

## **B. More about homosexuality**

From time to time, Osho went deeper into the phenomenon of homosexuality, especially when visitors asked him questions about it. Often these were people who had (great) difficulty with their being gay. They felt unhappy, guilty about it and were condemning themselves for it.

### **1. Animals have a fixed program.**

A young man declares: I feel very uncomfortable about the fact that I am homosexual, because it is unnatural.

Osho responds in this way:

*Now, if he had gone to Mahatma Gandhi, or to the Vatican Pope, or to Puri's Shankaracharya, what would have happened? They would have really made him feel guilty. (...) But he has come to a wrong person. I told him, 'So what! Why do you say it is unnatural?' He said, 'It is not unnatural?' He was surprised and shocked. 'It is not unnatural?' I said, 'How can it be unnatural? My definition of nature is: that which happens is natural. How can the unnatural happen in the first place?'*

The visitor immediately feels relieved.

*So he said, 'It is not unnatural? It is not a perversion? It is not some sort of abnormality?' And I told him, 'It is not!' 'But,' he said, 'animals – they don't become homosexual.' I said, 'They don't have that much intelligence! They live a fixed life. Whatsoever biology allows, they live that way. You can go and see a buffalo eating grass – she only eats a certain grass, nothing else. You can put the choicest food – she will not bother; she will go on eating her grass. She has no alternatives. Consciousness is very narrow, almost nil. Man has intelligence; he tries to find new ways to relate, to live. Man is the only animal who finds new ways.'*

Animals do not live in houses, do not wear clothes, they do not cook food, they do not invite fellow animals to dinner. People do all these things, but are animals perverse?

People are far above animals, according to Osho:

*Man has more intelligence, you have more possibilities. Man makes everything in his own way – that is his nature.*

Osho could see that a heavy load fell from the visitor's shoulders:

*He was relieved. I could see a great burden, a mountain that was on his head, was gone. I am not certain how long he will remain free and unburdened. Some mahatma may catch hold of him, and again put the same idea that 'this is unnatural'. Mahatmas are either sadists or masochists – avoid! Whenever you see a mahatma, run as fast as you can before he puts some guilt in your mind.*

### **2. Man has no fixed program.**

*(...) There is no biological program in you for homosexuality. The biological program in your sperm is for heterosexuality. I am simply stating a fact, that homosexuality has arisen under ugly pressures in the monasteries of all religions, where it is forced to happen in the name of the purity of celibacy – and in the schools, colleges and in universities where boys and girls are kept separate and teachers and professors function as gods so that no heterosexual relationship happens.*

Elsewhere Osho says about this:

*In that way, homosexuality is a very great spiritual development, because heterosexuality is just natural, it is biological; homosexuality is an invention of man.*

### **3. Ancient conditioning.**

Another of Osho's statements reads:

*If two women feel good being with each other, the world is happier for that, better for that. Don't make them feel guilty unnecessarily. But guilt persists – because down the ages you have been taught homosexuality is a sin; down the ages you have been taught that this is one of the greatest sins. (...)*

*And there have been countries where one was beheaded if one was caught in any homosexual relationship. Humanity has been so stupid in the past. And we all carry those conditionings deep down in the collective unconscious. (...)*

### **4. A human zoo.**

In nature, such is Osho's observation, animals are rarely homosexual. But that changes when they are housed in a zoo. Then there is not always an animal of the opposite sex available.

*Man also turns homosexual when he is in an unnatural situation. It is not natural – and that is why so many people are turning all over the world, because the whole human situation is very unnatural today; it has never been so unnatural.*

*Everything is artificial. We have gone far away from nature in every other way, so we are going far away from nature in sexuality also. Everything is interlinked and connected. You live in an artificial house, you live with artificial mechanisms, you live in an artificial world – the asphalt roads, technology – everything is artificial. Naturally, your sexual energies will start becoming artificial too.*

*Man is living in a zoo; it is not a human society, because it is not natural. Hence, sexuality is becoming more and more perverted, finding perverted ways – and I can understand it. The more man has become intelligent, he wants to find new ways; and homosexuality is a new way – so contrary to nature; an invention, a discovery that you can relate man-to-man or woman-to-woman.*

*There are people who are even more revolutionary. They are relating to false toys. You can make a woman, a plastic woman, and make love to her. That is even more revolutionary – and more convenient too. Any moment you can pack her back in your bag, and you can carry her anywhere you want.*

## 5. Dominance by men.

Osho argues that deviations from the natural heterosexual mainstream are caused by the dominance of men:

*Just as I said the other day, all the cultures that have come out of the Judaic tradition are homosexual: Mohammedan, Christian, Jewish. The reason is, Judaism is one of the most male-oriented communities – it had to be. They have suffered so much; they have been wanderers, for centuries they had no nation, nowhere to live. Of course, the man became more and more powerful – he had to protect the woman, the children – and the society became more and more centered around the man.*

*Only a relaxed society, when things are going beautifully and there is plenty of food and there is no war, becomes heterosexual. Otherwise, when there is war, continuous struggle, the society leans towards male domination.*

*In the East, India, homosexuality has never been a problem. (...) Those who came were homosexuals – because the army has to be basically male, and all armies become homosexual. Armies – because only men are there – where are they going to put their love, the energy? They are forced to be homosexual. So any country that has been continuously in war becomes homosexual.*

In addition, Osho says that homosexuality is on the increase because the world is becoming overpopulated and people are becoming more stressed. Furthermore, in the West, sex is regarded as just pleasure, not as something that entails involvement. A sexual relationship with a woman implies children, responsibility and suchlike commitments. A third reason is the rise of the women's liberation movement, which rejects the long-term oppression by the man (as a form of slavery) and thus develops a lesbian component.

