

Analysis on the Theology Research of Homosexuality in Korea

Mi-Ryon Lee*

*Dept. of Nursing, Tongmyong University
428, Sinseon-ro, Nam-gu, Busan, Korea
mrlee1365@naver.com*

Abstract

By analyzing homosexuality-related dissertations for theology degree in Korea, this research aims to understand theology research trend on homosexuality, spread the correct awareness of homosexuality, and become a basic data to develop a program for homosexuals. Using 28 theology dissertations published in Korea from the database in the National Assembly Electronic Library, this research analyzed research design, keywords, specific majors of researchers, and research contents by research design. For research design of theology dissertations on homosexuality in Korea, literature review was the most common as it was used in 25 dissertations, followed by 2 surveys and 1 case study. Next, keywords were divided into sex, religions, and others. In the distribution of researchers' majors, practical theology and systemized theology were the most common. In research content by research design, Christian ethical perspective research was the most common with 8 dissertations, 5 biblical perspective, 4 pastoral counseling perspective, 3 theological perspective, 2 each for legalization of homosexuality and other research, and 1 cultural perspective in literature review research. Although there were few results and dissertations that analyzed theology research on homosexuality in Korea and many studies that repeated similar concepts in a limited research design, broad opinions on homosexuality could be obtained through studies that cited various references related to homosexuality. Based on this research, it is suggested to develop an intervention program for homosexuals that fit the survey on their internal characteristics and the sociocultural elements of Korea in the future.

Keywords: *Homosexuality, Theology, Research*

1. Introduction

1.1 Necessity of Research

In the new era of globalization and information, modern society is experiencing profound changes due to the opening and liberalization of sex along with generation gap and chaos of values [1]. Also, the increase of singles, late marriage, and the tendency of refusing to give birth due to young people's unwillingness have brought low fertility, which has become a huge national problem.

Homosexuality means that one is inclined to a person who has the same sexual orientation and sexual identity as one's own. In other words, homosexuality means sexual interest and appeal to a person with the same sex. Such homosexuality has been discovered since the ancient history of mankind, and has been evaluated as being abnormal or negative. As a result, homosexuals had faced unfair discrimination or violence and had not been able to confidently express their sexual orientation until the 19th century [2].

There are various opinions such as biological, psychoanalytical, and learning theoretical perspectives on the causes of homosexuality, but their opinions do not correspond with each other [3]. Until modern day, various approaches toward

homosexuality had a strong inclination of dealing with it as a subject of treatment, considering that homosexuality originated from mental, psychological, and biological imbalance. However, in the 1970s, the academic world in the West started claiming that homosexuality is not a disease, and by the 1980s the prevailing opinion was that homosexuals should be made to adapt to their given living environments well instead of trying to change their sexual identities [3].

'Homosexuality' was classified as a 'sexual deviant' in the 1st edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders by American Psychiatric Association in 1952, and was deleted from the list of mental disorders in 1974. Then, in the 3rd edition in 1980, it was classified as a disease of 'ego-dystonic homosexuality' and was deleted in 1987 [4].

However, homosexual tendency and behavior should be classified clearly and should be viewed and accepted from a different perspective. Acting on human instinct is not right all the time, and homosexuals' instinctive tendency and attitude they should behave are also clearly different as for homosexual orientation [3]. That is, it is important for one to have the ability to control his or her sexual instinct no matter what the cause of homosexuality is.

Scholars of today are suggesting integrated models that consider inborn factors and acquired factors mutually together, regarding the causes of homosexuality [2].

Homosexuality, which is being sexually attracted to and engaging in a sexual behavior with the same sex, and the attitude and evaluation have appeared differently in many regions and culture of the East and West. In the East, records indicating that homosexuals existed in China and Korea are discovered. However, homosexuality was evaluated as a taboo in the patriarchal culture of Confucianism that is socially maintained in China and Korea. While homosexuality was evaluated as a purer and noble relationship within the Greek-Roman culture of the West, it was evaluated as a negative relationship in the Judo-Christian culture as it did not have a purpose of producing offspring [2].

