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## Child Molestation Among the Clergy

How often are religious leaders involved in child molestation? Roman Catholic priests have captured a great deal of attention since the late 1980s. Press reports and opin-

since most of those who were molested were boys, the priesthood had become densely populated with homosexuals.

What are 'the facts' regarding child molestation by reli-

What are 'the facts' regarding child molestation by religious leaders? Are priests more apt than Protestant clergy to molest boys?

ion pieces in the 1990s made it appear that child molestation was exceptionally frequent among priests. Speculation about 'the cause' ranged from the celibacy rule imposed on most priests, to the fact that, gious leaders? Are priests more apt than Protestant clergy to molest boys?

These are difficult questions to answer. Even were random samples of priests and Protestant ministers asked about their sexual desires toward, and activities with, the underage, their reports would be highly suspect. Often there are strong personal and institutional motivations to conceal molestation. How could we be sure we would be getting truthful responses? And in light of these difficulties, can any reasonable empirical estimate of the rates of child molestation be generated?

Enter the news media. Cases of child sexual abuse by persons in authority are exceptionally newsworthy. Neighbors may be interested in the stepfather who molests his stepdaughter, but unless the stepfather is

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## The Violent Lives of Homosexual Couples

Two recent studies give a glimpse into homosexual relationships and how violent they are compared to married couples. Neither specifically answers the questions "do you live with and have sex with your same-sex partner?" but both go some distance toward our understanding of 'homosexual coupling.'

The first study<sup>1</sup> was based upon a very large U.S. Government-drawn database consisting of 8000 men and 8000 women aged 18 years or older, who were interviewed by phone. Overall, 0.8% of men and 1.0% of women said that they

had lived with a same-sex partner "as a couple" at some time in their life (this tends to imply that they had sex with each other, but we also know that many gays and lesbians live with a partner with whom they have no sexual relationship).

At the time of the survey, 0.4% of men and 0.4% of women said that they were currently cohabiting with a same-sex partner. This finding would translate into about

In the Tjaden, et al study, about half of the men and half of the women who had ever lived "as a couple" with a samesex partner also had lived as a couple with an opposite-sex partner. Thus we have more evidence of the flexible, rather than 'fixed,' nature of homosexual expression

800,000 such couples. The 2000 U.S. Census put the 'actual' figure at about 600.000. Since the refus-

al rate for this survey was about 20%, the discrepancy could be due to homosexuals being more apt than heterosexuals to respond to questions about sex.

Of some interest, in the FRI nationwide *urban* sex survey, 4% of male and 2% of female respondents said that they had been "homosexually married" at some point in their lives. Whether being

"married" meant that they had lived together or not (it certainly implies that they had sex with each other) is uncertain. A fair number of homosexuals say that they have a 'regular partner' with whom they do not live, so what proportion of these 'at-a-distance' relationships were

#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

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A tantalizing mix of recent headlines

- ◆ Los Angeles: Three men have told police investigators that they were molested by openly gay Deputy Police Chief David Kalish during the late 1970s. Last year, Kalish, now 49, was considered for police chief. (*LA Times*, 3/27/03)
- Deloomington, IN: History professor James Jones is not welcome at the *Kinsey Institute*. Its director, John Bancroft said that "it's fair to say that we're pretty annoyed with Jones" because Jones' biography revealed that Kinsey had had gay affairs with students and "blurred the perception of Kinsey as an impartial scientist." (*Washington Blade*, 3/14/03)
- London: Dominic Dalton, 44, was jailed in July 2001 for the strangling death of his domestic partner. Now Dalton has sued to inherit his partner's estate. After all, Dalton contended, he was judged to have "diminished responsibility" for the killing, so why shouldn't he enjoy life when he gets out in December 2003? (Washington Blade, 3/14/03)
- Ocincinnati: Philip Barrens, now Philecia after some surgical snipping and tucking, has won a \$330,000 judgment against the police force for 'discriminating' against him because he had an operation that made him appear to be a woman. (Washington Blade, 3/7/03)

#### Clergy from page 1

famous, it may not be worth a story. On the other hand, 'everyone' is interested in the boy who got raped in the men's room at the mall or the girl molested by her music teacher. So when it comes to those in charge of children — as teachers, priests, preachers, etc. — it is likely that such molestations are more apt to be covered in the press.

