

No, really:
Is homosexuality a paraphilia?

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No, *really*:
Is homosexuality a paraphilia?

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*The puzzle of sexual orientation workshop: What is it
And how does it work?* Lethbridge, Canada.

No, *really*:
Is homosexuality a paraphilia?

Argument by definition

Argument by parsimony

Argument by correlate(s)

Argument by behavior in taxonomic models

Argument by definition

Homosexuality: intense, recurrent...
fantasies, urges, behaviors, attractions...

Paraphilia: intense, recurrent...
fantasies, urges, behaviors, attractions...

Argument by definition

Homosexuality: intense, recurrent...
fantasies, urges, behaviors, attractions...

Paraphilia: intense, recurrent...
fantasies, urges, behaviors, attractions...

DSM-IV-TR: “generally involving 1) nonhuman objects, 2) the suffering or humiliation of oneself or one’s partner, or 3) children or other nonconsenting person”

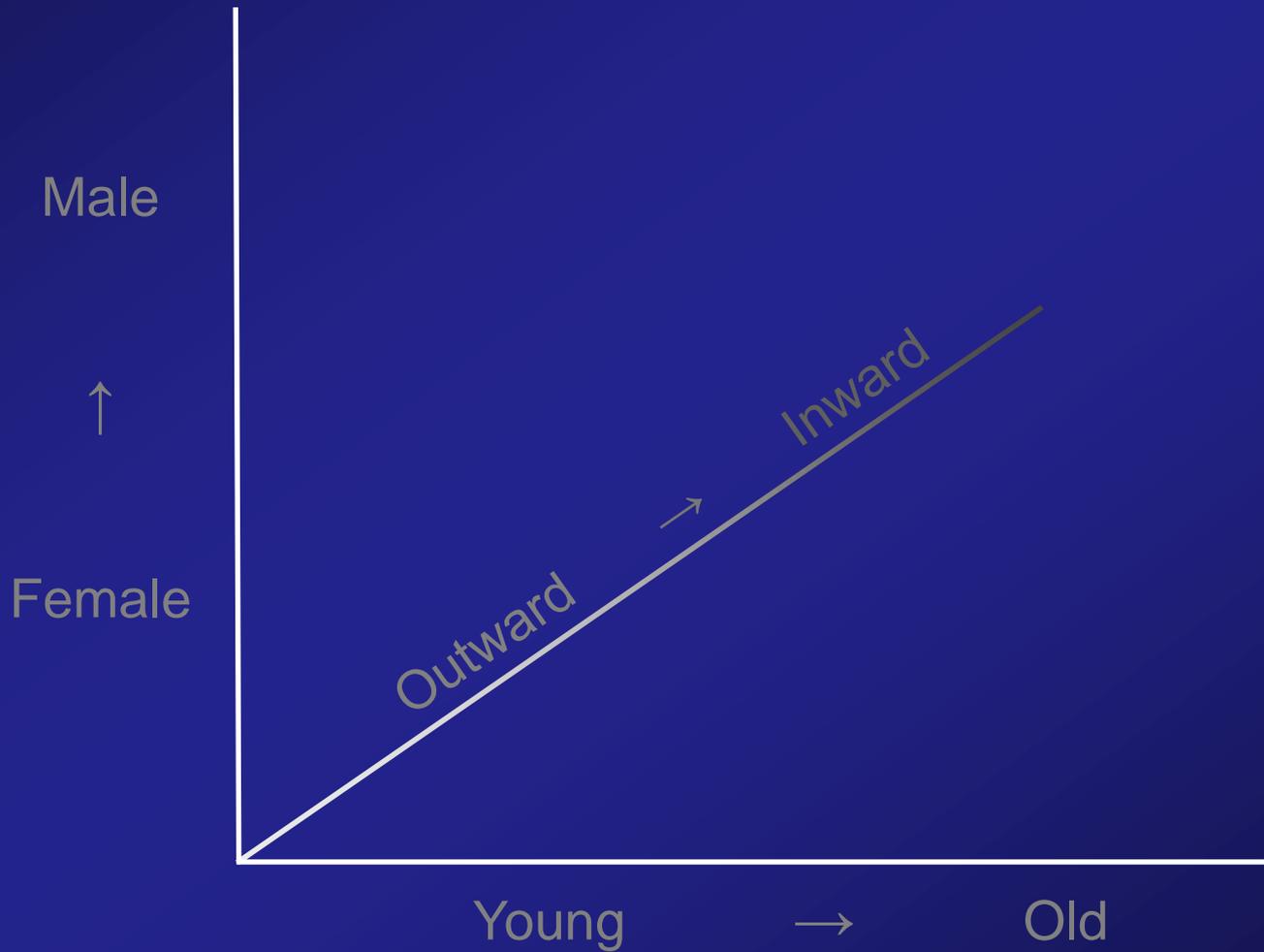
Cantor, Blanchard, & Barbaree (2009): “other than sexual interest in copulatory or precopulatory behavior with phenotypically normal, consenting, adult, human partners.”

