

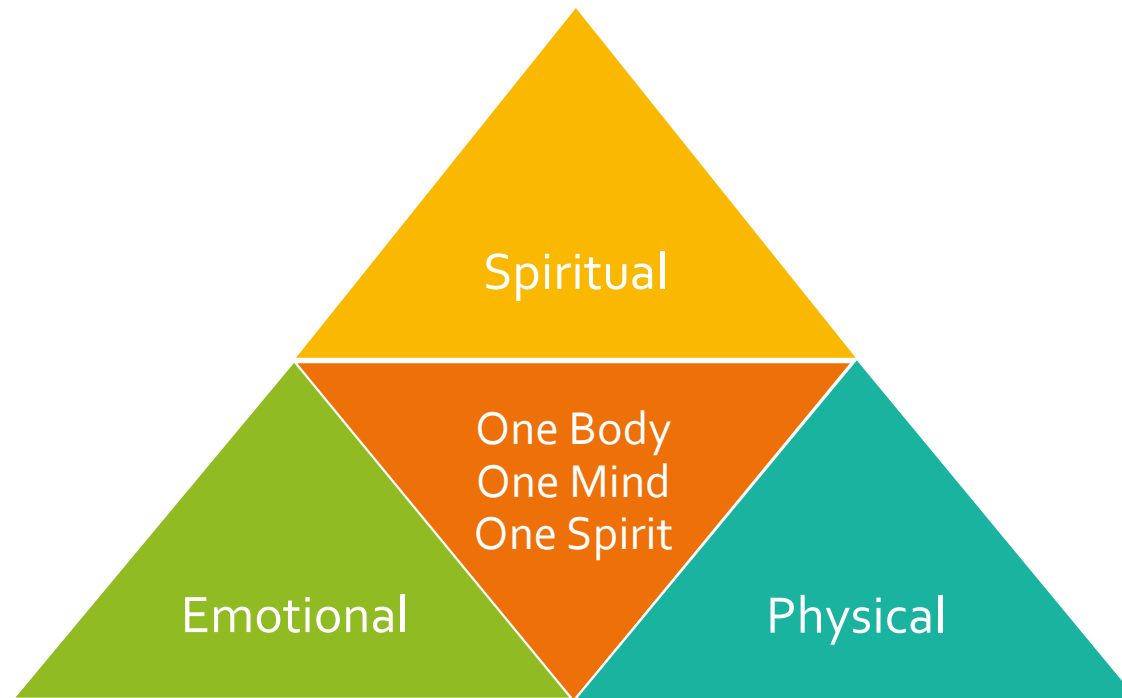
Addressing gender identity and same-sex attraction in modern day society

March 20, 2022



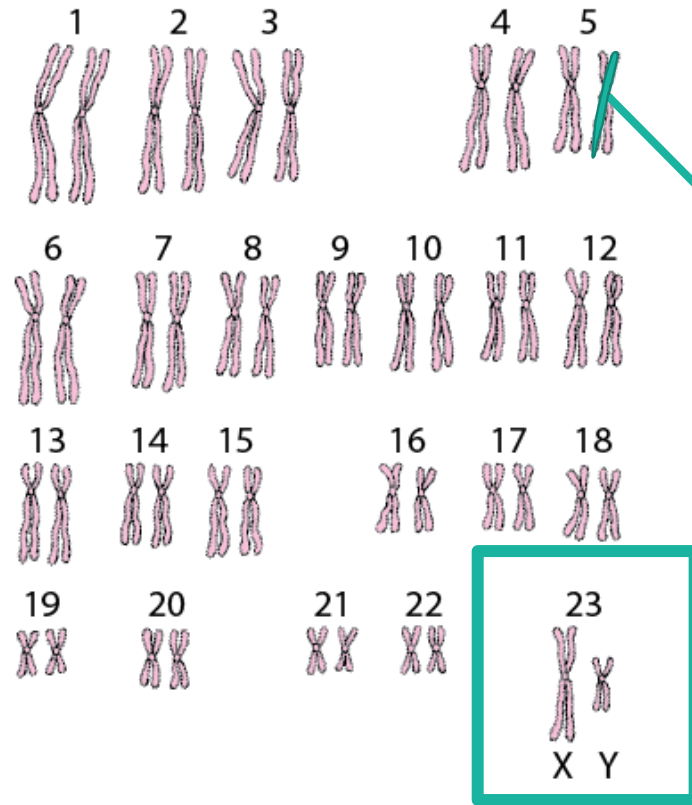
Defining and Aligning our Perspectives

- **Sex:** Biological attributes which we are born with; male or female.
- **Gender Identity:** an individual or society's perception of his or their sexuality which may or may not differ from their **Sex**



