

HUMAN RIGHTS AND SEXUAL ORIENTATION

by James A. Siefkes, B.D.*

The May 1974 issue of the SIECUS Report included ten important position statements adopted by the SIECUS Board of Directors. This article by SIECUS Board member, James Siefkes, expands on the statement concerning sexual orientation, which reads as follows:

It is the position of SIECUS that:

It is the right of all persons to enter into relationships with others regardless of their gender, and to engage in such sexual behaviors as are satisfying and non-exploitive. Discrimination based on sexual orientation is a violation of this right.

At first reading, such a statement would seem to be speaking specifically to the matter of the sexual relationships between persons of the same sex, and more specifically homosexual people. While such relationships would naturally be covered by the statement the context is clearly to be recognized as broader.

In the past fifteen years of this nation's history, we have learned more about civil rights for human beings than in the previous 200. Persons who have been exploited or denied such rights have dramatically brought the matter to the consciousness of the people. The very fact that the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the U.S. legally guarantee certain civil rights to every citizen will undoubtedly serve to keep such issues on the domestic agenda for a long time to come.

As important as legal or civil rights are, however, the question of human rights is broader and even more significant. Human rights go beyond legal guarantees and refer to the just claims that are every human being's by virtue of membership in the human race. Perhaps they should be called birthrights.

*Rev. Siefkes, a SIECUS Board member, is Director of Discovering Ministries, The American Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Sexuality is one birthright that should be understood as an integral part of one's total personality and as finding expression in all that one does. Sexuality is a very important part of one's wholeness as male or female and is accordingly central to the understanding of one's very being and of one's interactions with others. In that sense, every human relationship is a sexual relationship, and how we *behave* or *act* in any given social situation can in effect be described as sexual behavior or activity.

One illustration of this might be: A typical suburban neighborhood gathering or cocktail party. How often one finds here the usual grouping of men in one corner to pass the time discussing "male" things and of women in another corner discussing "female" things. This is indeed sexual behavior or activity and the "right" to it is generally accepted. Suppose that in this same gathering of people, a woman exercises her "right" to enter into the male circle or a man exercises his "right" to enter into the female circle for the purpose of entering into the conversation and social intercourse. The feelings expected from such an occurrence would likely be varied and complex and the "right" to do such things would probably be questioned either explicitly or implicitly by members of the larger group.

What the SIECUS statement would seem to say in this instance is: It's acceptable for a male to enter into social intercourse with the group of females in such a setting and vice versa if no one is being exploited by such behavior (as by a mocking attitude from the interloper), and if it is a mutually satisfying experience for the participants. Such is the legitimate exercise of a human right. The statement equally affirms the right of women to stay in the female group and men in the male. To prohibit such activity on the basis of sexual orientation would be discriminatory and in violation of human right.

Another more complex illustration might occur as a minister greets the parishioners at the door of the church. Here there is usually the intimacy of touching by a handshake. But what if the minister hugged or even kissed the parishio-

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ners? Has the minister a right to do this? Perhaps, if the minister hugged or kissed all. But what if the minister hugged and/or kissed only selected persons of both sexes? What if the minister hugged some longer or tighter than others, or kissed some on the hand, others on the cheek, and still others on the mouth? Does the minister have a right to engage in any and/or all of these kinds of activity or behavior?

Once again, in this instance the SIECUS position would seem to be saying that the minister has the right to enter into any and all manner of greeting to the parishioners regardless of the minister's gender, or the gender of any of the parishioners, if such behavior is satisfying to the participants and not exploitive. To prohibit such activity on the basis of sexual orientation would be discriminatory and in violation of a human right. Cultural factors that would, in the eyes of the community, mark such behavior as appropriate or inappropriate might be factors to be considered instead.

So, what else is new or different?

A third illustration which, though similar, would be but a particularization of the former two might be as follows: Here we have Mary and John, or Dick and George, or Carol and Helen. The scene is not a cocktail party or a church doorway but the privacy of a living room. Instead of general social intercourse or a handshake the two engage in sexual intercourse. Both parties agree that their behavior is mutually satisfying and non-exploitive. Is there a difference between this illustration and the other two? Should the questions to be considered in terms of "just claims" or "rights" on the basis of legal or moral principles be any different for this illustration than for those considered for the first two? Are the questions not really the same?

In this instance the SIECUS position would seem to affirm the human right of two responsible adults, in the privacy of a living room, to enter into a relationship and to engage in sexual behavior that is mutually satisfying and non-exploitive. To prohibit such activity on the basis of sexual orientation alone would be discriminatory and in violation of a human right.

The Moral Issue

This SIECUS position has a number of moral implications and overtones. There is clearly an attempt to differentiate between right and wrong. "What's right" is reflected in the SIECUS affirmation of the human right to engage in human relationships within as well as between the sexes. "What's right" is reflected in the SIECUS affirmation of the human right in the course of such private relationships to enter into such sexual behaviors as provide personal satisfaction and are non-exploitive. "What's wrong" is to discriminate against persons in the exercise of such rights because of their sexual orientation.

The Ethical Issue

In a more particular sense the statement also has ethical implications and overtones insofar as it reflects some rules or standards for judgments on sexual conduct advanced by a clan, group or profession. In this instance the clan or group is called SIECUS, which is made up of persons representative of the fields of health, the law and the ministry.

The question of what is ethical leads to the particularization of moral issues and is usually one of degree. In the re-

sponses to the three illustrations of human relationships and sexual behavior earlier in this article, one would surely find a wide variation in the interpretation of what constitutes "proper" or "good" ethical behavior. In most cases the differences in acceptability would be defined in terms of degree. For example: How "personalized" could the greeting ritual by the minister be, before it became an "unethical" practice? Or how "depersonalized" could it be before it becomes lost motion, without meaning, and thus hypocritical and "unethical"? The answers are clearly a matter of degree.

A human right fundamental to all such issues is the right of persons to establish and live by their own ethical systems. A word of caution is in order relative to the violation or forced change of personal ethical systems without due consideration. Such attempts at changes or violations should not be made lightly, and constitute a problem area for the ethical arena inasmuch as not all ethical systems are in agreement. This is heightened when those who adhere to one ethical system seek to force it upon others or when proponents of an ethical system become oppressive in their "ethical practice." In the search for truth all ethical systems need to be heard and attested to by those who hold them but, it would seem necessary that those who truly believe that the system they espouse is "of the truth" should not operate out of that system oppressively or with fear. Conversely, the efforts of those who would take upon themselves to interpret a "collective conscience" of society and seek to force it upon others can only be counterproductive to the ultimate cause of the human good. This is what those who composed the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Amendments had in mind.

Other Considerations

Space here does not allow for discussion of two other related questions that evolve around the matter of *rights* or *just claim*.

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SIECUS REPORT

Volume III, Number 3

January 1975

The *SIECUS Report* is published bi-monthly. Subscriptions are sold on a volume basis only, with volumes beginning in September.

Subscription rates: Individual, \$9.00 for one year; Canadian and foreign, \$10.50. Institutional, \$15.00; Canadian and foreign, \$16.50. Single copies of any issue, \$1.50.

Queries about subscriptions and delivery should be sent to Behavioral Publications, 72 Fifth Ave. New York, NY 10011. Editorial queries should be sent to SIECUS at the address below.

SIECUS Report is available on microfilm from University Microfilms, 300 North Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48106.

Editor—Mary S. Calderone, M.D.

Managing Editor—Derek L. Burleson, Ed.D.

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Library of Congress catalog card number 72-627361

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DO YOU KNOW THAT . . .

AASEC Annual Institute Set for April 2-5 in Washington D.C.

The American Association of Sex Educators and Counselors will hold its eighth Annual Sex Institute on April 2-5, 1975, at the Washington Hilton Hotel in the nation's capital. Under the dual themes of "The New Sex Education" and "The New Sex Counseling" the Institute program will be staffed by outstanding leaders in the fields of sex education and sex counseling from the U.S. and abroad.

