



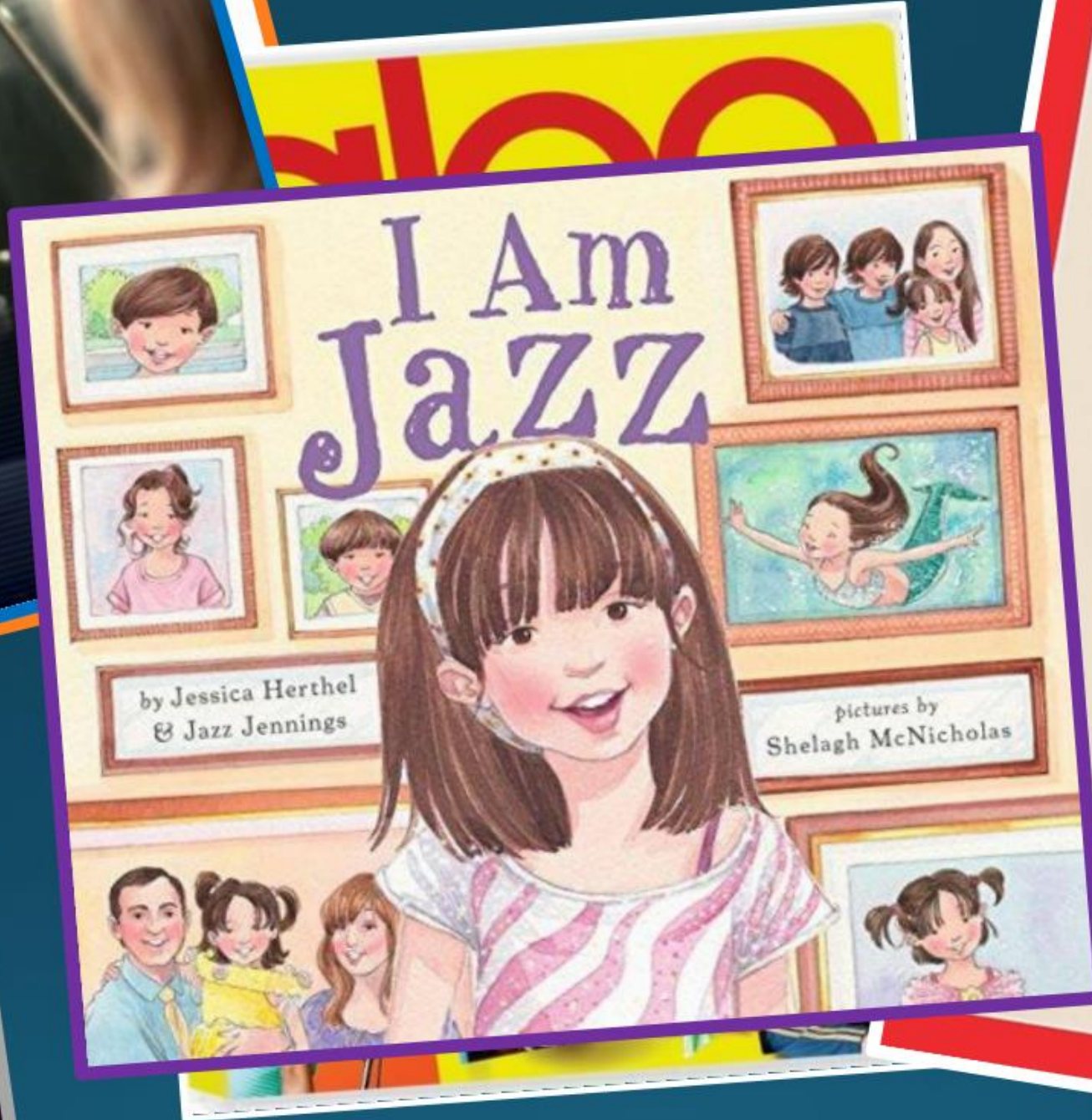
JANUARY 2017

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

SPECIAL ISSUE

GENDER REVOLUTION

'The best thing about being a girl is,
now I don't have to pretend
to be a boy.'