Argument by definition

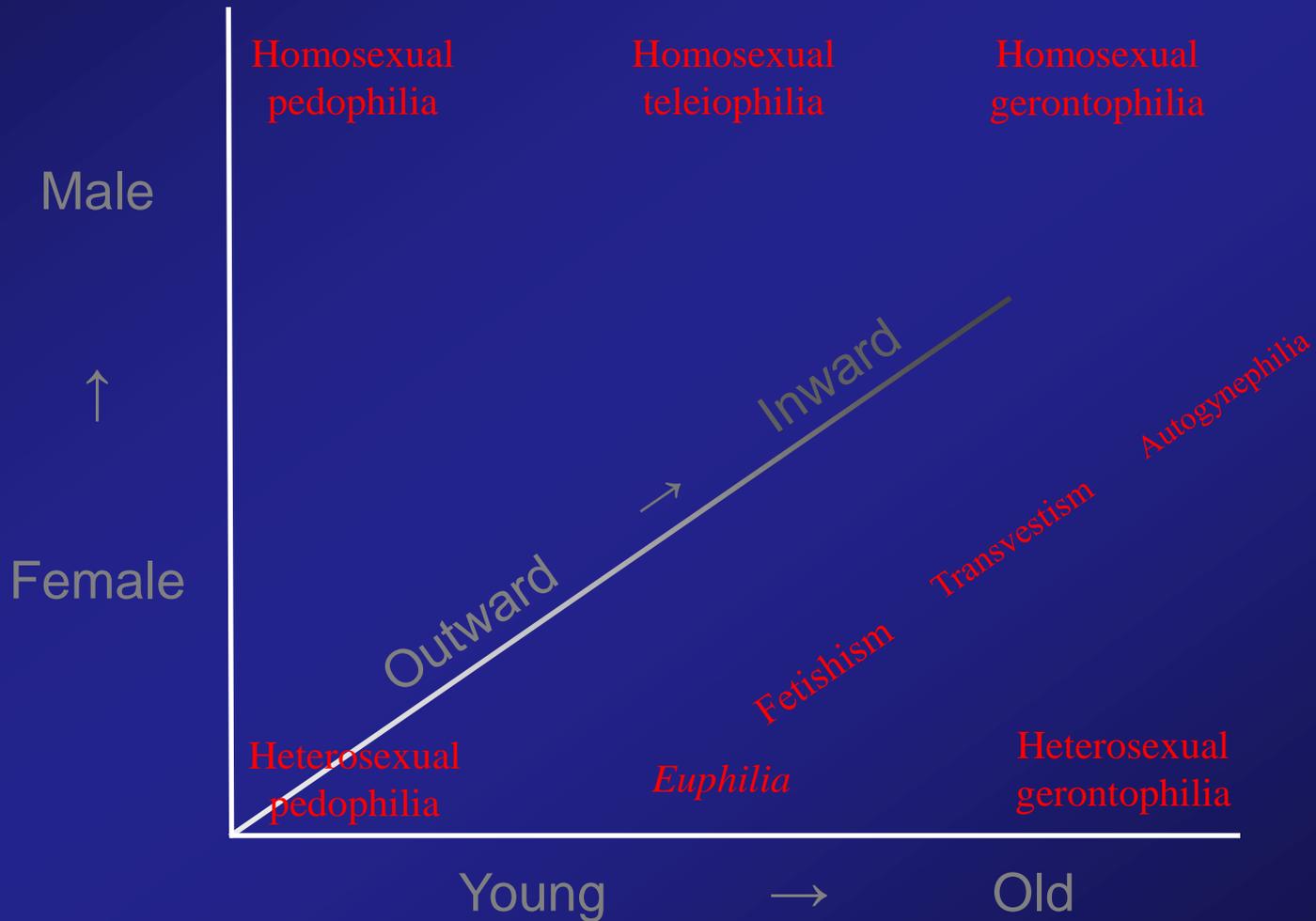
Homosexuality: atypical for one's *sex*

Paraphilia: atypical for one's *species*

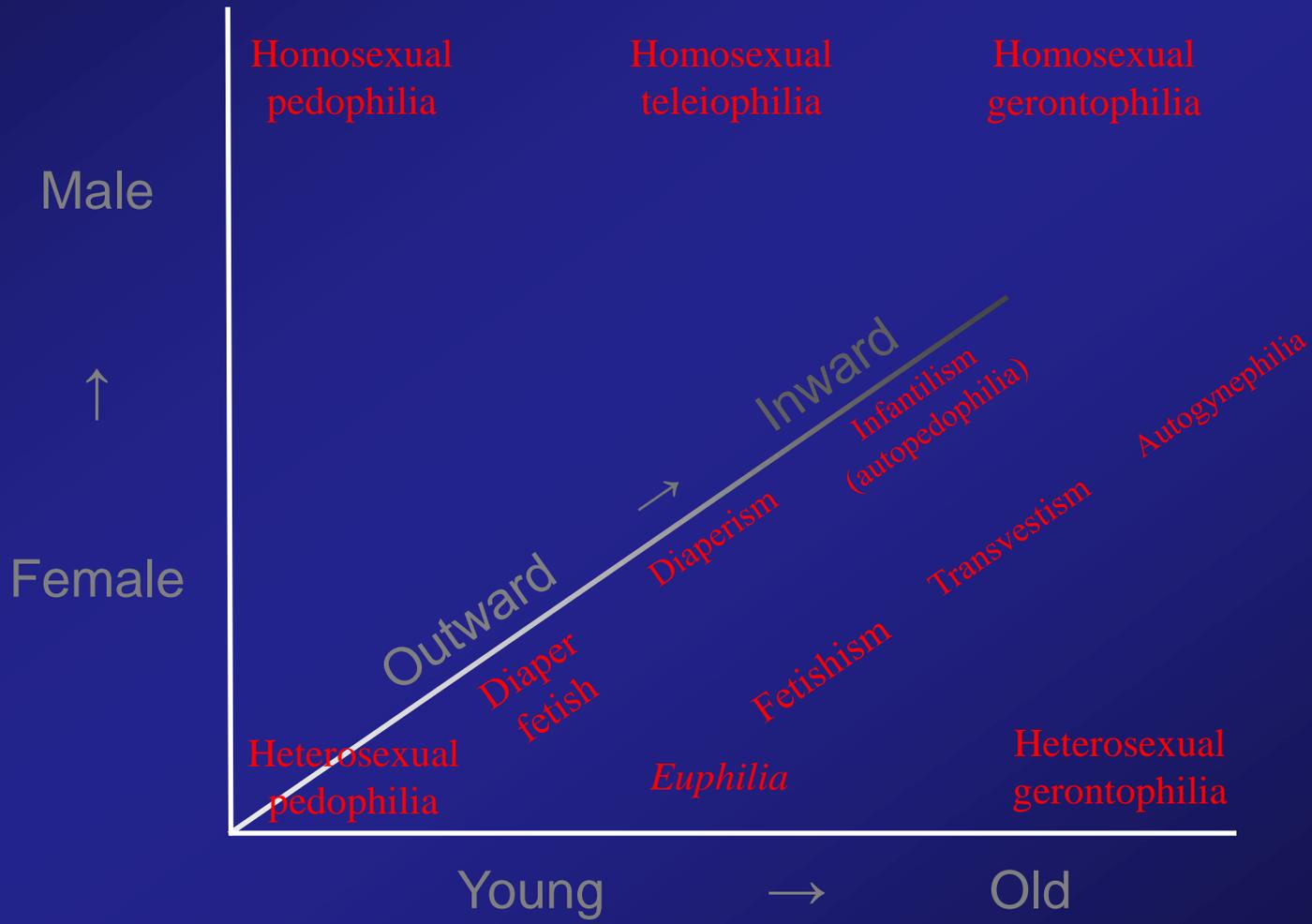
Men's object paraphilias



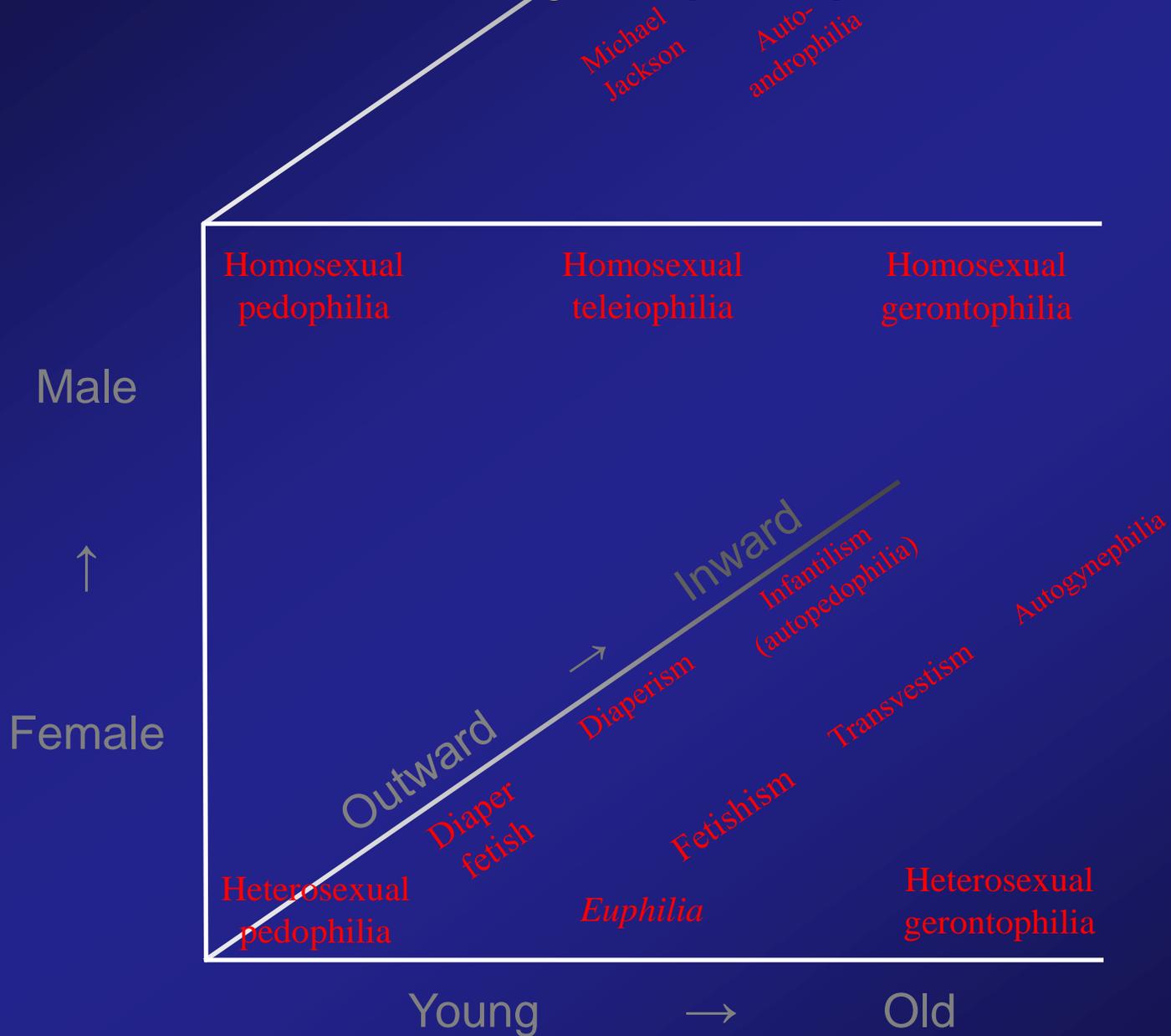
Men's object paraphilias



Men's object paraphilias



Men's object paraphilias



Variable

Homosexuality

Paraphilia

Prevalence

Course

Amenable to change

Sex ratio

Birth order effect

Height

Non-right-handedness

Onset of puberty

Cognitive neuropsychology

IQ

Mental Retardation

Academic achievement

Neuroanatomy:

INAH-3

BNSTc

White matter

Anterior commissure

Corpus callosum

Mamillary bodies

Suprachiasmatic nucleus

Endocrinology

Familiarity/heritability

Behavioral onset

Personality

Social skills

Childhood toy, friend preference

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Homosexuality

2–3%
Life-long
No
~2:1

~1.33–1.50
Less (1.5cm)

~10% in *euphilic* men.
~13% in gay men.