This is another of FRI's series of reports derived from examining child molestation stories in major newspapers. FRI used Academic Universe (a search engine on the Internet) to review the whole text of the 50 national and regional newspapers in the English-speaking world with the largest circulations. This database was examined for "child molestation" for 1989 through 2002 inclusive, a period of 14 years. We recorded the numbers of victims [unless it was "victims" without a number, in which case it was counted as 2], as well as the numbers and status [e.g., priest, teacher, policeman, father, etc.] of the perpetrators [unless it was "perpetrators" without a number, in which case the number of perpetrators was counted as 2].

If a minister molested his step-daughter, it was counted as a step-father molestation, but if the child was a member of the congregation, it was counted as a molestation by a clergyman. If a man molested both a girl and a boy, he was counted as a 'homosexual' perpetrator. If a man and woman molested a boy, it was counted as 0.5 heterosexual (for the woman) and 0.5 homosexual (for the man). If a man molested a girl, it was counted as 'heterosexual.' Only news stories, not opinion pieces were tallied.

#### What FRI Found

There were 6,444 stories about child molestation captured by *Academic Universe*, 1,914 of which concerned

unique events (that is, not additional stories about the same event, and not opinion pieces). Of the 2,181 perpetrators in these unique stories whose sexual proclivities could be inferred from the sex of their victim, 41% engaged in sex with their own sex, and were counted as 'homosexuals.' Almost all the remaining 59% molested the opposite sex (labeled as 'heterosexuals'), while another 118 perpetrators violated at least 190 children of unreported sex. Of the 5,630 underage victims, 61% were victimized by 'homosexuals' (i.e., 3,386 boys and

60 girls raped by those who engaged in homosexuality), the remaining 39% by 'heterosexuals.'

One very important thing to remember is that there are significant limitations to newspaper stories as a database. Because some events are more news-

worthy than others, there is no way to know for sure how representative newspaper reports of molestation are of general child sexual abuse. It is also unknown whether the types of molestations most likely to 'hit' the papers — those by persons in authority over children accurately reflect molestation rates by those same authority figures. Does an environment where one regularly works with children encourage more temptation? Is a position of authority — with its tendency to be under greater scrutiny — associated on average with more responsible or less responsible behavior? Does a position of trust over children allow individuals to slip 'under the radar' more easily and lessen suspicion of them as potential molesters?

We know from a multitude of reports that a fairly significant fraction of homosexuals admit to sexual molestation of the underage in one form or another. The Kinsey Institute survey of male homosexuals in San Francisco reported that 23% of 979 admitted to sex with those no older than 16 while they themselves were at least 21 years old. Other studies also suggest that about a quarter of adult homosexuals have had sex with the underage. Less well understood is what fraction of individuals molest large numbers of victims.

It is also unknown

how rates of child molestation vary by professional role or occupation.

These questions are important because if lots of teenage and younger boys have been molested, for instance, by Catholic priests, does

that mean that there are a bunch of homosexual priests or merely that those who are homosexual tend to molest more victims per capita?

Another limitation to the news story database is that molesters only 'show up' in the paper after they've been caught. Estimates of newspaper-based molestation rates are dependent not only

on whether a case is newsworthy, but also on how often individuals are actually ap-

prehended. Some molesters are almost certainly more clever

than others in this regard. But what about for whole professions? Are clergy less likely to be caught (and thus show up in the paper) than non-clergy? Are there different rates of apprehension between clergy and teachers?

There is evidence that homosexuals who molest are less apt to be caught than heterosexuals who molest. For instance, the very fact that homosexual molesters generally claim more victims than heterosexual molesters, and thereby appear to 'get away' with it longer before they are found out, would seem to attest to this fact. In 1987, Abel et al found that while about 34% of their approximately 561 child abuse male perpetrators engaged in homosexuality, 84% of the 28,574 victims of abuse under 14 years old that their perpetrators admitted to were boys. The Academic Universe database similarly shows that homosexual perpetrators, while comprising 41% of the total, accounted for fully 61% of the reported victims.

