

YOUR GUIDE TO
UNDERSTANDING
KEY DISCUSSION
POINTS



BELIEF BRIEF



GAYTHER

LIGHT-HEARTED RESPONSES

Lgbtqi+ Edition



"I would rather have questions that can't be answered
than answers that can't be questioned."

RICHARD FEYNMAN, AMERICAN THEORETICAL PHYSICIST

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CONTENT WARNING | The Belief Briefs aim to encourage questioning of established ideas, the use of divisive language, and the provision of alternative perspectives. They are not meant to insult or belittle any faith or belief but to challenge assumptions and promote reflection. If questioning your beliefs makes you uncomfortable or you prefer your truths remain unchallenged, approach with caution.

01 ABOUT THE BELIEF BRIEFS



How often have you seen, heard, or had firsthand experience of someone using outdated rhetoric, selective interpretations of religious scripture, or personal opinions to justify how they speak about others and, more importantly, how they treat you?

Too often, these views and opinions are rooted in fear, misinformation, or limited engagement with the communities involved, all of which can lead to racist, homophobic, or transphobic language and actions that clash with modern societal values and with the principles of compassion, dignity, and humanity found across numerous faiths and cultures worldwide.

Even though many of these opinions may come from far-right groups, extremists, bad-faith actors, or simply uninformed individuals, they are still hard to ignore. If we do not challenge them, these false stories and baseless claims can quickly be accepted as truth, shaping public perceptions of people and influencing how they are treated in everyday life, politics, and society.

The Belief Briefs are here to support and inspire open conversations. They are a collection of downloadable guides covering a wide range of topics, from Christianity to transgender identities. Created to gently challenge assumptions, long-standing opinions, and misinformation, they do so without attacking anyone's faith or personal beliefs. The hope is to foster understanding, encourage critical thinking, and promote open, evidence-based dialogue where everyone can feel heard and respected.

These briefs examine how misinformation, selective interpretation, and historical narratives are often accepted as fact without question. They also show how some people or groups might use long-standing beliefs to support personal, political, or ideological aims.

By using historical background, factual details, and thoughtful reasoning, the Belief Briefs are here to help you better understand tricky topics, spot and challenge misinformation, and join in more meaningful conversations.

Think of the Belief Briefs as a helpful guide for tackling fact-related challenges, encouraging critical thinking, and sharing well-informed views on common beliefs and social stories.

02 CHRISTIANITY



The light-hearted responses are not meant to mock beliefs or believers. They use humour, irony, and gentle satire to highlight common contradictions and inconsistencies in certain arguments used against the LGBTQIA+ community. The aim is not confrontation, but reflection, pointing out where reasoning may become selective or unfounded in a way that's more playful than combative.

EXPLORE THE LIGHT-HEARTED RESPONSES RELATING TO CHRISTIANITY

- 1 If your personal theology rests on six verses out of thirty thousand, maybe the issue is not as clear as you think.
- 2 People quote six verses about gay people and ignore two thousand about greed.
- 3 What God has made clean, you must not call profane (Acts 10:15). This suggests that human boundaries or laws do not limit God's community.
- 4 If the Bible is crystal clear, why do people need three ancient languages and 2,000 years of debate to explain it?
- 5 Nothing says 'plain reading' like arguing over Greek grammar from 2,000 years ago.
- 6 I would agree with you, but then we would both be wrong.
- 7 Calling something an 'unchanging truth' gets awkward when the interpretation keeps changing.
- 8 If Christianity had always been clear on everything, there would not be 40,000 denominations.
- 9 It's Homo sapiens, not Hetero sapiens.
- 10 If we're copying every Genesis relationship, I assume we're also bringing back arranged marriages and 900-year lifespans.
- 11 "Nothing can separate us from the love of God" (Romans 8:38) is often cited as a reminder of the breadth and inclusivity of divine love.
- 12 Ezekiel explicitly details Sodom's sins, yet people still somehow skip the homework.
- 13 If God made humanity in His image and calls people to love one another, it raises an obvious question some people ask in good faith
- 14 If God disapproved of queer people, why would they exist at all?

- 15 Depending on how Leviticus is read, things can get awkward quickly, especially when the same section of scripture is often ignored right after the passages about shellfish or mixed fabrics.
- 16 Jesus was not delivering a comprehensive “social or sexual ethics lecture” on every possible human relationship. In passages often cited in these debates, he responds specifically to a question about divorce, not offering a full taxonomy of relationship types.
- 17 "I am fearfully and wonderfully made" (Psalm 139:13–14) is often read as a reminder that human identity is intentional rather than accidental-that people are not mistakes but valued creations.
- 18 In Matthew 22:37–40, Jesus summarises the law as loving God and loving your neighbour, presenting this as the central ethical framework without listing exceptions for specific modern identity categories.
- 19 Paul also describes men with long hair as "against nature" in 1 Corinthians 11:14, a useful reminder that the phrase "against nature" did not always function as a fixed moral category, as it is often assumed today. In ancient usage, it could mean unconventional, culturally inappropriate, or unexpected rather than universally immoral.
- 20 The Greek word in question is so debated that scholars, linguists, and theologians have discussed it for centuries, and even today it's somehow confidently "solved" in comment sections with remarkable speed and certainty.
- 21 If sex were only for reproduction, someone should probably notify married couples over 50, infertile couples, and anyone who has ever used contraception.
- 22 The idea that "natural" automatically equals "moral" is harder to sustain in practice than it sounds, especially in a world where people say "it's against nature" while wearing glasses, flying in metal aircraft, and relying on modern medicine.