Key speakers include John Money, Albert Ellis, David and Vera Mace, Gerhard Neubeck and Maj Britt-Bergstrom Walan, noted sex educator from Sweden.

The first day of the Institute devoted to "The New Sex Education" is under the general chairmanship of Michael Carrera, Vice President of AASEC. Sessions on "Sexuality and Culture" led by Deryck Calderwood and Vivian Clark, "Values Clarification" led by Patricia Schreiner, and "Sex Education of the Future" led by Lester Kirkendall are some of many that have been scheduled.

Institute participants will have an opportunity to meet and hear some of the country's leading sex therapists includ-

ing William Hartman and Marilyn Fithian of the Center for Marital and Sexual Studies, Shirley and Leon Zussman of the Long Island Jewish-Hillside Hospital Human Sexuality Program, Laura Singer Magdoff, Wardell Pomeroy and Alex Levay who are sexual therapists in private practice.

Other program highlights are Lonnie Myers speaking on "The New Sex Education for Adults," Kathy Douglas and Jonathan D. Schiller, attorneys speaking on "Sexist Justice," and Barry McCarthy of American University speaking on "College Peer Sex Counseling."

For complete program details and registration forms write to AASEC, 5010 Wisconsin Ave. N.W., Suite 304, Washington, D.C. 20016. Phone (202) 686-2523.

New Director Selected for E. C. Brown Foundation

John A. Bruce, Ph.D. has been appointed new director of the E. C. Brown Foundation in Portland, Oregon. The Foundation for the past 35 years has promoted programs in family

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Sexuality and Human Values—New SIECUS Book

Under the editorship of Mary S. Calderone, M.D., M.P.H., Executive Director of SIECUS, *Sexuality and Human Values* brings together some of America's foremost authorities in sex research to deal with the issues of human sexuality and human values. Masters and Johnson discuss the religious dimensions of sexual dysfunction; Wardell Pomeroy explains the process of sex interviewing in counseling; Lorna and Philip Sarrel review the sex scene on campus; Robert Staples surveys the research on black sexuality; Judd Marmor and Carlfred Broderick deal with the development of gender identity; Lawrence Kohlberg and Carol Gilligan identify the stages of moral development and relate them to sexual decision making; and Father John L. Thomas, S.J. in a concluding chapter offers a challenge to religion to reappraise our sexual values in a time of rapid social change.

This book grew out of a conference sponsored by SIECUS that brought together leading sex researchers and representatives of the major religious faiths to discuss the implications of research in human sexuality to the social and ethical issues facing the church today. Published by Association Press, 291 Broadway, New York, NY 10007. 158 pp. Price: \$7.95.

WHERE THE ACTION IS

SEX EDUCATION COURSE CAN INFLUENCE ATTITUDES

Efforts to date at evaluating the influence of sex education on adolescent attitudes have been meager and inconclusive. Sonya Rae Iverson's study, "Sex Education and Adolescent Attitudes" shows how within carefully defined parameters, a sex education course can influence adolescent attitudes. Dr. Iverson undertook this study as her doctoral dissertation at the University of Maryland. It was awarded Honorable Mention in the 1974 SIECUS Research Award program (See SR—November 1974). Dr. Iverson is currently assistant professor in the School of Nursing, University of Maryland. Following is an abstract of her research.

Abstract of Sex Education and Adolescent Attitudes

By Sonya Rae Iverson, Ph.D.

Using 135 middle-class suburban Washington, D.C. adolescents ranging in age from eleven to nineteen years, this quasi-experimental study investigated the effects of the *About Your Sexuality* course, offered by Unitarian-Universalist churches, upon (1) sexual attitudes, (2) sex role stereotyping, (3) ability to live comfortably with ambiguity, and (4) tolerance of others unlike oneself. Also considered were the relationships to the criteria of the adolescent's perception of parental modeling on five dimensions: (1) level of nudity in the home during childhood, (2) display of parental affection for each other, (3) display of parental affection for the subject, (4) parental sexual liberalism—conservatism, and (5) parental sex (gender) role stereotyping. The interactive effects of sex education with these relationships were also examined. Finally, a comparison was made between those students attracted to the sex education course and those attracted to the youth activities of another religious denomination.

A self-administered questionnaire was used to gather demographic data, measure the five dimensions of perception of parental modeling, and measure the criteria. Sexual liberalism was operationally defined as the Sexual Liberalism—Conservatism scale developed by Athanasiou and Shaver; ability to live comfortably with ambiguity by the Complexity scale from the Omnibus Personality Inventory; tolerance of others unlike oneself by the Autonomy scale from the Omnibus Personality Inventory; and sex role stereotyping by four categorical items which were explored separately and as a

summation scale. Seventeen categorical items regarding specific sexual attitudes were reported as elaborations of sexual liberalism.

It was concluded that students completing a course in sex education become more liberal in their sexual attitudes. That is, they believe sexually related behavior to be a matter of individual choice rather than something which should be regulated by society through public law. The basic sexual standards by which an adolescent guides his sexual behavior remain unchanged as a result of sex education. In addition, a modest relationship was found between having completed a sex education course and ability to live comfortably with ambiguity.

The course does not lead to promiscuous sexual behavior. An overwhelming majority of adolescents believed sex should be associated with love relationships. Furthermore, being given all the specific information regarding birth control and venereal disease does not lead to removing all inhibitions. Sex educated adolescents still cite fear of pregnancy or disease as major deterrents to sexual relations.

Students choosing to enroll in the course were not different on the criteria from youths not attending the Unitarian-Universalist church. They did, however, appear to follow somewhat less traditional standards of sexual behavior and be less ambivalent in the area of granting flexibility in assignment of gender linked roles. Unitarian youth also tended more often to select parents as the first source of help and advice in matters pertaining to venereal disease, pregnancy, or sex problems.

Sex education has a remedial effect. Sex educated adolescents coming from homes very conservative regarding nudity became more liberal in their sexual attitudes, more comfortable in living with ambiguity, and more tolerant of others unlike themselves. Sex educated adolescents coming from homes perceived as extreme in sex role stereotyping became more flexible in assignment of sex roles. In addition, once given all the necessary information in a sex education class, adolescents whose parents gave them believable overt demonstrations of love and caring became more comfortable in living with ambiguity.

The level of nudity is related to the adolescent's sexual liberalism. Where the attitude was concern that persons be properly attired, the adolescent was less liberal.

Parents communicate sexual attitudes to their children. Where adolescents perceived their parents' sexual attitudes as conservative, youth exhibited less liberal sexual attitudes.

BOOK REVIEWS

Male Homosexuals: Their Problems and Adaptations. Martin S. Weinberg and Colin J. Williams. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 1974. (336 pp.; \$10.95).

Reviewed by Haskell R. Coplin, Ph.D.

It is refreshing—and encouraging—to read a book about homosexuals that is not preoccupied with the clinical-statistical-disease approach, but that rather looks at homosexuals as real live human beings trying to cope with the special problems of adaptation to a life style that is scorned by the larger society. Continuing in the tradition of creative and informative research that characterizes the work of the Institute for Sex Research, Weinberg and Williams have studied male homosexuals in the United States, Denmark, and the Netherlands. To make sense of the data they gathered from 2437 homosexuals who answered their questionnaires, the authors, sociologists by training, thoroughly studied the homosexual subcultures of their respondents. Their findings make fascinating reading. Fascinating, not because of the exoticism of the subject, but because at every turn we find new insights and new ways of looking at a subject that by now is barnacled with stereotypes.

