

RESEARCHING PAUL McHUGH AND GENDER

Regarding Paul McHugh, I turned away from Google, and went back to my roots as a professional, a scholar, and an academician, and instead turned to the primary library database used by academics to find journal articles.

EBSCOhost: Founded in 1944, EBSCO Information Services is one of the main searchable databases that professionals in many areas (academic, medical, corporate) use to search scholarly journals, full-text articles, magazines, e-books and more.

The factors I tracked in reading these articles are as follows:

- PERSPECTIVE: Endorsing or challenging McHugh's perspective on gender issues.
- PERIODICAL FOCUS: Newspaper, Magazine, Religious, Scientific and/or Scholarly.
- REFEREED/REVIEWED/SCHOLARLY: In the academic, medical, and other fields, articles that appear in refereed journals are considered to be more scientifically valid than those that do not.
- These are journals where "articles are written by experts and are reviewed by several other experts in the field before the article is published in the journal in order to insure the article's quality. (The article is more likely to be scientifically valid, reach reasonable conclusions, etc.) In most cases the reviewers do not know who the author of the article is, so that the article succeeds or fails on its own merit, not the reputation of the expert."
(<http://www.angelo.edu/services/library/handouts/peerrev.php>)
- REFERENCE LIST/BIOGRAPHY: A reader should be able to easily track down any studies that are referenced in an article, so that they can read it first-hand if they choose, rather than depend entirely on the interpretation of the author of the article. If there are no references, the article is an opinion piece.

1. Search Terms: I conducted a search through EBSCOhost for 'Paul McHugh' and 'gender'. This search produced nine articles either by McHugh or referencing him. I list them in the order in which they appeared in the search list, which is most recent to least recent (with some exceptions).
 - a. Four articles by McHugh.
 - i. These articles included the following:
 1. "Sexuality and Gender" in New Atlantis: A Journal of Technology & Society from 2016.
 2. "Surgical Sex" in First Things: A Monthly Journal of Religion & Public Life from 2004.
 3. "Transgender Surgery Isn't the Solution" in Wall Street Journal from 2014. This is the hardcopy version.
 4. "Transgender Surgery Isn't the Solution" in Wall Street Journal from 2014. This is the online version.
 - ii. Periodical Focus: Two of these journals are Christian-focused journals. They are not scientific journals. These two journals are "New Atlantis" and "First Things."
 - iii. None of these sources is a refereed journal, as far as I could discover – thus, they cannot be considered scientific or scholarly.

- iv. None of these three articles include a reference list or bibliography – thus they are opinion pieces.
- b. Five articles referencing McHugh.
 - i. These articles included the following:
 1. “Born This Way” in Scientific American from 20116.
 - a. This article **challenges** McHugh’s perspective.
 - b. Periodical Focus: This is a magazine.
 - c. Not a refereed journal – thus not scientific or scholarly.
 - d. No reference list or bibliography – thus, an opinion piece.
 2. “Surgical Fantasy” in Touchstone: A Journal of Mere Christianity from 2016.
 - a. This article **endorses** McHugh’s perspective.
 - b. Periodical Focus: This is a Christian-focused journal. It is not a scientific journal.
 - c. Not a refereed journal – thus not scientific or scholarly.
 - d. No reference list or bibliography – thus, an opinion piece.
 3. “Feeling the Transgender Experience” in Journal for Biblical Manhood & Womanhood from 2016.
 - a. This article **endorses** McHugh’s perspective.
 - b. Periodical Focus: This is a Christian-focused journal. It is not a scientific journal.
 - c. McHugh is listed in “Subjects” in the EBSCOhost results, but not in the text of the article.
 - d. Not a refereed journal – thus not scientific or scholarly.
 - e. No reference list or bibliography – thus, an opinion piece.
 4. “Views about Transgendered That Are Stuck in the Past” in Wall Street Journal from 2014.
 - a. This article was written in response to McHugh’s article, “Transgender Surgery Isn’t the Solution” (1.a.i.3. above)
 - b. It prints responses from four professionals in the field.
 - i. Three of these professionals **challenge** McHugh’s perspective, one of them **endorses** it.
 - ii. It is unclear if this proportion of 3:1 was intended to approximate the proportions of actual responses WSJ received about the article, or if WSJ chose to print responses with an anti-McHugh slant.
 - c. Periodical Focus: This is a newspaper. It is not a scholarly or scientific journal.
 - d. Not a refereed journal – thus not scientific or scholarly.
 - e. No reference list or bibliography – thus, an opinion piece.
 5. “The sex-change boom” in U.S. News and World Report from 2001.
 - a. This article **endorses** McHugh’s perspectives from 1992 and the late 1970’s.

- b. Periodical Focus: This is a magazine. It is not a scholarly or scientific journal.
- c. Not a refereed journal – thus not scientific or scholarly.
- d. No reference list or bibliography – thus, an opinion piece.