All these situations create homosexuality. In fact, says Osho, religious commandments have created the situation in which homosexuality first emerged. Religions are responsible for this, because they ordered that men and women should live in separate monasteries. That applies to the Buddhists, the Jains, the Christians, all kinds of religious orders. Monasteries became the breeding grounds for the emergence of homosexuality. If sexual energy cannot find a natural way out, deviations occur. That is very easy: just look at armies, boarding schools and prisons, where homosexual behavior is so common.

*Homosexuality has come into existence because of repressive measures, because of repressive moralities, because of thousands of years of separating man and woman into different camps. In the colleges, in the schools, in the army, in the monasteries – everywhere man and woman are kept apart. The natural outcome is going to be homosexuality, lesbianism, because the natural energy will try to find out some outlet.*

Osho emphasizes:

*Homosexuality is a by-product of your so-called religions. The first homosexual must have been born in a monastery, that is almost certain. We don't know his name, but a memorial should be made dedicated to the unknown – the first homosexual. He must have been a monk.*

*It is a well-known fact that Christian monasteries, Buddhist monasteries have been full of homosexuality. It was bound to happen because you don't give them the science of transcending sex, and you simply tell them to repress the energy. Now the energy starts moving into perverted ways.*

## **6. No more arguments for conviction of homosexuality.**

Osho examines the reason why homosexuality was condemned in the past:

*And homosexuality is such an innocent phenomenon. Why is it so much condemned? The reason is that if it is not condemned, the fear is that almost everybody will turn homosexual because every child has the tendency. Every child passes through the stage when he is homosexual. Every boy, every girl, passes through a time when boys like boys and girls like girls. The fear is that if many people turn homosexual – and particularly in the past when the population was not big and every society wanted more numbers because numbers meant power... To allow homosexuality was dangerous; it had to be condemned, absolutely condemned, so much so that in a few countries it is the greatest crime.*

*For example, in Ayatollah Khomeiniac's country, Iran, it is one of the greatest crimes. You can be imprisoned for your whole life or you can even be sentenced to death, just for being homosexual. It seems absolutely absurd, ridiculous, but in the past there was some reason in it. Every society wanted to be more powerful. It was a constant struggle – a struggle between groups, struggle between tribes, struggle between clans – the deciding factor was your number, how many you are. If people become homosexual, then the population will decrease; hence it has to be condemned as the greatest sin.*

Nowadays there are no longer any valid arguments, says Osho:

*It may have some meaning if you think of the past, but in the present it is absolutely meaningless. In fact, the whole situation has become just the opposite: now heterosexuality is the danger; less numbers are needed. If humanity goes on growing this way, then we cannot support humanity, we cannot live any longer. By the end of this century the population will be so much, the poverty will be so much, that there seems to be no way out except a third world war which will kill almost everybody – so that a few people can start the whole story again.*

Osho goes on to tell a joke:

*I have heard a story, a twenty-first century story: the third world war has happened, and a monkey is sitting on a rock taking a sunbath. A female monkey comes with an apple and gives the apple to the monkey. And the monkey says, 'My God, are we going to start it all over again?'*

*Homosexuality is condemned because there is every possibility that, if it is not condemned, many more people will turn towards it. The inner tendency is there in every person. In fact, the person who is against it... the more he is against it, the more he has the tendency. Deep down, unconsciously, he knows it is there. To repress it he has to be very much against it; he feels disgusted by the very idea. (...)*

*It is a harmless game – stupid, certainly, but not a sin. But as far as stupidity is concerned all sex is stupid, for the simple reason that it is a biological urge and you are not the master of it, you are just a victim.*

And, Osho adds ironically:

*... you need not be so much worried about it, because homosexuality has a very beautiful origin: it originated in the monasteries. It is something religious!*

### **7. Homosexuality is good for preventing the growth of the world's population.**

In fact, Osho proposes that the world's population will benefit if more people become homosexual:

*It will be good, very good for the world: less people will be born, the earth will be less burdened, there will be less poverty. Of course, less orphans and less Mother Theresa's! There will be less need for contraceptives, birth control methods, sterilization, and of course the whole business of the Polack Pope will go out of his hands. That is his whole business! For one year continuously he has been talking against contraceptives, against birth control, sterilization, abortion. Homosexuality can solve all these problems simply!*

### **8. Nothing wrong with being gay.**

Someone tells Osho that he is gay and therefore very depressed and suffers from the stigma of homosexuality. He asks what he should do about it. Osho replies:

