

**Los Angeles  
Gay & Lesbian Police  
Advisory Task Force**

**Gay & Lesbian Cultural  
Awareness Training  
for  
Law Enforcement**

***APPENDIX***

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*Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Police Advisory Task Force*  
P.O. Box 93115, Los Angeles, CA 90092, (213) 871-5861

Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Police Advisory Task Force

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for Law Enforcement©***

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Note: These articles could be reproduced into booklet form for use by students and instructors.

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## Topic 1 • Definitions

### **Homosexuality-**

Primary sexual attraction to members of the same gender.

### **Homophobia-**

The fear of or other emotional aversion to lesbians and gay men. Prejudice or bigotry towards lesbians and gay men.

### **Heterosexism-**

The explicit or implicit assumption that everyone is heterosexual i.e., heterosexism is “the continual promotion by major social institutions of heterosexuality and the simultaneous subordination”<sup>1</sup> of gays, lesbians and bisexuals. Example: in media coverage would be a story on how couples plan to spend Valentine’s Day that includes only straight couples, and an article on problems faced by women in the military that fails to mention the struggles of lesbians in the armed forces. The distinction between homophobia and heterosexism is an approximate reflection in language of the difference between strongly emotional negative attitudes towards gay people and a conscious or unconscious bias that straight people are more important than gay people, and/or that gay people do not exist.

### **Lesbianism-**

The term for a female with a same-gender orientation. The regular and conscious use of “lesbian,” as in “lesbians and gay men,” affirms the equality and independence of women within the gay community. Reference to “gay people” and the “gay community” as inclusive of lesbians and gay men is acceptable if not relied upon exclusively. Many lesbians prefer the term “gay woman.”

### **Gay-**

The preferred term for reference to a same-gender orientation. As a matter of principle, a social group should be identified by the name that its members prefer: the difference between homosexual and gay is, for example, comparable to the distinction between Negro and Black or African American. Gay is preferred to homosexual in part because the latter implicitly emphasizes the sexual and diminishes the other aspects of gender orientation. Some people would banish the word homosexual altogether. Stylistically, gay is often paired with “**straight**,” meaning heterosexual, while **homosexual** is paired with heterosexual. Historically, the word “gay” was used in 18th Century England to connote the conduct of a playboy. Later, in the 19th Century, “gay” when applied to women, came to mean “of loose morals; a prostitute.”<sup>2</sup> In the US by the early 20th Century, the use of “gay” as applied to male homosexual had been circulating and was

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<sup>1</sup>Neisen, Joseph, “Heterosexism or Homophobia?” *Out/Look*, 3:2, Fall 1990, p.36

<sup>2</sup>Dynes, Wayne. “Homosexism: A Historical and Cultural Lexicon of Homosexuality.” *Gai Saber Monographs #4*, New York: The Scholarship Committee of the Gay Academic Union, 1985.

first printed in 1933 in the Noel Ersines' *Dictionary of Underground Slang* as "geycat." By 1955, Peter Wildeblood defined "gay" as "an American euphemism for homosexual."

### **Gay man/male-**

The preferred term for a man with a same-gender orientation.

### **Gay woman/female-**

Acceptable term for a woman with a same-gender orientation.

### **Sexual Orientation-**

**Homosexual, Heterosexual, or Bisexual:** In laws and elsewhere, sexual orientation is usually limited to these three possibilities which together fill the universe of sexual possibilities. This usage distinguishes sexual orientation from **sexual attractions** (such as affinity for leather, cross dressing, relations with persons of a particular age, and others) which occur among straight people, bisexuals, and lesbians and gay men and are, accordingly, independent of a person's sexual orientation. "**Gender orientation**" (as in "same-gender orientation" or "opposite-gender orientation") is used occasionally as a synonym for "sexual orientation" because it avoids excessive focus on the sexual element of sexual orientation and provides for a clear distinction between the limited universe of gender orientations. However, some people fear that "gender orientation" is too easily confused with "**gender identity**," which relates to transsexualism and is unrelated to sexual orientation. In sum, gender orientation is not yet a common usage, and sexual orientation has been codified in nondiscrimination laws, so sexual orientation will surely remain a common and acceptable usage for the foreseeable future.

### **Sexual Preference-**

"Sexual preference" and similar terms should be avoided as a synonym for sexual orientation. They suggest that sexual orientation is a choice— even a casual choice— which it is not. No person would "choose" to become a stigmatized outcast of society.

### **Lifestyle-**

There is no single "gay lifestyle." Lesbians and gay men lead diverse lives and work in all occupations in every region of the country. Gay people are single and in couples, intellectuals and jocks, rich, middle class and poor, urban, suburban and rural. The term "gay Lifestyle" is often used to describe the newest of gay stereotypes, the "fast-lane" white gay man living in an urban area. Do not assume that homosexuals are promiscuous. Many lesbians and gay men are involved in monogamous relationships and build their lives together without the support of social sanctions like marriage and spousal benefits and, often, without the support of their families.

