



# Ministering to Everyone

Inclusivity of Different Lifestyles

CLINICAL PASTORAL EDUCATION SYMPOSIUM



# Definitions

# THE ACRONYM LGBTIQA STANDS FOR:

- **L** - lesbians
- **G** - gays
- **B** - bisexuals
- **T** - transgender people
- **I** - intersex people
- **Q** - queer and questioning people
- **A** - asexual people and allies
- **H** - heterosexuals



# SEXUAL ORIENTATION

It is romantic and sexual attraction to people of the opposite sex, of the same sex, or to both. It is commonly accepted that people may have one of the three sexual orientations . . .




# SEXUAL ORIENTATION

1. Heterosexual orientation (straight people) - attraction to the opposite sex
2. Homosexual orientation (gays and lesbians) - attraction to the same sex
3. Bisexual orientation - attraction to both sexes


# SEXUAL ORIENTATION MORE

1. Asexual orientation - attraction to neither sex;
2. Pansexual orientation - attraction to all the sexes (including attraction to transgender and intersex people);
3. Polysexual orientation - attraction to many sexes, but not to all.



“People whose sexual orientation does not perfectly fit into straight, gay/lesbian, or bi sometimes consider themselves *queer*.”





“Many asexual people consider asexuality as the fourth sexual orientation - attraction to neither sex. However, asexual people are not a homogeneous group and there are many diversity among asexual people themselves. Some asexual people do not have any romantic and sexual attraction at all while some of them have only romantic relationships without sex.”





# ROMANTIC ORIENTATIONS:

- *Aromantic*: lack of romantic attraction towards anyone
- *Biromantic*: romantic attraction towards males and females
- *Heteroromantic*: romantic attraction towards person(s) of a different gender



# ROMANTIC ORIENTATIONS:

- *Homoromantic*: romantic attraction towards person(s) of the same gender
- *Panromantic*: romantic attraction towards person(s) of every gender
- *Polyromantic*: romantic attraction towards multiple, but not all, genders



# GENDER

“The state of being male or female (typically used with reference to social and cultural differences rather than biological ones)”



## GENDER IDENTITY

It is how a person feels of themselves: whether he or she is a man, a woman, both, or neither. Here, there is a difference between sex and gender. Sex is biological, gender is psychological.



## GENDER IDENTITY

Person's gender and gender identity are related. Gender identity may or may not match a person's biological sex.



## TRANSGENDER

“For transgender people, the sex they were assigned at birth and their own internal gender identity do not match.”



Dr. Edrica Richardson

“Transgenders are not homosexuals by definition. Transgender persons feel they are psychologically born in the wrong body. Yet they are fully biologically male or female.”





## TRANSVESTITE

The Wikipedia Online Dictionary states that a transvestite is a “person who sometimes wears clothes traditionally worn by and associated with the opposite sex; typically a male who cross-dresses occasionally by habit or compulsion.”



## INTERSEX

“Intersex” is a general term used for a variety of conditions in which a person is born with a reproductive or sexual anatomy that doesn't seem to fit the typical definitions of female or male.



