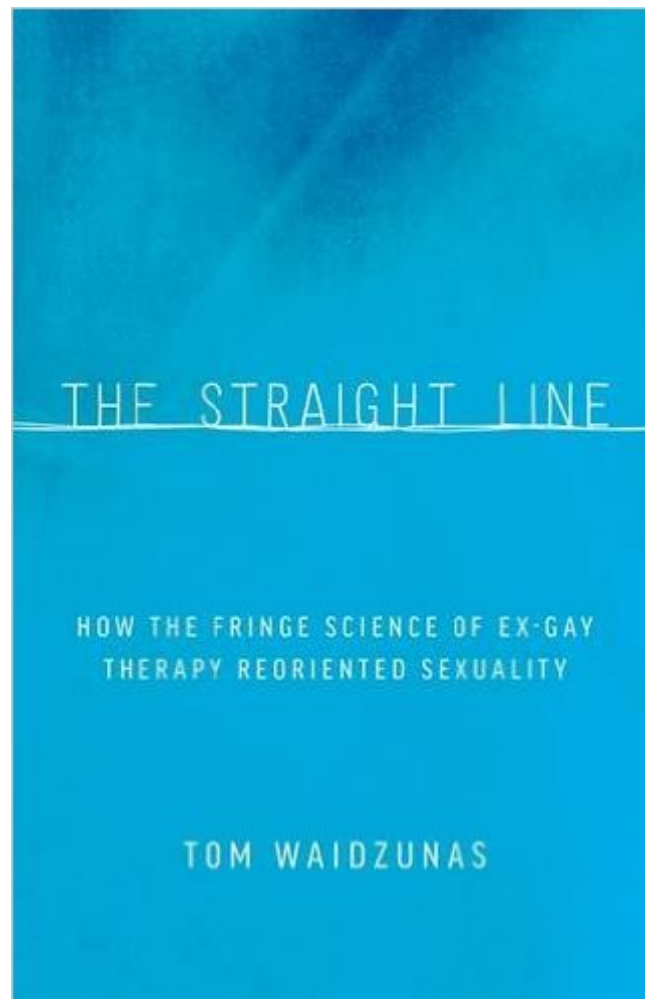


The book was found

# The Straight Line: How The Fringe Science Of Ex-Gay Therapy Reoriented Sexuality



## Synopsis

To be taken seriously, therapies that claim to "cure" homosexuality wrap themselves in lab coats. Even though the fit is bad, and such therapies and their theorists now inhabit the scientific fringe, the science of sexuality has made some adjustments, too, Tom Waidzunas tells us in this provocative work. Intervening in the politics of sexuality and science, *The Straight Line* argues that scientific definitions of sexual orientation do not merely reflect the results of investigations into human nature, but rather emerge through a process of social negotiation between opposing groups. The demedicalization of homosexuality and the discrediting of reparative therapies, ex-gay ministries, and reorientation research have, Waidzunas contends, required scientists to enforce key boundaries around scientific expertise and research methods. Drawing on extensive participant observation at conferences for ex-gays, reorientation therapists, mainstream psychologists, and survivors of ex-gay therapy, as well as interviews with experts and activists, *The Straight Line* traces reorientation debates in the United States from the 1950s to the present, following homosexuality therapies from the mainstream to the margins. As the ex-gay movement has become increasingly transnational in recent years, Waidzunas turns to Uganda, where ideas about the scientific nature of homosexuality influenced the passage of the Anti-Homosexuality Act of 2014. While most studies treat the ex-gay movement as a religious phenomenon, this book looks at how the movement, in its attempts to establish legitimacy, has engaged with scientific institutions, shaping virulent anti-gay public policy.

