

Sex, Death, and Denial

We, as humans like to think of ourselves as special. The idea that we will die and simply cease to exist is a scary thought, and difficult to comprehend. We want to think that this planet is more than a speck of dust in the universe among trillions of other similar planets where there may be billions of life forms more advanced than us. We like to think of ourselves as above the animals and that somehow this planet is special, that humans are special, and that we as individuals are special. Therefore, we are ripe for wanting to believe religions that tell us what we want to hear, rather than what's true.

Christianity tells us what we want to hear. That there is an omnipotent parent figure in the sky who watches out for us, loves us, and that we are special. It says that we will never die, appeasing our need to believe we will live forever, in a better place, where all our problems go away. Do I want that, sure! Who wouldn't? But is it true? Unfortunately, no it's not. If you want to live forever you'll have a far better chance by donating your money to genetic research than to a religion. Something to consider the next time you write that check.

Sex is also a source of human denial. We humans are above the animals, we would believe, and we don't indulge in "instinct" because we are intelligent and we use "reason" and "logic" instead. Yes, we do, but reason and logic are newcomers and instinct has been around a lot longer and is a lot more powerful. And sex is the biggest example of behavior that puts us right there with the animals. It's pure instinct and there's very little difference in how we mate than every other creature that mates. In many cases, we aren't even as good at it as the average male dog.

Sex is a necessary human function. We are the decedents of 3 billion years of sex. There are people who have risen above their instincts to control their sexuality, but those people are not our ancestors. We are the descendants of those who failed to control their sexuality, or had no desire to control it. It's an instinct honed by billions of years of evolution, and much of our behavior is controlled by our sexual instincts.

Christianity is based on sexual denial and sex becomes the "work of the Devil". It equates sex with evil and irresistible temptations, caused by Satan, to steal the souls of Christians from God and subject you to eternal punishment. Sex is an easy target because when you're not having sex, it seems like bizarre behavior. Other instincts, like eating, breathing, drinking seem more natural and one would quickly die if denied. Therefore sex is the best target for redefinition as sin. But sex is life and without it we wouldn't be here. Yet Christians have criminalized human reproduction outside the domain of their control. If sex is immoral, then life is immoral.