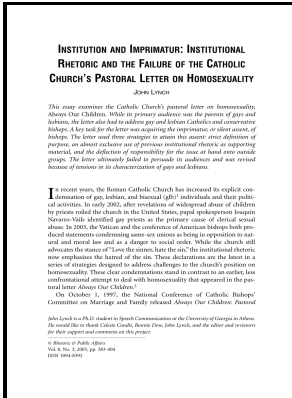


# Introduction to the pastoral care of homosexual people

## Catholic Information Services - Roman Catholic Church on the Pastoral care of Homosexual Persons



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- Germany (West) -- Foreign relations  
Homosexuality -- Religious aspects -- Christianity, introduction to the  
pastoral care of homosexual people  
-introduction to the pastoral care of homosexual people

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### Next Steps: Catholic Church Teaching About Homosexuality

In Romans 1:18-32, still building on the moral traditions of his forebears, but in the new context of the confrontation between Christianity and the pagan society of his day, Paul uses homosexual behaviour as an example of the blindness which has overcome humankind. When people choose to engage in homosexual behavior, they depart from the God-given nature of sexuality.

### The Pastoral Care of Homosexual Persons: A Psychological Note

Within the letter, Cardinal Ratzinger corrected the erroneous notion that the Church's immutable teachings on homosexuality had been altered due to Vatican II; consequently, the letter sought to curb the growing support that certain Catholics were giving to it: The movement within the Church, which takes the form of pressure groups of various names and sizes, attempts to give the impression that it represents all homosexual persons who are Catholics. Pontifical University of the Holy Cross 1. Since homosexual persons are already in difficulties, it is important not to make their situation yet more difficult by presenting a moral teaching that is false or ambiguous 31, perhaps yielding to various forms of social pressure 32.

### Outline for Ministers Understanding How to Deal with Homosexuality

Before every ordination, the rector must express his own judgment on whether the qualities required by the Church are present in the candidate.

### Library : Pastoral Letter on Homosexuality

Pastoral programmes, when undertaken in conformity with the truth of revelation, contribute to the human and spiritual benefit of homosexual persons, and to the integrity of society. So, this document opened two new areas of church teaching about gay and lesbian people, adding to the traditional teaching forbidding sexual activity: affirmation of the non-sinfulness of a homosexual orientation and a call to church leaders to provide appropriate pastoral care to gay and lesbian people.

### Pastoral Care and Counseling

Consequently, the Church has consistently taught that homosexual acts are a violation of Catholic sexual ethics. Providing a basic plan for understanding this entire discussion of homosexuality is the theology of creation we find in Genesis. In his spiritual life, therefore, he is called to live out Christ's spousal love toward the Church, his bride.

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