03 ISLAM



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EXPLORE THE LIGHT-HEARTED RESPONSES RELATING TO ISLAM

- 1 People skip the verses about kindness but become overnight scholars on gay people.
- 2 The Qur'an says, 'no compulsion in religion,' yet some people act like morality police.
- 3 The Qur'an warns repeatedly about pride; perhaps certainty about everyone else's sins counts too.
- 4 You cannot preach mercy from God while showing none yourself.
- 5 The Prophet was known for compassion. Internet comment sections... less so.
- 6 Judging others seems far more popular than lowering your gaze.
- 7 If your dawah starts with insults, it is probably not dawah anymore.
- 8 The Qur'an repeatedly condemns oppression. Maybe making people feel hated counts.
- 9 The same people who say 'fear God' rarely fear being cruel,
- 10 Some people talk about LGBTQ people as if they're the 7th pillar of Islam
- 11 Being kind to people has never violated Islam.
- 12 A lot of people are deeply committed to sins they enjoy and deeply outraged by sins they don't.
- 13 People treat LGBTQIA people as the biggest crisis in Islam while ignoring greed, corruption, and injustice.
- 14 'Only God can judge' disappears the moment LGBTQ people enter the conversation

04 JUDAISM



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EXPLORE THE LIGHT-HEARTED RESPONSES RELATING TO JUDAISM

- 1 The Torah has always contained multiple interpretations and layers of debate.
- 2 My existence is not a threat to Judaism's complexity.
- 3 מִיֵּיחַ מִיְהוּא יִרְבֵּד וְלֹא וְלֹא - "These and those are the words of the Living God." There is room for me too.
- 4 Jewish law has always balanced rules with compassion, context, and the preservation of life.
- 5 Pikuach nefesh overrides almost every commandment
- 6 Saving lives matters more than policing mine
- 7 The Talmud recognises human complexity more than many modern people do.
- 8 Judaism endures through machloket - sacred disagreement, not enforced silence.
- 9 Sodom's residents attempted to humiliate strangers violently, but modern debates often jump straight to "two men holding hands."
- 10 The Torah commands joy. I refuse to believe that honesty about who I am separates me from that mitzvah.
- 11 תִּחְמְשׂוּ - "You shall rejoice." I choose joy over shame.
- 12 Compassion is a mitzvah
- 13 Rejection destroys lives; love repairs the world.
- 14 Tikkun olam begins with refusing to break people in God's name.
- 15 The Torah is more than literal words on a page.
- 16 Judaism lives through wrestling, questioning, and human experience.
- 17 The fire at Sinai spoke in many voices. I hear mine there, too.
- 18 Every person is created מִיְהוּא מְלֻצָב - b'tzelem Elohim, in the Divine image.

- 19 Diversity is not a mistake in creation.
- 20 There are 613 mitzvot. Perhaps justice, kindness, and humility deserve more attention than my identity.
- 21 Genesis also says humans were made from dust, yet dermatologists remain strangely popular.
- 22 Abraham's tent was open on every side.
- 23 A covenant grounded in survival should not excuse exclusion. Do not close what our ancestors left open.
- 24 Judaism survived by evolving through argument, interpretation, and adaptation. That tradition did not end with you.
- 25 God judges the heart more than performance.
- 26 I would rather live honestly than perform righteousness for others.
- 27 If your theology requires my humiliation, it is not holy enough.
- 28 הניכש - Shekhinah fills all creation. I do not stand outside it.
- 29 Judaism has survived exile, empires, inquisitions, and thousands of years of internal disagreement. One more debate probably will not destroy it.

05 LGBTQIA+



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EXPLORE THE LIGHT-HEARTED RESPONSES RELATING TO LGBTQIA+

- 1 Rights are won, not gifted.
- 2 History did not start with us, and it does not end with us.
- 3 Being yourself is not a disorder; distress arises when identity is not accepted or supported.
- 4 Serving authenticity since birth.
- 5 Homo sapiens, not hetero sapiens.
- 6 Diversity is what evolution does, and nature loves variation. Nature encompasses a wide spectrum of behaviours and variations
- 7 Equality is not a special privilege.
- 8 Visibility is what progress looks like.
- 9 Equality is not an ideology; it is the principle that rights should apply equally to everyone.
- 10 Born this way, and loving every minute.
- 11 I came out, and all I got was improved mental health.
- 12 Being LGBTQIA+ is not a decision someone makes; it is something they come to understand about themselves over time.
- 13 Love is love, and fabulous is fabulous.
- 14 Be seen. Be known. Be loved.
- 15 Visibility does not create identity; it reveals what has always been there.
- 16 My identity, my rules.
- 17 History did not start with us, and it does not end with us.
- 18 The community deserves more than tolerance.