### **Coming out-**

Is a process by which a person comes to accept his/her homosexuality. There are many levels of "coming-out." First gays or lesbians must accept their difference from "straight" society. As they become accepting of themselves, they tend to share with family and friends this new revelation by "coming-out" to them. To complete the process, gays or lesbians may "come-out" at work and not hide who they are in any social

or professional setting. It should be noted that when gays or lesbians “come-out” to others, they also face a “coming-out” process of their own—a process of reflecting upon their own biases and subsequent acceptance of all gays and lesbians.

### **Bisexuality-**

The common term for a person whose same-gender and opposite-gender orientations are more or less equally intense. True **bisexuals** fall in the “middle” of the sexual orientation spectrum. Some people—particularly young people—self-identify as bisexual primarily during a transitional stage when they are in conflict between the demands of a heterosexist society and their acknowledgment and acceptance of their primary same-gender orientation.

**Pedophiles-** Pedophilia, sexual attraction to children, should not be confused with homosexuality. Pedophiles are adults who are sexually attracted to minors. Many do not make a distinction between boys and girls. A major study commissioned by the National Institute for Mental health found that men who molest boys generally identify themselves as heterosexuals. Typically, pedophiles are married, often with children of their own. Most men and women who seek exploitative relationships exclusively with same-sex children have never had an interest in sex with adults of the same sex. They are attracted to minors because they are interested in power. Given these facts, news reports about people who sexually abuse children should refer to the molesters as pedophiles, not as homosexuals, lesbians or gay men, and to refer to sex between adults and children as pedophilia. (See Topic 2 for research on pedophilia).

### **Pejorative Terms-**

The terms “fag,” “dyke,” “queer,” “homo,” etc. are classified as pejoratives. These are words meant to hurt a person based on some physical or emotional characteristics. Sometimes these words are used by members of the lesbian and gay community among themselves, just as African Americans sometimes use the word “nigger” among themselves, but this does not grant a general license to non-gay people to use these terms. Currently, the term “queer” has been appropriated by some gay activists to reflect the oppression of gays, lesbians, bisexuals by non-gays. *Queer Nation* is one of such groups. Although the gay press is starting to use “queer” more and more, it still offends most people. Time will tell if “queer” becomes the new political term for gay and lesbian liberation.

**Transvestite-** Transvestite is a person who chooses to wear clothing that society deems appropriate for the opposite gender. German sexologist Magnus Hirschfeld introduced the term in 1910. Transvestitism is prevalent amongst both heterosexuals and homosexuals. When transvestites completely dress in clothing of the opposite sex, they are attempting to “pass” as the opposite sex. Homosexual transvestites are popularly known as “drag queens.” Homosexuals who mix clothing of both genders are said to be “campy.”

**Transsexual-** Transsexuals are persons deeply dissatisfied with the gender to which they are born. They may seek to change their gender through surgery and/or hormonal

therapy. Although transsexuals must undergo a careful screening to determine if their gender dysphoria was acute enough to warrant gender reassignment, follow-up research has shown that many post-operative transsexuals are dissatisfied with the procedure. A newer term, **pansexual**, has been adopted to include transsexuals and all other persons whose gender, sexual orientation and affective orientation do not coincide with societal norms.

**Intersex-** The old term, “hermaphrodite,” was inaccurate because it implied that an intersex person contained both the genitalia of men and women. Instead, people whose genital is not distinctly “male” or “female,” but some combination of both is now referred to as “intersex.”

## Topic 1 • Discrimination

### Physical Attack

Discrimination against gays, like rape, goes seriously underreported. A recent extensive study by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force found that over 90 percent of gays and lesbians had been victimized in some form on the basis of their sexual orientation.<sup>3</sup>

The most extreme form of antigay violence is gay bashing—where groups of young men target another man who they suppose is gay and beat and kick him unconscious and sometimes to death amid a torrent of taunts and slurs. This violence has the same social origin and function as lynching of blacks—to keep a whole stigmatized group in line. The police and courts have routinely averted their eyes, giving implicit approval to the practice.

### Judicial Discrimination

For those few cases that do make to the courts, some are marked with inequitable procedures and results. Many cases are dismissed because the gay bashers were "just All-American Boys"<sup>4</sup> or tried as juveniles<sup>5</sup>, testimony from gays discounted<sup>6</sup>, "justified" self-defenses—the killer need only claim his act was a panicked response to a sexual overture<sup>7</sup>, and highly improbable insanity or other "diminished capacity" defenses<sup>8</sup>.

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<sup>3</sup> National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, *Anti-Gay/Lesbian Victimization* (Washington D.C.: National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, 1989). See also, "Anti-Gay Violence," Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Committee on the Judiciary, House of Representative, 99th Congress, 2nd Session, October 9, 1986

<sup>4</sup> "Two St. John's Students Given Probation in Assault on Gay," *The Washington Post*, May 15, 1984. The 1980 Mariel boat-lift, which included thousands of gays escaping Cuban internment camps, inspired U.S. Federal District Judge A. Andrew Jauk in open court to comment of a Mexican illegal alien caught while visiting his resident alien daughter: "And he isn't even a fag like all these faggots we're letting in." *The Advocate* (Los Angeles), November 27, 1980, no. 306, p. 15. CF "Gay Refugees Tell of Torture, Oppression in Cuba," *The Advocate*, August 21, 1980. no. 299, pp.15-16

