

One of the most common theistic “arguments” I hear against homosexuality is that sexual orientation is a choice, and as such, homosexuals should simply choose to behave more “morally.” While I feel that there are several problems surrounding this logic (what exactly makes homosexuality immoral, etc.), I usually find my attention jumping to the voluntariness of sexual alignment. I somehow just didn’t believe that homosexuals actually *choose* to be so, and find myself full of questions surrounding such a notion. If it is a choice, why did they choose to be homosexual? They are often persecuted for such an alignment, what motivation would there be? Similarly, I do not recall choosing to be heterosexual, why should I assume that anyone chose to be homosexual?

So, I turned to the research, to find what the scientists had to say about the issue. I came across from *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America* found that homosexual men respond neurologically to male pheromones in the same way as do heterosexual women. Homosexual men, heterosexual men, and heterosexual women were all exposed to female pheromones, male hormones, and common odors. All three groups responded the same way with regard to the common odors, but both homosexual men and heterosexual women showed activity in the sexual area of the brain (the anterior hypothalamus) (Savic et al, 2005).

This information would appear to insinuate that sexual preference, therefore, is *not* a choice, but has a neurological basis which is likely just as genetic as is hair color.

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Source:

Savic, et al. (2005). “Brain Response to Putative Pheromones in Homosexual Men.”
Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America. Vol. 102, No. 20 (p. 7356-7361).