The reason for this disproportionate homosexual share is not fully understood. Perhaps homosexual molesters are simply more clever than heterosexual molesters on average. In other cases, even if discovered, homosexual perpetrators are given a pass. A boy who is homosexually molested may be considered 'contaminated,' and both parents and neighbors often assume that the boy might have enjoyed the molestation enough to be 'primed'

Outside the Church, the 'group rights revolution' is knocking hard against its traditional stance. In New Zealand, a Parliamentary committee wants "censorship laws changed so Christian films critical of gay men and lesbians can be banned"

to molest other boys. Because of this, if the parents find out

he was molested, and they wish to protect the boy from shunning at school or in the neighborhood, parents often decide that it is better to 'shut up about it' than run the risk of ruining their son's reputation and social life.

All in all, deriving estimates of molestation rates from newspaper stories is a bit tricky. Still, the information is fairly 'hard' data, not simply based on what an individual might claim on a survey or to a clinician. And there are patterns that emerge from these data that are generally consistent with other modes of inquiry, as well as types of information that are relatively unique in the child sexual abuse literature.

#### Religious Leaders

Religious leaders were grouped into Roman Catholic priests, non-Catholic Christian clergy, and non-Christian clergy. There were 116 Catholic perpetrators: 95 who engaged in homosexuality and who violated 229 children; 17 who engaged in heterosexuality and who raped 24 girls; and 4 who engaged in sex with at least 4 children of unspecified sex.

There were 61 non-Catholic Christian clergy who molested the underage. Those who engaged in homosexuality included four clergywomen (Church of Christ, Protestant, 2 Pentecostals) and 35 clergymen (one each from 7th Day Adventist, Salvation Army, Evangelical Free, and Greek Orthodox; and 9 Protestants, 8 Pentecostals, 2 Lutherans, 4 Episcopalians, 2 Methodists, and 6 Baptists). These 39 'homosexuals' raped 229 children. Twenty one 'heterosexual' clergymen raped 31 girls (2 Seventh Day Adventists, 2 Church

of Christ, 8 Protestants, 6 Pentecostals, and 3 Baptists). One additional Episcopal clergyman raped a child of unspecified sex.

In addition, 4 Rabbis homosexually raped 10 children, 2 Rabbis heterosexually raped 2 girls, a Mormon pastor who engaged in homosexuality violated 3 boys, 3 Mormons heterosexually raped 10 girls, and a (male) Buddhist monk raped a boy.

Overall in this set, clergy-women accounted for 6.7% of non-Catholic Christian clergy molesters, but 10.3% of homosexual molesters — suggesting that clergywomen may be disproportionately homosexual. Are Christian Clergy Molesters More Frequently Homosexual?

With at least 78% of the 172 clergy perpetrators whose

If... about... one of every 7 clergy is personally involved in homosexuality, the fight within the Church is apt to be as time-consuming as the fight of the Church against outside 'group rights' forces. That so many 'sexual traitors' inhabit the modern pulpits bodes ill for the Church retaining its stance against homosexual activity

sexual proclivities could be determined engaging in homosexuality, the Christian clergy were statistically more apt to engage in homosexuality than were non-clergy perpetrators, only 37% of whom practiced homosexuality. Broken down by religious factions, of 57 Protestant clergy perpetrators (excluding Eastern Orthodox priests), at least 34 (60%) engaged in homosexuality. Of 116 Catholic clergymen perpetrators, at least 95 (82%) engaged in homosexuality. Protestant clergy were thereby statistically less apt to engage in homosexuality than Catholic clergy, but more apt to do so than non-clergy. Even adding Rabbis to the mix — of whom 4 of 6 engaged in homosexuality — would not change the fact that a higher fraction

of Judeo-Christian leaders engaged in homosexual molestation than did non-clergy.

In terms of numbers of children victimized, non-clergy perpetrators raped 5,080 children, while the 189 clergy (8.7% of all perpetrators) victimized 572, or 11% of the total. Clergy raped at least 2.3% of the 2,206 children victimized by heterosexuals, and at least 14.5% of the 3,446 children raped by homosexuals. These numbers are consistent with the notion that there seem to be higher rates of homosexual molestation among the clergy than among the non-clergy. Teachers

Because newspapers have a bias toward reporting on 'newsworthy' individuals, we can't look only at clergy and make a reasonable conclusion about

how often they molest.