LGBTQ Cultural Push



Freed from the binary of boy and girl, gender identity is a shifting landscape. Can science help us navigate?

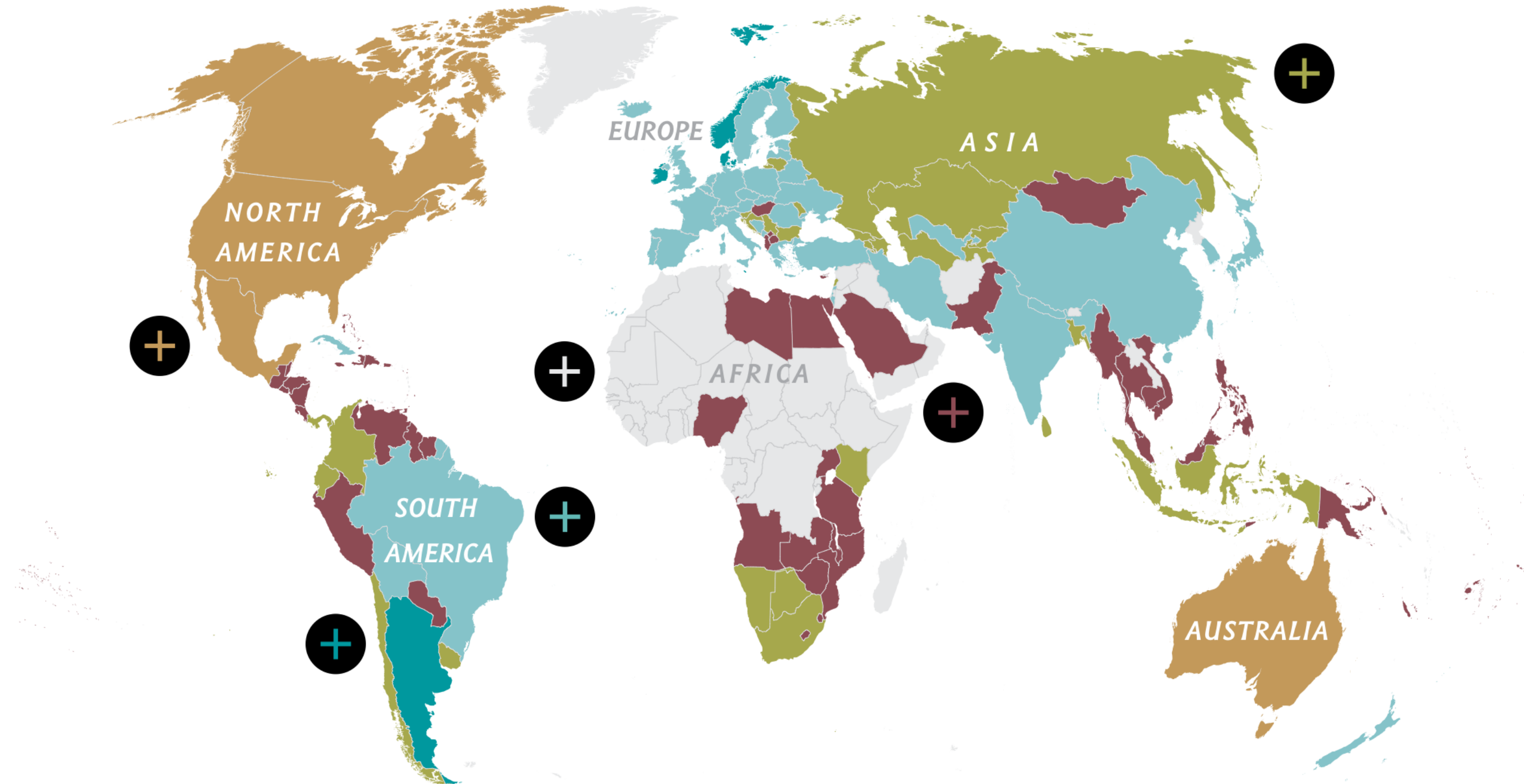
Rethinking Gender





The Legality of Gender Change

Over a third of countries allow a gender change (to male, female, or another) on documents such as passports. Researchers have only begun to document this fast-changing legal topic.