In Korea, a discourse on homosexuality started from about 1980, and the prevailing awareness was that homosexuality was unethical and negative. However, as homosexuality-related issues have received the attention of society since 2000, it has been addressed by dramas and films as well [5]. Also, homosexuals are sharing much information about their sexual identities through the internet, and are involved in activities such as queer festivals and homosexual youth camps as homosexual organizations have been formed. In addition to that, homosexuality is already explained as 'value neutrality' in middle and high school textbooks [6]. On the other hand, due to a powerful social norm of Confucian culture and the influence of Christianity in Korea unlike the West, homosexuality is considered as a major factor that dismantles families and destroys social justice [7].

Korean society has a negative awareness and evaluation on homosexuality, and such negative awareness is high among people who are older, has stronger religious inclinations, and adheres to traditional gender roles. Due to the negative awareness on homosexuality, homosexuals refused to reveal their sexual orientation to other people and internally abhorred homosexuality themselves. Also, it was investigated that many homosexuals who actually dared to come out or were ostracized by others, experienced unfair discrimination, and violence. Such social atmosphere and negative experiences influenced homosexuals to have low quality of life and mental health compared to heterosexuals, as well as increased suicidal risks [2].

Traditionally, homosexuality was regarded as a psychiatric disorder and a sin, but due to the development of modern science and psychology, homosexual tendency has been perceived as one of the sexual orientations. Recently, with the global trend of advocating homosexuality, some homosexuals in Korea have proudly expressed their sexual orientation, and homosexual groups are demanding a bill that prohibits discrimination for the guarantee of human rights [2]. Due to this problem, homosexual groups and human rights groups are in confrontation with Korea's conservative groups and Christian groups.

These days, Koreans have gone beyond interest in homosexuality, as some middle and high schools in Korea educate students on limiting discrimination against homosexuality and the bill on 'Prohibition of Discrimination against Homosexuality' was passed in the National Assembly in June 2013 [1].

The Bible considers homosexuality as a sin that goes against the creation duty of God, but, many advanced countries in Europe and North America have already been moving toward permitting homosexuality, treating as a problem of human rights [1]. Currently, there are 21 countries that have legalized same-sex marriage throughout the entire world, and 35 countries that allow same-sex marriage institutionally such as couple registration. In contrast, there are 75 countries that punish homosexuals [8].

After the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling of legalizing same-sex marriage nationwide, the awareness on homosexuality is entering a new phase. However, even in this reality, Korean Church has not been able to propose a consensus on homosexuality, and homosexuality researches have not been actively conducted in the theology society in Korean Church. In this situation, the Korean Church and Christianity have reached a point in which they should treat homosexuality with a correct awareness and new alternative.

As a result, by analyzing theology dissertations related to homosexuality in Korea, this research attempts to understand theology research trend on homosexuality, spread the correct awareness on homosexuality, and become a basic data to develop a program for homosexuals.

1.2 Purpose of Research

The purpose of this research is to analyze theology research related to homosexuality by research design, keywords, majors of researchers, and research contents by research design, and understand theology research trend on homosexuality.

2. Research Method

2.1 Research Design

This research is a descriptive survey analyzing theology-related papers from dissertations on homosexuality in Korea.

2.2. Data Collection

By entering 'homosexuality' as the search word on the database of the National Assembly Library, this research selected and analyzed 28 theology dissertations among 122 dissertations published from 1985 to 2015, and searched and collected data from the internet and library resources.

2.3. Data Analysis

Referring to the analysis criterion that Im, *et al.*, [9] used in the analysis of addiction-related nursing research in Korea, this research focused on analyzing research design, keywords, majors of researchers, and research contents by research design.

3. Research Results

3.1 Classification of Research Design

Theology dissertations on homosexuality started to be published from 1997 and increased until 2006. In terms of research period, there was the highest number of researches from 2006 to 2010, as 13 (46.4%). According to the analysis of research

design, literature review was the most common as 25 (89.3%), followed by 2 survey (7.1%) and 1 case study (3.6%).

