
Researchers Claim To Have Genome Scan Of 'Sexual Orientation' In Men

Gay researcher Dr. Dean Hamer and a team of researchers at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) claim to have published the first genome scan study showing a linkage between sexual orientation and genes.

The study, "A genomewide scan of male sexual orientation," is published in the journal *Human Genetics*.

According to the lead author of the study, Dr. Brian Mustanski (University of Illinois, Chicago), "Our study helps to establish that genes play an important role in determining whether a man is gay or heterosexual. It expands upon previous research with twins, which has consistently found evidence for genetic influences on sexual orientation. The next steps will be to see if these findings hold up in a new sample and then identify the particular genes within these newly discovered chromosomal regions."

The genome scan involved 146 families that had two or more gay brothers. The researchers say that there is a statistically significant linkage to sexual orientation in a region on chromosome 7 called 7q36 and the second largest link was on chromosome 8 called 8p12. They also claim to have found a sexual orientation link in the region known as Xq28.

Three NARTH Scientific Advisory Committee members have analyzed this study and have found severe flaws in it.

According to Dr. Gerald Schoenewolf, the study's most noted researcher, Dr. Dean Hamer, is gay and has a pre-existing bias. The report, says Schoenewolf, "is written in

super-scientific language in order to cover up the **fact** that it's totally biased. There is no balance in the **article**—no attempt to weigh various evidences or to **speculate** whether it could be interpreted environmentally. **There is** not even a mention of the environment. This is **apparently** a group of very intelligent homosexuals and **pro-gay** researchers looking for evidence of homosexual **heredity**."

Dr. A. Dean Byrd came to the same general **conclusion** after analyzing this study. He notes:

This is a "noble" effort that came up with **nothing**. Although the authors claim that the technology **does** not exist to do what they are trying to do, **most** scientists would be skeptical that they would be "**successful**" even with the technology. No significant **loci** were found that would identify male sexual orientation. The researchers' attempt to manipulate the data **to come up** with something meaningful was not realized. They find nothing and yet they insist that they **might find** something. Good science begins with a **strong hypothesis** not with a "fishing expedition" which is **interpreted** as something other than for what it is. **Complex** behaviors such as those involved with **sexual orientation** are likely polygenic and multifactoral---**at the very** most predispositions whose emergence and **maintenance** is strongly influenced by cultural and **environmental** factors.

Dr. Sander Breiner also analyzed this study. He **notes**:

The initial casual perusal of the title and **abstract** would lead one to believe that this study **has proven**