

Natural Instinct and Control: The Impact of Nature and Society on Lgbt Practitioners: The View of a Former Lgbt Practitioner

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Abstract: This study discusses the view of a former LGBT practitioner on whether this sexual orientation is natural, controllable and how people who are involved in it relate with the larger society. The idea is to bring to fore the role that nature plays in the LGBT issue, how it could be controlled and also to take a peep at the social life of the practitioners of this sexuality. In order to properly bring his experience to the fore, the paper uses the interview method to gather information from an experienced former practitioner of this sexual orientation and further analyze the information using content analysis format.

Keywords: Control, LGBT, nature, sexuality, society

INTRODUCTION

The issue of LGBT has become an issue of hot debate in many societies especially in the developing nations most of which hold that this sexual orientation is alien to them and their cultures and have therefore passed legislations banning people from engaging in it (Tatchell, 2012). However, despite this attitude towards this sexual orientation, there are no shortages of people who engage in it in these nations (ibid.). Likewise, many NGOs in these nations are seriously fighting against the legislations against people who practice this sexual orientation saying the issue boils down to that of choice and it bothers on the exercise of their fundamental human rights especially if those who engage in it are adults and it is done consensually (Human Right Watch, December 5, 2012).

In the same vein, in the academic world, some argued that the issue of LGBT is an issue that has to do with nature and as such, those who engage in it are simply following their natural instinct like everyone else. They argued that the prohibition against this sexual orientation, especially from the Abrahamic faiths, should be put in its proper context as it has to do with rape and forceful intercourse and not consensual as it is today. In other words, the story of Sodom and Gomorrah, they say is a story which surrounds the forceful seizure of people of same sex for a sexual intercourse that they were not interested in but were forced to do by the Sodomites. As such, in their view, this should not be compared with the contemporary time where it is done by two consenting adults who feel/have an attraction for each other (Jamal, 2001; Kugle, 2003).

In view of the arguments above, this study seeks to test the position of this argument by researching into the issue through meeting and interviewing someone who is

experienced in this sexual orientation in order to find out whether it is indeed natural and normal for those who practice it. In addition, the paper seeks to clarify if it is possible to change this sexual orientation or control it especially since it is said to be a natural instinct-and instincts are not beyond human control as experience has shown. Finally, the paper tries to find out from the experienced practitioner what his social life was like during and after his experience and how he manages the social stereotypes from the larger community.

Qualitative research paradigm: The field study uses qualitative research technique through semi structured interview in order for the researcher to have full understanding of perception of LGBT people before and after engaging in their distinctive lives. The review of the literature provided the framework for initial development of the interview questions and helps in refining the interview questions to better suit the LGBT domain. Interview mode of gathering data is an effective tool to collect data from group or individual respondents and provides the quick and detailed link to the root of the research (Creswell, 2003, 2012). Moreover, a convenience sampling method is adapted in selecting the sample for this research which helps us in selecting the best person to produce the best answers to our research questions. Indeed, the main objective of this study is to determine whether LGBT is a natural phenomenon in man and if it is controllable.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Interview sample demographics: The data collection in this research was conducted by granting interview to only one experienced LGBT through convenient

Table 1: Demographic status of the participant

Participant's detail	
Current Age	36 years
Current education status	Diploma holder
Occupation	Teacher cum entrepreneur
Parents' Job	Entrepreneurs
Age when he joined LGBT	17 years
Parents' family Size	5
Duration of participating in LGBT	19 years

sampling approach due to the difficulty in finding an experience LGBT to be interviewed voluntarily. Though, convenient sampling is quiet acceptable in business research and view as an act of taking an available and useful sample for ease data gathering (Sherri, 2011; Creswell, 2012). Meanwhile, the participant was selected on the basis of his characteristics, which could help in producing insights and understandings of the research objectives, as summarized in Table 1.

