

An Explanation of Gordon College's Policy on Homosexuality

In our statement of faith and conduct we affirm God's creation of marriage, first described in Genesis, as the lifelong one-flesh union of one man and one woman, designed both for companionship and for a stable environment for the procreation and rearing of children. Along with this positive affirmation of marriage as a male-female union, there are clear prohibitions against same-gender sexual relations in the Scriptures. It is important to note that the Gordon statement of faith and conduct does not reference same-sex *orientation*—that is, the state of being a person who experiences same-sex attraction—but rather, specifically, homosexual acts. The Gordon community is expected to refrain from any sexual intercourse—heterosexual or homosexual; premarital or extramarital—outside of the marriage covenant. There is currently much debate among believing Christians about the nature and causes of homosexuality, and about a faithful Christian response to same-sex attractions, but we acknowledge that we are all sinners in need of grace, all called to redeemed humanity in Christ. We recognize that students at Gordon who struggle with their sexual orientation have often felt marginalized and alone, and recognize the pressing need for a safe campus environment for all students.