Again, in terms of the overall molestation picture, the rates for clergy extracted from the database of newspaper stories are likely to be overstated relative to the general public, especially given

their position of authority. So we also need a comparison group that is similarly educated and with ready access to children. Here, teachers naturally come to mind.

In the Academic Universe database, there were 251 teachers/principals/school counselors (all labeled as 'teachers' for this analysis) who had sex with their pupils or charges. Altogether, 11.6% of the 2,167 perpetrators in the news stories were teachers. Of these 251 teachers, 38.6% were men who engaged in homosexuality; these men had sex with 500 pupils (of whom 25 were girls). 54.6% of the teacher perpetrators engaged in heterosexuality, having sex with 334 pupils (19 female teachers had sex with 27 boys, 118

male teachers had sex with 307 girls). In addition, 17 teachers had sex with 26 pupils of unreported sex.

In this case, female teachers comprised 8.1% of the perpetrators whose sexual proclivities could be determined, but none of the homosexual teacher perpetrators. Overall teachers accounted for 15.2% of all child-rapes: 'homosexual' teachers accounted for 14.5% of all child-rapes by homosexuals and 'heterosexual' teachers accounted for 15.3% of all child rapes committed by heterosexuals.

## Are Clergy More Frequently Homosexual Than Teachers?

The question could be readily answered if the numbers of clergy, homosexual and otherwise, could be compared to the numbers of homosexual and heterosexual teachers. But such numbers are not available. There is no register of 'homosexual teachers' or 'homosexual clergy.' Even the number of clergy is uncertain given that the U.S. Census Bureau does not collect those kind of statistics.

Nevertheless, one estimate can be gotten by looking at

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### Family Research

REPORT

Family Research Report critically examines empirical data on families, sexual social policy, AIDS, drug addiction, and homosexuality, digging behind the 'headlines' and breaking new scientific ground.

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the ratio of homosexual to heterosexual perpetrators. If we assume that — within a given profession — homosexual and heterosexual child molesters (e.g., teachers) are equally likely to be reported on, the ratios within the Academic Universe database will tend to reflect perhaps not absolute numbers, but at least accurate relative proportions of molester types by profession. Using this measure, the data we gathered show a ratio of 1 homosexual teacher perpetrator for every 1.4 heterosexual teacher perpetrators. On the other hand, Catholic priests split 5.6 homosexual to 1 heterosexual, and Protestant clergy split 1.6 homosexual to 1 heterosexual perpetrator. For the dataset as a whole, the ratio was 1 homosexual for every 1.4 heterosexual perpetrators.



Thus the relative proportion of homosexual teacher-perpetrators was approximately the same as the entire dataset, suggesting that there might be an 'average' proportion of teachers who are homosexual child molesters. By contrast, the ranks of the clergy would seem to have a much larger share of homosexual molesters. Compared to teachers, the Protestant clergy in our database had 2.24 times the proportion of homosexual perpetrators, and the Catholic clergy had 7.84 times the proportion of perpetrators who practiced homosexuality.

If we further assume that there is a reasonably 'stable' fraction of teachers or clergy who ever become child molesters, then FRI's estimate from our 1983-84 national sexuality survey of the proportion of teachers who are homosexual can be used to crudely estimate the percentages of Protestant clergy and Catholic clergy who might also be homosexual. In that study, we estimated that 4.2% of teachers were homosexual. This would lead to estimates of 9.4% of Protestant clergy and 32.9% of Catholic priests being homosexual — that is, approximately 10% of Protestant and a third of Catholic clergy.

# Are Catholic Priests More Frequently Homosexual Than Protestant Clergy?

The media attention to homosexual rape of children by Roman Catholic Priests probably biased its child molestation stories by elevating the number of stories about molestation by priests. Many of the stories involving priests concerned rapes that took place decades before the newspaper story appeared. While some stories about preachers and teachers who raped children also concerned events that occurred many years ago, the volume of homosexual rapes by priests seems seriously inflated by the media attention to the issue.

