

Coming Out Lesbian and Catholic

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This paper is a qualitative study to discuss and assess the impact of being raised Catholic on the lesbian coming out process. Women who identify themselves as both lesbian and Catholic often describe these two realities as incongruent. They experience tension between their beliefs and sexual orientation. To study this in greater depth, data will be collected using a random, yet convenient sample that includes five women of diverse ages, backgrounds, cultures, and socio-economic status. The research group will both identify themes and use coding to analyze and draw conclusions after all data have been collected. Portions of narrative will be included as well as an analytic comparison of the coding results of each of the five participants.