

**Subject: Update**

**Date:** Wednesday, August 5, 2009 9:28 PM

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**PRESS RELEASE – INSUFFICIENT EVIDENCE THAT SEXUAL ORIENTATION CHANGE EFFORTS WORK**

**Practitioners Should Avoid Telling Clients They Can Change from Gay to Straight**

TORONTO - The **American Psychological Association** adopted a resolution Wednesday stating that mental health professionals should avoid telling clients that they can change their sexual orientation through therapy or other treatments.

*Read the Press Release at [http://christiangays.com/articles/apa\\_release.shtml](http://christiangays.com/articles/apa_release.shtml)*

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**NEW ARTICLE – AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION CLAIMS “NO EVIDENCE” IN SUPPORT OF EX-GAY THERAPY**

Wayne Besen has written another great report on the latest findings of the American Psychological Association demonstrating the harm of the Ex-Gay Movement. He has also produced a video interview with a survivor of Ex-Gay Therapy.

*Please check it out at <http://christiangays.com/articles/besen31.shtml>*

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## VIDEO PRESENTATION - A SEQUÊNCIA FIBONACCI

A YouTube presentation that demonstrates God as the Great Designer.

*See it at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TAqTfBaqxGM&feature=related>*

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## NEW LINK – “HOPE REMAINS”

I've just added a new website to our **Christian Resources** links page. I recommend that you check it out at <http://hoperemains.webs.com/>

Hope Remains has been designed by Christian people who have a sincere desire to cut through the prejudice and misinformation concerning God's gift of sexuality. For too many years, people whose sexual orientation was other than heterosexual have been marginalized in the churches, made to feel dirty, useless, etc. Sometimes they are subjected to what can only be viewed as spiritual and emotional torture. And when they ultimately cannot change who they are, they are often driven away, and wind up abandoning God, falsely believing that He rejected them.

Others have been deluded into thinking that they can become what they are not, and some have maintained this illusion for

years, only to be devastated when it ultimately fails. Such self-delusion usually results in depression, self-loathing, loss of faith in God, and even suicide.

We are not "liberal" theologians. We do not dismiss scripture as irrelevant to this day and age. We believe the Bible, in its original form, was the inerrant word of God. We endeavor to move beyond the mistranslations that exist in English translations of that word, using the extant Hebrew and Greek texts.

The process of researching the Hebrew and Greek, as well as the history of the church and world in regard to sexuality, began for us in 1980, and continues to this day. When translating from Hebrew and Greek to English, we tend to bypass religious resources, which have been known to alter meanings for doctrinal reasons (not just on this topic). We prefer to rely primarily on secular language sources, whose only "agenda" is proper understanding of the language.

*If you want to find more Resources, please check out our **Gay Links** page at <http://christiangays.com/links.shtml>*

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## **NEWS – D.A. THOMPSON'S CD "DISCLAIMER" & PARTY – SEATTLE AUG 18, 2009**

D.a. Thompson, is a Gay Christian, Seattle, WA based writer, speaker, and musician, tackling some of the front burner issues of today through a unique and diverse world view.

Next month he will be coming out with his first solo album, an EP

called "Disclaimer."

"Disclaimer" is a piano driven pop/rock/funk extended play album with fun arrangements and relatable lyrics. The EP delivers memorable hooks with hints of such artists as Billy Joel, Tears For Fears, and Jason Mraz.

This CD is largely a promotional piece geared to raise funds so that he can devote himself full-time to completing his book, which is a fundamentalist case for gay partnership.

On Tuesday, August 18th, 2009 from 4 p.m. - 10 p.m., Galerias in Seattle, WA will host the D.a. Thompson CD Release Party.

*Read about the event press release at <http://send2press.com/newswire/2009-07-0721-005.shtml>*

*Find out more about D.a. Thompson at <http://www.dathompson.com/>*

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## **TAKE ACTION - WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE WITH GAY RIGHTS?**

Here are three simple ways through 941Action:

1. If you're straight, please take our groundbreaking survey...
2. Whether straight or not, help get the word out by forwarding it to everyone you can think of...
3. Then, sign up on the website to keep in touch with what 941Action is up to...

<http://941action.org>

941Action is a new organization that is being created by straight allies for straight allies. We believe that straight Americans who favor equality are a huge, untapped constituency in the movement for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender rights. We intend to fill the gap - to give straight allies the information and opportunities they need to express their support.

This survey is our first step. It will provide key information about why straight allies support equality, how they want to speak out, and how they prefer to be mobilized. We'll use what we learn to develop a Web-based strategy to provide opportunities for straight allies to voice their support.

The survey takes only 5 minutes, and I promise you'll enjoy taking it.

Thanks so much!

~Ann

P.S. Puzzled by the name 941? It's often been said that for every ten people, at least one is lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender. If so, that leaves the other nine of us to get busy!

Please remember all three steps: Take the survey (if you're straight), forward the link, and sign up. Thanks!

Click here: <http://941action.org>

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**VIDEO PRESENTATION - "LIFE"**

Turn up your speakers and enjoy. Wonderful photography, music and message.

