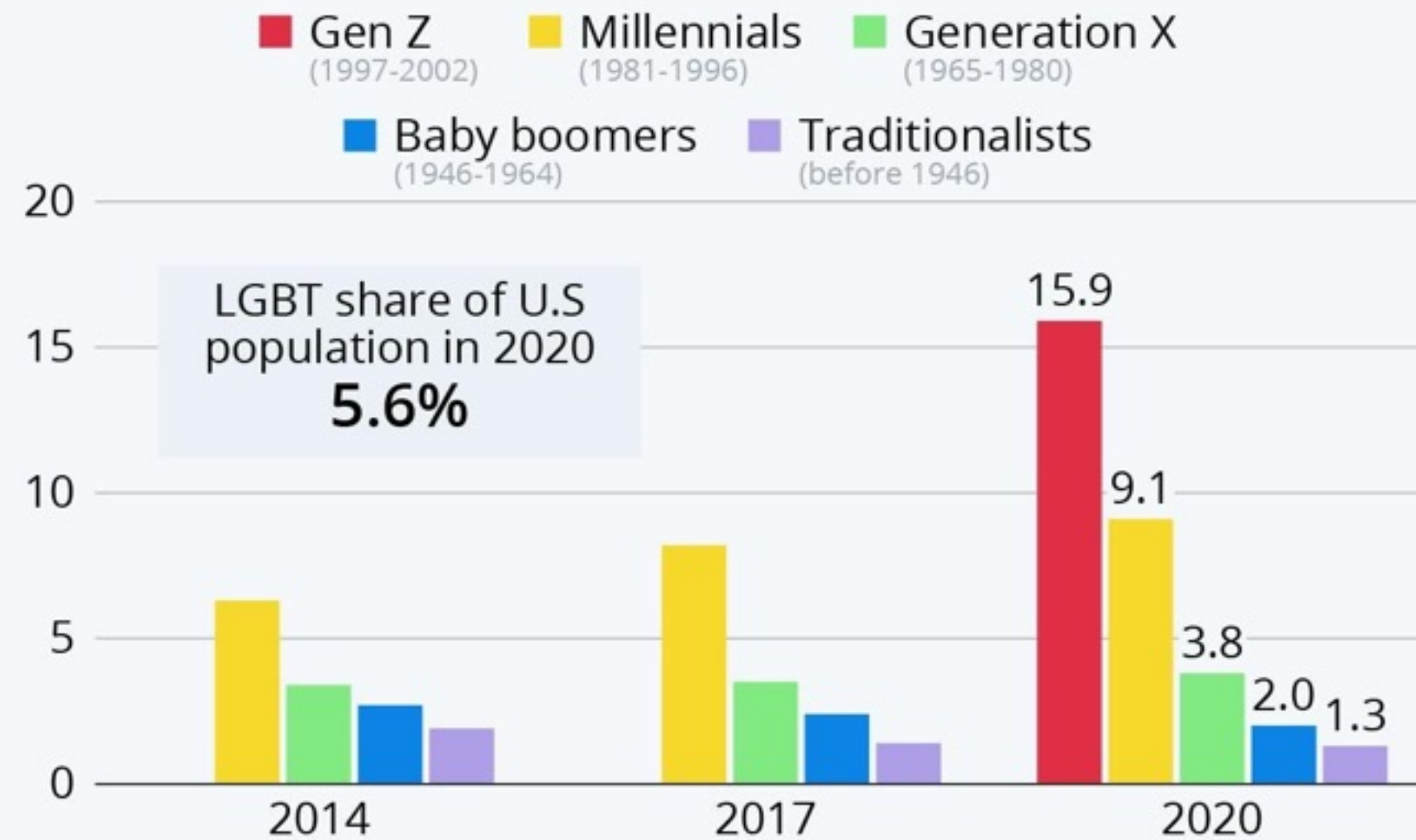
We will show how these three Great Untruths—and the policies and political movements that draw on them—are causing problems for young people, universities, and, more generally, liberal democracies.