Table 1. Research Design

Research design	1996 ~2000	2001 ~2005	2006 ~2010	2011 ~2015	n (%)
Survey	1 (25.0)	0 (-)	1 (7.7)	0 (-)	2 (7.1)
Literature Review	3 (75.0)	5 (100.0)	12 (92.3)	5 (83.3)	25 (89.3)
Case Study	0 (-)	0 (-)	0 (-)	1 (16.7)	1 (3.6)
	4 (100.0)	5 (100.0)	13 (100.0)	6 (100.0)	28 (100.0)

3.2. Keywords Related to Homosexuality

Among 28 dissertations, there were only 4 of them that marked keywords. Keywords were randomly selected from the title and table of contents of dissertations that did not present keywords. Keywords were divided and classified into sex, religion, and others.

Table 2. Keywords

Category	Keywords
Sex	Homosexuality, Sex, Love, Hedonism, Legalization of homosexual unions, Sexual determination, Sexual ethics, Eros, Agape, Lesbian, Gay, Queer, Bisexual, Sexual preference, Coming out, Sexual orientation, Gender identity
Religion	Reformed counseling, God image, Old testament, New testament, Reformed theology, Biblical perspective, Moral theological study, Protestant, Pastoral counseling, Gnosticism, 1 Corinthians, Minjung theology, Pastoral care, Christian ethics, Catholicism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Military church, Future church, Future mission, Helmut Thielicke, Heilsgeschichte, Christian culture, World God created, Korea church, Obscene acts, Eschatological event
Others	Suicide, Abortion, War, Violence, Marriage, Family, Soldier, Future society, Information-oriented society, Network, Cyberspace, Fanfic, Fandom, Girl teenager, Idol singer, Cyber culture, Prohibition on discrimination laws, Equal rights, Human right, Adolescence, Prejudice

3.3 Majors of Researchers

When the majors of researchers were analyzed, there were 7 dissertations each (25%) in practical theology and systemized theology, 2 each (7.1%) in pastoral theology, and society and ethics, 1 each (3.6%) in healing ministry, mission theology, and Christianity and culture, and 7 dissertations (25%) marked in theology without a specific major.

Table 3. Major of Researchers

Major of researchers	n (%)
Practical theology	7 (25.0)
Systemized theology	7 (25.0)
Theology without a specific major	7 (25.0)
Pastoral theology	2 (7.1)
Society and ethics	2 (7.1)
Healing ministry	1 (3.6)
Mission theology	1 (3.6)
Christianity and culture	1 (3.6)

3.4 Research Contents by Research Design

Research contents by research design were divided into literature review, survey, and case study for analysis.

There are a total of 25 researches of literature review that have been published consistently since 1997 up to date. The literature review researches were divided into Christian ethics, pastoral counseling, theology, bible, culture, homosexuality legalization, and others to be analyzed and investigated.

In literature review, Christian ethical perspective is the most common with 8 researches (32.0%), 5 biblical perspective (20.0%), 4 pastoral counseling perspective (16.0%), 3 theological perspective (12.0%), 2 each for homosexuality legalization and other research (8.0%), and 1 cultural perspective (4.0%).

The research from a Christian ethical perspective first presented the Christian understanding of homosexuality and described the moral theological understanding of homosexuality. Moral theological understanding of homosexuality is about studying the Bible and the Church's teaching on homosexuality as well as moral theological judgment and the Church's consideration for homosexuality. Some are studying homosexuality from Christian ethical perspective and describing homosexuality on fanfic, and other dissertations were presenting the sexual ethics of German theologian Helmut Thielicket.

There are 5 dissertations that examined homosexuality from a biblical perspective; he creation of humans, love and marriage, and understanding of homosexuality, and studied homosexuality in the Bible through the interpretations of biblical phrases related to homosexuality in the Old and New testaments. Then, they explained homosexuality in World Church Council (WCC), and homosexuality policy in the world's major advanced countries and their measures for homosexuality.