<sup>5</sup> See *The New York Times*, September 17, 1984,p. D17 and October 6, 1984, p.6

<sup>6</sup> John D'Emilio writes of the trial of seven police officers caught in a gay bar shake-down racket: "The defense lawyer cast aspersions on the credibility of the prosecution witness . . . and deplored a legal system in which 'the most notorious homosexual may testify against a policeman.' Persuaded by this line of argument, the jury acquitted all of the defendants." *Sexual Politics, Sexual Communities: The Making of a Homosexual Minority in the United States, 1940-1970* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1983), p. 183

<sup>7</sup> See for discussion and examples, Pat Califia, "'Justifiable' Homicide?" *The Advocate*, May 12, 1983, mo. 367, p.12 and Robert G. Bagnall, et al., "Burdens on Gay Litigants

These inequitable procedures and results collectively show that the life and liberty of gays, like those of blacks, simply count for less than the life and liberty of members of the dominant culture.

### Employment Discrimination

Some gays have been discriminated against in employment. This discrimination not only affects the ability of gay people to financially support themselves, but it adversely affects their self-esteem. Governments are the leading offenders as are government contractors by the establishment of precedents and models. The U.S. Government explicitly discriminates against gays in the armed forces, the CIA and FBI, the National Security Agency, the state department and refuses to give DOE security clearances to gays<sup>9</sup>. (As of this writing 9/95, President Clinton signed an executive order barring discrimination in security clearance processing— but some politicians have vowed to fight the order). State and local governments regularly fire gay teachers<sup>10</sup>, police and fire personnel, social workers, and anyone who has contact with the public. Further, states through licensing laws officially bar gays from a vast array of occupations and professions—everything from doctors, lawyers, accountants, and nurses to hairdressers, morticians, school teachers and used car dealers<sup>11</sup>.

### Life-Style Discrimination

Some private-sector employment, public accommodations, housing, immigration and naturalization, insurance of all types, custody and adoption, and zoning regulations that bar "singles" or "non-related" couples are regulations used to discriminate against gays. Similarly, gays are frequently barred from hospitals to visit their partners and have no property rights upon the death or incapacitation of their partners. Approximately 50 municipalities have so far enacted non-discrimination provisions designed to protect

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and Bias in the Court System: Homosexual Panic, Child Custody, and Anonymous Parties, *Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review* (1984) 19:498-515

<sup>8</sup> *The New York Times*, July 25, 1981, p. 27 and July 26, 1981, p.25. Also see Randy Shilts, *The Mayor of Castro Street: The Life and Times of Harvey Milk* (New York: St. Martin's, 1982), pp. 308-25

<sup>9</sup> On antigay discrimination in government agencies, see Rhonda R. Rivera, "Queer Law: Sexual Orientation Laws in the Mid-eighties: Parts I and II," *University of Dayton Law Review* (1985) 10:483-540, and (1986) 11:275-324

<sup>10</sup> *Gaylord v. Tacoma School District No. 10*, 88 Wash. 2d 286, 292, 295, 559 P.2d 1340, 1343, 1345 (Sup. Ct. Wash., 1977) (upholding the firing of a gay teacher for being immoral), cert. denied, 434 U.S. 879 (1977); see also *Rowland v. Mad River Local School District*, 730 F.2d 444 (6th Cir. 1984) (upholding, against first amendment and Equal Protection challenges, the permanent suspension of a school counselor for mentioning her lesbianism at school), cert. denied, 470 U.S. 1009 (1985)

<sup>11</sup>Hunter, Nan; Michaelson, Sheryl; Skoddard, Thomas; *Rights of Lesbians and Gay Men*. Carbondale: So. Illinois University Press, 1992. 3rd Edition.

gays. Both Berkeley and San Francisco have passed "domestic partner" legislation, but these are still being challenged by the courts. There is no state in the union that allows gay marriages.

## Topic 1 • Homophobia

### HOMOPHOBIA — WHAT IT IS AND WHO IT HURTS

(Reprinted by permission: Uribe, Virginia Ph.D.. 1989. *PROJECT 10 Handbook*. Friends of Project 10, Inc. 7850 Melrose Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90046 (213) 651-5200)

HOMOPHOBIA is defined as the fear, dislike or hatred of lesbians and gays, often resulting in acts of prejudice and discrimination. Homophobia does not exist in isolation, and share many characteristics with other forms of prejudice such as racism and sexism. Because of their sexual orientation, gays and lesbians are denied access to the rights and privileges enjoyed by others, and are therefore sometimes called a “minority” group. Many gays and lesbians are also members of other minority groups, and thus suffer oppression in multiple ways.

Two components make up the phenomenon of HOMOPHOBIA. The first is prejudice for the Latin root “pre-judgment,” which is to hold an adverse opinion or belief about a group without just ground or before acquiring sufficient knowledge. When prejudiced feelings of beliefs move into the realm of behavior, the result is discrimination. Discrimination denies to individuals or to groups of people equality of treatment, in this case on the basis of sexual orientation.

Often major social institutions — laws, customs, religion, education, and so forth — work to reinforce existing prejudice and discrimination. This is said to constitute institutional discrimination.