*There is nothing wrong in being homosexual. You need not feel guilty about it. One certainly has to go beyond sex, but that is as much applicable to heterosexuality as it is applicable to homosexuality. Heterosexuality or homosexuality are just styles of the same stupidity! You need not feel guilty (...)*

*If two persons are enjoying each other's bodies, nothing is wrong. It should be their concern; nobody else's business to interfere. But the society is continuously interfering in everything; it does not leave anybody any privacy. It enters in your bedroom, too.*

*Your society is not a free society. It talks of freedom and democracy and all that rot, but it is pure slavery. It is a big prison. And your priests and your so-called God are all Peeping Toms. They are all looking into your private lives, what you are doing. It should be nobody's business.*

*What is wrong in loving a man or a woman? Two men can love each other, two women can love each other. Love is a value in itself. And fun should not be condemned. Life is already such a burden, such a drag, such a boredom. Leave at least something in life so people can feel a little less bored.*

Elsewhere Osho says:

*Now the day has come when homosexuality can be accepted, should be accepted as a natural outlet of your sexual energies. I am not against it, I am not for it either. I am simply saying that if you have to live your sex you can choose your style, you are free to choose your style. If you*

*decide to be stupid, at least you should be given the freedom to choose what kind of stupid you want to be! I give you total freedom.*

*My effort here is to help you to go beyond it, so if you are homosexual you have to go beyond homosexuality, if you are heterosexual you have to go beyond heterosexuality. And there are other people also who are neither, who are autoerotic autosexual. They have to go beyond their autoeroticism. Man has to transcend sex, whatsoever kind of sex it is, because unless you go beyond your biology you will never know your soul. But meanwhile – before you go beyond – it is your freedom to be whatsoever you want to be (...).*

## **9. Perverse: a neutral word for everything that moves away from the mainstream.**

There are people who are bothered by the fact that Osho occasionally uses the word ‘perverse’ when he talks about homosexuality:

*And when I say perversion, I don't mean by it any condemnation. I simply mean going away from the natural course of things. If a boy from fourteen to twenty-five – that is a long period – becomes homosexual, then that becomes a deep-rooted habit in him, so even when he is married his interest is not in women. Religions don't want men to be interested in women, nor do they want women to be interested in men. And they have made a very detailed strategy, slowly, slowly, over thousands of years. In the present, monasteries create homosexuals, universities create homosexuals, armies create homosexuals. Wherever one sex gathers, sooner or later they start finding ways to release each other's energies.*

*So the first thing to remember: I will continue to call it perversion because it is perversion. It is against nature. Nature never produces anything which is useless. Homosexuality is useless; it does not generate anything in you. Neither can it produce children, nor can it give you an orgasmic experience. Have you ever heard of homosexuals having orgasmic experience? All they have is a sexual release. The energy accumulates and become a tension – it needs some release. Homosexuals know only ejaculation, they don't know what they are missing – the orgasm.*

*So sexual energy runs parallel in two ways. On the one hand it produces children, on the other hand it can produce in you a new being. Homosexuality destroys both. And do you want me to call it a natural thing? It is destructive, it is perversion. I can understand that it may be hurting you. But if you have cancer and the doctor says to you, ‘It is cancer,’ it hurts, but it has to be said; otherwise there is no way to operate upon you, to remove the cancer (...).*

## **10. Victim of ancient conditioning.**

Elsewhere Osho further explains his use of the word perverse:

*And don't take offense at the word perversion. It simply means unnatural, it simply means not as it was prescribed by the biology. The biological route is the heterosexual. If you prevent it... It is like a small stream is flowing: you put a rock in its way, it will start flowing from some other side, it will go by-passing the rock, it will become two streams instead of one. You can go on preventing it and it will go on splitting into many streams. It will find out some way. It has a source of water that has to be taken to the ocean.*

*Don't be worried about it, because worrying won't help. Accept it. Just as repression has created it, a deep acceptance can dissolve it. Accept it. You are a victim of thousands of years of conditioning.*

Osho makes a few jokes here, as he, as earlier stated, regularly does:

*The new bride, frustrated by her groom's indifference, could not contain herself anymore. 'Listen,' she said, 'if you are going to keep on reading these newspapers, I am going downtown to get myself a man.' 'Far out!' he said. 'Would you get me one too?'*

*A homo and a hetero went into the desert. 'Ah,' said the horny hetero, 'even if there was a fly here, I could screw it.' 'Z-z-z-z,' replied the homo.*

*A little bit perverted, but so what. Nothing to be worried. Accept it!*

## **11. Gay marriage.**

Osho emphasizes that homosexuality came from a world dominated by men and is not a natural phenomenon. Also, that it is quite possible that homosexuality is going to become increasingly more common. Osho even predicts that it is possible that countries and governments and religions will promote homosexuality. He anticipates that gay marriage will be established in many countries.

*Within fifty years, you will see it happening. Just as governments are now preaching birth control, abortion, they will preach homosexuality – because the population is impossible, and homosexuality is going to be one of the ways to prevent new people coming to the earth. Sooner or later, each government of the world is going to allow homosexual marriages – men marrying men, woman marrying women. This is going to happen. Already, many more people are moving into homosexuality.*