Moreover, there were 4 dissertations from pastoral counseling perspective. They proposed the general understanding, religious stance, and theological perspective toward homosexuality, and described the pastoral counseling toward homosexuality. They emphasized that in terms of pastoral counseling, the proper understanding of homosexuality should be generated and homosexuals should be observed as the subjects of love and acceptance. In proposal, they suggested an education for homosexuality prevention, creative counseling, homosexuality gatherings, and the establishment of healing center for homosexuals.

There were 3 dissertations based on theological perspective research. They proposed a general opinion, historical consideration, and biblical evidence on homosexuality, and

then a theological understanding and alternative on homosexuality. A reformist consideration on homosexuality was addressing topics such as: 'Homosexuals are the ones alienated from true love;' 'Everyone must not be accepted for alienation;' 'Education and caution must be realized;' 'We must have a sense of responsibility toward homosexuals.'

There were 2 researches that studied the legalization of homosexuality. They explained the activities of homosexuals by focusing on the legalization of homosexual union, prohibition of discrimination against homosexuality bill, opposition against the legalization of homosexual-union from the stance of church, and the attitude of Korean Church toward homosexuality.

There were 2 other researches on homosexuality. The dissertation on 'Future Ministry and Mission' was explaining about preach on homosexuality,' while 'Problem of Modern Society and Restoration of God's Image' was suggesting homosexuality as one of the problems of Korean society.

There was 1 research that examined homosexuality from a cultural perspective, and it described homosexuality as culture, Christ as the leader of cultural revolution, and revolution of homosexuality culture as topics.

Among theology dissertations related to homosexuality, there were 2 of them using survey as the research method: a dissertation that studied the healing approach toward homosexual soldiers in military church and a dissertation that investigated Christians' attitude toward homosexuality. These dissertations were presenting the theoretical consideration on homosexuality in introduction.

Among homosexuality-related theology dissertations, there was 1 research using case study. This research presented the conceptual understanding of homosexuality, various theories on the cause of homosexuality, and biblical perspective toward homosexuality in introduction, and studied the case of providing an 8-session counseling for 19-year-old female adolescent concerned with homosexuality.

4. Discussion

There were a total of 28 theology dissertations, among 122 dissertations related to homosexuality searched on the database of National Assembly Library. Theology dissertations started to be published from 1997, and the most number of researches were conducted from 2006 to 2010. The number has been increasing since 2014, and many more researches are expected to be conducted as homosexuality-related laws are currently being controversial throughout the world.

In terms of research design, literature review research is the most common with 25 dissertations, followed by 2 survey, and 1 case study, showing that homosexuality-related theology dissertations is still in the initial stage of research.

In a case study of giving counseling to a female Christian adolescent who was concerned about homosexuality, Park [10] supported the client not to view homosexuality as a sinful life and have true self-image and Christian view of the world, after discovering that she was expressing her own problems as physical symptoms and had a distorted self-image.

Also, while there were various researches in Korea on homosexuality such as literature review research, survey research, case study as well as correlation research, quasi-experiment research, qualitative research, and drama review, theological researches in Korea on homosexuality only involved literature review, survey research, and case study. In the research design of Korean dissertation papers on homosexuality, literature review was the most common as it accounted for 36.9%, followed by survey research at 18% [11].

In order to demonstrate the stance of Korean Church more clearly and address the issue of homosexuality more practically and realistic in homosexuality-related theology

research, it is necessary to carry out various studies such as survey, quasi-experiment research, correlation research, and qualitative research.

Since there were only 4 homosexuality-related theology dissertations that has marked keywords, keywords were randomly selected from the title and table of contents of dissertations that did not present keywords.