Homophobia manifest itself in three ways: OVERT HOMOPHOBIA, INSTITUTIONAL HOMOPHOBIA, and SOCIETAL HOMOPHOBIA.

- OVERT HOMOPHOBIA includes violence, verbal abuse, use of defamatory words, name-calling and character assassination. Direct violence against homosexuals is a nationwide phenomenon. Studies by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force done in 1988 showed that over 90 percent of the respondents experienced some form of victimization on account of sexual orientation — greater than one out of three has been threatened directly with violence.
- INSTITUTIONAL HOMOPHOBIA. Major institutions such as government, schools, businesses, and religion create all sorts of policies which dictate codes of behavior and reinforce attitudes and values. Institutions have tremendous power and social status, and, through penalties and rewards, disapproval and approval, create incentives for conformity to those norms. Few contemporary institutions have policies supportive of homosexuals, and many actively work against gays. In fact, homosexuals are adversely affected by existing social, business, and religious institutions.

Examples of institutional homophobia include the invalidation of personal unions, illegality of same-sex activity in many states, exclusion from job protections which regulate fair employment practices, housing discrimination, rights of child custody,

immigration, inheritance, security clearances, public accommodations, and police protection. Many state and private child welfare agencies have stated or implied policies denying same-sex couples or individuals the right to adopt or serve as foster parents, and gay fathers and lesbian mothers have repeatedly lost custody of their children in the courts primarily because of their sexual orientation.

The military effectively discriminates against gays and lesbians by barring them from enlisting in the service. Organized religious institutions exclude admitted homosexuals, often branding them as “sinners,” “deviants,” and “abominations.”

Legal sanctions directed against gays and lesbians are increasingly being acknowledged as visible and clear indications of homophobic actions. Less obvious and more difficult to change are the many social codes of behavior which, though not written into law, nonetheless work within a society to legitimize oppression.

**SOCIETAL HOMOPHOBIA.** Invisibility and denial of existence of homosexuals by the media are the most effective ways of invalidating gays and lesbians in society. Newsworthy events are not covered by the press, legitimate research in areas such as teen suicide is suppressed, positive role models are seldom portrayed, and gays and lesbians are encouraged to keep their lives secret. The use of derogatory labels by TV personalities and politicians is tolerated, if not encouraged, and the struggle for equality by gays and lesbians is often trivialized as excessive or overindulgent.

Internalized homophobia manifests itself in many ways among homosexuals themselves. Denial of one’s sexual orientation, contempt for “open” and “obvious” members of the community, distrust of other gay people, projection of prejudice onto another minority group, attempts to “pass” as heterosexual, sometimes even dating or marrying someone of the opposite sex in order to gain approval, increased fear and withdrawal from friends and relative, and in some instance suicide are but some examples of the destructive force of internalized self-hatred.

Topic 1 • Chronology of United States Lesbian and Gay Movement

(Reprinted by permission: Homophobia: *Discrimination Based on Sexual Orientation*, Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/LA (GLAAD), P.O. Box 931763, Los Angeles, CA 90093, (213) 931-9429.)

YEAR	EVENT
1890's- 1920's	Most states and municipalities have specific laws on homosexuality that restricted public discussion, assembly and sexual acts of gays. Thus, gays were unable to meet socially or dance together. Even into the 1980's, gay men were restricted in many states from touching or removing their shirts at discos.  Beginnings of lesbian and gay social institutions in major cities.
1924	Society for Human Rights, first formally organized gay movement group in the U.S., formed in Chicago.
1945	Large numbers of lesbian and gay veterans of World War II settle in cities, greatly increasing the size of urban lesbian and gay communities.
1947-53	McCarthyism: purge of homosexuals from federal government; thousands lose their jobs. Ironically, Roy Cohn, McCarthy's right-hand man, was gay.
1948	Kinsey Report published: first major survey detailing American homosexual behavior.
1951	Mattachine Society formed in Los Angeles (grows to over 100 discussion groups in Southern California by 1953)
1954	<i>One</i> , the first magazine for the lesbian and gay community, published in Los Angeles.
1955	The Daughters of Bilitis, the first lesbian organization, is formed in San Francisco.
1958	U.S. Supreme Court rules that <i>One</i> magazine may be sent through the mail (first U.S. Supreme Court victory for the lesbian and gay community).
1961	Illinois becomes the first state to decriminalize homosexuality between consenting adults in private.

- 1967 Gays march on Los Angeles Police Department, protesting arrests (first gay protest march in U.S.).
- Lesbian mother given visitation right to see children but must be accompanied by another adult. (Nadler v. Superior Court, 255 Cal. App. 3d 523,
- 1967-68 Emergence of support/social groups on college campuses such as the Student Homophile League at Columbia and New York University.
- 1968 Metropolitan Community Church founded by lesbian and gay Christians in Los Angeles.
- 1969 Riot in response to police harassment at **Stonewall** Bar in New York City. (Recognized as the beginning of the gay and lesbian liberation movement. Early focus was on securing right to congregate at bars or other public places without being arrested.)
- 1971 Connecticut, Colorado and Oregon decriminalize homosexual acts. National Organization for Women acknowledges oppression of lesbians.
- 1973-74 Homosexuality no longer considered a mental disorder by the American Psychiatric Association.
- 1974 Kathy Kozachenko was elected to the Ann Arbor City Council in April; first openly gay person elected to public office. Elaine Noble elected to Massachusetts Legislature as an openly lesbian candidate in November.
- 1975 California decriminalizes homosexuality.
- Federal government eliminates ban on employment of homosexuals within civil service. (Federal Personnel Manual Supplement)
- 1978 California state senator John Briggs proposes an amendment to expel from school systems lesbians and gay men and those who support equal rights for lesbians and gay men. Voters defeat the proposition by 58% to 42%.
- Harvey Milk, openly gay member of the Board of Supervisors, assassinated in San Francisco City Hall by ex-Supervisor Dan White (who also assassinates San Francisco Mayor George Moscone).
- Internal Revenue Service allows educational gay groups to attain non-profit status under 501(c)(3) section.