Formation

5.6 Percent of U.S. Adults Identify as LGBT

Share of American adults who identify as LGBT, by birth year



Source: Gallup

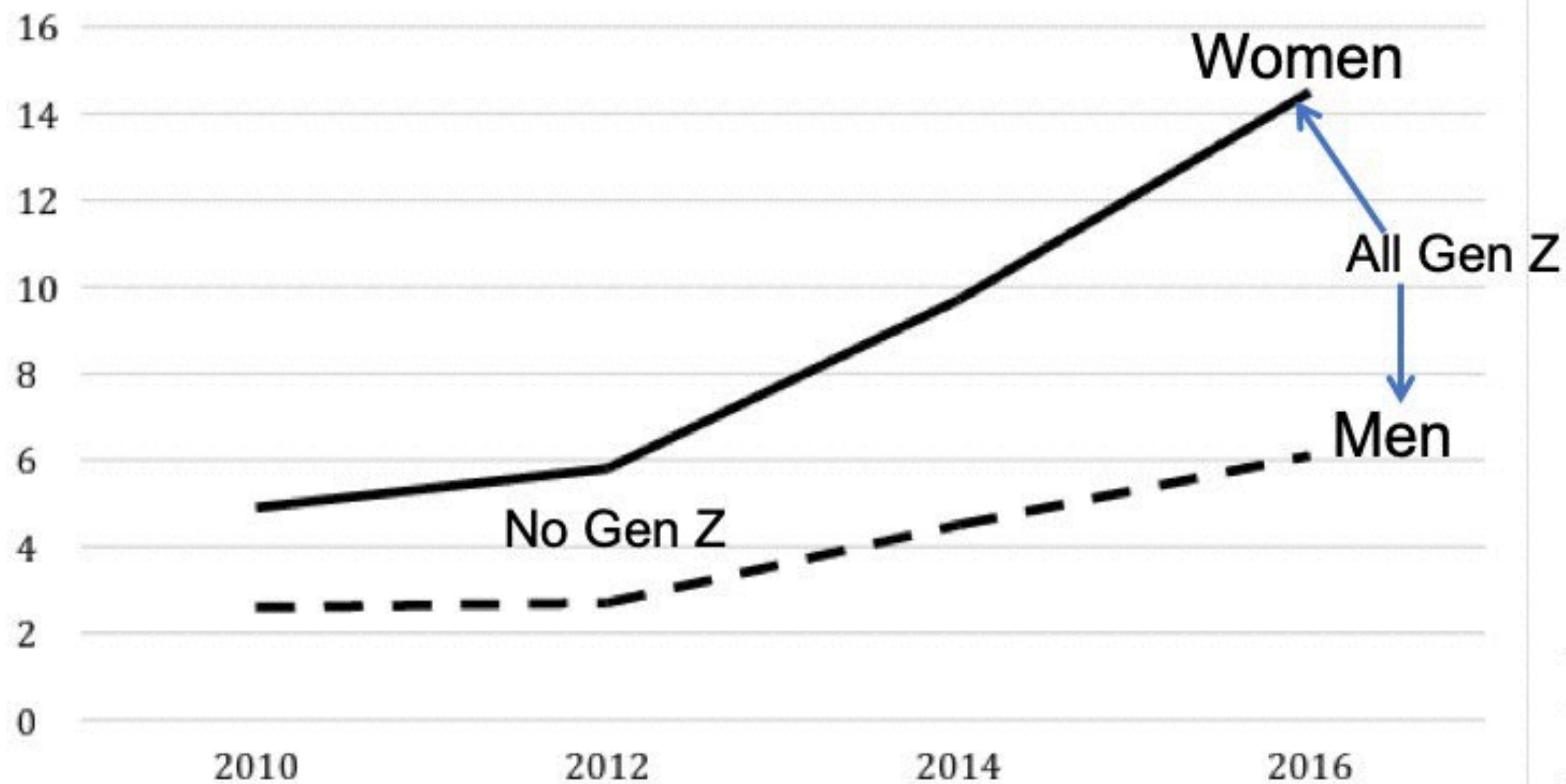


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Formation

Do you have a Psychological Disorder
(Depression, etc.)? (% of students indicating
"yes")