<http://www.greatdanepromilitary.com/Life/index.htm>

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## **NOTABLE BIRTHDAYS - August 1 through August 31**

August 1: Fashion designer **Yves Saint-Laurent**, 1936

August 6: Poet **Alfred Lord Tennyson**, 1809; artist and filmmaker **Andy Warhol**, 1928

August 8: Disabled accident victim **Sharon Kowalski**, 1956

August 12: British writer **Radclyffe Hall**, 1880

August 15: Soldier and writer **T.E. Lawrence**, 1888

August 19: Transsexual tennis champion and physician **Renee Richards**, 1934

August 21: Filmmaker **George Kuchar**, 1942

August 25: American composer **Leonard Bernstein**, 1919

August 28: Actress **Nancy Kulp**, 1921

*(from [gltq.com](http://gltq.com))*

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## **SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT - CELL PHONE VS. BIBLE**

Ever wonder what would happen if we treated our Bible like we treat our cell phone?

What if we carried it around in our purses or pockets?

What if we flipped through it several time a day?

What if we turned back to get it if we forgot it?

What if we used it to receive messages from the text?

What if we treated it like we couldn't live without it?

What if we gave it to kids as gifts?

What if we used it when we traveled?

What if we used it in case of emergency?

This is something to make you go....hmm...where is my Bible?

Oh, and one more thing. Unlike our cell phone, we don't have to worry about our Bible being disconnected because Jesus already paid the bill.

Makes you stop and think, where are my priorities? And no dropped calls!

*(Thanks David!)*

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## **GOD SAID NO**

I asked God to take away my habit.

God said, "No. It is not for me to take away, but for you to give it up."

I asked God to make my handicapped child whole.

God said, "No. His spirit is whole, his body is only temporary."

I asked God to grant me patience.

God said, "No. Patience is a byproduct of tribulations; it isn't granted, it is learned."

I asked God to give me happiness.

God said, "No. I give you blessings; happiness is up to you."

I asked God to spare me pain.

God said, "No. Suffering draws you apart from worldly cares and brings you closer to me."

I asked God to make my spirit grow.

God said, "No. You must grow on your own but I will prune you to make you fruitful."

I asked God for all things that I might enjoy life.  
God said, "No. I will give you life, so that you may enjoy all things."

I asked God to help me LOVE others, as much as He loves me.  
God said, "Ahhhh, finally you have the idea."

May the Lord Bless you and keep you,  
May the Lord Make his face shine upon you,  
And give you Peace...Forever

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**"45 LESSONS LIFE TAUGHT ME" by Regina Brett, 90 yo, of  
The Plain Dealer, Cleveland, Ohio**

"To celebrate growing older, I once wrote the 45 lessons life taught me. It is the most-requested column I've ever written.

My odometer rolled over to 90 in August, so here is the column once more:

1. Life isn't fair, but it's still good.
2. When in doubt, just take the next small step.
3. Life is too short to waste time hating anyone...

4. Your job won't take care of you when you are sick. Your friends and parents will. Stay in touch.
5. Pay off your credit cards every month.
6. You don't have to win every argument. Agree to disagree.
7. Cry with someone. It's more healing than crying alone.
8. It's OK to get angry with God. He can take it.
9. Save for retirement starting with your first pay cheque.
10. When it comes to chocolate, resistance is futile.
11. Make peace with your past so it won't screw up the present.
12. It's OK to let your children see you cry.
13. Don't compare your life to others. You have no idea what their journey is all about.
14. If a relationship has to be a secret, you shouldn't be in it.
15. Everything can change in the blink of an eye. But don't worry; God never blinks.
16. Take a deep breath. It calms the mind.
17. Get rid of anything that isn't useful, beautiful or joyful.
18. Whatever doesn't kill you really does make you stronger.

19. It's never too late to have a happy childhood. But the second one is up to you and no one else.
20. When it comes to going after what you love in life, don't take no for an answer.
21. Burn the candles, use the nice sheets, wear the fancy lingerie. Don't save it for a special occasion, today is special.
22. Over prepare, then go with the flow.
23. Be eccentric now. Don't wait for old age to wear purple.
24. The most important sex organ is the brain.
25. No one is in charge of your happiness but you.
26. Frame every so-called disaster with these words 'In five years, will this matter?'
27. Always choose life.
28. Forgive everyone everything.
29. What other people think of you is none of your business.
30. Time heals almost everything. Give time.
31. However good or bad a situation is, it will change.
32. Don't take yourself so seriously.. No one else does.
33. Believe in miracles.
34. God loves you because of who God is, not because of

anything you did or didn't do.

35. Don't audit life. Show up and make the most of it now.

36. Growing old beats the alternative -- dying young.

37. Your children get only one childhood.

38. All that truly matters in the end is that you loved.

39. Get outside every day. Miracles are waiting everywhere.

40. If we all threw our problems in a pile and saw everyone else's, we'd grab ours back.

41. Envy is a waste of time. You already have all you need.

42. The best is yet to come.

43. No matter how you feel, get up, dress up and show up.

44. Yield.

45. Life isn't tied with a bow, but it's still a gift."

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Please remember to keep [ChristianGays.com](http://ChristianGays.com) in your prayers, and if your finances permit, please also consider making a donation. It would be so greatly appreciated.

God bless,  
Mary

**Gay AND Christian? YES! It IS Possible!**

<http://www.ChristianGays.com>

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**Gay by God. Proud by choice!**



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If you have any questions or concerns, please write to [mary@christiangays.com](mailto:mary@christiangays.com)

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No need to type anything. Just hit "Send" and you will automatically be removed from the email address from which you are sending - but remember, we will miss you. :-)

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