Keywords related to 'sex' included 'Homosexuality', 'Sex', 'Love', 'Legalization of homosexual unions', 'Sexual determination', 'Sexual ethics', 'Sexual preference', 'Sexual orientation', 'Gender identity,' etc., and keywords related to 'religion' were 'Reformed counseling', 'God image', 'Reformed theology', 'Biblical perspective', 'Moral theological study', 'Pastoral counseling', 'Christian ethics,' etc. Finally, 'Suicide', 'Abortion', 'War', 'Violence', 'Marriage', 'Family', 'Prohibition on discrimination laws', 'Equal rights', 'Human right,' etc. were used as other keywords.

When the keywords related to homosexuality were classified into sex, religion, and others, researches addressing 'Christian ethics', 'pastoral counseling,' *etc.*, as keywords have been continuously used since the initial research on homosexuality, and keywords such as 'legalization of homosexual union' and 'human rights' have been appearing since 2009. This indicates that the issue of homosexuality has gone beyond the level of Christian ethics and ministry counseling and is related to the fact that legal problems, including anti-discrimination law against homosexuals and legalization of homosexual union, have been brought up as important matters as claims related to homosexuals' human rights have become social issues.

Research that analyzed Korean dissertations on homosexuality demonstrated that keywords related to mental health such as 'Anxiety', 'Self-esteem', 'Stress', and 'Depression' were suggested besides the keywords related to sex and religion [11].

Although most dissertations did not put keywords, dissertations covering various keywords were being examined. A researcher should carry out a research to expand the existing research based on research results or theories integrated to the existing research. However, as many theology dissertations related to homosexuality repeat similar concepts without considering the results of existing research, there is a lack of close connections among research results. Thus, it is expected that the existing research results are expanded or researches covering new concepts increase.

According to the analysis of dissertations on homosexuality in Korea, theology was the most common major of researchers at 23%, followed by sociology at 5.7% and counseling psychology at 4.9% [11].

When the specific majors of researchers were examined, practical theology and systemized theology were the most common with 7 dissertations for each, and there were 7 theology dissertations that did not mention specific majors.

Researchers with practical theology major studied the 'Problem of Modern Society' and 'Restoration of God's Image,' education and treatment method on homosexuality, the stance and attitude of Catholic Church toward the legalization of homosexual unions, homosexual research as an ending phenomenon, and understanding of homosexuality and pastoral care.

As a homosexuality education plan from theological perspective, Kang [12] emphasized that an education on the nobility and mysteriousness of sex and youth education on biblical sexual ethics are needed, and that actual help should be provided to homosexuals as they also deserve to receive the love of God.

In a research called 'The Problem of Modern Society and Restoration of God's Image,' Moon [13] explained that the cause of the social problems of today can be found from the distorted image of God. He added that while human before committing a sin could live with the whole image of God and by reflecting God's glory, human lost righteousness, truth, and divinity that are the images of God by committing sin and breaking the relationship with God. These resulted in social problems such as suicide, abortion, and homosexuality.

Among the studies in practical theological major, 'Study on Homosexuality as an Eschatological Event' discussed that while homosexuality obviously is a sin from the theological perspective, homosexuals also become the subjects of evangelization and salvation if they change their sexual orientation and strive. This study then emphasized that the church mind should be understanding and tolerant of homosexuality [14].

In 'The Catholic Attitude toward the Legalization of Homosexual Unions,' Lee [15] clearly pointed out that all members of church approach the legalization of homosexual unions to fit collective and individual characteristics, and that the legalization of homosexual unions cannot be approved by the teachings of Christ, which are justice, love, and conscience. At the same time, he emphasized the dignity of homosexuals and the necessity of protecting their human rights.

'Understanding of Homosexuality and Pastoral Caring' took a stance that homosexuality is a sin in terms of Bible, but homosexuals should be viewed from the perspective of healing duty and be accepted with a belief that they can definitely be cured [16].

In systemized theology major, homosexuality study from biblical perspective, understanding of homosexuality and moral theological study in Korean society, homosexuality from civil theological perspective, and moral theological study on pastoral care of homosexuals were included.