Furthermore, the respondent was first introduced to us by his counselor and later contacted by telephone and the objectives of the study were explained to him. The

respondent who happens to be an experienced LGBT took part in this interview on a voluntary basis. He was able to tell us his background; academically, family issue and the life spent in the LGBT domain. The respondent is regarded as a formidable person when it comes to the talk on LGBT past and life after the domain.

Data collection: The interview session was performed between the researcher and the experienced LGBT practitioner on Thursday, 7th of April, 2013. Many questions about the LGBT issue were asked the experienced LGBT while the appropriate answers were provided. The interview was conducted using the semi-structured interview in order to explore the view of the former LGBT practitioner on whether the LGBT phenomenon is natural and controllable or an ideological issue being propagated by certain quarters. However, for this study, the interview questions are focused on the following areas of information needed in this study as follow:

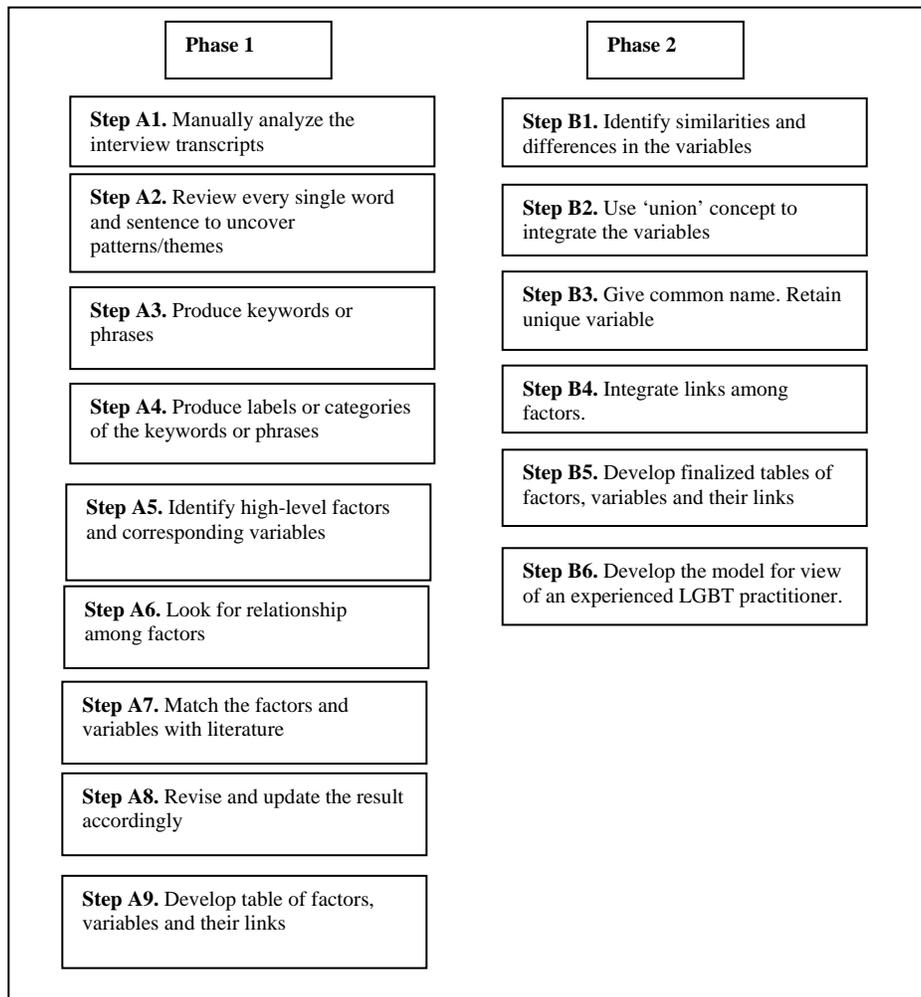


Fig. 1: Content analysis process

- General perception and understanding on either LGBT is natural or a disease
- Main causes of LGBT issue
- Denier of oneself
- Feelings of people in LGBT
- Feelings of the experienced LGBT people after transformation.
- Consequences of being LGBT