- 1979 First March on Washington for Gay Rights (200,000 people).
- (**White Night**) Riots in San Francisco after Dan White convicted of the lesser charge of manslaughter rather than murder for the killing of Harvey Milk.
- Gay Law Students v. Pacific Telephone and Telegraph* extends legal protection under California Labor Code 1101 and 1102 to gay employees of public corporation.
- 1981 Dallas and Meza Police Department are upheld in barring gays from employment. (*Childers v. Dallas Police Department*, 513 F. Supp. 134 (N.D. Tex); and *Horn v. City of Mesa*, No. C427557 (Super. Ct. Ariz. ) This was later over-turned.
- 1982 Wisconsin becomes the first state to pass a wide-reaching law prohibiting discrimination against lesbians and gay men.
- 1984 Project 10 established at Fairfax High School in Los Angeles (nation's first public high school counseling program aimed at the needs of lesbian and gay high school students.)
- 1986 In 1986, the U.S. Supreme Court in *Bowers v. Hardwick* refused to strike down a Georgia law criminalizing sodomy. As of 1986, 24 states still have sodomy laws primarily aimed at controlling homosexuals.
- 1987 October 10-11, 2nd March on Washington for lesbian and gay civil rights — the largest lesbian and gay gathering ever — estimated at 500,000 to 650,000 people.
- 1988 National Education Association adopts resolution calling for every school district to provide counseling for students struggling with their sexual orientation.
- 1991 California Governor Wilson vetoes AB101 (to include gays and lesbians under the state Fair Housing and Employment Commission) that results in massive demonstrations state-wide for many months.
- Soroka v. Dayton Hudson*, affirmed the application of the 1979 *Gay Law Students* case to private California employers.
- U.S. Defense Department drops homosexuality from list of spy traits.
- 1992 California enacts AB2601 that codifies Labor Code 1101 and 1102 to include sexual orientation as a protected class.

President Clinton changes policy for homosexuals in the military to “Don’t ask, don’t tell” policy. Gays and lesbians can now serve in the military if they do not engage in homosexual behavior.

1993 March on Washington attracts over 1.2 million participants.

1995 President Clinton signs executive order barring discrimination in security clearance processing. However, many politicians vow to fight the order.

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## Topic 1 • Pink / Black Triangle

Although pre-war Germany was one of the most open and accepting societies in Europe towards homosexuals, that was to change. *Paragraph 175* instituted by Kaiser Wilhelm I in 1871, made sexual acts between males punishable under law, but it was mostly ignored. Ernst Roehm was Hitler's right-hand man during the early development of the party in the 1920's and was openly homosexual. Roehm headed the dreaded SA for Hitler and was primarily responsible for the acts of terror used to raise Hitler to power. By 1934, a power struggle occurred in which Roehm was ousted and he along with his supporters were killed during what has been named "The Night of the Long Knives." This started the systematic extermination of "undesirables" including homosexuals. Year-by-year, the laws and punishments against male homosexuals increased as part of the "racial" purity programs. Eventually, the death penalty was applied to any male homosexual activity. Although female homosexual activity was not specified under Nazi law, lesbians were rounded up along with prostitutes and gypsies under the accusation of being "decadent."

Below are three excerpts from survivors of the Nazi death camps. Each gives a brief glimpse of life of a homosexual in the concentration camps.

Arrival at Camp—"After a homosexual arrived in camp, he underwent the first experience of all newcomers: he was seized by a profound trauma. He was battered, kicked, slapped, and reviled. According to at least one witness, homosexuals and Jews were not only given the worst beatings, but their pubic hair was shorn; other lost only their head hair."<sup>12</sup> The PINK or LAVENDER TRIANGLE was the patch sewn onto the prison clothes of male homosexuals to identify them from amongst the other prisoners. Women homosexuals had a BLACK TRIANGLE sewn onto their prison clothes

Special Liquidation—"It happened in June 1942. In Camp Sachsenhausen, there started one of those special operations designed to get rid of a few hundred people. This time, they worked out the final solution for the homosexuals; they would be put into a special liquidation command where forced labor and starvation would bring about a slow, painful end . . . After roll call . . . an order was suddenly given: "All inmates with pink triangles will remain standing at attention." We stood on the desolate square . . . our throats dry from fear . . . Then the guardhouse door of the command tower opened and an SS officer and some of his lackeys strode toward us. Our *Kapo* barked: "Three hundred criminal deviants present as ordered." . . . We learned that we were to be segregated in a penal command and the next morning would be transferred as a unit to the cement works . . . We shuddered because these bone mills were more dreaded than any other work detail . . . "You don't have to look so dumb, you butt fuckers," said the officer. "There you'll learn to do honest work with your hands and afterward you will sleep a healthy sleep. You are a biological mistake of the Creator. That's why you must be bent straight. . . . "Guarded by staff sergeants with machine guns, we had to sprint in line of five until we

