

## Talking Points for AB2943

**Main point:** People should have the freedom to pursue what brings true happiness and joy.

**For Churches and People of Faith:** At the heart of many religions is the idea that people can change and find true joy in embracing and living out their faith. Government should protect the right of individuals to practice their faith.

**For Counselors:** Many people find joy in living consistent with their beliefs regarding sexuality and gender.

### **Other important points:**

- People looking for change should be free to find services and resources from counselors, schools, and religious organizations to help them achieve their desired goals.
- Politicians have no business telling people that their counseling goals are illegal.
- By applying to any “transaction,” AB 2943 would prevent a counselor from helping an adult client explore all options to address questions over sexual orientation, an author from selling a book challenging gender identity ideology, and even a church from hosting a ticketed conference addressing issues of sexuality and identity.
- It uses threats of lawsuits and punitive damages under the consumer protection act to punish speaking of views the government doesn’t like.
- Politicians have no business denying people the freedom to find counseling and resources to help them find happiness or to shut down counselors, schools, and religious organization that provide those services.
- Thirty years of research have failed to find a genetic or biological cause for the development of same-sex attractions. There’s no conclusive evidence – no DNA testing, no medical test finding – that science can point to proving someone is homosexual.
- Faith traditions all agree: a person's identity isn't about sexual desires, but about the values a person chooses.