Throughout the book one senses the presence of compassionately objective professionals who manage somehow to avoid both oversentimental subjectivity and sterile clinical detachment. What emerges is a temperate treatment of problems faced by homosexuals in their occupations, religious backgrounds, legal status, and personal living situations. In this study the authors conceptualize the homosexual's situation according to three parameters: relating to the heterosexual world, relating to the homosexual world, and psychological problems. Such issues as "passing" as heterosexual, "coming out", effects of legal harassment, and the emerging homophile movement gain new meaning when approached from the sociological perspective of social reaction theory.

Here is a compelling argument for conceptualizing homosexuality in terms

of social statuses and roles rather than as a condition. Their conclusion that, "homosexual is a social status, and the role expectations surrounding it account for the types of homosexuals that any society produces," should serve as a caveat to social scientists bent on finding "causes" whether exclusively in early parent-child interactions or in the endocrinology and psychophysiology of the infantile period.

The authors are aware of the methodological problems of their kind of research. Things are happening so rapidly on legal, psychiatric, and social fronts that findings such as are presented here are obsolescent as they emerge. Because much of their original data is already more than five years old, there will be need for replication and follow-up to keep up with the fast pace of change, especially in the "movement" side of the homosexual scene. Notwithstanding, Weinberg and Williams deserve our gratitude for the substantial contribution they have made to our understanding of these little-researched aspects of the problem.

This volume will be a "must" for college level courses dealing with human sexuality and sexual variance. It will also be extremely useful to counselors of diverse persuasions who deal with any aspects of personal and sexual counseling. **A,PR**

Male and Female Homosexuality. Eli Robins and Marcel T. Saghir. Baltimore, MD: Williams and Wilkins Company, 1973. (352 pp.; \$14.95).

Reviewed by Haskell R. Coplin, Ph.D.

We have had a surfeit of clinical psychiatric studies of homosexuals who presented themselves for treatment for various psychological problems. The result has usually been that conclusions about homosexual components were contaminated by psychopathology that may have had little to do with homosexual orientation. Robins and Saghir, psychiatrists at the Washington University School of Medicine, have tried to correct this glaring methodological fault by selecting their subjects from

non-psychiatric populations and by comparing them to a matched sample of heterosexuals who were single and living in essentially similar personal and socio-economic circumstances. Eighty-nine male and fifty-seven female homosexuals were recruited from homophile organizations and forty male and forty-four female heterosexuals were recruited from a St. Louis County apartment complex. Despite the smallness and non-representativeness of these samples, the authors have come up with some suggestive findings on "demographic variables, psychopathological occurrences, the evolution and development of the homosexual and heterosexual orientation, the behavioral and sexual practices of each individual, his family relationships and his roles and involvements with others and in his particular environment."

Starting with "some prejudice and some compassion", Robins and Saghir end their venture by concluding with some of their more enlightened colleagues that "homosexuals are not *a priori* sick." And yet, they seem to conclude that when homosexuals present themselves for treatment, a "cure" is to be sought and the criteria for that cure would be that the individual would "not only disengage from homosexual activity but he would also disengage emotionally and to a large extent from homosexual attachments, including homosexual fantasies, dreams and physical arousal by sight or touch." Thus, while they conclude that "to be a homosexual is not necessarily to be 'sick' or disordered but perhaps just different", they nowhere suggest that a legitimate goal of therapy for such individuals would be adjustment to a homosexual lifestyle or a way of life that might include acceptance of homosexual feelings as "normal".

What of the future? Robins and Saghir urge legal reforms and changes in public attitudes about homosexuals. They urge governmental support for establishing educational and recreational centers for homosexuals to allow them to meet each other under more "predictable" circumstances than through "cruising" and they are for

more psychologic and biologic research into the determinants of gender identity and the various modes of expressing sexuality.

Despite the limited generalizations that can be made from this small and unrepresentative sample of homosexual men and women (where are the blacks, the isolates, the underprivileged, etc.) this book has some good data that will be useful in college classes that deal with homosexuality and it will find its place as a reference work for the interested professional. **A,PR**

Male Sexual Health. Phillip R. Roen. New York, NY: William Morrow & Company, 1974. (190 pp.; \$6.95).

Reviewed by Daniel H. Labby, M.D.

As Dr. Roen states in his Introduction "the aim of this book is to dispel the mystery that envelops the male sexual and urinary tracts." What follows in 182 pages of text and illustration is a readable account of the anatomic structure and functioning of the male urogenital tract in terms of its excretory and sexual physiology. Major emphasis both in text and illustration is directed at the prostate; this reviewer found this section especially informative and unique for publications of this type. The format is organized around questions and answers that flow in acceptable sequence and the writing style is clear, informal and totally readable for the layman. As a urologist interested in sexual dysfunction (an all too rare combination) Dr. Roen and his book deserve commendation, particularly in those sections devoted to the clinical aspects of sexual function. In the areas of sexual dysfunction that are amenable to focal forms of operant conditioning therapy and psychotherapy, the touch is light and slightly superficial, and seems at times oversimplistically treated, but here the lay readership must be kept in mind. Further, there is some concern in viewing premature ejaculation exclusively as a form of impotence. Since this sexual dysfunction problem is one of the most common and distressing but most easily treated difficulties carrying an excellent prognosis, it would be useful to provide a full chapter for its discussion. The book should prove useful to both the lay reader and to physicians interested in the education of their patients. **A,PR**

Symposium on Love. Mary Ellen Curtin, Ph.D. New York, NY: Behavioral Publications, 1973. (256 pp. \$12.95)

Reviewed by Walter Harrelson, Th.D.

Mary Ellen Curtin has brought together a fascinating collection of essays, some cool and restrained, some passionate and evangelical, dealing with love in the contemporary world. The authors, to no one's surprise, differ in their definition of love, as they differ in their assessment of the place of love in the human community. No theologian or historian of religion contributed an essay, although the place of love in several religious traditions is indicated in some of the essays. Most of the writers are psychologists or psychiatrists.

The variety of judgments in the book is impressive. Lawrence Casler opens the collection with a chapter in which love is defined as "the fear of losing an important source of need gratification" (p. 10). This author seeks to show that "there is no evidence that love is either necessary or sufficient for psychological maturity" (p. 18). His argument deserves careful examination, despite his use of language that seems designed to be inflammatory. He is maintaining that the present need and hunger for love should not be taken to be an argument for romantic love's being essential to human health. Indeed, he argues that "... the need for a love relationship is based largely on insecurity, conformity to social pressures, and sexual frustration . . ." (p. 20). But Casler is concerned with fundamental human values in this chapter: with self-respect and respect for others, with a healthy environment for women in the contemporary world, with changes in the rearing of children, and other basic possibilities for persons to come to health.

Chapters by other authors are devoted to alternatives to romantic love, to analyses of homosexual love and of sexual contact between patient and therapist, and to unhealthy love. Yet others seek more affirmatively to specify what romantic love contributes to human life, how love is perceived in the Black community, how understandings of love contribute to and complicate the therapeutic process of therapists working primarily with women.

Is love an instinct or an environmental product? Position is taken in support of each alternative in this collection. Is love subject to scientific anal-

ysis and elucidation or must one grant that poets rather than scientists must elucidate love? Again, both positions are maintained in the volume.

This review is intended simply to urge readers to get the book and enter into the debate. The contributors have provided an excellent opening up of the subject. I was particularly impressed with the seriousness with which the subject is pursued by all contributors. I would have liked a clearer definition of romantic love, but that is by no means simple to reach. My personal suggestion is this: Love is a relationship marked by a readiness to give and to receive life from another, in a setting in which the relationship is intended to continue and in which the partners expect to change for the better. **A,PR**

The Sex Handbook: Information and Help for Minors. Heidi Handmann and Peter Brennan. New York, NY: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1974 (243 pp.; \$6.95).

Reviewed by E. James Leiberan, M.D.

