

an orientation for heterosexuality, homosexuality, or bisexuality, having a history of such an orientation, or being identified with such an orientation. Sexual orientation shall not include transvestism, transsexualism, pedophilia, exhibitionism, voyeurism, gender identity disorders not resulting from physical impairments, or any other sexual behavior disorders." This was put in to make it clear that there's not an attempt to legalize that conduct which is deemed illegal. Whether or not I think that conduct should be illegal or not is an entirely different matter. I want to keep the scope of this amendment narrow and focused on the right of people to earn a living. I don't know whether some of my best friends are gay or not. There is so much in the way of ridicule that is heaped on these people, so much in the way of rejection and humiliation that many people of this persuasion or orientation will not let anybody know about it, not a family member, not a close friend, and, though it may shock you, not a spouse. Some will try to do everything in accord with the principles or values, as they are called, of this society. They will date members of the opposite sex, they will marry members of the opposite sex, in some instances they will have children even though their orientation is not along that direction. More and more from the scientific and medical fields is being presented that points to a genetic underpinning for this orientation. One person who is gay asked the question, he had come out of the closet, knowing the problems and obstacles that an admittedly gay person...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...would confront, why would a person voluntarily become gay or choose to be gay? It is not a matter of choice. I am not talking about this S & L, well, sado...sadism and whatever the other one is, S & M, S & M, I'm not talking about all of that, I'm not talking about perversion, I'm not talking about insanity or mental illness. I'm talking about a condition which scientists and doctors, medical and psychiatric, are finding a biological explanation for. But regardless of that, we should not tolerate discrimination based on this condition when it comes to employment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Chambers, there are no further lights on. You are recognized to close.