The Impact of Questions and Assumptions on Individuals

Gays and lesbians are sometimes asked questions about their sexual orientation. These questions are frequently uncomfortable for the individual, and often the underlying assumptions behind the questions are not positive. Below are some of the questions asked of gays and lesbians, and they are reversed for heterosexuals.

Questions Often Directed Towards Gays and Lesbians	Questions Reversed For Heterosexuals
1. What do you think caused your homosexuality?	1. What do you think caused your heterosexuality?
2. When and how did you first decide that you were homosexual?	2. When and how did you first decide that you were heterosexual?
3. Is it possible that you may grow out of this "phase" of homosexuality?	3. Is it possible that you may grow out of this "phase" of heterosexuality?
4. Is it possible that your homosexuality stems from a neurotic fear of others of the opposite sex?	4. Is it possible that your heterosexuality stems from a neurotic fear of others of the same sex?
5. Isn't it possible that all you need is a good opposite-sex partner?	5. Isn't possible that all you need is a good same-sex partner?
6. Homosexuals have a history of failures in opposite- sex relationships. Do you think that you may have turned to homosexuality out of fear of rejection?	6. Heterosexuals have a history of failures in same- sex relationships. Do you think that you may have turned to heterosexuality out of fear of rejection?
7. Why do you people feel compelled to seduce others into your sexual orientation?	7. Why do you people feel compelled to seduce others into your sexual orientation?
8. If you choose to nurture children, would you want them to be homosexual knowing the problems they will face?	8. If you choose to nurture children, would you want them to be heterosexual knowing the problems they will face?
9. Why do you insist on being so obvious and making a spectacle of your homosexual tendencies? Can't you just go home, be quiet about it, and stop flaunting it in everyone's face?	9. Why do you insist on being so obvious and making a spectacle of your heterosexual tendencies? Can't you just go home, be quiet about it, and stop flaunting it in everyone's face?
10. Some child molesters are homosexual. Do you really consider it safe to expose your children to homosexual teachers?	10. The majority of child molesters are heterosexual (according to FBI statistics). Do you really consider it safe to expose your children to heterosexual teachers?
11. How can you enjoy a deep emotional bonding with persons of the same sex when the obvious physical, biological, temperamental differences between you are so similar?	11. How can you enjoy a deep emotional bonding with persons of the opposite sex when the obvious physical, biological, and temperamental differences between you are so vast?
12. Why do homosexuals place so much emphasis on sex?	12. Why do heterosexuals place so much emphasis on sex?
13. Why are there so few stable relationships among homosexuals?	13. With all of the societal support marriage receives, the divorce rate is spiraling. Why are there so few stable relationships among heterosexuals?
14. There seem to be very few happy homosexuals. Techniques have been developed with which you might be able to change, if you really want to. Have you considered trying aversion therapy?	14. There seem to be very few happy heterosexuals. Techniques have been developed with which you might be able to change, if you really want to. Have you considered trying aversion therapy?