## Professionals for Fact Based Public Policy 18631 N. 19<sup>th</sup> Ave., Ste. 158, Box 428 Phoenix, AZ 85027

Floyd Godfrey, MAPC, author of *A Young Man's Journey* struggled for years with unwanted same sex attraction. Fortunately, he found an individual who really understood the issues underlying same sex or homosexual attraction and was able to get the help he so earnestly, even desperately sought.

Since then he has married his wife Kaleen. They have been married for more than twenty years and have three children.

With the wisdom that comes from his own experiences, mentors, and years of working with many hundreds of clients who experience unwanted homosexual attraction, Floyd Godfrey has written a widely acclaimed workbook on the subject for those wanting to better understand themselves, diminish their homosexual attraction, and increase their heterosexual attraction. In the process he shares his own troubled upbringing and the various factors that led to his unwanted homosexual attraction.

Floyd has spoken to international audiences, and has by invitation had the honor as a therapist of speaking at the United Nations in New York.

From his willingness to share his own feeling while growing up, and his kind and empathic comments, one can clearly see that counseling those with unwanted homosexual attraction can be nurturing and supportive as it helps young males make sense of their past and current feelings.

The CDC has documented that 1 in 6 boys experience childhood sexual abuse by the age of 18. In a large study of same sex attracted men and women "forty-six percent of the homosexual men reported (having experienced) homosexual molestation." Tomeo, PhD, et al, Arch of Sex Beh, 2001. As a result of this sexual abuse, significant numbers of these boys go on to develop an unwanted same sex attraction. A ban on SOCE therapy for all youth with homosexual attraction will rob these innocent victims of their hope for healing. Please do not condemn these innocents to suffer more than they already have as dealing with sexual abuse wounds is part of SOCE therapy for those who need it. Please read Mr. Godfrey's book. Do not prevent ethical and nurturing therapists like him from saving children's lives.

## Respectfully,

K. Benzio, MD; M. Breaux, PhD; M. Cretella, MD; A. Duk, MD; E. Fox, D.Phil; S. Quick, MD; J. Raney, MD; A. Van Mol, MD; R. Yost, LMFT