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<sup>12</sup>Plant, Richard; *The Pink Triangle*, New Republic Books/Henry Holt and Company, Inc. : New York. 1988, p.163

arrived . . . They kept beating us with rifle butts and bullwhips . . . Forced to drag along twenty corpses, the rest of us encrusted with blood, we entered the cement quarry. Then the martyrdom started . . . Within two months, the special operation had lost two-thirds . . . To shoot someone “trying to escape” was a profitable business for the guards. For everyone killed, they received five marks and three days’ special furlough. . . . Whips were used more frequently each morning, when we were forced into the pits. . . . “Only fifty are still alive,” whispered the man next to me. . . . When I weighed not much more than eighty-five pounds, one of the sergeants told me one morning: “Well, that’s it. You want to go to the other side? It won’t hurt. I’m a crack shot.”<sup>13</sup>

Sleeping at Night—“Our block was occupied by homosexuals, with about 250 men in each wing. We could sleep only in our nightshirts and had to keep our hands outside the blankets.” This was to prevent them from masturbating. “The windows had several layers of ice on them. Anyone found in bed with his underclothes on, or his hands under the blankets—there were several checks every night—was taken outside and had several buckets of water poured over him before being left standing in the cold for a good hour. Only a few people survived this treatment. The least result was bronchitis, and it was rare for any homosexual taken into the sick bay to come out alive.”<sup>14</sup>

#### Conclusion:

It is estimated that the Nazi’s arrested and sentenced the following number of men for homosexual activity utilizing *Paragraph 175*; 4,967<sup>15</sup> in the armed forces (1940-43), 38-42,000<sup>16</sup> civilians (1931-1940), and 12,000<sup>17</sup> civilians (1941-1944). It is estimated that over 60% of all homosexuals interned at the concentration camps were exterminated. The number of women arrested for homosexual activity is obscured by the lack of specific categorization. Stories from surviving lesbians report considerable torture and sexual abuse by male guards who tried to “change” or challenge the women’s sexual orientation.

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<sup>13</sup>Stamke, Hans-Georg; Finkler, Rudi; *Rosa Winkel-Rosa Listen*, Hamburg: Rowohlt, 1981, p.292-94 as translated by Richard Plant, *The Pink Triangle*, New Republic Books/Henry Holt and Company, Inc. : New York. 1988

<sup>14</sup>Heger, *Die Männer mit dem Rosa Winkel*, p.36. as published in Richard Plant, *The Pink Triangle*, New Republic Books/Henry Holt and Company, Inc. : New York. 1988 p.164

<sup>15</sup>Seidler, Franz. *Prostitution, Homosexualität und Selbstverstammung*. Neckargemund: Kurt Vowinkel, 1977

<sup>16</sup>Geissler, “Homosexuellen-Gesetzgebund,” p.10 and *Federal Security Office for Combating Abortion and Homosexuality*, p.25.

<sup>17</sup>Stamke, Hans-Georg; Finkler, Rudi; *Rosa Winkel-Rosa Listen*, Hamaburg: Rowohlt, 1981, p.267

## STEREOTYPES

Society holds chiefly two groups of contradictory antigay stereotypes:

- (a) mistakes in an individual's gender identity—lesbians are women that want to be, or at least look and act like, men—bulldykes, diesel dykes; while gay men are those who want to be, or at least look and act like, women—queens, fairies, limp-wrists, nellies. (Note: gays are "queer," at root meaning not merely odd but chiefly counterfeit—"he's as queer as a three dollar bill."), and
- (b) revolves around gays as a pervasive, sinister, conspiratorial and corruptive threat—specifically that gay persons are child molesters, sex-crazed maniacs that threaten the very destruction of the family and civilization.

The early investigations into homosexuality were performed on a skewed sample of psychiatric hospital or prison cases. Not surprisingly these studies confirmed the societal beliefs and false generalizations that gays are crazed and criminal. Evelyn Hooker<sup>18</sup>, who in the mid-fifties carried out the first rigorous studies to use nonclinical gays, found that psychiatrists, when presented with results of standard psychological diagnostic test—but with indications of sexual orientation omitted—were able to do no better than if they had guessed randomly in their attempts to distinguish gay files from nongay ones, even though the psychiatrists believed gays to be crazy and supposed themselves to be experts in detecting craziness. These studies proved a profound embarrassment to the psychiatric establishment, the financial well-being of which was substantially enhanced by 'curing' allegedly insane gays. Eventually the studies contributed to the American Psychiatric Association's dropping homosexuality from its registry of mental illness in 1974<sup>19</sup>. However, the stereotype of gays as sick continues apace in the mind of most Americans and the U.N.'s World Health Organization still lists homosexuality as a mental illness.