Legally possible	Legal regionally or with difficulty	Impossible or to be determined
■ Legal with no restrictions	■ Legality and requirements vary regionally	■ Not legally possible
■ Legal but with social or medical requirements	■ Legal but inconsistently allowed	■ No information available

CREDITS

Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness. They will rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, the livestock, the whole earth.”

So God created man in his own image;
he created them in the image of God;
he created them **MALE AND FEMALE.**

GENESIS 1:26-27

CHARACTERISTICS OF ANGLO SAXON LAW. ONLY 4 CRIMES AGAINST THE WHOLE PEOPLE:

1. Treason

- Betraying your own people

2. Cowardice

- Refusing to fight or fight courageously

3. Desertion

4. Homosexuality

All other offenses required reparation to the person who had been wronged

GENDER *DYSPHORIA

* Gender dysphoria is discomfort, unhappiness, or distress due to one's GENDER or physical sex. The current edition (DSM-5) of the DIAGNOSTIC AND STATISTICAL MANUAL OF MENTAL DISORDERS uses the term "gender dysphoria" in preference to "gender identity disorder". DSM-5 introduces the term "gender incongruence" as a better identifying and less stigmatising term. [1]

LGBTQ?

LGBTQQIAAAP

**LESBIAN
GAY
BI-SEXUAL
TRANSGENDER
QUEER
QUESTIONING
INTERSEX
ANDROGYNOUS
ASEXUAL
ALLIES
PANSEXUAL**

Homosexuality

Forum Research reported in 2012...



5% of Canadians are LGBT

74% of Canadians know someone who is LGBT

28% of Canadians have someone in their extended family who is LGBT

LBGT OVER DECADES

1940 - 1959

Age of SILENCE

Nazi torture

Chemical castration

Shock Treatment

1960 – 1979

Age of EXPULSION

TV(Social Network)

Homosexuality visible

Gay kids disowned

1980 – 2005

Age of Culture War

God against Gays

Church Exclusion

“You chose this”

2006 – Present

Age of Social Justice

Major Power Shift

Injustices Exposed

Theological shifts

Key Ideas - NonChristians

The change God wants in a LGBT non-believer is a change in their spiritual orientation, not their sexual orientation.

Gospel ≠ convincing non-Christians to stop sinning before they become Christians.

Jesus offered Living Water to the Samaritan woman while she was still living with a man she was not married to.

What Causes Homosexuality?



There is no consensus among scientists about the exact reasons that an individual develops a heterosexual, bisexual, gay, or lesbian orientation. Although much research has examined the possible genetic, hormonal, developmental, social, and cultural influences on sexual orientation,...

American Psychological Association. *Answers to Your Questions: For a Better Understanding of Sexual Orientation and Homosexuality*. Washington, DC. 2008, p2.
Retrieved from www.apa.org/topics/sorientation.pdf on 8/28/2008.

Step 1: Level the Playing Field

The image shows two icebergs floating in a calm, blue-grey sea under a pale, overcast sky. The iceberg on the left is larger and has the word 'Them' written on its side in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The iceberg on the right is smaller and has the word 'Us' written on its side in the same font. The water is still, and the horizon line is visible in the distance.

Them

Us

LIFE VULNERABILITY VIEW

Suicidality

- 2-4x more likely (than heterosexual peers)
- Up to 8x more likely if family highly rejecting
- Two huge risk factors:
 1. family rejection/disconnection
 2. Bullying
- Anti gay bullying also hits heterosexual kids
- Source: Family Acceptance project. Dr. Catlin Ryan
- 40% homeless youth = LGBT+
- 62% attempted suicide
- 59% victimized sexually

3 CONTRASTING FRAMEWORKS

Integrity

Identifies the phenomenon of gender incongruence as confusing the sacredness of maleness & femaleness & specific resolutions as violations of that integrity.

Disability

Identifies gender incongruence as a reflection of a fallen world in which the condition is a disability, a non-moral reality to be addressed with compassion.