## INTERSEX

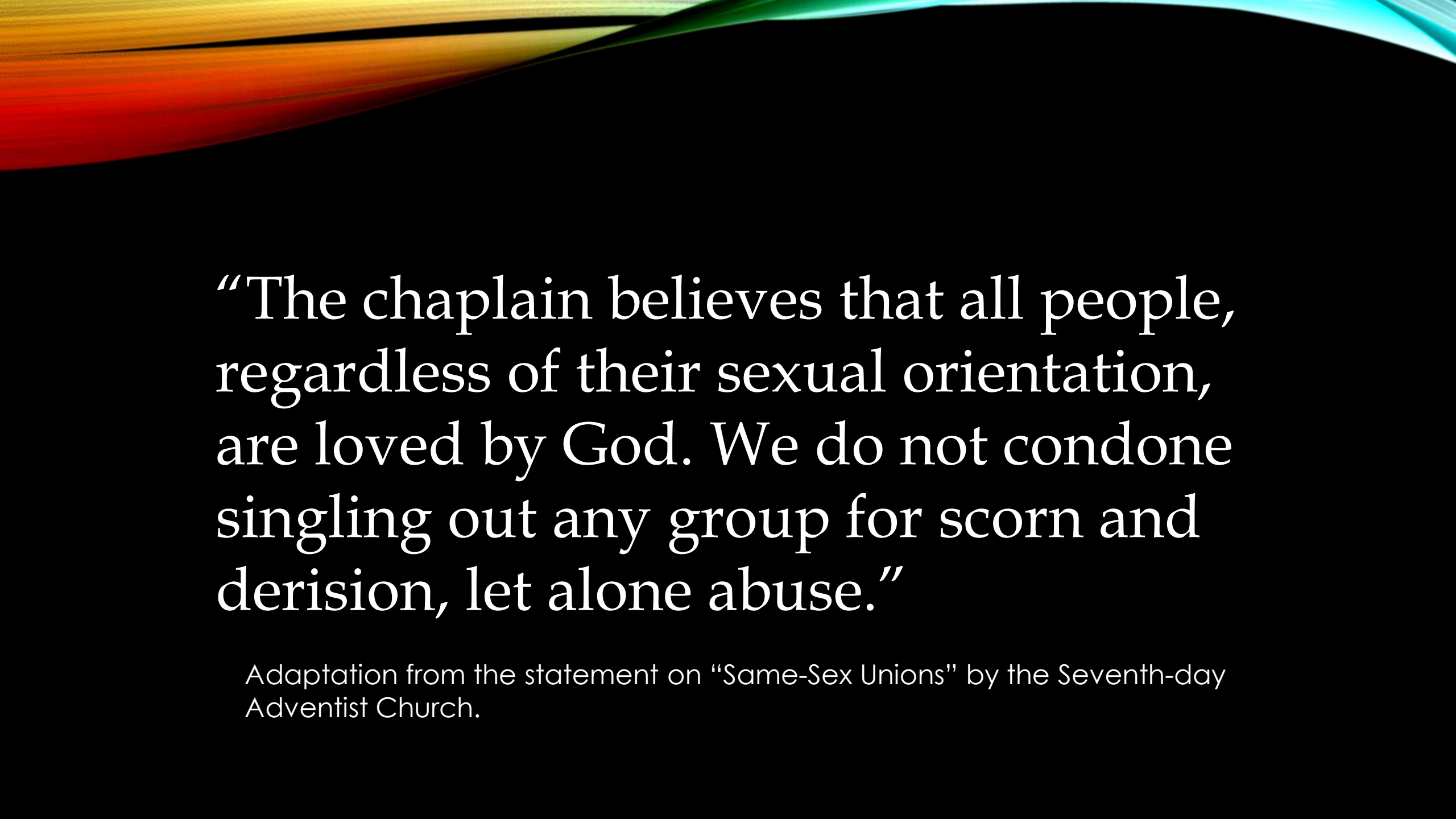
“Some people have physical characteristics (primarily and/or secondary) of both sexes. These conditions may include: chromosome disorders, atypical genitalia or reproductive organs, overproduction or underproduction of sex-related hormones. There are around 100 different intersex conditions.”

# INTERSEX CAN BE DIVIDED INTO 4 CATEGORIES:

1. 46, XX intersex
2. 46, XY intersex
3. True gonadal intersex
4. Complex or undetermined intersex



# Ministering to Everyone



“The chaplain believes that all people, regardless of their sexual orientation, are loved by God. We do not condone singling out any group for scorn and derision, let alone abuse.”

Adaptation from the statement on “Same-Sex Unions” by the Seventh-day Adventist Church.



## IMPORTANT THEOLOGICAL POINT

Having homosexual tendencies,  
orientation, or same sex attraction  
dose not in itself make one a sinner.





HOW CAN WE DO THIS?

How can you minister effectively  
to someone different than you are  
if you feel you are better, more  
superior, or privileged?



HOW CAN WE DO THIS?

You would need to move the  
scales of superiority from  
your heart and put on  
humility.



“Technology and free speech are opening the floodgates of information. This is good. More people are feeling free to express themselves or their views openly. We must learn to live harmoniously with all of these individuals and views. This is a part of a pluralistic, free, democratic society.”



“The healing of our society is not by the removal of these individuals but instead embracing the difference among us. We do not have to “accept” or “agree” with the behaviors, but we can be civil and respect the rights of individuals. . .



... All human beings in The Bahamas have the right to be treated with respect, fairly, access to services, protection, free from harm and harassment.”



“Christians have a mandate to **love unconditionally**. If there is anybody who should show unconditional acceptance and unconditional love, it should be the Christian.”



“The chaplain has a responsibility to minister with his or her eyes closed, seeing only with the heart and touching with no gloves on the hands.”





# WHEN SOMEONE IS SICK OR IN PAIN:

*You need to have a . . .*

- Humble heart
- Listening ear
- Compassionate spirit
- Empathizing attitude
- Unconditional loving
- Unconditional acceptance



“The role of the chaplain is not to change the heart or life of the hurting one but to **comfort** him or her who is in emotional or physical pain.”




“The role of the chaplain is not to change the heart or life of the hurting one but to **listen to** his or her emotional or physical pain.”



