

My Sexuality by Jeremy Pinson

A dear friend (you know who you are) recently opened up to me about a sexual experience they had and asked me to explain why I am so open about my sexuality given how intolerant society is and both the danger and ridicule it garners.

This is a complicated subject. I believe many things but 4 core beliefs I have developed over the years guide me most. Those beliefs can be summed up in saying that the 4 most difficult tasks in life are:

- (1) To forgive someone when your angry;
- (2) To give charity when you yourself are in need;
- (3) To abstain from doing immoral or unethical things when you are alone or amongst enablers;
- (4) To speak the truth to those from whom you may receive harm or favor.

I used to be a habitual liar. I would lie about matters both important and trivial. Living through adversity taught me the importance of honesty, integrity and conviction. So today I am open and honest and stand by my words whether

it brings me acceptance, indifference or ridicule because it is important that people know who I am. As important as food, water or shelter.

I am bisexual. My first sexual experience was with a man. It was quick and meaningless. I had sex with several women at 16 and 17. I got locked up at 17 and have had sex with male inmates and one female prison guard. I have been in love only once and it was with a man. It was the most blissful feeling I have ever encountered. To this day I would walk across hot coals for him. All other sexual experiences were strictly about pleasure. Without getting vulgar I have pitched and caught. My mother learned of my sexuality in a jail visit when she told me my cousin was gay in an effort to trick me into coming out. I did but not because I'm that gullible.

I've been called a faggot, punk, gump, fudgepacker and terms too vulgar to mention. I've been spat upon, beaten, stabbed and even raped. I've been shunned, shamed and ridiculed in ~~ways~~ ways that would make even the grinch flinch.

But I was not born to cater to the whims of others. I was made the way I am by biological mandate. It wasn't a choice as some believe. The only one who chose my sexuality if anyone was God, Allah, Buddha or whichever deity is there.

For those who hate me, those who disagree with me, those who are disappointed in me I say only this: One day we all shall perish. Do you want to spend the limited time you have judging me or do you want to live your life liberated from the chains of discrimination and ignorance? I will live life strong, happy and with both kindness and firmness. My detractors can beat me, cuss me, even kill me but the beauty in that is I can only die once and the last thing you will see in my eyes is laughter at your impotence in changing me.

So to the person who wrote me I hope this answers your question. I enjoyed your letter, I appreciate your candor and I hope you don't mind my answering publicly what I know others may want to know while also preserving your anonymity.