A research titled 'Understanding and Moral Theological Study on Homosexuality in Korean Society,' emphasized that the Korean Catholic Church should start the pastoral cure of homosexuals as soon as possible to embrace them as the mother [2].

By focusing on the problem of homosexuality and ethical evaluation on homosexuality from the teachings of Catholic Church, Park [17] conducted a moral theological study on the pastoral cure of homosexuals. This study stressed that since the correct awareness on the truth of Bible can lead to the accurate recognition of one's own behaviors, homosexuals should recognize their sexual orientations and behaviors properly; the cure on homosexuals is carried out easily when there is a correct awareness of sexual identity.

Among theological papers that did not mention specific majors, there was a research related to 'A Study of Homosexuality from Christian Ethical and Cultural Consideration.' This dealt with homosexuality as a cultural code, explaining that homosexuality is for an individual to choose and enjoy like other cultures. This study argued that while early homosexuality culture was used as a means for homosexuals to express and represent their human rights and stance, homosexuality was becoming a problem as it was spread rapidly through mass media and was accepted indiscreetly by young students, who lacked the ability to judge. As an alternative to this problem, Richard Nibuhr described the alternative of church through the relationship of Christianity and culture in "Christ & Culture" [18].

There were 2 dissertations in pastoral theology major, which examined the reformist stance on homosexuals or made a pastoral counseling approach to homosexuality. While homosexual orientation is not a sin from the perspective of pastoral care, the behavior due to homosexuality is a sin so it must be healed through pastoral care; church must embrace homosexuals with a belief that they can be healed [16].

In society and ethics major research, a research on Christian ethics of homosexuality in fanfic and Christian ethics research on homosexuality were performed by German theologian Helmut Thielicket. Kim [19] organized human duplicity toward sex, sex as passions, essence of sex, and the concept of Agape and Eros by focusing on German theologian Thielicket's sexual ethics, and explained that Thielicket viewed the issue of homosexuality from a redemptive perspective. 'Christian Ethical Study on Homosexuality in Fanfics' argued fanfics strongly tended toward homosexuality so that they can have a negative influence on the formation of adolescents' sexual identity [20].

Healing ministry major studied the healing approach toward homosexual soldiers in military church, whereas mission theology major conducted a research on the ministry

and mission of future. Lee [21] described in 'Ministry and Missionary of Future' research about the characteristics of future society as well as the characteristics and ministry of future church; he also emphasized that pastors should deliver a sermon on the expansion of sin problem and homosexuality, while the church should get rid of homophobia and accept that homosexuals were also created in the image of God.

Finally, the dissertations by Christianity and Culture major were on Christian ethical reflection about homosexuality and the anti-discrimination law, by focusing on the anti-discrimination law submitted by 10 members of the National Assembly such as Hoi-chan No on January 28, 2008. This research addressed that the prohibition of discrimination against homosexuality bill regards homosexuality as a proper sexual behavior and prohibits people from opposing or rejecting homosexuality even though it is not a right sexual behavior; thus it clarifies that the bill has a problem as it is for the rights and interests of homosexuals who are minorities, instead of the interests of the most public [3].

The Old Testament stated that man and woman who were created in the image of God became one through sexual intercourse (marriage), and that growing and prospering through sexual union with each other are God's blessing. God has a firm response on homosexuality. For example, he warned in the Old Testament that 'Do not have sexual relations with a man as one does with a woman; that is detestable' (Leviticus 18:22). The Bible treated idolatry as an evil and detestable deed, and regarded homosexuality as the same type of sin [3].

However, homosexuals, who argue that their sexual orientation is uncontrollable and is not a choice, have held many different movements against the discriminations they faced because of their sexual orientation. More than anything else, what they intended to attain through systematic and organized movements based on their human rights were the elimination and amendment of legal provisions that opposed their behaviors as well as basic legal rights that would admit their behaviors. This is because they believe that they can not only be protected legally against their discriminated situations but also they can legitimize their behaviors, through such basic legal rights [3].