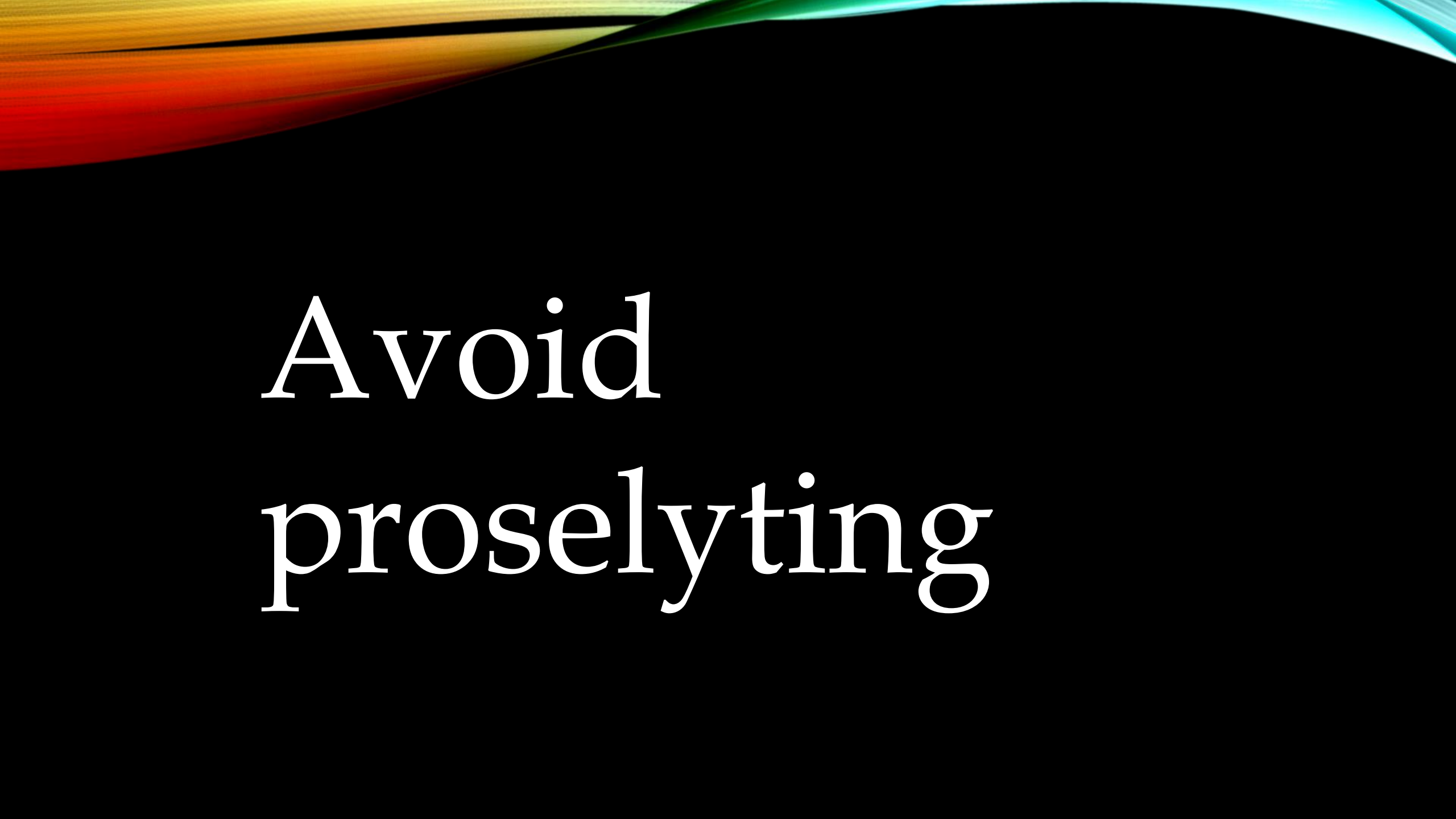
“If your goal is to keep the person out of hell fire you will lose the opportunity to truly care for the persons.”

“I don’t need a sermon now. I need your touch. I need your unconditional love and acceptance. I need your compassion.”





Unfortunately, the way in which we teach the gospel we have made too many people became critical and judgmental of others instead of caring and loving.



Avoid  
proselyting





# TECHNIQUES

- Talk to the “usual” person the same way you talk to everyone else.
- Stand in the same position. Be normal
- Smile the same way
- Touch the same way
- Do not raise the topic of sexual orientation
- Assure the person of God’s grace
- Value the gift of silence

# NEVER FORGET

*Important Qualities*

- Understanding
- Caring
- Unconditional acceptance
- Unconditional loving
- Compassion
- Courage
- Confidentiality
- Patience
- Empathy
- Sympathy
- Flexibility
- Adaptability
- Open-Mindedness  
and Sensitivity



# NEVER FORGET

*Important Qualities*

Listen to the non-verbals

See the non-visibles

Smell the non-traceables

Touch the untouchables

Taste the untasteables

The background features a solid black field. At the top, there is a decorative, wavy horizontal band with a color gradient. From left to right, the colors transition from a warm orange-red to a bright yellow, and finally to a cool cyan-blue. The waves in the band are smooth and fluid, creating a sense of motion.

# Questions



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