**Thesis: Many biological factors prove that homosexuality is indeed genetic, not a choice.**

**Model Counterargument**

Granted, sometimes homosexuality is a choice because some heterosexual teenagers display homosexual behavior. Some teenagers are influenced by the media’s “glamorous” portrayal of homosexuality as a way to be an “individual” and therefore “choose” homosexuality. On the hunt for their own identity, some teens do indeed choose to “change” their sexuality as a way to easily gather attention. However these homosexual acts are usually bisexual instead of completely homosexual and manifest in little more than same-sex kissing in order to claim the perceived “glamorous” homosexual status. However, these acts are not indicative of true homosexuality; many teens are just unsure of their sexuality at this point. They are just trying it out, so to speak. For example, Mercer University psychology professor Dr. William J. Jenkins, author of *“Can anyone tell me why I'm gay? What research suggests regarding the origins of sexual orientation,”* states

Because puberty is associated with increased sexual urges, it has been hypothesized that homosexuality results when an individual reaches puberty at an early age when there is no access to heterosexual outlets. Instead, these early ‘bloomers’ are surrounded by same-sex stimuli with which they might engage in sex play, thereby associating sexual pleasure with homosexual experience.

This quote means that teenagers are more likely to engage in homosexual experiences because they are dealing with surging hormones and surrounded by peers of the same sex. Therefore, some adults believe that these acts support the ideology that homosexuality is based on the choice because the teen chooses to act on sexual urges in conjunction with environmental stimuli, or same-sex peers. Many adults believe that these teens will continue to “choose” to be gay as they enter adulthood. Ironically, it has been proven that homosexual behavior during adolescence helps many teenagers ground themselves in their heterosexuality just as much, or maybe more, than helping teenagers decide that they are homosexual. Therefore, this proves less that these teens are choosing to be homosexual and more that they are figuring out their sexuality as they deal with urges due to hormones. Furthermore, though these adolescent homosexual acts do help teens assert their sexuality, they do not necessarily indicate that the teen is homosexual. For teens who are truly homosexual, though, these urges appear much earlier in their lives, supporting that homosexuality is due to nature, not nurture.

**Model Argument**

Because homosexuality is evident in young children, not just as teens or adults, homosexuality is more likely to be genetic than a choice. According to The Advocates for Youth, an online non-profit that promotes and protects rights for people of any sexual orientation, “Homosexual individuals have reported that they were aware from a very early age of their gender nonconformity and erotic attraction to towards the same sex” (“Gay, Lesbian”). Since homosexuals are aware of their homosexuality long before hormones are even a factor, homosexuality must be genetic because a young child would not know that homosexuality is even a lifestyle choice. Also, the quote states that young children are “aware…of their gender nonconformity.” This phrase indicates that homosexuality is due to nature because the young children are aware that they are different from the norm as indicated by the word “nonconformity.” Pre-teens are typically obsessed with being “normal,” with fitting in with their friends. Being different often means social suicide for these young children. Therefore, these urges are not a choice due to the environment; if anything, these children would do their best to hide their “gender nonconformity.” The only explanation for this early evidence of homosexuality is genetics.

**Works Cited**

"Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning (GLBTQ) Youth." *Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual,*

*Transgender and Questioning (GLBTQ) Youth*. Advocates for Youth, 2010. Web. 09 Dec. 2012.

Jenkins, William. "Can Anyone Tell Me Why I'm Gay? What Research Suggests regarding the

Origins of Sexual Orientation." *North American Journal of Psychology* 12.2 (2010): n. pag. *Cengage Learning*. Gale, June 2010. Web. 9 Dec. 2012.