Diversity

Strong form:
Deconstruction of sex/gender

Weak form:
Highlights transgender issues as reflecting an identity & culture to be celebrated as an expression of diversity.

“In the end, Christians who rely solely on the integrity framework may shore up borders within the local church, but we will actually fail to engage those within the broader culture who are watching these exchanges, and I suspect we will drive gender dysphoric persons away from Christ and away from Christian community.”

Mark Yarhouse

**A GOSPEL OF EXCLUSION HAS NO POWER
TO REACH ALREADY BANISHED PERSONS.**

INCREASE

FAMILY

ACCEPTANCE

INCREASE

CHURCH

INCLUSION

NURTURE

FAITH

IDENTITY

ESTABLISHING A BIBLICAL BASIS

TRUTH

Preserve Orthodoxy

Avoid ambiguous statements
Prove love not bending beliefs
Establish clear boundaries
Address pornography
Call “majority” to repentance.

Biblical Basis

(Romans 1 & 2)

LOVE

Radically love

Offer enhanced inclusion
Prove ‘justice’ through
biblical care
Resist theological hammer
Avoid political matters

Posture Shift

Key Objectives

- Propose a “missiological framework” to mobilize better care
- Show how radical love can exist across the belief spectrum
- Develop accessible (trigger-free) language to discuss belief gap
- Learn to nourish, rather than chop, at spiritual roots of faith
- Enhance care for those geared to anticipate condemnation
- Lower suicidal and homelessness risk factors for gay youth
- Reach next generation by caring for gay youth in the church

WHAT WE CALL....

Behaviour

Immoral

Sin

Lifestyle choice

Unbeliever

He (Benjamin)

Sexual preference

Ex-Gay

THEY CALL....

Relationship, Family

Intimacy, Love, Marriage

Identity, Who I am

Born Gay

Gay Christian

She (Jaylee)

Same-Gender loving

Lie (fraud)

WORDS/PHRASES THAT TRIGGER...

When we say...

Homosexual

Love the sinner, hate the sin

Adam & Eve, **NOT** Adam & Steve

You can change if you are willing

You are choosing this lifestyle

I refuse to call you gay

They hear...

Bigotry, judgement

“God hates you”

“You are **SO** stupid”

“You are being **SO** disobedient”

“You are **SO** evil & reject God”

“I despise who you are”

THE LGBT COMMUNITY AS AN “UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUP”

Missiological – unreached people group

Historical – oppressed minority

Cultural – ‘growing up gay’

Future – living long term with SSA

Vulnerability – Statistics on suicide risk factors

Purity – sexual, emotional, relational wholeness

Spiritual – barriers to faith identity formation

Language – what we say & what they hear.

BECOMING A PLACE OF BELONGING FOR LGBT PEOPLE IS AN OPPORTUNITY, NOT A THREAT

MISSIONARIES MUST NEVER...

blame people
fight people
reject people
exclude people
judge people
avoid people

EFFECTIVE MISSIONARIES ARE NOT...

shocked by sin
disgusted with people
unmoved by other's pain

Step 9: Enhance Inclusion



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

1. How do I avoid ‘condoning’ or enabling’ sin in others’ lives?
2. People say ‘don’t judge’ – but doesn’t the bible call us to judge?
3. What is the best “sin comparison” to homosexuality?
4. Is there such a thing as a ‘gay’ Christian?
5. Most Christians admit their sin. Why do gay people deny it?
6. When can we tell them the “living in sin” part?

MISSIONAL OUTREACH:

1. Openly extend mercy to those outside the church.
2. Understand that we are all prodigals.
3. Totally refuse to play the role of Pharisee
4. Recognize that the prodigal (lost) journey can be a long one. We must patiently wait, passionately pursue and creatively invest in pathways back to Jesus Christ.

MISSIONAL OUTREACH:

5. Encourage repentance in others by modelling safe, authentic and vulnerable repentance.
6. Affirm God-given gifts, talents and traits that connect others to god given calling.
7. Construct 'reservoirs' where returning or visiting prodigals are properly cared for. We will then be confident to labour in our community as "fishers of men".
8. Hold fast to the promise that the lord of the Harvest is working to call prodigals home.