- 19 Sincere religious belief deserves respect. However, in a pluralistic society, it does not serve as a shared argument applicable to people outside that faith tradition.
- 20 Authenticity is a radical act.
- 21 Be seen. Be known. Be loved.
- 22 Loving marriages enrich society, regardless of who is involved.
- 23 Identity is not a phase; it's a superpower.
- 24 Visibility is what progress looks like, and freedom grows when fear shrinks.
- 25 Love fiercely, live fearlessly.
- 26 Today's controversy is tomorrow's common sense, and no movement succeeds by remaining silent.
- 27 The world becomes bigger when people can be themselves.
- 28 Progress is ordinary people refusing to disappear.
- 29 Transition is not a snap decision; it often involves years of reflection, social transition, medical treatment, legal changes, and significant personal and social consequences. It is not undertaken lightly.
- 30 The future belongs to the visible, and visibility changes attitudes and lives.
- 31 If visibility "converted" people, every child raised in a heterosexual household would automatically be straight; clearly, the data tells a different story.
- 32 Pride is protesting with better outfits.
- 33 Living rent-free in someone's culture war.
- 34 "Why do they have to flaunt it?" is often asked by people who have never had to hide it.
- 35 Evolution produces variation, not uniformity.
- 36 Pride is what grows after shame is removed.
- 37 Nobody tells a left-handed person they're only using their left hand until they decide which hand they really prefer.
- 38 Human sexuality is a spectrum, not a checkbox.
- 39 Your existence expands what others think is possible.
- 40 Telling an asexual person they just have not met the right person is a bit like telling a heterosexual man he just has not met the right man yet.
- 41 We have always been here; we survived invisibility, criminalisation, censorship, and silence, and we are still here.

- 42 If conversion therapy genuinely worked, there would be no need to keep trying it on generation after generation of LGBTQIA+ people.
- 43 There is power in truth, and the future is more inclusive because people refused to disappear.
- 44 If every child needed one mother and one father to grow into a successful adult, then millions of children raised by single parents, grandparents, adoptive families, stepfamilies, and extended family networks would be doomed from the start. Thankfully, reality is far more complicated and far more hopeful.

06 TRANSGENDER



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EXPLORE THE LIGHT-HEARTED RESPONSES RELATING TO TRANSGENDER IDENTITIES

- 1 Gender is a spectrum, not a label.
- 2 If someone else's identity threatens yours, the problem probably is not their identity.
- 3 Gender rules? More like guidelines.
- 4 Made by design, not by mistake.
- 5 If gender is learned, why is your version the only correct one?
- 6 Every generation widens the path.
- 7 For a group that makes up around one per cent of the population, they certainly receive a hundred per cent of some people's attention.
- 8 Apparently, after thousands of years of existence, we only became a "threat" when the headlines needed one.
- 9 Human diversity is a feature, not a bug.
- 10 I stopped translating for others to make them comfortable and instead began speaking in my native language.
- 11 Your identity requires no apology.
- 12 Transitioning was not about putting on a mask; it was finally taking one off.
- 13 I looked in the mirror and saw the person I had been missing my whole life.
- 14 Reality is more complex than a checkbox.
- 15 You cannot argue with the dawn; it arrives exactly when it is supposed to.
- 16 Butterflies do not apologise to the caterpillar.
- 17 Labels describe people; they don't define them.

- 18 Statistically, you are far more likely to trip over a bath mat than to be harmed by a transgender person in a public bathroom
- 19 Transitioning was not about going somewhere new; it was about finally arriving home.
- 20 Nature loves variation.
- 21 Autumn leaves fall so that something entirely new can grow.
- 22 I liked myself so much that I decided to become myself.
- 23 Existing openly is an act of courage.
- 24 Stepping into my truth was not a departure; it was a homecoming.
- 25 The person looking back at me now is the one I was always waiting to meet.
- 26 The spectrum is stronger than the binary.
- 27 It takes a lot of energy to pretend to be someone you're not. It's far easier to live as yourself.
- 28 God made me a draft; I did the final edit.
- 29 We are proof that humanity contains multitudes.
- 30 Some flowers take a little longer to bloom into what they were meant to be.
- 31 My gender reveal party lasted about three years and involved a lot of paperwork.
- 32 My pronouns are try/me.
- 33 Out with the old, in with the bold.
- 34 I did not change the canvas; I removed the layers that did not belong.
- 35 Science discovers diversity; it doesn't invent it.
- 36 Are you sure this isn't a phase? Yes, a permanent one. Like adulthood.
- 37 Why fit into a mould when you are a limited edition?
- 38 Joy is resistance.
- 39 What's your biological gender? Carbon-based.
- 40 I didn't need a permit to build this life, but the government sure made me pay for the paperwork anyway.
- 41 Make love, not binaries.
- 42 If you want something done right, you have to do it yourself.
- 43 Handcrafted and custom-made, not mass-produced.
- 44 Be your own rainbow.
- 45 I didn't change the story; I just corrected the typos in the first edition.
- 46 Nature provided the raw materials. The styling is entirely my own.

YOUR LIFE

YOUR WORLD



GAYTHER

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