Earlier
Sex reversal
Higher, but biased samples?
No
No

Yes
Unknown
High (CC)
Failed to replicate
Yes
No
Yes

No
Yes
Early childhood
Effeminacy
High?
Yes

Paraphilia

Unknown
Life-long
No
>1000:1
~20:1 in masochism (autoasphyxia?).
No for pedophilia
Less (2cm) in pedophiles.
Normal in autogynephilia?
~33% of pedophiles.
~30–50% in mixed trans groups.
Unknown
General deficits in pedophilia.
Lower in pedophilia. Unknown in others.
Over-represented.
Lower in pedophilia.

Unknown
Yes for autogynephilia; yes for pedophilia.
Low in pedophilia (SOF/rAF).
No for pedophilia.
No for pedophilia.
Unknown
Unknown

No
Maybe? (Gaffney)
Later childhood/puberty?
Anti-sociality
Poor
Normal in autogynephilia?

Variable	Homosexuality	Paraphilia
? Prevalence	2–3%	Unknown
✓ Course	Life-long	Life-long
✓ Amenable to change	No	No
✗ Sex ratio	~2:1	>1000:1 ~20:1 in masochism (autoasphyxia?).
✗ Birth order effect	~1.33–1.50	No for pedophilia
✓ Height	Less (1.5cm)	Less (2cm) in pedophiles. Normal in autogynephilia?
✗? Non-right-handedness	~10% in <i>euphilic</i> men. ~13% in gay men.	~33% of pedophiles. ~30–50% in mixed trans groups.
? Onset of puberty	Earlier	Unknown
✗ Cognitive neuropsychology	Sex reversal	General deficits in pedophilia.
✗ IQ	Higher, but biased samples.	Lower in pedophilia. Unknown in others.
✗ Mental Retardation	No	Over-represented.
✗ Academic achievement	No	Lower in pedophilia.
Neuroanatomy:		
? INAH-3	Yes	Unknown
? BNSTc	Unknown	Yes for autogynephilia; yes for pedophilia.
✗ White matter	High (CC)	Low in pedophilia (SOF/rAF).
✗ Anterior commissure	Failed to replicate	No for pedophilia.
✗ Corpus callosum	Yes	No for pedophilia.
? Mamillary bodies	No	Unknown
? Suprachiasmatic nucleus	Yes	Unknown
✓ Endocrinology	No	No
? Familiarity/heritability	Yes	Maybe? (Gaffney)
✗? Behavioral onset	Early childhood	Later childhood/puberty?
✗ Personality	Effeminacy	Anti-sociality
✗? Social skills	High?	Poor
✗? Childhood toy, friend preference	Yes	Normal in autogynephilia?; moot in pedo?

Argument by behavior in taxonometry

Paraphilias frequently co-occur: *polymorphous perversity*

If homosexuality were a paraphilia, then:

heterosexual pedophiles have 1 paraphilia, but
homosexual pedophiles have 2 paraphilias.

If homosexuality is a paraphilia, it would “combine” with paraphilias the same as paraphilias combine with each other.

If homosexuality combines in its own way, then homosexuality is a distinct feature.

Multiple paraphilias vs. *blended* paraphilias

Paraphilias can *co-exist*, different ones expressed at different times.

We see men who express sadism sometimes, but transvestism others.

We see men who are *hebephilic*, but who don *adult* female garments.

We see men who aroused by *autogynephilia* and (*allo-*)*gynephilia*.

Paraphilias can *blend*, expressed as a single interest.

We see men who expose to dogs (exhibitionism & zoophilia).

We see men who peep on children (voyeurism and pedophilia).

Homosexuality, however, *always* blends with the other interests.

We don't see men interested in *women's* feet but in *men's* underwear.

We don't see men interested in *men's* urine, but in *women's* feces.

We don't see men who tele-scatologize *men*, but peep on *women*.