Bible not a barrier to gays  In Biblical times, sexuality, including homosexuality, was prevalent. Most homes had works of art with explicit sexual, often homosexual, content. Yet, despite this, Jesus never speaks of homosexuality but rather equality for the poor and condemnation for the wealthy and powerful who misuse their power.

Paul speaks of marriage but also states that it is better to remain unmarried like him.

In the ancient book of laws, Leviticus, many long, tedious chapters are devoted to how one should treat one’s neighbor and never ask for repayment on a loan or charge interest! There is only one, small verse about how a man should not lay with another man like he would with a woman. Sodom and Gomorrah is a long, complicated story that ends with Lot's daughters getting him drunk and raping him: It is very clear in the Bible that divorce is punishable by death but does not mention any punishment for homosexuality.

The Bible is a collection of ancient, oral stories written and rewritten long after the events happened and in different languages from the oral versions. In the earliest manuscripts, there were no verses and chapters, only long, unpunctuated stories. Responsible interpretation should include knowledge of historical context. To do otherwise is to deny the profound richness of the stories.

The Bible does not explicitly, nor for many theologians, implicitly, deny marriage to homosexuals. A religious interpretation based on gathered, out of context, and ambiguous verses should not determine the law of our democratic and free country.

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