

## Martin Luther King's advice to a young man with homosexuality

What was MLK's position on the homosexual lifestyle and so-called "gay rights"? While he said little in public on the issue, what he did say made his viewpoint abundantly clear. Unlike the "LGBT" lobby, I'll let Dr. King speak for himself. In 1958, while [writing an advice column](#) for Ebony Magazine, Dr. King responded to a young "gay" man looking for guidance. To avoid being accused of "cherry-picking," here is the exchange in its entirety:

**Question:** My problem is different from the ones most people have. I am a boy, but I feel about boys the way I ought to feel about girls. I don't want my parents to know about me. What can I do? Is there any place where I can go for help?

**Answer:** Your problem is not at all an uncommon one. However, it does require careful attention. The type of feeling that you have toward boys is probably not an innate tendency, but something that has been culturally acquired. Your reasons for adopting this habit have now been consciously suppressed or unconsciously repressed. Therefore, it is necessary to deal with this problem by getting back to some of the experiences and circumstances that led to the habit. In order to do this I would suggest that you see a good psychiatrist who can assist you in bringing to the forefront of conscience all of those experiences and circumstances that led to the habit. You are already on the right road toward a solution, since you honestly recognize the problem and have a desire to solve it.