

Religion prohibits passing judgment

I have four siblings. Each of us has a tendency to point out faults in the others. When we were younger, any one of us at times could be messy, clumsy or lethargic. But whenever we pointed it out to our parents, they'd reply with three words: "Worry about yourself." Of course they wanted us to care for each other — we did and still do — but they wanted us to understand that our duty was not to criticize our siblings. That was our parents' job. When we complained about being vilified, our parents would respond with six words: "They should be worrying about themselves." That's the only thing I can tell homosexuals who have been condemned. I can't say that those who criticize homosexuality are wrong, but many of them should be paying attention to their own actions.

I don't often speak **against** homosexuality for two reasons. One reason is that no human being, saint or sinner, deserves some of the treatment they receive. The second reason is that I can't honestly say that I have been more righteous in my life than any average homosexual. My duties as a Christian are to love the Lord above all others and to love others as I love myself, despite their faults. Passing judgment falls under neither of those categories. That doesn't mean that I am required to love, like, accept or even respect actions that have been deemed sinful.

It is true that homosexuals are victims of a double standard. Groups of people boycotted Disney

because Ellen Degeneres, who had a show on ABC, revealed her sexual orientation. But how many people boycotted the show "Martin" on

Fox? And how long were the two main characters sleeping together before they married? Think back to the show "Married... With Children," in which the main character openly and shamelessly lusted after women even though he was married. It's true some people openly said that the show was trash,

but the series ran for several years, partially because of its sex appeal. And MTV...well, that's a whole other topic. There is too much sex in our society. Advertisers use sex because it will never get old as long as there are curious adolescents

with no guidance.

Even though other "sins of the flesh" are accepted, they are still sins. Some homosexuals have expressed disappointment at those who say that they'll "love the sinner but not the sin." What's wrong with that? Is it reasonable or realistic to ask for more? It may be just words on paper to some, but to me and others, Biblical law is the law. We answer to an authority who is much higher than public sentiment or political correctness. So to ask us to accept or condone something that has been deemed unacceptable and an abomination for thousands of years is unreasonable and unfair.

What is reasonable and fair is not only to ask that we respect you as a human being, but also to expect it.



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