This is a well-researched, clearly written, socially radical and somewhat callous book for the under-eighteen reader. Its sixteen chapters cover basic anatomy and sexual function with a how-to-have pleasure approach, supporting masturbation, intercourse, and free choice of variations. Appropriate caution is expressed in chapters on birth control, abortion, hygiene, VD, and law. A useful chapter on drugs is also included. Almost sixty pages are devoted to a nationwide directory of organizations providing health and information services.

"If you're old enough to want sex, you're old enough to have it." This for openers (p. 2) leads to an aggressive permissiveness in which little is said about love "not because emotions aren't important—it's because you already know your own feelings better than anybody else," or the possibility of relationship problems. The emphasis is on undoing society's repressive stranglehold on teenage sex, with street vernacular adding an often gratuitous vulgar note. There are a few surprising errors of fact: "It's physically impossible for a man to piss when he's got an erection" (p. 15, p. 56) and "you don't have

to be afraid of injuring" the penis even though you "squeeze it, shake it, bend it, or pull on it." (p. 54)

In sum, reading this is like hearing the Moonlight Sonata on a toy piano. The notes might be right, but the sound is shallow, even offensive to the sensitive ear; on the other hand, one can suppose that such sounds can at least reach a larger audience thereby. Librarians and school systems will have a difficult decision on this. Teenagers themselves will be mixed in their reactions. It's good to have a serious controversial book of this kind as ballast on the radical side to put other works for the young in perspective. **LT, A, PR**

The Sexual Code. Wolfgang Wickler. New York, NY: Doubleday, 1974. (336 pp.; \$3.50 paper).

Reviewed by Paul Gebhard, Ph.D.

The Germans have always displayed a penchant for writing massive scientific compendia on a great diversity of subjects. Consequently, it is no surprise to find that a topic as biologically important as animal sexuality has repeatedly received their attention, and considering how effectively sex sells books it is no surprise to find English translations of these works. Relatively recent and worthwhile examples are *The Love-Life of Animals* by Wolfgang Buddenbrock and *The Sex Life of Animals* by Herbert Wendt. Now another translation has appeared: *The Sexual Code* by Professor Wolfgang Wickler. This is an unusual book not only because of its scholarship (typically Germanic in its meticulousness and breadth) but also because of its origin and aim—both of which are in large part theological. Many of the tenets of Roman Catholicism are based on the concept of Natural Law, and this book is the result of a skilled ethologist's (and former student of Konrad Lorenz) examination of Nature and its relationship to human ethics.

The Sexual Code consists of four sections. The first is a short discourse on theology, ethics and ethology which serves to set the stage for the more extensive later sections. The second concerns itself with such basics as masculinity and femininity, sexual anatomy, apparent homosexual behavior, the sexual results of stress, etc. The third section focusses on mating, heterosexual bonding, and care of the young. It is

not merely a recitation of reproductive facts but it deals also with the social functions of sexual acts and how in many instances the seemingly sexual acts are in fact asexual in function and meaning. The fourth and final section successfully attempts to show that much human behavior derives from our animal heritage. While not as extensive as an anthropologist would have made it, Wickler emphatically shows that the ethologist cannot be ignored by the students of human behavior, and that humans are not wholly products of learning and conditioning.

In addition to its obvious scientific value, the book should serve to educate theologians and thereby prevent continuing errors stemming from ignorance or misconceptions as to biology. For example, in discussing how involuntary and automatic our responses are to various acts and postures which serve as signals (including sexual signals), Wickler suddenly brings the matter into ethical focus by stating: "The primary response to such biological signals is not an ethical question." (p. 264).

I strongly recommend this book to all behavioral scientists and to clinicians, clergy, legal scholars, and anyone else concerned with studying, modifying, or controlling human behavior. **A,PR**

Sex Change. Thomas Kando. Springfield, IL: Charles C. Thomas, 1974 (230 pp.; \$6.95).

Reviewed by Richard Green, M.D.

Scholarly books on sex-change have not been plentiful. Autobiographical accounts of transsexualism, on the other hand, have been highly successful publishing ventures (see bibliography). With few exceptions scholarly works on the subject have focused primarily on developmental, psychological and medical aspects of the drive to change sex. By contrast Kando's *Sex Change* is a sociologist's examination of how post-operative transsexuals attempt to implement an identity, how they attempt to cope with a stigma.

Kando has studied 12 male-to-female transsexuals approximately a year after surgery and has administered psychometric tests to another five. The subjects had undergone sex-reassignment surgery at the University of Minnesota in the late 1960's. While the first year post-surgery is a crisis period in the transsexual's adjustment, it is stretch-

ing a point to accept Kando's label of "follow-up" that he gives his study. We await studies that are truly long-term follow-up which deal with the several varieties of patient undergoing sex reassignment. But let's address ourselves to what we have.

The book's unique contribution is its attempt to evaluate transsexuals from a sociologic perspective. The author explores a variety of theoretical viewpoints with minimum hypothesis testing. He focuses on "passing" and "stigma management", utilizing the unique experience of the transsexual as the experimental model. The transsexual must necessarily confront a wide range of social dilemmas in the transition from the societal role dictated by possessing the genital anatomy of one sex to that of the other. While Kando's work provides a much needed sociologic context for understanding transsexualism, it also reveals psychologic and psychiatric naivete, which admittedly is matched by psychiatry's sociologic naivete.

Kando displays a disquieting lack of awareness of and respect for categories of human behavior. This is disappointing, not so much that we necessarily need neat boxes in our diagnostic universe, but rather that differing clusters of behaviors and antecedent biographical events can be of research significance and, even more importantly, may bear upon long-term surgical outcome.

Imprecise use of psychologic categorization is evident in several places. On page four, Kando refers to "homosexuals, transvestites, transsexuals and professional female impersonators" as though the last were distinct from the former groups. Such is not the case. Kando's dislike for distinguishing between such individuals is frustrating to the science-oriented reader, who seeks to understand motivational routes for the various types of individuals undergoing sex change, and relating this to subsequent happiness. Elsewhere, in the same vein, Kando notes "The majority of transsexuals had been transvestites and homosexuals before their operations . . . Most transsexuals [refuse] to define their former homosexual, transvestic acts as such." This phenomenological, rather than psychodynamic approach to typology does little to advance the science. Some of Kando's subjects are more sophisticated than he: "When I cross-dressed it did not do anything to me sexually . . . I wasn't a transvestite, you see . . .".

Failure to distinguish two groups of anatomic males who cross-dress, those who believe themselves to be women, who are not sexually aroused by cross-dressing and who are erotically attracted to males, from those who feel themselves to be male, who do experience sexual arousal by cross-dressing, and who are attracted to females—does little to refine the universe.

Kando is not totally against categorization, however. In his attempts to delineate four types of transsexuals: the "housewife" type, the "show business" type, the "aspiring housewife" type and the "career woman" type the author does seem to recognize potential benefit from grouping persons who share common features. Here too, however, the author stumbles. While defining the "strippers" (in an effort to categorize transsexuals), he describes disparate behavioral types under one designation: those who appear on stage as "sex changes", those who present as real females, and those who become prostitutes and conceal their sex, and thus ignores varying dynamics. Those who wish to be known to society as real females have an identity different from those who state to the world they are chromosomal males living as women. The latter have a lesser degree of female identity. Finally, those who need to prove repeatedly that they are anatomical females by a series of sexual encounters may also be attempting to build a sexual identity from the outward in, rather than the reverse.

Elsewhere, his reluctance at diagnostic preciseness interferes with hypothesis testing, that might otherwise be possible. On page 90 he says, "since nearly all transsexuals are former transvestites, in one form or another, it is not possible to distinguish passers from non-passers in this respect". It might very well have been possible to make such distinctions had the author known more about the dynamics of transvestism, including the distinctions between those with greater degrees of femininity and accompanying fetishistic arousal.

