Oral Presentation O2.3

# NATURE VERSUS NURTURE: SEXUAL ORIENTATION

Mackenzie Astling, Tim Reardanz and Darryl Brown*
Business Administration, Illinois Wesleyan University

Some people believe that sexual orientation is an occurrence that is linked to the genes, while others believe that it is based on the environment (Nature versus Nurture). This literature review uses a compilation of studies and reviews to show that sexual orientation is not determined solely by Nature or solely by Nurture. Along with scientific evidence to support this theory, there is a background on the history of the Nature versus Nurture model. Also included, is a brief history on different representations of sexual orientation throughout history. First introduced are sources that have a result that suggest that sexual orientation is biologically determined, and then there are sources that link exposure to certain experiences to sexual orientation. Both theories are feasible in situations that are independent from each other and neither can be ruled out completely.