



Being Gay, Being Christian

You can be both

Dr Stuart Edser

Foreword by The Hon Michael Kirby AC CMG

Being Gay Being Christian You Can Be Both

Joe Dallas



Being Gay Being Christian You Can Be Both:

Being Gay, Being Christian Stuart Edser, 2012-01-18 Is it possible to be both gay and Christian This book explains calmly and logically that the two are not mutually exclusive With the support of some of the finest scientific and theological minds Dr Stuart Edser presents a compelling case for tolerance and acceptance rejecting the traditional Christian view that gay people are either sick or sinful as a result of their sexual orientation While shrill voices of prejudiced fundamentalism are raised from all sides of the Christian church he invites the reader to a new experience of God Dr Edser is uniquely qualified to explain the biology psychology and sociology of being gay as well as to examine the Bible its interpretation and traditional Christian teaching on sexual morality Not only does he have a wealth of experience grounded in the Church both Catholic and Protestant but he is also a psychologist author and researcher Moreover he threads his own extraordinary story through the text using this and his experience as a clinician to guide his thinking In particular he offers a positive and rational voice so often glaringly absent from the Church's utterances on homosexuality He argues passionately for church people everywhere to open their minds and show a willingness to discard older ways of thinking where more modern explanations reveal the truth more accurately And he encourages gay Christians to integrate their sexuality and their faith so that both are valued equally BEING GAY BEING CHRISTIAN is a call for reformation within the Christian church an appeal to modernity in our approach to knowledge and a practical self help book for people who are struggling with their sexuality so they can find both self esteem and a connection with God It will be of particular interest to People confused about their sexuality Young gay people Gay people who go to church Christian families and friends of gay people Clergy and church workers **Gay**

Conversion Practices in Memoir, Film and Fiction James E. Bennett, Marguerite Johnson, 2024-06-13 For over half a century organizations and individuals promoting ex gay conversion and or reparative therapy have pushed the tenet that a person may be able to and should alter their sexual orientation Their so called treatments or therapies have taken various forms over the decades ranging from medical including psychiatric or psychological rehabilitation approaches to counselling and religious healing Gay Conversion Practices in Memoir Film and Fiction provides an in depth exploration of the disturbing phenomenon of gay conversion therapy and its fictional and autobiographical representations across a broad range of films and books such as *But I'm a Cheerleader* 1999 *This is What Love in Action Looks Like* 2011 and *Boy Erased* 2018 In doing so the volume emphasizes the powerful role the arts and media play in communicating stories around conversion practices Approaching the timely and urgent subject from an interdisciplinary perspective contributors utilize film theory queer theory literary theory mental health and social movement theory to discuss the medicalization and pathologizing of queer people the power of institutions ranging from church psychiatry and family sometimes in alliance and the real and fictional voices of survivors **Why I Don't Call Myself Gay** Daniel Mattson, 2017-04-30 Daniel Mattson once believed he was gay Raised in a Christian family and aware of attractions to other boys at age six Mattson's life was marked by constant turmoil between his

faith in God and his sexual attractions Finding the conflict between his sexual desires and the teachings of his church too great he assumed he was gay turned his back on God and began a relationship with another man Yet freedom and happiness remained elusive until he discovered Christ and his true identity In this frank memoir Mattson chronicles his journey to and from a gay identity finding peace in his true identity as a man made in the image and likeness of God Part autobiography part philosophy of life and part a practical guide in living chastely the book draws lessons from Mattson s search for inner freedom and integrity sharing wisdom from his failures and successes His lifelong search for happiness and peace comes full circle in his realization that above all else what is true about him is that he is a beloved son of God loved into existence by God created for happiness in this life and the next Mattson s book is for anyone who has ever wondered who he is why he is here and in the face of suffering where to find joy happiness and the peace that surpasses all understanding

