

## F. Changing from gay to straight?

It has already become clear that many homosexuals who came to Osho had difficulty with their homosexuality and therefore asked questions about it. The basic tone of Osho's answers is that there is nothing wrong with being gay. But how does this point of view relate to his clear preference for going through the three phases one after the other? He says that it is best to get to know the outer man-woman relationship, because this is the best preparation for the inner man-woman encounter to take place. Does this imply that Osho sees concrete possibilities for gay men becoming heterosexuals?

In a Darshan meeting, Osho asks a sannyasin about his experiences in the Tantra group. Just by looking at him it is easy to see that the group was a nightmare for him. He says that his sexual energy is aimed at men and not at women, but that he experiences a lot of love from women in the ashram. It frustrates him that he cannot respond to that love and, in the heterosexually-oriented group, it was virtually unbearable for him. Osho replies that the advantage is that everything came to the surface and is now easier to deal with.

He continues:

*Homosexuals, lesbians, they are always inventive people .... in fact, they have invented homosexuality. They are always revolutionary people, they are never orthodox. They have discovered a new way in their sexual life. Mm? They have improved upon nature, they have moved away from nature. They are inventive people, they are not traditional.*

*Hence, more and more homosexuals will be coming to me, because whatsoever I am saying is so untraditional, only very revolutionary minds can come to me. But then there is going to be trouble too. You become attracted towards me because my teachings are so untraditional, so rebellious; you become attracted. My teachings are rebellious, my teachings are unorthodox, but I cannot support any lie. I cannot say to you that your homosexuality is as it should be. I cannot support it... and if you are really revolutionary, try to find out a way.*

And Osho emphasizes again:

*I have no condemnation about anything. That word condemnation does not exist for me; it is not in my vocabulary. So it is perfectly good for you. Simply forget about it. Let me say whatsoever I say; don't bother about it. Whenever it comes to homosexuality, don't listen to what I say. You are perfectly at ease and flowing, so good!*

### 1. Deep acceptance triggers its own dynamics.

*Whatsoever is the situation, you accept it. From there things can begin. Don't reject it. It is out of rejection that the problem has arisen, so only with acceptance... Relax into it and you will be surprised. If you can accept it without any guilt, slowly, slowly your homosexuality will turn into heterosexuality again.*

*Why? Because guilt is also a religious phenomenon, and homosexuality too. They are joined together, they are tied together. If you go on feeling guilty, you will remain homosexual. Drop the guilt, accept it. Nothing is wrong, just you are carrying the whole ugly past of humanity.*

*What can you do? You have come a little late, people have preceded before. They have dirtied the whole beach. So we have to clean it.*

Osho pursues the subject further:

*But what is the point of crying and weeping and feeling guilty? There is no need to waste energies in that. Accept it with no guilt at all. And with the disappearance of the guilt you will be surprised: if you are a Christian your Christianity disappears; if you are a Jew your Judaism disappears; if you are a Hindu your Hinduism disappears. This is really a miracle; when the guilt is dropped, your religions disappear. And when religions disappear, you become a far more natural being. You can start seeing things clearly. In fact, what you are seeking into the other man, you cannot find in him. There will be frustration. What the other man is trying to find in you, he cannot find in you; there will be frustration.*

## **2. Don't shift your interest from men to women.**

*A few things to be understood... one: there is no need to hectically change your interest from men to women. If it changes on its own, that's good, but there is no need to force that change. A forced change never goes very deep, never works, and there is no need to force it. Accept your homosexuality. Don't condemn it; there is no need. It is a perfectly valid way. And if you accept it, one day you can go beyond it; if you reject it, you can never go beyond it – that's the problem.*

*If you reject it, it will haunt you. If you deny it, it will try to overpower you. The denied parts of your being become revengeful. So there is no need to deny it. It's perfectly valid. Mm? There are so many ways to relate sexually .... homosexuality is one of the ways; simply accept it. Joyously accept it, not grudgingly, not reluctantly ....*

Osho then says to the group leader:

