

## **Eggs and Sperm and Gay Marriage** **By Barry A. Schleich, Ph.D.**

### **The Miracle**

When a female egg and a male sperm get together they create a brand-new cell which, if all goes well, will produce a new human being. It is at that moment that a new life is created from a part of a female [the mother] and from a part of a male [the father]. This is the way it has always been and this is the way it will be. No matter what happens afterwards, the birth of a baby is predicated on this union between a female and a male human being.

### **The Parents**

Your biological parents are fact. Someone's egg met with someone's sperm to create you. After your birth, you may have a number of individuals that help raise you to adulthood. Typically it is your biological parents, but often it could be anyone responsible for your shelter, food, sustenance, education, love, and safety. Single moms or dads can play this role. Often grandparents take on this responsibility. You may be adopted by loving adoptive parents. Siblings and aunts and uncles often take on this responsibility. So, after birth, there are a myriad of options for people to become your parents or your mentors. Good parents or role models help to protect you and define you and encourage you. It is this heart to heart coupling that prepares you for the world. Sure, this can go awry, but I am not talking about bad parenting here. I am talking about the most nurturing environment for that precious baby. Therefore, many types of people can become your "parents", in fact, and not necessarily are they your biological parents.

### **Society's Responsibility**

Our society respects good parenting although it often and unwittingly puts policies in force that may undermine the basic family unit. Good parents, religious leaders, committed politicians are committed to reinforcing sane values and developing responsible American citizens. All of this does not negate that we all come from one egg from a female and one sperm from a male. Same sex marriages cannot change this fact.

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