

How **Gay** Are Your genes?

The “gay gene” debate, some facts:

- There is no such thing as a gay gene. It does not exist.
- There have been various scientific studies into the subject; however, the sexuality of fruit flies is studied more than human sexuality.
- The most famous and controversial study was conducted and the results published in July 1993, by the US scientist Dean Hamer,
- Hamer studied twin gay men and found, by looking at their family trees, that a higher incidence of other gay relatives occurred in their family trees when compared to those family trees of heterosexual brothers.
- More controversially Hamer claimed he had found an “interesting marker” on chromosome 28. A marker that would require more research and study.
- Hamer never claimed he’d found a gay gene, however, the media jumped on the story and misrepresented the research, using the convenient headline of “gay gene” when no such gene had been found.
- Behavioural geneticists all agree that human sexuality is diverse and complex and that homosexuality, like heterosexuality, is just a variation of human sexual behaviour.