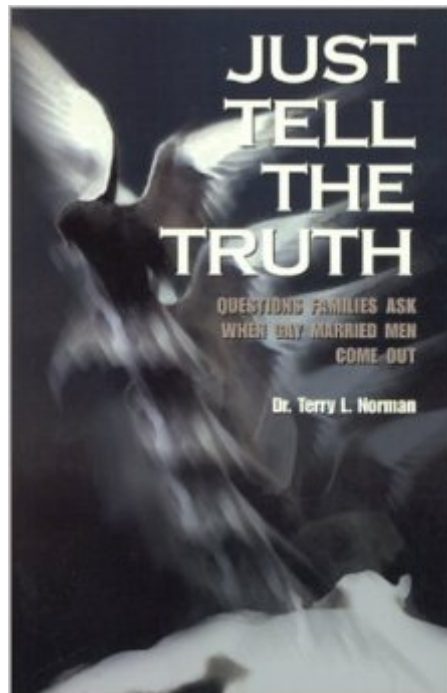


The book was found

Just Tell The Truth: Questions Families Ask When Gay Married Men Come Out



Synopsis

Just Tell the Truth is about the thousands of gay men in America who enter heterosexual marriages, father children, and remain quietly in the closet until the day they voluntarily disclose their true gender orientation. Its purpose is to provide clear, concise answers to the questions families ask when gay married men come out. In a broader sense, however, this book should prove helpful to anyone seeking to understand the journey toward orientational authenticity.

Book Information

Paperback: 175 pages

Publisher: Prehension Pubns; 1 edition (May 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0966479602

ISBN-13: 978-0966479607

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 5.5 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (7 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,561,034 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #115 inÂ Books > Gay & Lesbian > Nonfiction > Coming Out #8647 inÂ Books > Parenting & Relationships > Marriage & Adult Relationships #32812 inÂ Books > Self-Help > Relationships

Customer Reviews

In this honest and deeply personal portrayal, Dr. Norman organizes his book around the questions and answers that family members and friends might have in trying to understand men in their lives who come out after being married. Dr. Norman brings to the table his years of experience and training as a minister, theologian, and practicing psychologist. Having gone through this exact same struggle over the past five years, it was very helpful for me to see that another man had had such similar thoughts and feelings as he struggled to love and accept himself in order to live. He explains the process many men go through and adds his own personal experience both as a gay man who came out after years of hiding in a straight marriage, as well as his years of counseling experience in listening to the stories of others. Anyone interested in hearing what these men think and feel, should read this book. I will recommend it to my friends and family so that they might understand just how hard the past few years have been and so that they might learn that my coming out was literally a choice of life over death.

I think it's easy to dismiss this title because the subject matter is difficult/distasteful for many people. However, for those of us who grew up in church, for those of us who want to make it through the dark passages of our secret lives, for those of us who see no possible way to manage the incongruencies of marriage and homosexual orientation, Terry Norman offers his story. No one in my world wanted to have a candid discussion with me. No one was equipped to compassionately answer my desperate questions. No one, that is, except Terry Norman. I needed this book and found it at the right time. I hope others will find it too.

This book can certainly help family members and friends who are struggling to understand how any man can be gay, on the one hand, and yet marry and father children on the other. But Terry Norman also - probably without meaning to do so! - shows us just how thoroughly self-absorbed, how self-justifying, and how almost completely without true empathy such men are when it comes to the terrible damage their self-serving fraud has caused the woman they married, the children they fathered, and the friends they fooled. Even though Norman pays fast lip service to these issues, acknowledging the pain and the total destruction of trust, that take place when the gay married man comes clean, he veers away from those topics almost immediately. He clearly thinks the pain, the outrage, the suffering of the gay man who married and fathered children is far more important than that of anyone else ... that those victims should merely read his book, get over themselves, and grant the gay man an understanding pass. As is also true about so many gay men / husbands / fathers I've encountered, Norman has misused both the counseling profession and the church in manipulative ways that are truly appalling, and without any true remorse about having done so. All in all, this book is a truly remarkable, right-there-on-the-printed-page demonstration of both how damaged and how dangerous men like Terry Norman actually are to anyone who has ever gotten close to them, trusted them, and been devastated by them.

I probably read 50 different books about coming out and reconciling my spiritual life with new gay life. This book was a tremendous help and comfort to me. The author is so sincere and revealing. He really gives you a glimpse into his inner most heart. I have bought about 6 of these books and given them to friends who were struggling with coming out and dealing with the "Christian" upbringing. They do NOT have to conflict. God is a God of love and healing and this book really helped me so much. Thank you!

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