

Same-sex marriage is not an option

5 reasons why Christian marriage cannot be gender-neutral

1. Perception of marriage

A. The Bible is crystal clear that marriage is God's design for man and woman – instituted by God and confirmed by Christ and the apostles. There is not one single exception in the entire Bible.

- The institution of marriage has existed since the dawn of time. Neither politicians nor church leaders have the authority to define what marriage is, or a mandate to redefine its very foundations. Only 2–3 per cent of the world's Christians belong to denominations which have made marriage gender-neutral.

B. Gender-neutral ideology claims that marriage is a social construct, in other words a human idea and innovation. This is at odds with the Bible's clear message about marriage.

2. The mother-father-child relationship

A. The Bible teaches that the biological mother-father-child relationship is unique and occupies a special position, and that it is totally different from all other relationships. Everyone is conceived by seed from a father and an egg from a mother. Neither the mother or the father is superfluous. Children have a God-given right to their own mother and father.

B. Gender-neutral ideology denies that the relationship between mother, father and child is unique. This ideology defines the mother-father-child relationship as one of many equal 'norms'.

- The breakdown of the unique meaning of the mother-father-child relationship opens a floodgate and leads to a host of dramatic and unbiblical consequences. One of these consequences is that adults, both couples and singles, think they have the right to have children using the so-called 'fertility market'. The biological and biblical understanding of 'parents' is being broken down.

God's truth has no expiry date. (Matth 24,35)



The truth is never a "lost cause".

3. Relational anarchy

A. God's design for intimate relationships, marriage and parenthood has clearly defined frameworks and content. God's commands are given to us in love. They bring life and are a blessing for children, adults and society in general.

B. Radical gender ideology often leads to anarchy within intimate relationships, where everything is subjective. This ideology is permeated by relativism in ethics in which no kind of intimate relationship has a unique place. The differences between the norm and exceptions to it are removed, and everything can be defined as normal, natural and good for children and youth, adults and society. Hetero, homo, bi, poly, pan, trans, dozens of gender identities and so on are all classed together as equally valid, sound and child friendly. An extreme individualism, with its lusts, feelings and ideal of self-realisation overrides most other considerations.

- Any sexual acts and relationships are looked on as positive, as long as they are voluntary and there is not an imbalance of power. The biggest losers in this huge social experiment will be children and young people: the result for many young people can be insecurity and sexual experimentation, STDs, gender confusion and identity problems.

4. Children's rights

A. The Bible teaches us that children are a gift from the Lord, not a right or a commodity. It is a divine, innate and human right for children to know their own mother and father and be raised with them, as far as it is possible. See also Article 7.1 in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

B. Gender-neutral ideology turns children into a right and legitimises the fertility market, where people trade in sperm and eggs, and donors and surrogate mothers. The planned absence of fathers and/or mothers is a natural and necessary part of the gender-neutral ideology. The needs and desires of the adults override the child's right to both his or her own mother and father.

- Introducing same-sex marriage in churches, while expecting or demanding that the couples do not get children using assisted fertilization, egg donations or surrogacy, is just unrealistic wishful thinking. Saying 'yes' to same-sex marriage would inevitably include saying 'yes' to planned fatherlessness or motherlessness.

5. Theology of sex, parenthood and family

A. God created the human race in two sexes: man and woman, male and female. According to the Bible, gender differences (polarity) between man and woman are foundational for sexuality and its framework, for conception, parenthood, children and marriage.

B. Gender-neutral ideology dissolves the Bible's teaching on:

- gender • sexuality • conception • parenthood • family • children • the truth of two sexes, and many other important aspects.

Several countries now promote an LGBT ideology in schools, kindergartens and in society in general which says that:

- (a) gender differences regarding parents are unimportant and irrelevant,
- (b) blood relationships are insignificant,
- (c) mothers and fathers can be replaced by a person of the opposite sex with no negative consequences.

Questions for discussion

1. Read the text in each box and talk about the contrast between the biblical perspective and the gender-neutral perspective on intimate relationships and on children.
2. According to your opinion, which of the boxes gives the strongest reason against gender-neutral ethics regarding intimate relationships? Why?
3. Which arguments in defence of gender-neutral ethics regarding intimate relationships are most common? How do the above points help as we meet them?
4. How do you feel the message of this text helps you to understand the importance of maintaining biblical ethics regarding intimate relationships?



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