The interview was based on the convenience of interviewee in order to ensure less disruptions and interruptions in his working schedule. Before the interview session, the participant was contacted through telephone in order to provide more enlightenment about our research objective. The duration of interview was schedule to be between one to two hours for completely gathering data from the participant (experienced LGBT). Moreover, the respondent was comfortable throughout the interview session and willing to answer all the questions posed to him. The smooth discussion with the interviewee triggered some unpredicted questions which resulted from awareness of the participant about the subject matter. The interview session was performed with the permission of interviewee by using micro audio recorder. To ensure trustworthiness of the data, the write-up of the full set notes was done after the event in order to obtain accuracy of data from the participant body language, physical and emotional hint. Conclusively, the verbal transcription of the recorded voice was done for data analysis.

Data analysis using content analysis approach: Few pages were used for verbatim transcripts from micro-audio despite the fact that the interview involves only one respondent. Content analysis was carried out in two phases as shown in Fig. 1 depicting procedures for content analysis adapted in this study. Phase one involves analysis of an experienced LGBT script, while phase two deals with integration of the scripts.

Furthermore, the analysis was conducted manually due to the nature of simple language used with the participant. Thus, a combination of inductive and deductive approaches was used to categorize the involved factors and variables. Looking at the process of content analysis in Fig. 1, every step was given a unique name such as; step A1 to step A9 for phase 1 and step B1 to step B6 for the activities in phase 2. Besides, each step was given in sequential order showing that output of one step leads to the input of others.

As mentioned before, the entire interview transcripts were first carefully analyzed manually (Step A1). An inductive process was first performed on the transcripts, where every single word and sentence was reviewed to uncover key patterns or themes (Step A2). Keywords or phrases were produced at this stage in order to be used later (Step A3). The key words or

phrases were given labels or categories (Step A4). High-level factors and corresponding variables were identified. The relationship between factors from each script was identified next (Step A5). A deductive process was performed here where the identified factors were matched with the ones found in the literature previously (Step A6). These factors were revised and updated accordingly without scarifying any factors and variables obtained from the interviews (Step A7). Tables of factors, variables and their links were finally developed for the respondent, an experienced LGBT (Step A9).

Phase 2 commenced immediately after the completion of the first phase. The main aim of the second phase of the content analysis is to develop a model for view of an experienced LGBT practitioner from the factors, variables and links that have been identified in the previous phase. This is done by integrating all the information gathered into one single entity. Indeed, step B1 shows the similarities and differences of variables under each factor while concept of 'union' was used at Step B2 during the variables integration. The new variables were derived with new names as in step B3 and step B4. Conclusively, step B5 the final tables of factors and variables with links were developed leading to the development of the model for the view of an experienced LGBT practitioner.

RESULTS AND INTERPRETATION

Factors and variables: Some numbers of factors and variables were highlighted as the reasons for the stand of former LGBT practitioner on the issue "LGBT: nature gone out of control". Moreover, the analysis of the collected data shows the presence of four factors and thirteen variables for identifying whether LGBT is natural and controllable. Besides, Table 2 depicts the complete list of factors and variables with their frequencies. The frequency shows the number of times the variable is referred to despite having only one respondent (experienced LGBT practitioner).

The content analysis process aims to maintain consistency between the data got from the interview and the variables derived from the response of the participant. However, some of the variables identified in this study had slight difference in their meaning from those found in the literature. These differences could be due to the fact that the data captured were meant to represent the responses of the participants in the context of LGBT.