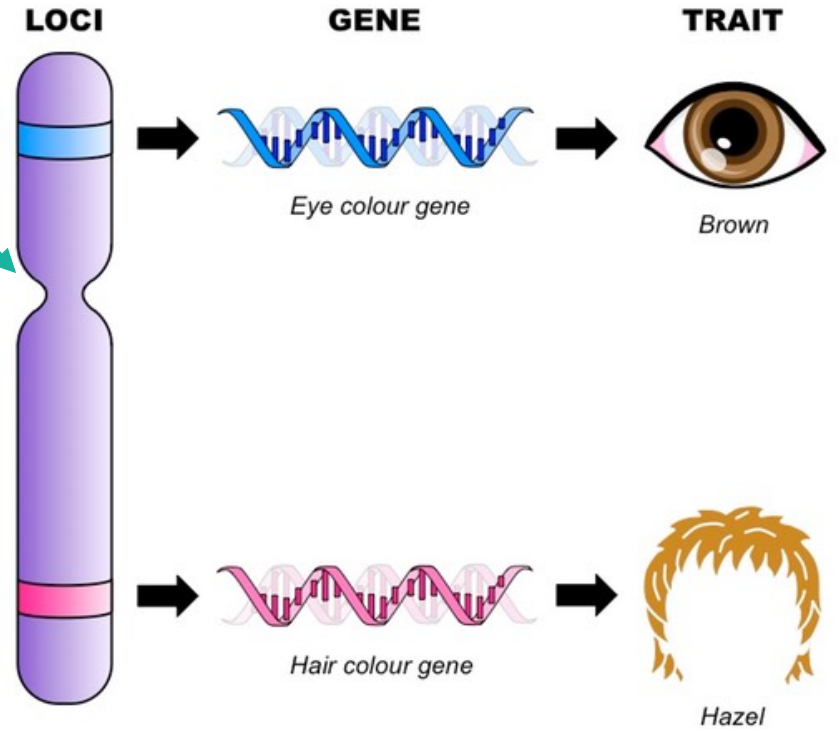
A brief Biology lesson

There are 23 pairs of chromosomes for a total of 46



Pairs of Chromosomes
in a Human Cell

Sex
Chromosome



- Loci is the physical location of a gene.
- There are ~700,000 Loci in each human

Physical

Does a “gay gene” exist?

