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HAMER HAMMERED BY NEW SCIENTIFIC STUDY, FRC SAYS

"Science confirms what I've seen in my own life as well as in the lives of thousands of others who have left the homosexual lifestyle," Cantu says

WASHINGTON, D.C. — "Scientists are finally telling us what we've always known. There is absolutely no scientific proof of a 'gay gene,'" said Family Research Council Policy Analyst Yvette Cantu Thursday.

A study conducted in 1993 by openly "gay" activist and researcher Dr. Dean Hamer of the National Cancer Institute examined the X chromosomes of 40 pairs of homosexual brothers. The study, which appeared in the March 1993 issue of the journal *Science*, found that 33 of the pairs of brothers had genetic markers for male homosexuality.

A new study attempting to replicate Hamer's was released today by the same *Science* magazine, discrediting the 1993 study. The study conducted by scientists from the Department of Clinical Neurological Sciences at the University of Western Ontario and the Department of Genetics at Stanford Medical School concluded that "data do not support the presence of a gene of large effect influencing sexual orientation."

The *Boston Globe* reported in February that the media-ballyhooed "gay gene" theory was already in trouble. The *Globe* article featured the findings of Dr. Richard Pillard, a professor of psychiatry at Boston University's School of Medicine, whose twin studies showed "that sexuality is greatly influenced by environment, and that the role of genetics is, in the end, limited."

"These findings confirm what I've seen in my own life as well as in the lives of thousands and thousands of people who have left the lifestyle," said Cantu. "I am living proof that homosexuality is not an immutable characteristic. Hamer himself has said that lesbianism is 'culturally transmitted, not inherited. ... It's more environmental than genetic, more nurture than nature.' Will these recent studies force Hamer to concede that male homosexuality is also not a matter of genetics but of environment?"

"This new study reveals that Hamer's activism got in the way of his ability to remain unbiased about his research," said Cantu. "'Gay'

activists have used Hamer's research to promote everything from 'gay' marriage to 'hate crimes' legislation. However, *Science's* study further undermines any attempt to change public policy in his name."

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