From the Table 2, it shows that the two interviews granted to the participant were in line with each other based on the answers given by the participant. The participant testified in the two stages of interview granted that LGBT originate in individual if he/she cannot control his/her sexuality and that the occurrence of LGBT is natural. He further stated that lack of emotional control and failure to conquer one's in-built 'wrong' instinct is what prompt weak minded persons to engage in LGBT. The response of the participant

Table 2: Factors and variables for the stand of former LGBT practitioner

Factors/Variables	Participant (1)	
	Frequency 1	Frequency 2
LGBT source		
Specialization controlling	√	√
Neutrality	√	√
Emotion	√	√
Conquering inbuilt	√	√
Antecedent of LGBT		
Lack of Comfort ability	√	√
Lack of Compatibility	√	√
Sex abuse	√	√
Enlightenment	√	√
Stigmatism		
Feel rejected	√	√
Lack of understanding	√	√
Limited interaction	√	√
Transformation		
Enjoying good interaction	√	√
Reduction in emotional feeling	√	√

Table 3 (a): Linkage between the factors

Factors link	Frequency
LS→AL	√
LS→ST	√
LS→TF	√
AL→ST	√
AL→TF	√
ST→TF	

Table 3 (b): Linkage between the factors

Factors link	Frequency
LS→AL	√
LS→ST	√
LS→TF	√
AL→ST	√
AL→TF	√

(experience LGBT) shows that the source of LGBT is nature-meaning that everyone possesses the tendency of joining the caucus as depicted in the weak ones but it is not beyond control like any other negative instinct in man.

The respondent shed more light that lack of comfort ability and compatibility between spouses can cause the breakdown of their relationship which can lead one of them to become a Lesbian or Gay as a result of the lack of ability in controlling one's unique attribute. This was produced as an answer to the question, "what are the causes that make a spouse to have no feeling for his or her partner and decided to go for the same sex?" Besides, the respondent buttress that the cause of the menace could be as a result of previous experience shared by the person about sex, especially if it involved sex abuses. But he said this could be solved by communicating one's feeling to one's partner and seeking for solution to it.

Furthermore, our respondent was asked how he felt when he interacts with people while he was in the LGBT world. His answer was that he did feel rejected and had limited interaction with people because of the inferiority complex that was battling with him. His belief was that people that are not in the LGBT cannot

understand him because he definitely knows that their thoughts about him are different. However, the participant (experienced LGBT) says that he is now enjoying good interaction with people, while his emotional feelings have changed from what it used to be at the time that he was practising as LGBT.

Relationship between factors: The relationships among factors referred to the important information derived during the interview process (Xu, 2003; Huang, 2007). In the context of this research, the relationship between the factors were extracted from the interview scripts and analyzed via content analysis process as shown in Fig. 1. The analysis of the relationship between the factors is shown in Table 3.

Factors' abbreviation:

- LS : LGBT source
- AL : Antecedent of LGBT
- ST : Stigmatism
- TF : Transformation

Table 3(a) shows the relationship between the factors in column 1 with their corresponding frequency. From the interview granted to the respondent, it was deduce that LS→AL are valid factors since both LS and AL factors demonstrate that lack of compatibility and comfort ability have to do with peoples in-built and synonymously natural. Moreover, LS→ST have relationship as shown in the factors link since LGBT source can lead to rejection and low interaction of LGBT people with their societies. Meanwhile, AL→ST possess relationship as lack of compatibility can bring about low interaction of LGBT people to the others in the societies. Conclusively, AL→TF are found to have strong links with each other.

Revised table of factors with link (Table 3b):

Factors' abbreviation:

- LS : LGBT Source
- AL : Antecedent of LGBT
- ST : Stigmatism
- TF : Transformation

Modelling the view of an experienced LGBT practitioner: From the previous discussion, it can be deduced that LGBT is natural but controllable based on the analysis of the data collected from an experienced LGBT practitioner as shown in Fig. 2.