False generalizations help maintain stereotypes, they do not form them. Even when the gay stereotype was disproved by Hooker, it has not abated. Stereotype origin lies in a culture's ideology—the general system of beliefs by which it lives—and they are transmitted across generations by diverse cultural transmissions, including slang and jokes. Stereotypes, then, are not the products of bad science, but are social constructions that perform central functions in maintaining society's conception of itself.

It is easy to see that the antigay stereotypes surrounding gender identification are chiefly means of reinforcing still powerful gender roles in society.

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<sup>18</sup> Hooker, Evelyn. 1963. "The Adjustment of the Male Overt Homosexual," *Journal of Projective Techniques* (1957) 21:18-31, reprinted in Hedrik M. Ruitenbeed, ed., *The Problem of Homosexuality*, pp.141-61, epigram quote from p. 149 (New York: Dutton, 1963)

<sup>19</sup> Bayer, Ronald. 1981. *Homosexuality and American Psychiatry*. New York: Basic Books

"The stereotype of gays as child molester, sex-crazed maniacs, and civilization destroyers functions to displace problems from their actual source to a foreign one. Thus, the stereotype of child molester functions to give the family unit a false sheen of absolute innocence. It keeps the unit from being examined too closely for incest, child abuse, wife or husband-battering, and the terrorism of constant threats. The stereotype teaches that the problems of the family are not internal to it, but external. Even when empirical studies<sup>20</sup> showed heterosexuals to be child molesters to a far greater extent than the actual occurrence of heterosexuals in the general population, the stereotype has not been dislodged. However, our media still reinforces our society's beliefs that gays are molesters and crazy. When a mother kills her child or a father rapes his daughter, the media never reports this as evidence that there is something wrong with heterosexuality or with the traditional family. But when a homosexual child molestation is reported it is taken as confirming evidence of the way homosexuals are. One never hears of heterosexual murders, but one regularly reads of "homosexual" ones.

The stereotype of gays as sex-crazed maniacs functions socially to keep individuals' sexuality contained. For this stereotype makes it look as though the problem of how to address one's considerable sexual energies can and should be answered with repression and it gives the impression that the dangerous psychic forces are *out there* where the fags are, not within one's own self. With the decline of the stereotype of the black man as raping pillaging marauder, the stereotype of gay men as sex-crazed maniacs has become more aggravated. The stereotype of the sex-crazed outside threat seems one that society desperately needs to have somewhere in its sexual cosmology."<sup>21</sup>

The problem is not that society's usual standards of evidence and procedure in coming to judgments of social policy have been misapplied to gays, rather when it comes to gays, the standards themselves have simply been disregarded in favor of mechanisms that encourage unexamined fear and hatred.

#### Child Molestation Stereotype

Two extensive studies have concluded that "gay men are no more likely than heterosexual men to molest children."<sup>22</sup> Groth and Birnbaum (1978)<sup>23</sup> found that in their

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<sup>20</sup> De Francis, Vincent. 1969. *Protecting the Child Victim of Sex Crimes Committed by Adults* (Denver: The American Humane Association, 1969); A. Nicholas Groth, "Adult Sexual Orientation and Attraction to Underage Persons," *Archives of Sexual Behavior* (1978); Mary J. Spencer, "Sexual Abuse of Boys," *Pediatrics* (July 1986)

<sup>21</sup> Mohr, Richard D.. 1988. *Gays Justice—A Study of Ethics, Society, and Law*. Columbia University Press

<sup>22</sup>Newton, D.E.: 1978 "Homosexual Behavior & Child Molestation: A Review of the Evidence." *Adolescence*, 13, pp. 29-43

sample of 175 adult males who were convicted of sexual assault against a child, none had an exclusively homosexual adult sexual orientation. Finally, in response to the state of Colorado's attempt to deny rights to homosexuals, the charts of all sexually abused children seen in one year in the child abuse clinic or emergency room of a Colorado children's hospital revealed that homosexual adults abused children from 0% to 3.1%— a rate significantly lower than expected<sup>24</sup>. It must be concluded that children are unlikely to be molested by homosexuals. Children are primarily (82%) molested by heterosexual partners of a close relative.

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<sup>23</sup>Groth, A.N., & Birnbaum, H.J. 1978 “Adult Sexual Orientation & Attraction to underage persons.” *Archives of Sexual Behavior*, 7(3), 175-181.

<sup>24</sup> Jenny, C., Roesler, T., Poyer, K. 1994. Are children at risk for sexual abuse by homosexuals? *Pediatrics*, V.94. N.1, July, p.41-44.

## Topic 2 • Historical Figures

According to many sources, numerous historical figures were involved in same-sex relationships. Many lesbians and gay men hid their sexual orientation fearful of the persecution and prejudice to which they would have been subjected. Even many of the famous figures listed below who were open regarding their sexual orientation are not generally identified as such, as this aspect of their lives was censored or omitted from historical works. The list below, by no means exhaustive, will give the reader a feeling for some of the contributions to our culture made by lesbians and gay men. The sexual orientation of those listed below has been documented by their own work, discussions about their lives, or other historical data.

