



NEWS Release

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New Scientific Research Refutes Unsubstantiated Claims Regarding Homosexuality

Encino, CA- A new report in this month's edition of the peer-reviewed *Journal of Human Sexuality* finds that sexual orientation is not immutable and that psychological care for individuals with unwanted homosexual attractions is beneficial and poses no significant risk of harm. The study, *What Research Shows: NARTH's Response to the American Psychological Association's Claims on Homosexuality*, examines over 100 years of professional and scientific literature as well as over 600 reports from clinicians, researchers, and former clients principally published in professional and peer-reviewed journals.

This research, assembled over a period of eighteen months by three of the leading academics and therapists in the field and under the direction of the NARTH Scientific Advisory Committee directly refutes unsubstantiated claims made by some factions of the American Psychological Association and several other professional mental health organizations. The study, conducted by the National Association for Research and Therapy of Homosexuality, a network of professionals dedicated to upholding the rights of men and women dealing with unwanted homosexual attraction to receive effective psychological care, confirms the results of a 2007 longitudinal study conducted by researchers Stanton L. Jones and Mark Yarhouse that found that religiously mediated sexual orientation change is possible for some individuals and does not cause psychological harm on average.

"This research is a significant milestone when it comes to the scientific debate over the issue of homosexuality," said NARTH president Dr. Julie Hamilton. "It also confirms what we have seen evidenced in hundreds of individuals who have benefited from the help of NARTH therapists. We believe that every person should have the right to independently determine their own course in life and for many that involves seeking counseling options that affirm their personal beliefs."

In addition to *What Research Shows*, a collection of peer-reviewed scholarly and professional papers entitled *Understanding, Preventing, and Treating Sexual Identity Confusion in Children and Adolescents*, will be published in Volume II of the *Journal of Human Sexuality*.

Requests for copies or for a more detailed summary of the inaugural issue of the journal should be addressed to: *Journal of Human Sexuality* □ 307 West 200 South, Suite 3001 □ Salt Lake City, UT 84101. The journal can also be ordered by phone at 1-888-364-4744 or online at www.narth.com. A PDF *summary* of the journal may be downloaded at www.narth.com.

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NARTH is a professional, scientific organization that offers hope to those who struggle with unwanted homosexuality. As an organization, it disseminates educational information, conducts and collects scientific research, promotes effective therapeutic treatment, and provides referrals to those who seek assistance. NARTH upholds the rights of individuals with unwanted homosexual attraction to receive effective psychological care and the right of professionals to offer that care.