Society goes on around culture, and economy, society, and politics are understood and interpreted within the frame of culture [18]. The propagation of internet and the development of mass media have poured out obscene and corrupt culture. Homosexuals are also in the shape of God and are the subjects of God's love. With a sense of responsibility toward them, homosexuals should be perceived as the subjects who need salvation and recovery [22].

The advocates of homosexuality claim that references to homosexuality in the Old and New Testaments should be interpreted by connecting to the 'period of writing them down.' It is that they cannot agree with applying the Bible to the current situation without considering the historical, cultural, and religious characteristics at the time. However, those who oppose homosexuality based on the traditional interpretation of the Bible argue that the Bible's evaluation on homosexuality is not relative. They clarify that the Bible's stance toward homosexuality is an absolute norm through accurate analysis and historical investigation [23].

In regards to homosexuality, the Korean Church perceives as a sin against the order of creation according to the traditional biblical interpretation, and claims that homosexuality should be approached with love while observing the principle about it [24].

The limitation of this research is that it could not include more various dissertations from other search sites as it only analyzed the dissertations from the database of the National Assembly Electronic Library through internet search. It is necessary to collect more data by expanding to the dissertations, journals, books, and internet articles of other search sites in order to generalize the results of this research.

5. Conclusion

This research attempts to understand theology research trend on homosexuality, spread the correct awareness on homosexuality, and be used as basic data to develop a program for homosexuals' healthy life, by analyzing theology dissertations related to homosexuality. There have been only a few and not various types of theology researches on homosexuality so far. Since the first publication of dissertation in 1997, there have been 2~3 researches on homosexuality a year, but with rising interest toward it, homosexuality seems to be a research area that needs more attention from now on to meet the demand of the times.

The most common form of research was literature review followed by survey and case study, so there were limited types of research design. Also, homosexuality-related keywords varied compared to the number of dissertations, but as there were many researches that repeated similar concepts, much attention is needed to establish various research designs that address more various concepts in the future. In addition, since most dissertations did not clearly state keywords, they are expected to be clarified later.

Next, practical theology and systemized theology majors were the most common in the specific majors of researchers, and there was no enough research in other majors. It is considered more in-depth and broader theological opinions on homosexuality can be obtained if homosexuality-related researches are carried out widely within various majors of theology.

What is more important than examining the cause of homosexuality and standing for or against homosexuality is respecting homosexuals as a noble human being and focusing on what they need the most for them to perceive themselves and live a healthy life realistically. Also, the issue of homosexuality should not be handled for the interests of a certain political or commercial group but rather be regarded as an issue of our neighbors and family, and the consideration for health and happiness should be expressed.

Taking a laissez-faire attitude toward the issue of homosexuality in Korean society, for the sake of respecting the human rights of homosexuals, will not only breakup the sexual ethics of Korean society but also have a huge impact on health problem, family, and society. Korean society should take a lesson from European countries that are already experiencing chaos due to the homosexuality issue. Homosexuals can lead a healthier life through counseling and healing. Enabling homosexuals have the right awareness on sex and live a healthy and happy life is the responsibility of all citizens.

In order to achieve this, it is suggested to develop an intervention program for homosexuals in the future research to understand and help them by correctly perceiving their internal characteristics, based on various academic researches on homosexuality.

