

Sexual Orientation



香港家庭計劃指導會
The Family Planning Association of Hong Kong

Please read the following statements and circle "T" for True, or "F" for False.

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| 1. Sexual orientation is changeable. | T | F |
| 2. Sexual orientation includes heterosexual, homosexual and bisexual. | T | F |
| 3. Being emotionally-attached to a same-sex friend is an expression of homosexual. | T | F |
| 4. A person's sexual orientation is gradually affirmed during puberty. | T | F |
| 5. All gay men are feminine, while lesbians are masculine. | T | F |
| 6. Homosexual is a mental illness. | T | F |
| 7. Homosexual "Marriage" is not legalized in Hong Kong yet. | T | F |
| 8. Bisexuals and homosexuals are more vulnerable to infection of HIV. | T | F |



- False. Some groups had been trying to change a person's orientation through using prayers, spiritual activities or behavioral therapies. However, it is said unchangeable since orientation is argued as natured rather than nurtured. According to The American Psychiatric Association, there is no success story of changing a person's orientation with scientific grounds yet*.
- True.
- False. Having sexual fantasy, intimate behavior, or being emotionally attached to a same-sex person is not necessarily a homosexual. Don't take it too much by one single incident.
- False. Curiosity about sex among teenagers is absolutely normal. They may not be able to differentiate "appreciation", "fondness" and "love"; and particularly confused by peer group or same-sex learning environment. Remember, there is no rush for a teenager to find out his / her orientation!
- False. There are no major features to differentiate homosexuals from heterosexuals. Remember, the myths of "feminine gays" and "masculine lesbians" are often popularized by the media!
- False. The American Psychiatric Association had already removed "homosexual" from the list of The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) in 1974.
- True. A person who cohabitates with a same-sex partner is not legally recognized as a family unit in Hong Kong, and thus is refrained from enjoying any social rights, such as application of public housing, signing of approval for his / her spouse's emergent surgery, etc. Same-sex marriage is only legalized in countries like Netherland, Belgium, Canada and some in South America.
- False. Heterosexuals are not exempted from infection of HIV, because HIV is commonly spread through unprotected sexual intercourse, and among people who have many sex partners.

* Please refer the study on sexual orientation made by The American Psychiatric Association at the website : http://archive.psych.org/edu/other_res/lib_archives/199820.pdf