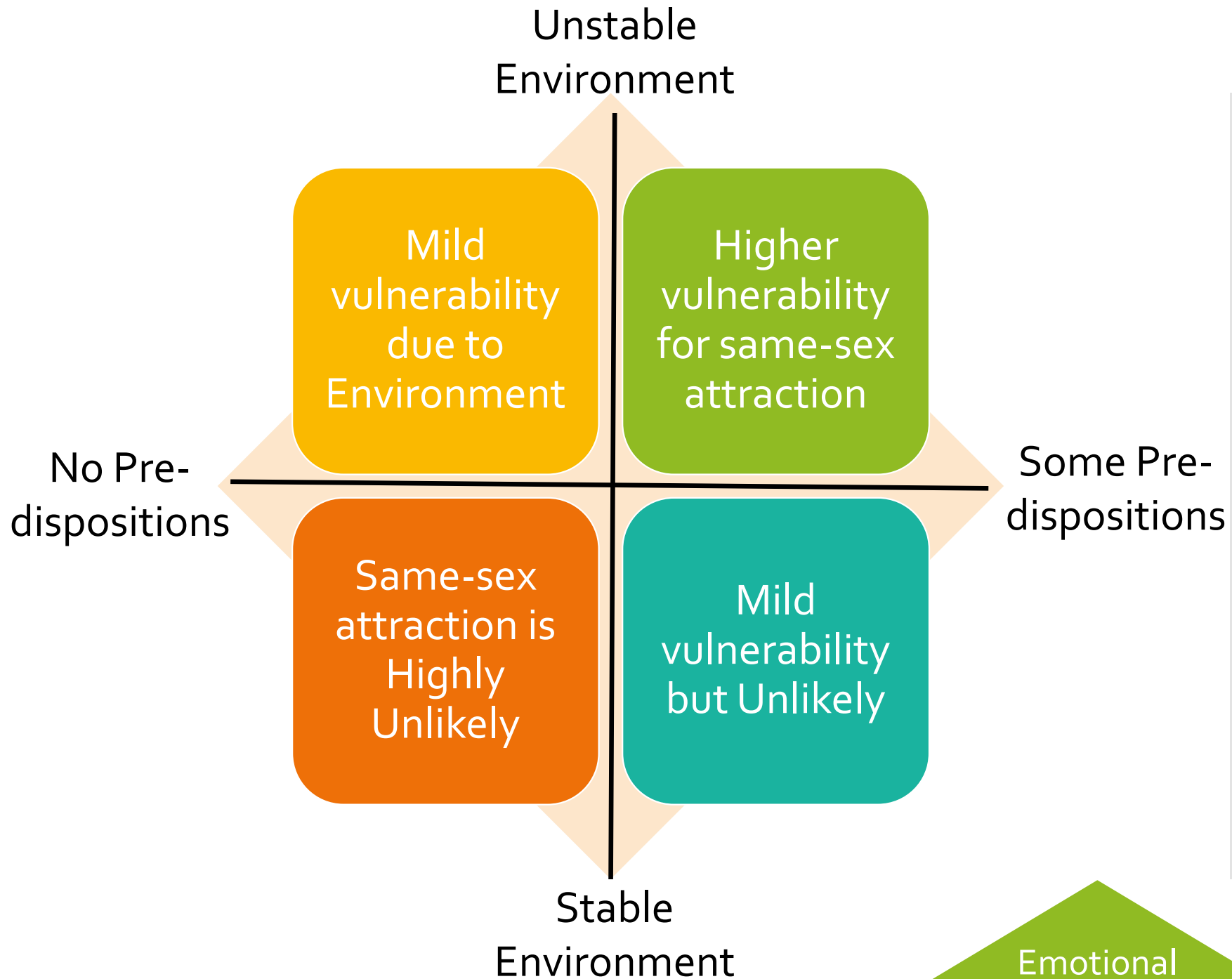
- Genome-wide association study published on **August 30, 2019**
- Sample Size = **477,522 individuals (UK + United States)**
- Conclusion is **No Clear Pattern:**
 - “ **there is certainly no single genetic determinant (sometimes referred to as the “gay gene” by the media).**
 - Rather, **many loci with individually small effects, ..., additively contribute to individual differences in predisposition to same sex sexual behavior.”**
 - “**all tested genetic variants accounted for 8 to 25% of variation in same-sex sexual behavior, .., and do not allow meaningful prediction of an individual’s sexual behavior”**
- In-other words, **75 – 92%** of same-sex behavior is explained by our environment

So what does this mean?

- A **genetic predisposition** (sometimes also called genetic susceptibility) is an increased likelihood of **developing a particular disease** based on a person's genetic makeup.
 - **Example:** Having certain variation of genes increase the likelihood of getting cancer.
 - Two people who smoke the same amount for the same period, one might get cancer while the other does not.
- Conclusions:
 1. Sex is evidently defined by genetics
 2. It is impossible to associate gender identity to genetics
 3. Humans cannot be born with a “**gay gene**”
 - Only 8 to 25% of genetics can be associated with a vulnerability of developing same-sex attractions!

Question is how and why?

