

Abstract

Reasoned from attribution theory, the current study investigated the effects of attributions for the causes of homosexuality on the attitudes toward lesbians and gay men. Results using a Hong Kong college student sample showed that perceived personal controllability over the causes of lesbianism significantly predicted negative attitudes toward lesbians, while perceived stability of the causes of male homosexuality predicted positive attitudes toward gay men. Males' attitudes toward gays were significantly more negative than that of females, yet their attitudes toward lesbians did not differ. Knowing a gay person, being non-religious, and a liberal gender role attitude were also related to more affirmative attitudes toward lesbians and gay men.