Unquestionably Kando is correct in noting that there are many "grey area" patients who do not neatly fit into diagnostic categories. However, research is furthered by attempting to separate patients who may be separable. By so doing, we may learn more about developmental and prognostic routes.

Kando also attempts to shoot down clinical approaches to the study of

transsexualism. He writes "research by 'medics' and 'psychiatrists' has yet to reveal a definitive etiology or cure for transsexualism." This is contrasted with the author's approach in which patients' "motives" are recorded but no attempts are made to explain transsexualism on the basis of biographical information. What the author really obtains however, are verbal reports of motives, not necessarily the motives themselves, nor all levels of such motives.

Kando defends the lack of what he calls a "coherent theoretical model" in his study from which hypotheses could have been tested, but also contends the study is not atheoretical. Rather, it is described as outside the realm of the current sociologic paradigm. This argument is not without merit, if the book is considered a first step in a long-term series of theoretical studies. In fact *Sex Change* stands logically as Volume One of such a long-term study. Volume Two should be published five years hence; Volume Three in ten years; Volume Four in twenty.

I found it particularly interesting to look at unpublished data on the attitudes of non-medical persons toward sex reassignment procedures. These data were gathered in the late 1960's by Hathaway (of MMPI fame) at the University of Minnesota. While Kando included these data to illustrate male-female differences in attitudes towards transsexualism, I was most struck by the striking degree of acceptance of the transsexual situation as a legitimate basis for a variety of civil and surgical interventions. These data stand in contrast to those collected by myself with Robert Stoller and Craig McAndrew in the early 60's prior to the advent of sex reassignment at American medical centers. While the Hathaway data suggest that non-medical persons are sympathetic to the transsexual, our data on physicians indicated that the great majority, including psychiatrists, would rather see the transsexual commit suicide than be granted sex reassignment. What may account for these differences are that the Hathaway data were collected two years after The John Hopkins Hospital and the University of Minnesota (among others) instituted sex reassignment surgery, thus "legitimizing" it. It may be that non-medical people are less reluctant to grant such procedures (in a questionnaire) in that they have less likelihood of actually being in a decision-making position, with

consequent responsibility for long-term outcome.

The author is to be commended for having extended study of the extraordinary phenomenon of transsexualism to the sociologic context. Unquestionably transsexualism is a tantalizing research model for testing theories of psychosexual development, biological and psychologic determinants of sexual identity ontogeny, and sociologic management of "deviance". For having studiously made this extension, Kando is to be commended.

As a perhaps peevish aside, I found myself annoyed at the author's footnote on page 145 in which he alludes to several contemporary best-selling books as "sexually liberating quackeries". While such books may not be up to the scholastic standards of Kando's study, they have provided a considerable amount of sexual information to vast numbers of Americans, surely in need of information. They will clearly have a greater social impact than the work of Kando and the rest of us who publish for a handful of scholars of the sexual esoterica. **A, PR**

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We Can Have Better Marriages If We Really Want Them. David & Vera Mace. Nashville, TN, Abingdon Press, 1974. (172 pp.; \$5.95).

Reviewed by William H. Genné, B.D.

Are the current attacks on marriage a case of "sour grapes" by those who have been disillusioned by marriage, or is there a deeper cause in Society's

failure to rightly understand and nurture healthy, constructive marital relationships?

How much does the "intermarital taboo" prevent couples from sharing successes and seeking help from each other when needed?

Is non-marriage the only alternative to a rigid, authoritarian, sexist marriage or can there be a mutually fulfilling and growing relationship between two partners within marriage?

These are a few of the questions the Maces' strive to answer in their latest book. Drawing on their years of family study in more than seventy countries and on their own forty years of marital growth serves to give breadth and depth to their concern.

The reader gets the impression that here is a couple with a maturity to survey the current scene without being seduced by the latest fad or jargon. They know themselves and each other and feel that together they have discovered some basic truths about fulfillment and success in marriage.

Being loving persons, they want to share with others some of the insights they have discovered, and to create a network of couples who will mutually reinforce each other and create communities conducive to healthy marriages.

This is a book written with a passion and a purpose, soundly based, but not coldly objective. It includes an annotated bibliography, a list of resources and addresses of helpful organizations so the reader is not left floundering regarding follow-up.

Someone has said, "As people get older, they pare their ideas to the essentials." In this book, the Maces have given us the essence. **A,PR**

Behold Man. A Photographic Journey of Discovery Inside the Body. Lennart Nilsson and Jan Lindberg. Translated by Ilona Munck. Boston, MA: Little, Brown and Company, (254 pp.; \$25).

*Reviewed by George W. Corner, Sr., M.D.**

Behold Man is an astonishing picture book of human organs, tissues and embryos, mostly seen through the microscope, by Lennart Nilsson, a talented Swedish photographer. He has used, and in this reviewer's opinion, often misused, a variety of electronic and optical

techniques to produce sensational pictorial effects. The most striking of these pictures are those made at enormous magnifications with the scanning electron microscope—a method so new that the results are exciting even to an experienced histologist. These pictures, in black and white, are very instructive, but almost frightening, as Leeuwenhoek's animalcules must have seemed to 17th century viewers at 30 times natural size. The surface of the tongue, for instance, looms up as starkly rugged as the Andes Mountains; the mouth of an intestinal gland is a forbidding gulf into which one might seemingly tumble; spermatozoa writhe like sea-serpents along the oviduct.

For his many pictures of human fetuses, Nilsson, by blurring them slightly with a soft lens and lighting them expertly against colored backgrounds that show through the translucent membranes, has rendered his subjects in pink-and-blue pastel shades appropriate to the boudoir. This method may be useful in averting the distaste many people feel at the sight of fetuses or pictures of them. It is, however, unsatisfactory for the embryonic stages. The real beauty of very early embryos lies in the exquisitely sculptured details of their external form, which is largely lost in these blurry views. The somites, for example, cannot be seen clearly in any of Nilsson's pictures of early human embryos.

The extravagant coloring of many pictures in this book is likely to produce in sensitive readers the color shock known to psychologists. We have here bright green nerves, a blue-green heart, a purple pineal gland, an eye with sky-blue cornea and deep blue lens, whose owner in life would have seen all the world in cerulean tints. There are at least a dozen pictures in the book in which over-soft focus and over-done colors leave nothing to see but a chromatic blur.

Most fantastic of all are a half-dozen pictures of hormone crystals—cortisone, testosterone, estradiol, progesterone—made with an interference microscope with the deliberate aim of imposing upon them a riot of color. I was the first person ever to be shown crystals of pure progesterone, when my young collaborator, Willard Allen, first isolated them from our crude extracts. To see those shining glass-clear microscopic platelets of a substance essential to human reproduction was the sight of a lifetime. To find them bedizen

with false colors by an optical trick is revolting.

In brief, *Behold Man* combines great technical skill with a sensationalized journalistic style. Some of the pictures are of considerable scientific value, some are pleasantly artistic, some overwrought, a few worthless. The explanatory text, by three authors, is generally correct and instructive, except that the magnification of the photographs is usually not given. Readers of the SIECUS Report, who expect accurate information about human embryology, should note that the text perpetuates the misleading term "gill slits" for the branchial grooves, also the legend of the picture on page 47 incorrectly identifies as polar bodies the three little round objects at the right of the ovum. Polar bodies lie, of course, inside the "protective membrane" (Zona pellucida, here fancifully colored blue), not outside it. These little spheres are, in fact, air bubbles. **A,PR**

The Illustrated Family Guide to Life, Love and Sex for Early Childhood. The Illustrated Family Guide to Life, Love and Sex for Pre-Teens. Adapted from the original French work by Jean Bethell. New York, NY: Grosset and Dunlap, 1974. (44 and 63 pp. respectively; \$4.95 each).

Reviewed by Lorna B. Flynn, M.A.

