

Looking back on how science has progressed in sexuality and gender

For complex, complicated questions concerning the nature of human sexuality, there exists at best provisional scientific consensus; much remains unknown, as sexuality is an immensely complex part of human life that defies our attempts at defining all its aspects....

For questions that are easier to study empirically, however, such as those concerning the rates of mental health outcomes for identifiable subpopulations of sexual minorities, the research does offer some clear answers: these subpopulations show higher rates of depression, anxiety, substance abuse, and suicide compared to the general population.

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Some of the most widely held views about sexual orientation, such as the “born that way” hypothesis, simply are not supported by science...The strongest statement that science offers to explain sexual orientation is that some biological factors appear, to an unknown extent, to predispose some individuals to a non-heterosexual orientation.

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Critiquing and challenging both parts of the “born that way” paradigm...enables us to ask important questions...in a different light...There is still much work to be done and many unanswered questions.

This is part four of a four-part series.

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis. Read full, original post: [Conclusion](#)