

# Critiquing Evangelical Arguments for Same-Sex Relationships

Brian Borgman

## Preliminary Considerations

1. Multiple layers of issues regarding SSR, SSM, etc.  
We are going to focus on one aspect only and that is so-called evangelical arguments for SSR, i.e., what this perspective does with biblical texts.
2. Who is making “evangelical” arguments for SSR?
  - a. Academic pioneers: D. Sherwin Bailey, *Homosexuality and the Western Christian Tradition* (1975); John Boswell, *Christianity, Social Tolerance and Homosexuality* (1980), et al.
  - b. Popular level evangelicals (literature is increasing rapidly)  
Matthew Vines, *God and the Gay Christian: The Biblical Case in Support of Same-Sex Relationships* (Convergent Books, 2014).
3. The Nature of the Arguments
4. The Basis for the Critique: Hermeneutical and Exegetical
5. The Importance for Counseling

## Key Biblical Passages

1. “The Real Sin of Sodom” (Gen. 19)
2. “Excess Passion and Unnatural Acts in Romans 1”
3. “Will Gay People Inherit the Kingdom of God?” (1 Cor. 6:9-10)

**Academic Resources**

DeYoung, James B. *Homosexuality: Contemporary Claims Examined in Light of the Bible and Other Ancient Literature and Law* (Kregel, 2000).

Gagnon, Robert A.J. *The Bible and Homosexual Practice: Texts and Hermeneutics* (Abingdon, 2001). See also his blog, [www.robagnon.net](http://www.robagnon.net)

**Popular Resources**

I would highly recommend multiple internet resources from DesiringGod.com, Dr. Michael Brown and Albert Mohler.

DeYoung, Kevin. *What Does the Bible Really Teach About Homosexuality?* (Crossway, 2015).