Here are two innocuous books for white, middle class families who believe that getting married and having babies are all that constitute "Life, Love and Sex," the title of both books. Originally published in France under the title "Encyclopedie de la Vie Sexuelle, de la Physiologie a la Psychologie," both books present what many people would consider a warm and reassuring story of reproduction. The early childhood book is illustrated with drawings and the pre-teen book with photographs—notably absent from which is one of adult male and female genitals.

The pre-teen book has made some concessions to the times, principally in terms of women being able to be mothers and work away from home. But in terms of sex, the values and facts presented are guarded, traditional, and not always according to findings of research. On sex before marriage: "... But here in the civilized Western world, most responsible adults believe that marriage should come before mating."

*By invitation

On masturbation: "It's a natural thing that younger children do. But if a child becomes too attached to this form of pleasure, it will be difficult later on for him to love someone else."

One good aspect of these books is the example of family discussions about sex. These books may have an audience, but because the publishers call them "modern, realistic guides," I expected much more than I found. I sincerely doubt that today's pre-teenagers will settle for this explanation of "Life, Love and Sex." **C,ET,P**

Against Rape. Andra Medea and Kathleen Thompson. New York, NY: The Noonday Press, 1974 (152 pp.; \$2.25 paper).

Reviewed by Lorna B. Flynn, M.A.

Until "erection on demand" exists, heterosexual rape will be one of the few crimes in which women are always the victims. And because rape laws are essentially property laws—with women being either the property of their father or of their husbands—women are not only victims of the physical violence of rape, but also of its aftermath when they must "prove" their innocence and non-culpability in the affair.

Andra Medea and Kathleen Thompson—a self-defense teacher and a member of Chicago Women Against Rape—have written an important book about this very emotional topic. With easily understandable language and concepts, they discuss aspects of rape such as who the rapist is and what his motivations are, the myths surrounding rape, how rape affects the lives of its victims and potential victims, and the anti-deluvian legal morass surrounding rape. More practically, they discuss self-defense, avoidance of dangerous situations, what to expect from medical, police and legal personnel, and ways of dealing with potential rapists as well as just plain abusive men who perform "little rapes."

One of the most important points made is the importance for mothers' participation in the sex education of

their sons. "This has traditionally been left to the father, but the practice of handing down male attitudes from one generation to another perpetuates the division of emotions ('aggressiveness unchecked by sensitivity, gentleness, and concern for others') that causes rape."

The only point with which I take issue is about women carrying weapons: Medea and Thompson encourage the practice. I strongly believe that unless a woman is proficient in the use of a weapon such as a knife, she'd be better off without it because it could easily be used against her.

Against Rape should be required reading not only for all women, but for young men in the rape-prone age groups as well as for male legislators, attorneys, police officers, physicians and other members of the helping professions. It is suggested reading for everyone else. **LT,A,P,PR**

Conundrum. Jan Morris. New York, NY: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1974. (174 pp.; \$5.95).

*Reviewed by John Money, Ph.D. and Tom Mazure, B.A.**

Conundrum is the autobiographical sketch of Jan Morris. As a male-to-female transsexual, she exemplifies the male who has had a history of two names, two wardrobes and two personalities. Ms. Morris lived the first half of her life as Jim, the famous British writer, who won the Heinemann Award for literature. As Jim, with wardrobe and personality to match, he appeared, to all, a typical male. By middle age, as is typical in the history of this type of transsexual, the personality of Jim had run its course, and the second one, complete with new name and wardrobe, compelled Jim to become Jan—to the astonishment of everyone who had known only Jim.

The particular female stereotype exemplified as Jan, embraces the concepts of purity and spirituality but not those related to eroticism and copulation.

*By invitation

This particular convention of feminism places Ms. Morris squarely in the camp of female traditionalism. For those in the other camp, that of female liberation, Ms. Morris will be viewed not only as selling out to male chauvinism but also as skewing the concept of femininity and threatening women's rights. Be that as it may, Ms. Morris' position is true to the nature of transsexualism, for there is always, in this syndrome, the attempt to enshrine an ideal of woman as goddess. The goddess may be harlot or Madonna. Jan Morris represents the ideal of the Madonna. **A,PR**

Teenagers Look at Sex in Nature. Robert P. Gelinas and Paul J. Gelinas. New York, NY: Richards Rosen Press, 1973. (132 pp.; \$3.99).

Reviewed by E. James Lieberman, M.D.

This reader was looking forward to finding a book which either led the sexually hesitant youngster to a comfortable appreciation of the subject, or which seized the imagination of the "sophisticated" youngster and helped put sex into a larger perspective. I was disappointed.

The book, product of a father-son writing team with good credentials, is a mixture of mostly sound information, provocative questions, a rambling, sometimes patronizing style, and poor organization. There are no pictures or references, no index or bibliography. One can learn a good deal about insects, birds, reptiles, fish, mammals, but the chapter headings fail to provide guidance, and the material is disjointed and often hard to follow. I agree with the authors' emphasis on the importance of environmental over hereditary factors, and they touch on genetics, hormones, social order, competition and analogous human processes, but it is doubtful that this book can compete with an up-to-date high school text on reproduction; although this is more folksy in tone, it verges on the awe-struck, and ends with a grim picture of neurotic patterns among teachers, who are consigned almost wholesale to a class of beings unfit to teach about sex. **LT**

Audience Level Indicators. The bold type letter(s) following book reviews indicate the general audience level. Keys to categories are as follows: **C**—Children (elementary grades), **ET**—Early teens (junior high), **LT**—Late teens (senior high), **A**—College, general adult public, **P**—Parents, **PR**—Professionals (educators, physicians, clergy, public health workers, nurses, etc.).

Continued from page 3

life and sex education throughout the state of Oregon, and its publications and films are used widely throughout the country. Dr. Bruce was formerly assistant professor of sociology at Moorhead State College in Minnesota. He was an Episcopal clergyman and is trained in marriage and family counseling.

He succeeds Theodore B. Johannis, Jr. Ph.D. who is returning to full-time teaching as professor of sociology at the University of Oregon. Dr. Johannis will continue to serve as director of the Foundation-sponsored E. C. Brown Center for Family Studies at the University of Oregon.

Resources to Write For . . .

A Guide to Sexuality Handbooks is a 16 page annotated listing of 42 college sex information handbooks, mostly written for and by students; also includes listing of non-college oriented booklets for youth on sex, birth control, VD, and teenage health and counseling services. Order from: Youth & Student Affairs, Planned Parenthood Federation, 810 Seventh Ave. New York NY 10019. Price: \$1.00 for four copies. Please order in multiples of four.

Sex Education; Citizen Action Kit is a 20 page mimeographed guide designed to show citizen groups how to organize to introduce sex education into the school curriculum. Includes annotated bibliography, strategies for community action and a step-by-step check list for groups to follow in setting up sex education programs. Prepared by the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts, 120 Boylston St., Boston, MA 02116. Price \$5.00.

The Gynecological Examination is a helpful pamphlet that deals with a routine medical procedure that is still a source of great trauma to young and old alike. In a question- and -answer format it responds to the most commonly expressed questions and anxieties of women concerning the examination. Order from: Your Health, Education Division, 5841 South Maryland Ave., Chicago IL 60637. Price: \$.70.

Family Planning: An Analysis of Laws and Policies in the United States provides an overview of laws, policies and administrative practices of federal and state governments in the areas of family planning contraception and sterilization in effect of September 1971. Order from: Supt. of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, 70 N. Capitol St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20402. Stock No. 1731-0002. Price: \$3.50.

Storypack is an experimental edition of five children's stories by feminist writers that are intended as examples of non-sexist literature for boys and girls, ages 3-10. Included with the stories is a Teacher/Parent Manual with a questionnaire to record children's and adults responses to the stories that is to be returned to the researchers. Order from: The Feminist Press, Box 334, Old Westbury, NY 11568. Price: \$2.50.