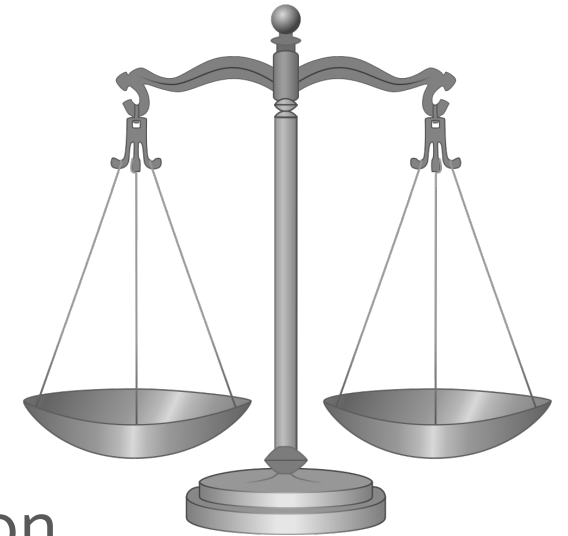
Our genetic predispositions
(8 to 25%)
+
our environment
(75 – 92%)
=
Vulnerability to
same-sex
attractions



First, we **MUST** identify the **cause** of the “gender identity” imbalance

These environments can influence the tendency of “gender identity”

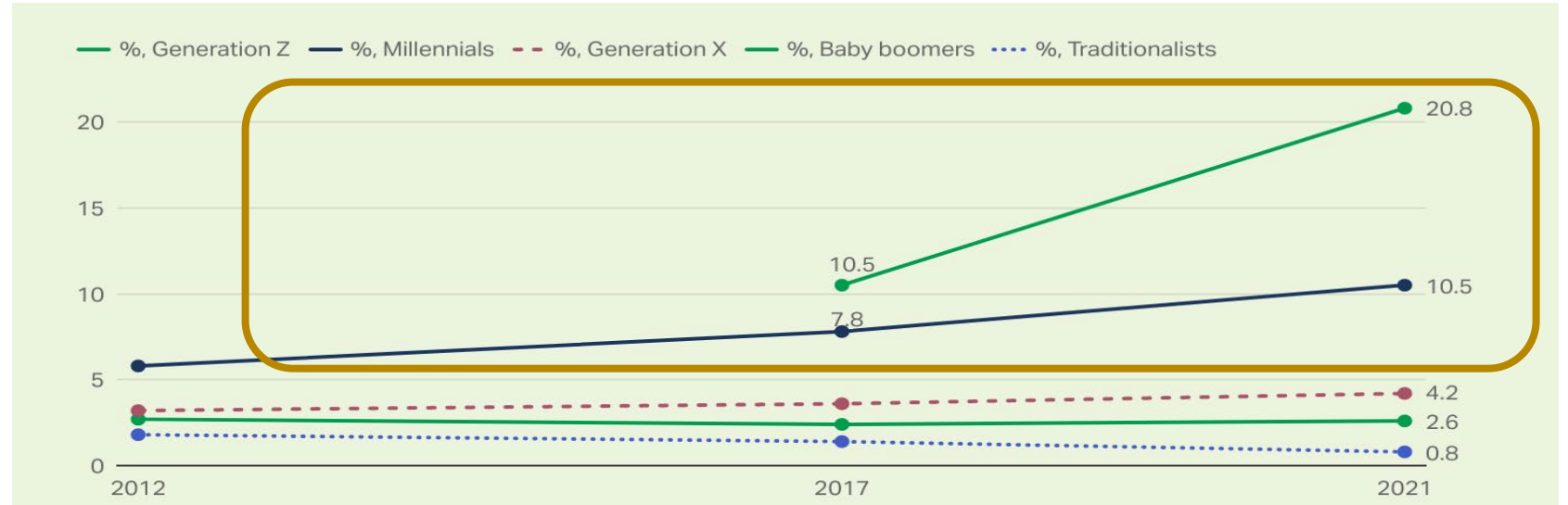
1. Abuse at a young age
2. Resenting a fatherly or motherly figure
3. Lacking a fatherly or motherly figure
4. Social prejudice and normalization
5. Self-inflicted curiosity