Given this circumstance, it appears likely that the absolute numbers of children victimized by priests is 'too high.' Nevertheless, the *ratio* of homosexual vs. heterosexual priests as indexed by the sex of the children they raped would appear to be relatively unbiased, especially since rapes of girls as well as rapes of boys from ten, twenty or even thirty years ago were included in the tally.

Catholics tend to be more concentrated in major cities where the newspapers indexed by *Academic Universe* were published, so this bias may have inflated the number of Catholic molestation stories that appeared in the sample. Further, the priest molestations were often more removed from

the present than molestations by teachers or non-Catholic clergy. But even if these biases elevated the numbers of Catholic priests who were caught homosexually molesting by a factor of as much as two, it would still suggest that about a sixth of priests and around a tenth of Protestant ministers are homosexual.

#### **Implications**

The major opposition to homosexual behavior comes

although most Christians still oppose homosexuality, the presence of significant numbers of homosexual clergy presents a challenge for Christendom. The apparent 10% of Protestant and one-third of Catholic clergy are a 5th column within the Church

from Christianity. Before Christianity appeared on the scene, homosexuality appears to have been generally accepted in both the Greek and Roman civilizations. By the time the Church got done influencing society, homosexuality had been made a capital crime. The first law against homosexuality appeared in the Empire's Christian era 342 — it made homosexuality a capital crime. About 50 years later, the emperors Valentinian II, Theodosious, and Arcadius published "All persons who have the shameful custom of condemning a man's body, acting the part of a woman's... shall expiate this sort of crime in avenging flames." And under Justinian (c. 527-565) it was declared that "We admonish men to abstain from the aforesaid unlawful acts, that they may not lose their souls... so that the city and the state may not come to harm by reason of such wicked deeds."

Nowadays, although most Christians still oppose homosexuality, the presence of significant numbers of homosexual clergy presents a challenge for Christendom. The apparent 10% of Protestant and onethird of Catholic clergy are a 5th column within the Church. They have personal reasons to see Christianity change and to see homosexuality accepted as OK.

Outside the Church, the 'group rights revolution' is knocking hard against its traditional stance. In New Zealand, a Parliamentary committee wants "censorship laws changed so Christian films critical of gay men and lesbians can be

banned" (*Washington Blade*, 3/14/03).
Similar 'group rights thinking' has led to censorship of Christian radio content

in Canada, and even censorship of pulpit content in Scandinavia. This censorship forbids even the general criticism of homosexual behavior, as though all 'homosexuals' are 'insulted' if they and others are told that what they regularly do is unhealthy or in any way substandard. The 'group rights' revolutionaries don't care what the 'truth' is, they care that members of a 'historically victimized' group not be put in a situation where they might 'feel bad' about themselves.

If, as FRI estimates, about 15% or one of every 7 clergy is personally involved in homosexuality, the fight within the Church is apt to be as time-consuming as the fight of the Church against outside 'group rights' forces. That so many 'sexual traitors' inhabit the modern pulpits bodes ill for the Church retaining its stance against homosexual activity.

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Abel GG, Becker JV, Mittleman M, Cunningham-Rathner J, Rouleau JL, Murphy WD. Self-reported sex crimes of nonincarcerated paraphiliacs. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* 1987,2,3-25.

#### Couples from page 1

included in "homosexually married" is unknown. But since male homosexuals are about 3-4 times more apt and female homosexuals almost twice as apt to live in

cities as opposed to more rural areas, the estimates from the FRI and Tjaden et al studies seem fairly close. Indeed, the refusal rate for the FRI survey of close to 50% probably contributed to overestimating the proportion who claimed to be ever "homosexually married."

Another rather interesting finding refutes the oft-repeated contention by homosexual sympathizers

that 'once homosexual, always homosexual.' In the Tjaden, et al study, about half of the men and half of the women who had ever lived "as a couple" with a samesex partner also had lived as a couple with an opposite-sex partner. Thus we have more evidence of the flexible, rather than 'fixed,' nature of homosexual expression.