Workshop and Training Opportunities

American Institute of Family Relations announces its seventh annual workshop in "New Ways of Counseling Youth and Young adults, Feb. 3-14, 1975. Designed for guidance

counselors, social workers, youth leaders and others working with youth, the workshop will offer participants practical experience in a variety of counseling techniques. Graduate credit available. Write to: Mrs. Rose Blake, Registrar, AIFR, 5287 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles CA 90027. Phone (213) 465-5131.

University of Minnesota Medical School Program in Human Sexuality, under a grant from the National Institute of Mental Health has established a unique post-graduate program for physicians. The six-month course is not intended to train sex therapists but rather is directed to helping the physician from many specialties gain skill and insight in dealing with patients' sexual concerns and problems. In addition to the six-month course, one-day and weekend workshops for physicians are also available. For further information write to: Dr. James Maddock, U. of Minn. Medical School, Program in Human Sexuality, 2630 University Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55455.

Sex Education Curriculum for Youth in Correctional Institutions

Youth workers in correctional institutions, or for that matter, youth workers in any setting, will find the *Family Life Education Curriculum Guide*, developed by the California Youth Authority under the direction of Ruth M. Glick, Ph.D., an outstanding resource for setting up sex education programs for so-called "hard-to-reach" youth. The value of the many excellent specific teaching techniques in the guide rests squarely on instructors who are skillful in group process. Other helpful features of the guide include: background readings for the teacher, an annotated bibliography of printed and audio-visual materials for students, and answers to frequently asked questions about sex. For a copy write to: State of California Documents Section, P. O. Box 20191, Sacramento, CA 95820. Price: \$5.20 plus 5% tax.

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The first is in regard to the ultimate achievement or restoration of such rights in behalf of those to whom they have been denied. The second is in regard to the use and/or abuse of such rights by those who have achieved them.

Perhaps SIECUS, the ethicists and the many others who now struggle with change and behavioral concerns will need to learn a page from the book of the physicists who, in only the last 300 years, have had to shift successively from verities posited as eternal by Galileo and Newton and their observations, to a twentieth century Einstein who showed these to be all wrong, to the "logic" of Von Neuman and the quantum mechanic who saw that the new entities were really the same questions and answers we had known before only in different arrangements. Now the physicist may look forward to the fruit of the speculations of a Thomas Etter* who sees our present knowledge, including that about sexuality, as consisting only of bits and pieces of a whole which is yet to be discerned, but which yet must not exclude such deep knowledge as we have already. Such openness and flexibility in the search for reality and the truth about sexuality would be worthy of the best efforts of all of us—for the good of all of us.

*Physicist and researcher, Program in Human Sexuality, University of Minnesota School of Medicine.

AUDIO-VISUAL REVIEWS

Audio-visual material is reviewed by Derek L. Burleson, Ed.D., SIECUS Director of Educational and Research Services, unless otherwise indicated.

A Half Million Teenage Plus (Revised). 16mm, sound/color, 17 minutes. Price: \$215. **Look What's Going Around.** 16mm, sound/color, 16 min. Price: \$195. Churchill Films, 662 North Robertson Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90069.

These two new VD films are reviewed together because they demonstrate how essentially the same content can be presented in two formats for two different audiences. This is both good film making and good marketing. Selecting the right film for a particular audience is never easy, but when the film maker recognizes this problem and tailors the production to the audience, then teachers can only be grateful.

The first film, *A Half Million Teenagers Plus* is a complete revision of a decade-old film that has had wide use in VD education programs. The evolution of the title of this film from "a quarter million" to "a half million" to "a half million plus" documents clearly the growing public health menace of these communicable diseases. Traditional topics in VD films such as symptoms, differences in male and female symptomatology, epidemiology, treatment and prevention are handled in a straightforward didactic fashion, using animation and informal lecture by a young female public health physician. It is encouraging to see health education films of this type beginning to get away from the exclusive use of paternal models of the medical profession as authority figures. More than facts, however, this film deals directly with the feelings of fear a person faces when seeking treatment in a clinic. The critical issue of informing contacts and the guilt and ethical dilemmas surrounding this decision is particularly well handled. The film closes with some questions that serve as good lead-ins to group discussion. All in all this is an outstanding revision that should find wide use in high schools.

The second film, *Look What's Going Around*, while covering the same factual content, is obviously focussed on the sexually active young person who is a high risk candidate for VD. It is more direct, more explicit and hard hitting. Set in a public health clinic, the film makes good use of a rap session format

in which young people tell about their experiences with VD, their treatment in clinics, and their feelings about reporting their contacts. There are good exchanges between the men and women about taking responsibility for their own health and that of their partners. Such realistic and unrehearsed dialogue lends an atmosphere of authenticity and credibility—qualities that young people too often find lacking in educational films they see. These same qualities will make this film unacceptable in some schools.

Both these films should be previewed before purchase. Both are recommended. There are audiences for both of them in most communities.

To Be Married. 16mm sound, color, 13 min. Billy Budd Films. 235 East 57th St., New York, NY 10022. Price: \$175, rental: \$17.50.

The institution of marriage is under scrutiny today. Some would-be prophets quote divorce statistics and predict that traditional monogamous marriage is going out of style. Some even go so far as to say, "good riddance." But the statistics also show that more people are marrying than ever before and most divorced people remarry or want to remarry. This film isn't going to resolve the issue of the future of marriage, but it can serve as a springboard for extended discussion of what it means to be married, a subject about which young people today have some strong opinions. Using a kaleidoscope of scenes of young people dating, moving into a new apartment, and other family activities together with a voice-over narration giving opinions and emotional reactions to the general topic of marriage and its possible meanings, the film covers a wide range of feelings.

Some samples: "Marriage is just another way for a person to become fulfilled. That's not a woman's whole existence—her marriage." "I don't believe people change that much. I don't believe that you marry someone in the hopes that they're going to change." "You don't get married to complete yourself. You get married because you

think you have something to share." "We both feel the same way about sex, that we do want to be virgins when we get married. I know that's obsolete but that is the way we feel." "I'm not down on marriage but I just don't feel that I want to take any responsibilities." This is not a film that provides scholarly insights into some of the more radical alternatives to marriage being discussed today. But, on balance, it does lay open many of the issues, doubts and questions young people are concerned about as they look ahead to marriage. Recommended for high school family life classes and young adult discussion groups.

Menstruation. 16mm sound/color. 18 min. Phoenix Films Inc., 470 Park Ave. S., New York NY 10016. Price: \$275; rental: \$30.

Does this world need a new menstruation education film? Haven't all our sixth grade daughters (and sons too, hopefully) learned about that monthly event with those deadly serious films that work so hard to reassure pre-pubescent girls that it's wonderful being a girl and everything is OK down there? Evidently not, for here is a new film on menstruation which is not exactly educational (it's funny) and it is not exactly for sixth graders (its parody and satire would escape them). Actually the film is educational and entertaining as well. It combines a variety of film techniques—street interviews, animation, dream sequences, sight gags, and pop art—to put across basic factual information, to deal with myths about menstruation, to become familiar with the various types of napkins and tampons and to understand different attitudes women have about menstruation. To see this once unmentionable topic treated with both directness and humor makes good sense, because it puts this completely natural physical process into a healthy perspective. The tongue-in-cheek tone of the film will appeal to older adolescents and college students. It is good to be able to recommend a film that entertains as it instructs. This one does just that.

JOURNAL REVIEWS

MEDICAL ASPECTS OF HUMAN SEXUALITY

(Hospital Publications, 18 East 48th Street, New York, NY 10017)

Reviewed by Robert L. Arnstein, M.D.

May 1974

Sexual Adjustment to Contraception: Oral Contraceptives Versus Tubal Ligation. S. Jerome Kutner, Ph.D., and Winston R. Schwyhart, M.A.