*And Sudha, many, many homosexual people will be coming, so once in a while there should be a homosexual group. Mm, just plan it, just think about it. (...) Right? Because if you can give them the feeling that their sexual interest is valid, it will be of tremendous importance to them: they will feel rooted, grounded, and from that rootedness change becomes easy, becomes possible.*

## **3. Does nothing change? Fine!**

Osho responds to the sannyasin in this way:

*And if nothing changes, there is no problem in it. Remain homosexual and yet start growing spiritually. It is not that homosexuality is necessarily a barrier for spiritual growth. If you accept it, then there is no problem; the problem arises if you reject it. Sometimes I have to say to a few homosexuals, lesbians, to drop it. I say only to drop it when I see that they reject it deep down and are still in it; then it is a hindrance. But if a person simply feels easily homosexual, naturally homosexual, then there is no problem. And that's my feeling about you.*

*It is a very natural phenomenon to you; but the mind listens to things, and the homosexual minority has been so condemned down the ages. One cannot avoid knowing those things – that everybody condemns it, that everybody is against it, the law is against, the religion... Naturally, one thinks that when so many people are against it something must be wrong in it! Even if one feels the pull towards it, one goes reluctantly. Don't go reluctantly. That reluctance is the real problem, not homosexuality. And there is no need to change it drastically; simply allow your natural flow.*

‘Meditate and grow’ is the basis of what Osho recommends:

*It is possible one day that it may change. When you change, all the things change. But remember, you are not to change it; no effort has to be made to change it. So you will be doing other groups – if this problem arises, simply express your feeling and say that you are not interested in women at all; and not with any guilt, there is no need, no need to feel any guilt. You are not doing any sin, you are not harming anybody. You are not destructive to anybody, you are not violent to anybody.*

*Homosexuality is your enjoyment; it is fun, it is nothing serious. With that acceptance this nightmarish situation will disappear and you will feel very, very much at ease. And that ‘at-easeness’ will not be only on the surface, it will become part of your depth.*

#### **4. Do nothing! Meditate!**

*Don’t make a problem out of it. Nothing has to be done about it. I don’t tackle individual problems. My whole approach is that there are millions of diseases, but there is only one cure, and that cure is meditation.*

*You meditate – homosexual, heterosexual, bisexual... You meditate. You become more still and more silent. You create inner emptiness. You become more transparent, and then things will start changing. You will be able to see what you are doing to yourself. If it is right, you will go on doing it with more joy, with more totality, with more intensity, with more passion. If it is wrong, it will simply drop, just like dead leaves falling from a tree.*

*So I cannot suggest any specific method because to me all the problems are arising because we have become minds and we have forgotten that deep down there is a space within us which can be called no-mind. Entering that space, no-mind, will give you perspective, vision, clarity.*

Again Osho emphasizes:

*Meditate. Sit silently watching your thoughts – homosexual, heterosexual, whatsoever they are, it doesn’t matter. You watch, you become the witness. Slowly, slowly, a distance will be created between you and your thoughts.*

*And one day suddenly, the realization that you are not your mind. And that day a revolution has happened within you. After that day you will never be the same again. A transcendence has happened. After that, whatsoever you do is right; you can’t do wrong then. And before that, whatsoever you do is wrong.*

*So when I say I have nothing against homosexuality I am not supporting it, remember. I am not saying, ‘Be homosexual.’ I don’t have anything against heterosexuality either, but I am not supporting heterosexuality. I am not supporting anything. These are all mind games – and you have to go beyond all the games.*

Society is the basis of those games and society conditions how people think. Osho makes a joke about that:

*Fifteen-year-old Bobby was running out of a theatre where he had just seen a porno movie.*

*The manager stopped him. 'Why are you in such a hurry?'*  
*'My mother told me,' said Bobby, 'that if I ever looked at anything bad I would turn to*  
*stone – and I have started!'*

Osho comments on this joke:

*The mind functions as an agent of the society within you.*  
*To go beyond mind is to go beyond society.*  
*To go beyond mind is to go beyond the whole history.*  
*To go beyond mind is to go beyond past.*  
*To go beyond mind is to enter into God.*  
*And then whatsoever happens is good, is virtue.*