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Christians Bronwyn Fielder,Douglas Ezzy,2017-12-14 Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender Christians details the processes through which LGBT Christians resolve the fraught tensions between their religious sexual and gendered identities and examines the associated changes to their religious practice in the pursuit of authenticity The book moves between richly described first person accounts and clear theoretical analysis contextualising the discussion within contemporary theories of religion and same sex attraction Through careful qualitative research with LGBT Christians in the Australian Metropolitan Community Church MCC and the Uniting Church Bronwyn Fielder and Douglas Ezzy show that although painful self questioning and struggle is experienced by some LGBT Christians many people ultimately find a resolution and a sense of peace with their sexual identity as LGBT Christians The pursuit of authenticity is shown to be driven by participants essentialist understanding of sexuality and gender and the centrality of religiosity to their sense of self Offering insight into how participants transform their relationships emotions beliefs and ritual practices in order to make this authentic life possible this study is an important contribution to the field of religion and sexuality

Happy: LGBTQ+ Experiences of Australian Pentecostal-Charismatic Christianity Mark Jennings,2023-01-01 This book relates the unique experiences of Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender and Queer Questioning LGBTQ people in Australian Pentecostal Charismatic Christian churches Grounded in the theoretical contributions of Michel Foucault Judith Butler Lewis Coser and others the book exposes the discursive battleground over the truth of sex which underlies the participants stories These rich and complex narratives reveal the stakes of this conflict manifested in the line a barrier restricting out LGBTQ people from full participation in ministry and service Although some participants related stories of supportive if typically conservative congregations where they felt able to live out an authentic integrated faith others found they could only leave their formerly close and supportive communities behind counter rejecting the churches and often the faith that they felt had rejected them

The Gay Gospel? Joe Dallas,2007-02-01 In this updated edition of A Strong Delusion author and counselor Joe Dallas helps readers understand what pro gay theology is and how to confront it In a biblical manner Dallas examines believers

personal responses and the need for bold love and commitment as they become familiar with the movement's background and beliefs study a clear scriptural response to each belief extend Christ's love to those living the homosexual lifestyle This resource is an important one for those who have been unsure how to respond to the growing acceptance of homosexuality in the evangelical community It offers the balance between conviction and compassion and a practical guide to communicating with those who have embraced the pro gay Christian movement

Becoming Queer and Religious in Malaysia and Singapore Sharon A. Bong, 2020-04-02 What does it mean to become religiously queer or queerly religious in one's everyday life What narratives of becoming person emerge from these lived realities Sharon A Bong addresses these questions by exploring the personal journeys of several GLBTIQ Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender Intersex and Queer persons negotiating the tensions between living out their sexuality and religiosity in the context of Malaysia and Singapore By sharing their stories Bong presents a broad spectrum of queer strategies emerging from participants narratives of becoming which encompass becoming Asian becoming postcolonial becoming sexually religious and religiously sexual and becoming persons These strategies are used in the book as counterpoints to nationhood narratives of becoming Asian or postcolonial which are still mired in religious sponsored and colonial inherited sexual regulations Finally Bong shows how the insistence of identifying as both queer and religious is critical in challenging the conservative social political milieu surrounding issues of gender diversity and inclusion within these south east Asian states

Effective Beliefs Noel W. Davis, 2018-09-06 This book realizes that there are many many beliefs It may be that through dialogue a person can change their belief however the book suggests that this could be unlikely The main thrust is that there can be outcomes from all beliefs that can lead to greater harmony in the world

Gay Masculinities Peter M. Nardi, 2000 How do gay men respond to controlling notions of masculinity in society and stereotypes of gay sexuality This book explores the ways in which gay men in the United States engage in contest and modify these notions and develop a sense of masculine identity The book examines the creation of identity through the everyday lives of gay men their work home community and relationships

The Psychology of Religion and Spirituality for Clinicians Jamie Aten, Kari O'Grady, Everett Worthington, Jr., 2013-06-19 Many therapists and counselors find themselves struggling to connect the research on the psychology of religion and spirituality to their clinical practice This book will address this issue providing a valuable resource for clinicians that will help translate basic research findings into useful clinical practice strategies The editors and chapter authors all talented and respected scholar clinicians offer a practical and functional understanding of the empirical literature on the psychology of religion and spirituality of while at the same time outlining clinical implications assessments and strategies for counseling and psychotherapy Chapters cover such topics as religious and spiritual identity its development and its relationship with one's personality client God images spiritually transcendent experiences forgiveness and reconciliation and religion and spirituality in couples and families Each concludes with clinical application questions and suggestions for further reading This book is a must read for all those

wishing to ground their clinical work in an empirical understanding of the role that religion and spirituality plays in the lives of their clients

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