A review of studies indicates that sexual adjustment is not affected physiologically by oral contraception, but does seem to be by tubal ligation. The evidence, however, is confusing and the authors make clear that further rigorous research needs to be done. The commentaries stress the need to take into account the existing levels of sexual dysfunction when such studies are conducted.

Interview: Women and Rape. Karen Kollias and Julia Tucker.

Interesting interviews with two knowledgeable women who discuss frankly women's problems with rape, before, during, and after. The first interview is conducted by Lorna Flynn, a SIECUS Board member, and also describes the organizing of a Rape Crisis Center. There is practical advice on ways to discourage rape and discussions of evidence needed for conviction of the rapist.

June 1974

Woman's Role in Male Impotence. Henry J. Friedman, M.D.

The author generalizes about males and females in married couples in which the husband becomes impotent. He finds the men are frequently inexperienced sexually and tend to see their wives as perfect, whereas the wives do not expect to participate actively in the sexual encounter and are sexually inhibited. He furthermore suggests that there may be a "neurotic fit" between the partners leading originally to the coupling.

Interview: Sexual Dysfunction and Psychosomatic Illness. Interview with Daniel H. Labby, M.D. Ira Pauly, M.D.

An experienced physician discusses the relationship between emotions and sexual functioning. He describes symptoms which patients present and discusses how to deal with such problems.

Decisions in Sexuality: An Act of Impulse, Conscience, or Society? Roy W. Menninger, M.D.

An excellent discussion of a very difficult and crucial subject. The author notes the impact of the revolution in sexual attitudes in increasing the frequency of need for such decisions and schematically outlines the factors that are involved. He uses psychoanalytic concepts of id, superego, ego, and environment but strips them of any obscurity by describing their function and source. The multiple uses of sexuality are detailed and the importance of understanding inner feelings prior to taking action is stressed. Two case examples are given as illustrations, and the author recommends talking out problems in groups as a means to increase the thoughtfulness of decisions. The commentaries discuss further practical steps that can be taken to help young people struggle with these decisions.

Viewpoints: Why Do Some Marriages Break Up Under Sexual Pressures That Others Can Endure? David Mendell, M.D., Carlfred B. Broderick, Ph.D., Clara C. Livsey, M.D., Harriet F. Pilpel, LL.B.

All agree that marital bonds are complex with many strands of gratification (and dissatisfaction) besides the sexual. Attitudes against divorce, economic factors, areas of mutual interest and affectional ties all may balance or outweigh difficulties in the sexual sphere. If these do not exist the sexual pressures may be determining.

July 1974

Sex in the Upper Middle Class. John F. Cuber, Ph.D.

The author points out that social class affects the style and pattern of marital life and this, in turn, affects patterns of

sexual behavior. He stresses the career pressures of the upper middle class and seems to feel that these almost inevitably affect the marital sexual relationship adversely. The negative effect, however, he feels is instigated by other gratifications. Generally, he seems to feel that things are pretty bleak on the upper middle class sexual scene, but he does find that a minority (20%) "maintain a vigorous, meaningful and fulfilling sex life even into their later years" (the case cited is age 55).

August 1974

Unrealistic Sexual Expectations. Harvey W. Caplan, M.D. and Rebecca A. Black.

A somewhat diffuse article that advances an important concept but seems to shift its point of reference rather confusingly. "Expectations" sometimes refer to the partner's expectations of the sexual experience, sometimes to their expectation of each other, and sometimes to some performance standard they use to measure masculinity or femininity. The authors cite several clinical examples of dysfunction that they feel were caused by the pressures one or the other partner felt, and they illustrate how modifying the partner's expectation led to improvement in the couples' enjoyment. There is some suggestion, however, that in the process the authors set up an alternate set of "standards" ("self-acceptance, good communication, willingness to share vulnerabilities, trust, etc.") that may be as difficult to fulfill as the "performance standard". This comment is not meant to question the success of their therapeutic work with given couples.

September 1974

Conscious and Unconscious Factors in Marital Infidelity. Bernard L. Greene, M.D., Ronald R. Lee, Ph.D., and Noel Lustig, M.D.

The authors categorize reasons given by patients for marital infidelity and contrast these with unconscious influences that emerged during psychotherapy. They relate the dynamics to

three major diagnostic categories: psychoses, character disorders, and neuroses. The authors and the commentary by Stanley E. Willis, II, M.D., J.D. both stress the "transactional" context and relate the behavior, particularly in the neurotic group, to the dynamics of the marital relationship.

The Primal Scene: Exposure to Parental Intercourse. Wayne A. Myers, M.D.

An excellent discussion of an event which is often referred to but rather rarely considered in detail. The author makes the important contribution of stressing that many factors (age of the child, frequency of viewing, what is actually seen, attitude of the parents) affect the impact on the child. In other words there is no single outcome that can be assumed from the fact of the child viewing parental intercourse. There is a brief but helpful discussion of the psychosexual development of the child as it may potentially relate to the event and some general comments on ways to lessen any negative results that may occur. There are two good commentaries that add significantly to the discussion.

THE FAMILY COORDINATOR

(National Council on Family Relations, 1219 University Avenue, S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55414).

Reviewed by Lester A. Kirkendall, Ph.D.

July 1974

The Making of Family Roles and Family Change. Joan Aldous.

How role-making relates to family change in dual career families, one-parent families, cohabiting and remarried couples. Suggestions for family practitioners.

Interview With a Transsexual. Harold T. Christensen.

A six-page transcript of a male-to-female transsexual, age 54. Illustrates many features common to this phenomenon.

Development of Sex Role Stereotypes. Claudene Cline Naffziger and Ken Naffziger.

Analyzes the cognitive, affective and cognitive aspects of stereotyping in

school and home. Values and biases not usually considered are mentioned. Role stereotypes should be abolished.

Teaching a Course in Human Sexuality in a Graduate School of Social Work: Strategy and Content. Libby A. Tanner.

How a course in human sexuality was developed and implemented at a graduate school of social work. Methods and materials used in the course are delineated in detail.

**JOURNAL OF MARRIAGE
AND THE FAMILY**

(National Council on Family Relations, 1219 University Avenue, S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55414)

Reviewed by Diane Blake Brashear, Ph.D.

August 1974

The Measurement of Pre-Marital Sexual Permissiveness: A Comparison of Two Guttman Scales. Gary D. Hampe and Howard J. Junior.

Two Guttman scales that measure sexual attitudes were evaluated. These scales were administered to the same probability sample of college students. The Intimacy Permissiveness Scale developed by George R. Carpenter in conjunction with Harold T. Christensen and the Pre-marital Permissiveness Scale provided by Ira Reiss were used.

Factor analysis revealed the IPS to be multi-dimensional whereas the PSP scale was found to fit the conceptional framework that had been established for pre-marital sexuality. This analysis is helpful to investigators interested in the area of pre-marital sexuality.

Self Esteem and Sexual Permissiveness. Daniel Perlman.

A current investigation of a liberal New York Campus found that there was a non-significant association between esteem and permissiveness. High esteem respondents reported more coital partners.

An Investigation of Sex Related Slang Vocabulary and Sexual Orientation Among Male and Female Members of the University Students. Nancy G. Kutner and Donna Brogan.

Undergraduate males, undergraduate females and graduate female nursing students were asked to list all the slang expressions they know for seventeen sex related stimulus words. An adapted TFI scale was used to measure sexual orientation of the subjects. Males listed a significantly larger total number of slang expressions than the female groups. Among the females, religious involvement and conditional sexual orientation inversely related to the extent of their slang vocabulary. A content analysis of the slang expressions listed for three stimulus words showed much sexual exploitation imagery in males' slang vocabularies.



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Sex Information and Education Council of the U.S.

1855 Broadway, New York, New York 10023

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PERMIT No. 3696