

The Homosexual Challenge to Muslim Ethics	
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Abrahamic faiths	Classical views in all the Abrahamic faiths consider sodomy (anal intercourse) and gay behavior to be unnatural
Punishment for sodomy	The Hanafi School has no particular prescribed penalty <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some legal schools prescribe 100 lashes as is the case with the punishment for fornication while others prescribe stoning
Religious Naturalists	Believe in a natural order for human behavior and champion the male-female binary that typifies homosexuality as an inordinate lust
Position of the Catholic Church	Sacred Scripture presents homosexual acts as acts of grave depravity. They are contrary to the natural law. They close the sexual act to the gift of life <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gays counterclaim that there is a biological or genetic basis for homosexuality, and that people are born gay
Scientific/rational arguments against sodomy	<p>The physical harms related to anal sex (hemorrhoids, anal fissures and generalized anal-rectal trauma) are an additional basis for arguing the inappropriateness of sodomy. The fact the rectum does not secrete a natural lubricant as in vaginal intercourse is evidence of it being unnatural</p> <p>However, rational and scientific arguments for the inappropriateness of homosexual relations are not always the most consistent. For this reason, I believe that for Muslims a better way of confronting the challenge of homosexuality and its illicitness is to highlight that one's own perspective is influenced by one's personal convictions and religious teachings, and less by rationalistic considerations</p>
Causes of homosexuality	Some attribute it to the existence of a homosexual gene. Some attribute it to sexual abuse and other trauma. Others say it is a result of hormonal imbalance. One study suggests that sexual orientation may be influenced by prenatal levels of testosterone and estrogen
Opposing arguments	Gays along with secular society typically argue that homosexuality is the result of biological factors, while opponents typically argue that it is a choice
Hermaphrodite	A person who has both male and female gonads (testes and the ovaries) and the external genitalia of both genders
Pseudohermaphrodite	<p>A person born with both external genitalia while internally preserving the gonads of only one particular gender</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pseudohermaphroditism was a common occurrence during the time of the Prophet Muhammad such that it is related that

	<p>one particular pseudohermaphrodite by the name, Hīt, enjoyed the regular company of the Prophet's wives</p> <p>Islamic jurists dedicated special discussions in their law books about the ways to determine the true gender of hermaphrodites, their designated prayer locations in cases when the gender remains obscured, the dangers involved in allowing a recovering sodomite to lead the congregational prayers, and the appropriate percentages to be allocated to them upon the demise of their family members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The early jurists determined the gender of a hermaphrodite child by observing from which reproductive organ the child urinated. If from its penis, then male, and if from the vagina, then female - Hermaphrodites whose genders were still considered obscure, prayed in between the rows of men and women
Resisting destructive urges	<p>Islam encourages people by promising reward for resisting impulses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "Whoever gets the urge to do something wrong and then does not do it, God records it with himself as one good deed" <p>وَأِنْ هُمْ بِسَيِّئَةٍ فَلَمْ يَعْمَلْهَا كَتَبَهَا اللَّهُ عَنْدَهُ حَسَنَةً كَامِلَةً</p>
<p>Islam and gender</p> <p>Hadith</p> <p>Al-Nawawī</p>	<p>The Islamic tradition accommodated the presence of sexually obscured members in its society but takes a harsh stance against behaviors that are suggestive of a homosexual lifestyle, like cross-dressing and the imitation of the opposite gender</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Messenger of Allah ﷺ cursed the women who imitate men and the men who imitate women - لعن رسول الله ﷺ الْمُتَشَبِّهَاتِ بِالرِّجَالِ مِنَ النِّسَاءِ وَالْمُتَشَبِّهِينَ بِالنِّسَاءِ مِنَ الرِّجَالِ - Effeminate men (mukhannath) are of two types: One of them is created that way. So his womanly behavior, dress, speech, and movements are not pretentious, rather, Allah SWT has created him that way. There is therefore no blame on this type and he is not cursed - The second type of effeminate man is the one who becomes that way, not as a result of creation, and pretentiously exhibits feminine conduct, mannerisms, speech, and he adorns himself with their specific attire. Such is the one who is deemed blameworthy <p>قال العلماء : المخنث ضربان : أحدهما من خلق كذلك ، ولم يتكلف التخلق بأخلاق النساء وزيهن وكلامهن وحركاتهن ، بل هو خلقه الله عليها فهذا لا ذم عليه</p> <p>الضرب الثاني من المخنث هو من لم يكن له ذلك خلقه ، بل يتكلف أخلاق النساء وحركاتهن وهياتهن وكلامهن ويتزيا بزيهن ، فهذا هو المذموم الذي جاء في الأحاديث الصحيحة لعنه</p>
Sign of the end of times	<p>The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ foretold as one of the signs of the end of times that, "Men would restrict their sexual appetites to other men and women to other women"</p> <p>وَأَسْتَغْنَى الرِّجَالُ بِالرِّجَالِ وَالنِّسَاءُ بِالنِّسَاءِ</p>