The Figure 2 represents the impact of nature and society on LGBT practitioners as it occurred to the former LGBT practitioner. It shows that Specialization in individual emotion and lack of the ability to conquer/control natural instinct lead many to the LGBT world. Indeed, the Figure has shown that many became

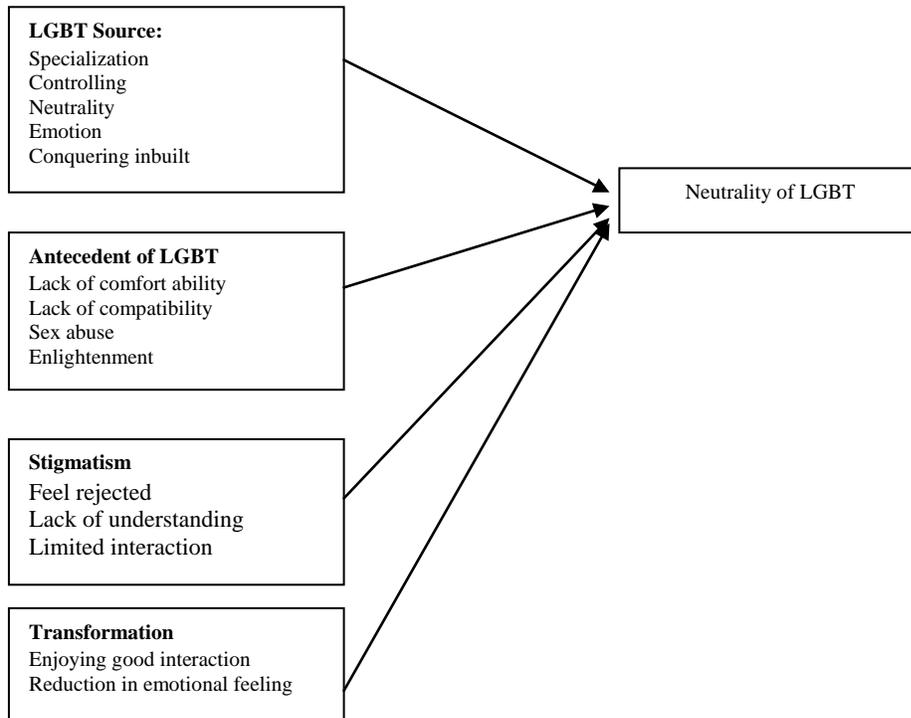


Fig. 2: The model for view of an experienced LGBT practitioner

victim of LGBT as a result of Lack of comfort ability and compatibility between them and their spouses. So also, sex abuses that have been experienced during teenage era contribute to some engaging in it.

This research also shows that many LGBT practitioners face many challenges such as rejection in the society and low interaction with colleagues and neighbours at work and at home. Conclusively, LGBT practitioners can enjoy good relationship with people in the society if their problem is properly understood by the society, especially those who are born naturally with the instinct and those who go into it as a result of their experiences. Likewise, as long as the practitioners are willing to get help, it is possible to control this sexuality as proper counselling, therapy and religious guidance can lead to a reduction in their emotional feelings and, through this, transform their life and their sexuality to the conventional natural sexuality.

CONCLUSION

This research specifically explores the effect of nature and control on LGBT practitioners. The result of the analysis shows that some individual possesses natural instinct that can potentially prompt them to become member of LGBT. Likewise, experiences, especially one related to sex abuse could be a catalyst in practicing LGBT. Meanwhile, for those who like to explore, the society that they belong to plays an important role in their conversion to this sexual orientation. Based on all this, the society needs to really

understand this phenomenon and how it plays out among these three groups. There is also a need for a proper mechanism in identify which of the three group an LGBT practitioner belongs to for proper approach in his/her treatment. Besides, transformation from LGBT domain to the normal world can be achieved by LGBT people themselves by having control over their natural instinct or by seeking helping from those who are experts. In other words, contrary to the opinion in certain quarters, LGBT being an instinct in human being is controllable as shown by the experience of the interviewee through proper treatment by counselling, therapy and religious guidance. Lastly, this research would be continuing in future by confirming the efficacy of the variables of the model in Fig. 2 towards the neutrality of LGBT.

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