References

- [1] Y. K. Yang, "A Study of Homosexuality from the Biblical Perspective", Master's thesis, Kwangshin University, Kwangju, (2014).
- [2] S. J. Woo, "A Moral Theological Study on Homosexuality in Korean Society", Master's thesis, Catholic University, Bucheon, (2014).
- [3] J. Y. Kim, "Christian Ethical Reflection of Homosexuality and Prohibition on Discrimination Laws", Master's thesis, Presbyterian University and Theological Seminary, Seoul, (2010).
- [4] H. S. Kang, "The Effect of High School Student's Perception of Parental Child-Rearing Attitude on Their Attitude toward Homosexuality: The Mediating Effect of Authoritarian Personality", Master's thesis, Chung-Ang University, Seoul, (2014).
- [5] E. Han, "A Frame Analysis of News Coverage on Homosexuality Examining Three Korean Majors Dailies: Kuymun, Chosun, Hankyor", Master's thesis, Chung-Ang University, Seoul, (2013).
- [6] S. J. Lee, "The Catholic Attitude to the Legalization of Homosexual Unions", Master's thesis, Daejeon Catholic University, Daejeon, (2009).
- [7] S. K. Lee, "A Psychoanalytical Study on the Ego-Dystonic Homosexuality", Master's thesis, Westminster Graduate School of Theology, Yongin, (2007).
- [8] <http://article.joins.com/opinion/debate.asp?seqNum=92>.
- [9] S. B. Im, J. E. Lee and S. Yang, "An Analysis of Nursing Research on Addiction in Korea", *Journal of Korean Academy Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing* (2007), vol. 16, no. 1, pp. 14-22.
- [10] S. M. Park, "A Reformed Counseling Theological Study on Homosexuality", Master's thesis,

- Kwangshin University, Kwangju, (2012).
- [11] M. R. Lee, "Analysis on Research of Homosexuality in Korea", Advanced Science and Technology Letters (Healthcare and Nursing), Proceedings International Workshop Healthcare and Nursing, vol .104, (2015) August 19-22, pp. 83-88, Jeju, Korea.
- [12] J. S. Kang, "Education and Counseling on Homosexuality", Master's thesis, Mokwon University, Daejeon, (2006).
- [13] T. G. Moon, "Problem of Modern Society and Restoration of God's Image", Master's thesis, Kyeyak Graduate School of Theology, Gwangju, (2012).
- [14] B. Y. Lee, "Study on Homosexuality as an Eschatological Event", Master's thesis, Sahmyook University, Seoul, (2009).
- [15] S. J. Lee, "The Catholic Attitude to the Legalization of Homosexual Unions-Focused on Korea Catholic Church", Master's thesis, Daejeon Catholic University, Daejeon, (2008).
- [16] B. G. Lee, "Understanding of Homosexuality and Pastoral Caring", Master's thesis, Mokwon University, Daejeon, (2002).
- [17] K. S. Park, "A Study on the Pastoral Care of Homosexual Persons in Moral Theology - According to the Issue of Homosexuality and Moral Evaluation of Homosexual Acts in the Teaching of the Catholic Church", Master's thesis, Catholic University, Seoul, (1997).
- [18] H. Yun, "Christian Ethics and Cultural Review on Homosexuality", Master's thesis, Presbyterian University and Theological Seminary, Seoul, (2014).
- [19] Y. P. Kim, "A Study on Homosexuality in the Perspective of Christian Ethics – Focusing Sexual Ethics of Helmut Thielicke", Master's thesis, HyupSung University, Hwaseong, (2009).
- [20] J. Y. Hong, "A Christian Ethical Study on the Homosexuality Shown from Fanfic", Master's thesis, HyupSung University, Hwaseong, (2009).
- [21] T. H. Lee, "Future Pastoral and Mission", Master's thesis, Youngnam Theological University and Seminary, Gyeongsan, (2007).
- [22] J. Y. Chung, "Biblical Evidence and Pastoral Approach on Homosexuality", Master's thesis, Hapdong Theological Seminary, Suwon, (2002).
- [23] Y. J. Ann, "Debate of Homosexuality on the Korea Church", Master's thesis, Kosin University, Busan, (2006).
- [24] J. S. Shin, "Pastoral Counseling Approach of Homosexuality", Master's thesis, Presbyterian University and Theological Seminary, Seoul, (2005).

Authors



Mi-Ryon Lee, February 2009: Ph. D in Nursing, Kyungpook National University, Daegu, Korea, March 2011~ February 2014: Assistant Professor, Kaya University, Gimhae, Korea, March 2014~ : Assistant Professor, Tongmyong University, Busan, Korea
Major : Psychiatric Nursing, Interested area: Mental Health, Enneagram
E-mail : mrlee1365@naver.com