The main findings of the study were only partially reported. Apparently, much like the University of Chicago investigators in 1994 refused to report some of their findings about homosexuals, so these investigators followed the same tack.

In any case, twice as many lesbians as straights reported being forcibly raped as a minor (17% vs. 9%) and as an adult (25% vs. 10%). Likewise, 15% of gays as minors and 11% as adults reported having been forcibly raped [the findings for straight men were not given].

Gays and lesbians also reported higher rates of having been physically assaulted in youth and adulthood. Thus, 65% of the gays vs. 47% of the straights, and 53% of the lesbians vs. 30% of the straights reported a physical assault while adults.

Fifteen percent of gays said that they had been raped or physically assaulted by a male partner, 11% by a female partner (vs. 8% of straights who made the same re-



port). Altogether, 23% of gays vs. 8% of straights reported such an attack by either a male or female partner. For lesbians, 30% said they had been raped or physically assaulted by a male partner (vs. 20% of straights), and 11% by a female partner. Overall, 39% of lesbians vs. 20% of straight females reported such attacks by either a male or female partner.

Again notice how sexually flexible these 'gays' and 'lesbians' were and are. Though only half reported having cohabited with an opposite-sex partner, it was apparently enough experience for more of them to report heterosexual battering than among the heterosexuals in the survey! Furthermore, domestic violence and rape are clearly reported by more of the homosexuals than heterosexuals. These are disturbed people, involved in disturbing relationships, and paying the price.

The second study<sup>2</sup> is perhaps more impressive because it was based upon a random sample of 2,881 gays living in 'gay ghettos' in 4 major cities (Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago, and New

York). As with the Tjaden *et al* study, this was done by phone. Unfortunately, there was no comparison group. All of the subjects were men who "reported samegender sexual behavior since age 14 years or who self-labeled as

homosexual, gay, or bisexual."

Age-wise, it should be noted that only 6.3% of the selected subjects were aged 60 or older (the oldest was 86). Nationally, the fraction of men 60 and older in the U.S. is close to 19%. So, in harmony with FRI's findings that those who engage in homosexuality seldom live to old age (that is, to at least 65), it seems clear that being surrounded by gays and imbibing regularly of 'gay culture' does not make 'gay life' more longevous. In fact, it's probably pretty dangerous.

For one thing, 19% — or almost one out of five — of the 2,369 gays who said they knew their HIV status reported that they had the virus. Respondents were also asked whether they had experienced "unwanted physical... violence" from a boyfriend or same-gender partner during the past 5 years. Violence was defined

it seems clear that being surrounded by gays and imbibing regularly of 'gay culture' does not make 'gay life' more longevous. In fact, it's probably pretty dangerous

> as "being hit with fists or an open hand, hit with an object, pushed or shoved, or kicked; or having something thrown at him. Sexual battering was defined as having been forced to have sex."

About 20% of gays said that, in the past 5 years, they had been physically battered and about 5% said that they had been homosexually raped. Not surprisingly, the older gays (aged 60 and older) reported less physical battering (5%) and rape (1%) than the younger groups. Among 30-39 year olds, 27% reported physical

battering and 6% reported homosexual rape. Among those 18-29, 25% of gays reported physical battering and 8% reported having been raped.

But all this violence occurred just within the past five years for residents of these gay ghettos. As FRI has noted (FRR, December 2001), from year to year, very few married men or women report physical violence from their spouse. In fact, only 0.6% of married women report being the victim of domestic violence by their hustand or ex-husband in the past year. For cohabiting women and men, the corresponding figures are much higher than for the married. But neither group reports such high levels of intimate-partner violence against men as the gays in this study.

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2. Geenwood GL, Relf MV, BU Huang, Pollack LM, Canchola JA, Catania JA. Battering victimization among a probability-based sample of men who have sex with men. *American Journal of Public Health*, 2002, 92, 1964-1969.