## Book Information

Paperback: 336 pages

Publisher: Univ Of Minnesota Press (November 16, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0816696152

ISBN-13: 978-0816696154

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.9 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (4 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,522,654 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #500 in [Books > Gay & Lesbian > Nonfiction > Civil Rights](#) #810 in [Books > Gay & Lesbian > History](#) #1538 in [Books > Law > Constitutional Law > Human Rights](#)

## Customer Reviews

Ex-gay/reparative/conversion therapy organisations and practices have been focus of mine for over fifteen years now as I've lead the charge to see an end of these practices in Australia. During this time I've read extensively on the topic both for and against as well as kept up with the endless media frenzies that have occurred with scandals when ex-gay leaders or new research emerged, supposedly proving people can change from gay to straight. I wondered what additional things I could learn from Tom Waidzun's 'The Straight Line'. One thing that stands out immediately is the depth of research the author has gone into to create this work. It's impressive. Following his theme of the changing 'straight line' (when a person is or is not gay) gives a fresh approach as well. Commencing with the mental health professionals approach post war (1948-1972) we are taken on the journey through gay affirmative therapy in tandem with ex-gay organisations and practitioners along with the rise of the ex-gay survivor movement and its impact. One of the things I enjoyed most was the section on Uganda. The proposed Anti-homosexual Bill or the Kill the Gays Bill, as it has become known, is covered in depth. Most LGBT people globally would be aware of this controversy that lingered on for several years (2009-2014). The authors on the ground research in Uganda is invaluable and most of all insightful. Most of us were getting westernised perceptions through the media and gay rights organisations but Waidzun takes us right into the thick of the battle interviewing key players. Most westerners saw this as a human rights issue but as the author reveals it was an historical, political, religious and cultural minefield. Valuable lessons can be learned just from this section.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Straight Line: How the Fringe Science of Ex-Gay Therapy Reoriented Sexuality  
Straight Man Seduced by the Gay Priest (Taken by the Gay Priest 1) (MM, MMM, Menage, Straight-to-Gay, First Time Erotica)  
Fringe Runner (Fringe Series Book 1)  
Fringe Station (Fringe Series Book 2)  
GAY: EROTICA: Straight to GAY - 11 Book MegaBundle of First Time Gay Sex Stories: Bisexual Curious Forced MM Romance Sex LGBT Short Story New Adult Contemporary Cowboy Cheating Taboo Forbidden Spanking the Naughty Stud (Taken by the Gay Priest 2) (MM, MMM, Menage, Straight-to-Gay, First Time Gay Erotica)  
GAY: 13 STORIES OF MAN ON MAN (GAY MM ROMANCE, GAY BDSM, FIRST TIME, MM/MMM MULTIPLE PARTNER, FORBIDDEN TALES, STEAMY TABOO STORIES, ALPHA MALES TOO BIG TO FIT IN, GAY MENAGE THREESOME STORIES)  
Dirty Talk : Secrets For Women and men, Straight, Gay and Bi, Spice Up Your Sex Life and Have Mindblowing Sex: (Sexuality, Intimacy, Sexting, Confidence, Relationship) (Great Sex Book Series 1)  
Art Therapy and Music Therapy Bundle: (Expressive Arts, Movement Therapy, Art Therapy Trauma, Therapy Books)  
Ice Hockey Jocks: First Time Straight To Gay - Locker room

Hazing (First time Gay M/M) The Joy of Gay Sex: An Intimate Guide for Gay Men to the Pleasures of a Gay Lifestyle Speech Therapy for Kids : Techniques and Parents Guide for Speech Therapy (speech therapy, speech therapy materials) Gay, Straight, and the Reason Why: The Science of Sexual Orientation The Dead Straight Guide to The Beatles (Dead Straight Guides) The Straight State: Sexuality and Citizenship in Twentieth-Century America (Politics and Society in Modern America) Caribbean Pleasure Industry: Tourism, Sexuality, and AIDS in the Dominican Republic (Worlds of Desire: The Chicago Series on Sexuality, Gender, and Culture) Sexuality and Disabilities: A Guide for Human Service Practitioners (Monograph Published Simultaneously As the Journal of Social Work & Human Sexuality , Vol 8, No 2) Fringe: September's Notebook Out of the Fringe: Contemporary Latina/Latino Theatre and Performance Fringe-ology: How I Tried to Explain Away the Unexplainable-And Couldn't

[Dmca](#)