*Data from Higher
Education
Research Institute*

Formation

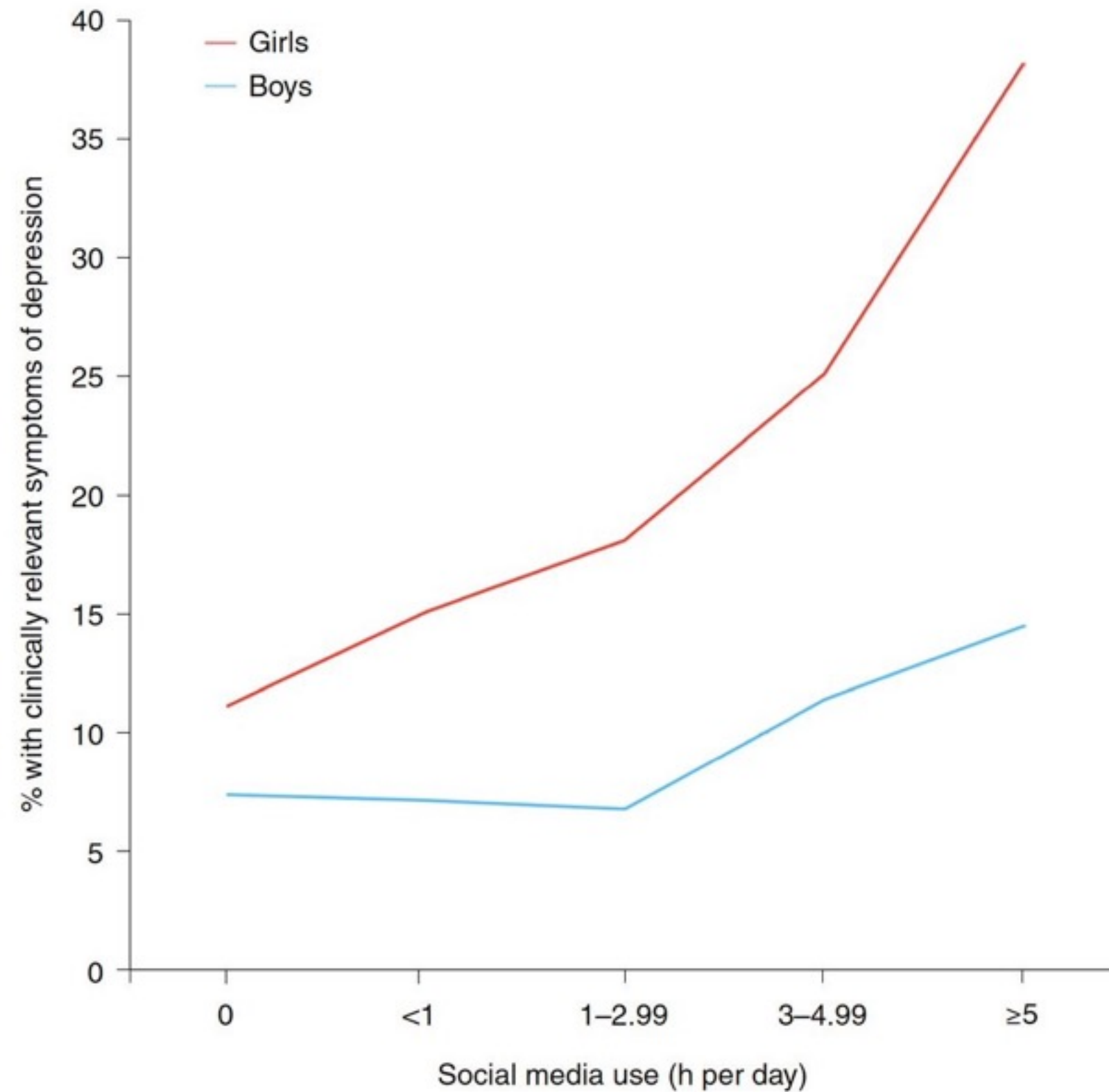


Fig. 1 | Percentage of the MCS cohort with clinically relevant depressive symptoms as a function of social media use. The results are displayed separately by gender.



Christian Life

Luke 9:23-24: And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. ²⁴ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it.”

1 Cor. 10:13: No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.



LGBTQ+ Affirming Churches

- **Language matters**
- **Argument from monogamous same-sex relationships**
- **Love is all that matters**
- **Genetic argument**



Relating to LGBTQ+

Matthew 18:17: If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.

1 Cor. 5:9-11: I wrote to you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people— ¹⁰ not at all meaning the sexually immoral of this world, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters, since then you would need to go out of the world. ¹¹ But now I am writing to you not to associate with anyone who bears the name of brother if he is guilty of sexual immorality or greed, or is an idolater, reviler, drunkard, or swindler—not even to eat with such a one.



More Topics

- **Defining sex and gender**
- **Same-sex attraction**
- **Rapid Onset Gender Dysphoria (ROGP)**
- **The power of community**