## (Not) Going to Graceland

The day before I was scheduled to speak at Graceland University in Iowa about the scientific evidence regarding 'gay rights,' the vice-provost canceled me. He was 'sorry,' he said, but there was the possibility of demonstrations, some of the faculty didn't want me to speak, and he was afraid of 'divisiveness.' Not too long ago, only the big dogs like Harvard and Stanford forbade speakers who did not agree with their philosophies. Now even the puppies are going along. Here is the letter replying to some of my critics, recently published in the student newspaper:

"George Orwell observed that 'Western civilization has given the intellectual security without responsibility, and it has educated him in skepticism while anchoring him almost immovably in the privileged class. He has been in the position of a young man living on an allowance from a father whom he hates.' Not only does his observation apply to college faculty, but I have found that the ideology claimed by most in the social sciences blinds them to empirical reality.

"After 4 years of professional activism I called for a ban on blood from any man who had sex with a male since 1977. In 1985 the CDC finally adopted the policy I recommended. The unhealthy sexual behavior of gays disqualifies them from being part of the blood bank. Today as yesterday, ideologues decry this bar as 'discriminatory' and seek to have it removed. To true believers in gay rights, ideology is more important than life. In fact, they are even willing to risk your life as well as their own. For my efforts to save life I have been branded all kinds of things, now barred from Graceland because some of its faculty are 'insulted and appalled.'

"When I became the first to document the health effects of second hand tobacco smoke, I was not so treated. The tobacco companies were not happy with my findings. My research and that of others who followed me, eventually cost them billions of dollars. My smoking colleagues were not happy. They knew the 'handwriting was on the wall.' But no one ever tried to censor me. The social science ideologues are different. Because I don't agree with their ideol-

is ideological speech, not

"Brian Smith said that larger population, one that population.' Not so. true random sample of pened. Even the Census of the number of males random sample of any journal. Often you will about 'people in general' respondents. Occasionally

on 'random samples' of respon-

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intellectual honesty.

to 'generalize survey results to a

must randomly sample people from
People are not balls in a jar, and a
a large population has never hapBureau cannot assure the accuracy
counted. You will not find a true
large population in any psychology
find articles claiming principles
based solely upon college student
you'll find articles purportedly based
dents. But if you look closely, you will find

that at least 20%-30% of the intended sample was 'missed,' with unknown consequences to findings.

"My pioneering work on the harmful effects of second hand tobacco smoke was not done on a random sample. Nor my second study, nor my third, nor the hundreds of follow-on studies done by others. However, the persistence of the findings from the various investigations led society to a sense of 'this is the truth' and consequent massive social changes.

"In the same spirit, I have authored three publications dealing with the apparent shortened longevity of those who engage in homosexuality. In the first (*Omega*, 1994), two lines of empirical evidence were explored: obituaries from the gay press and age distributions reported in sexuality studies from 1858 through 1993. Both were consistent with a shortened lifespan. In the second (*Psychological Reports*, 1998), four lines of empirical evidence were consistent with a shortened lifespan: 1) additional obituaries from the gay press, 2) findings from two national random-sample surveys, 3) the age distributions of registered homosexual couples in Scandinavia, and 4) the age distributions of homosexuals and drug-abusers taking HIV tests in Colorado.

"In the third (*Psychological Reports*, 2002), two lines of empirical evidence — additional obituaries from the gay press and findings from two large, nationwide random sexuality surveys — were consistent with a shortened lifespan (in [one of these], the CDC study, the oldest woman who reported sex with a woman in the previous 12 months was 49 yr., the oldest man who reported sex with a man in the previous 12 months was 54 yr.). No one has produced any empirical evidence to refute my conclusion, only complaints, and I predict no one will.

"What does Smith offer against this array of consistent empirical evidence? *Speculations* gotten from an Internet site that homosexuals "not involved in the community" live longer than those who are involved. What *empirical evidence* does Smith have to substantiate his belief? And is he contending that being "out of the closet" is lethal?

"One would hope that students at Graceland understand that findings from empirical inquires, published in refereed scientific journals, trump Internet speculations. And how would Smith explain that only 6% of a recent 'random sample' of 2,881 gays aged 18 yr.+ — the largest random sample of homosexuals ever reported — were aged 60 yr. or older?

"What a pity — professor Smith and his allies are so unsure of their evidence that they will not permit me to appear on your campus for an honest debate. In a true academic setting, all opinions are subject to the free market of ideas. The students of Graceland are the greatest losers in this censorship."