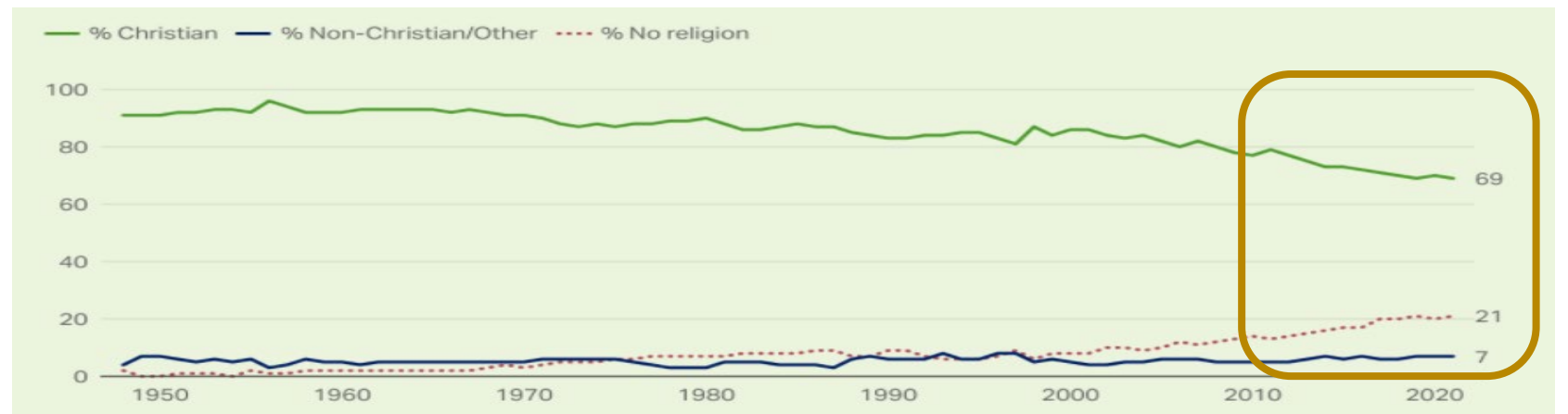
For a predisposed individual, these environment can tip the “gender identity” scale!

There's a **growing trend** between gender identity and lack of religious values

Percentage of U.S. Adults Identifying as LGBT by Birth Cohort, 2012-2021



Percentage of American Religious Preferences, 1950-2020



Spiritual

Emotions can
be **Nurtured**
to **Reorient**
the “gender
identity”

Same-sex
EMOTIONS are
NOT ALWAYS by
CHOICE and the
associated desires
are not sin..

“So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate” ~ Gen 2:6

“But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed” ~ James 1:14

However, **ACTING**
on the desires **IS** a
CHOICE and as
equal a sin as any

“Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men[a] 10 nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.” ~ 1st Cor 6: 9-10

God has given us power to overcome, but not without struggle;
Start the conversation early!

Spiritual

Our role as
Christians is to
understand,
love & support
one another in
our struggles

- Understand that even if **Action is taken** – there is always **hope!**
 - Through the Samaritan Women, Christ showed us no matter how foreign we are or the magnitude of our sin, he will accept our repentance
 - The Paralytic man had a infirmity 38 years, until he was healed by Christ = Persistence in seeking healing
- Understand that our God is fair!
 - It is unfitting of God to create a homosexual gene, and then condemn individuals for it
 - It is unfair for God to condemn us for our thoughts and emotions without first giving us a chance to resist temptation
- Understand that we all struggle in our own sins
 - God asks us to be wise in knowing what's right and wrong
 - He also asks us not to judge others when they fall

We must get better at showing love to those who are struggling!

In summary

- There is no evidence of a gay Gene:
 - **Physical:** Research finds no direct correlation between gender identity & genetics
 - **Emotional:** Genetic predispositions can increase vulnerability
 - **Spiritual:** God is fair and views all sins equally
- Resist Normalization
 - **Physical:** Our physical traits do not determine our sexual orientation
 - **Emotional:** Our environment strongly influences our development
 - **Spiritual:** Desires may not be our choice but actions are
- At the end of the day, we are all **Citizens of Christ**
 - Even if every country accepts same-sex behavior
 - Wisdom is in discernment and love is in avoiding judgment

Physical

Emotional

Spiritual