Sappho	600 B.C.	Greek philosopher, poet
Plato	427-347 B.C.	Greek philosopher
Alexander the Great	356-323 B.C.	Macedonian ruler
Julius Caesar	100-44 B.C.	Roman emperor
Hadrian	76-138 A.D.	Roman emperor
Richard the Lion-Hearted	1157-1199	English king
Richard II	1367-1400	English king
Leonardo Da Vinci	1452-1519	Italian artist, inventor
Desiderius Erasmus	1466-1536	Dutch monk, philosopher
Michelangelo	1475-1564	Italian artist
Montezuma II	1480-1520	Aztec ruler
Sir Francis Bacon <sup>25</sup>	1561-1627	English science philosopher
Christopher Marlowe	1564-1593	English writer
Queen Christina	1626-1689	Swedish queen
Peter the Great	1672-1725	Russian czar
Frederick the Great	1712-1786	King of Prussia
George Washington <sup>26</sup>	1732-1799	1st U.S. President
Cambaceres <sup>27</sup>	1753-1824	Developed Napoleonic law code
Alexander Hamilton <sup>28</sup>	1755-1804	U.S. Statesman
Madame de Stael	1766-1817	French writer
Alexander v Humboldt	1769-1859	Prussian naturalist
Lord Byron	1788-1824	English poet
Hans Christian Andersen	1805-1875	Danish author
Abraham Lincoln <sup>29</sup>	1809-1865	U.S. President

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<sup>25</sup>Rowse, A.L. 1977. *Homosexuals in History: A Study of Ambivalence in Society, Literature and the Arts*. NY: MacMillan

<sup>26</sup>Garde, Noel. 1964. *Jonathan to Gide: The Homosexual in History*. Vantage Press: New York, p. 474; Nash, J. V. *Homosexuality in the Lives of the Great*. Girard, Kansas: Little Blue Book No. 1564

<sup>27</sup>Garde, Noel. 1964. *Jonathan to Gide: The Homosexual in History*. Vantage Press: New York

<sup>28</sup>Katz, Johnathan. 1985. *Gay American History: Lesbians and Gay Men in the U.S.A.* Harper & Row: New York. p.452

Margaret Fuller	1810-1850	U.S. writer, educator
Herman Melville	1819-1891	U.S. author
Walt Whitman	1819-1892	U.S. author
Horatio Alger, Jr.	1832-1899	U.S. author, founder of orphanages
Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky	1840-1893	Russian composer
We-Wha	? - 1896	Zuni Indian and religious pueblo leader
Oscar Wilde	1854-1900	Irish author
Marcel Proust	1871-1922	French author
Sergei Diaghileff	1872-1929	founder of modern Russian ballet
Willa Cather	1873-1947	U.S. author
Colette	1873-1954	French author
S. Josephine Baker	1873-1945	American physician, Child health Pioneer
Amy Lowell	1874-1925	U.S. poet
Gertrude Stein	1874-1946	U.S. author, poet, collector of art
Renee Vivien	1877-1909	English poet
Alice B. Toklas	1877-1967	U.S. author
E.M. Forster	1879-1970	English author
Radclyffe Hall	1880-1943	English author
Virginia Woolf	1882-1941	English author
John Maynard Keynes	1883-1946	English economist
Eleanor Roosevelt <sup>30</sup>	1884-1962	U.S. President wife
Louise Pearce	1885/6-1959	American pathologist developed treatment for trypanosomiasis (African sleeping sickness)
Ernst Roehm <sup>31</sup>	1887-1934	Hitler's Germany SA leader
T.E. Lawrence	1888-1935	English soldier, author
Ludwig Wittgenstein	1889-1951	Austrian mathematician
Jean Cocteau	1889-1963	French author, film maker
Vita Sachville-West	1892-1962	English author
Federico Garcia Lorca	1894-1936	Spanish poet, dramatist
Bessie Smith	1894-1937	Black American singer
J. Eager Hoover <sup>32</sup>	1895-1972	Founder of FBI
Charles Laughton	1899-1962	English actor
Noel Coward	1899-1973	English author, composer
Margaret Mead	1901-1978	American anthropologist
Margherite Yourcenou	1903-1987	French author, translator

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<sup>29</sup>Shively, Charley. 1989. *Drum Beats: Walt Whitman's Civil War Boy Lovers*. San Francisco: Gay Sunshine Press, Chapter 7; Kincaid, Robert L. 1943. *Joshua Fry Speed, Lincoln's Most Intimate Friend*. Harrogate, Tennessee: Lincoln Memorial University; Lincoln, Abraham. 1953-1955. *The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln*. Roy P. Balser, editor. 9 vols. New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press

<sup>30</sup>Lash, Joseph P. 1982. *A World of Love: Eleanor Roosevelt and Her Friends*. Doubleday & Co. : Garden City, N.Y pp. 143-148, 176, 218

<sup>31</sup>Gallo, Max. 1976 *Nuit des long couteaux*. Newport Beach, CA: Book on Tape

<sup>32</sup>Gentry, Curt. 1991. *J. Edgar Hoover; The man, the secrets*. New York: W.W. Norton,

Christopher Isherwood	1904-1986	English author
Dag Hammarskjöld <sup>33</sup>	1905-1961	U.N. Secretary General
Tennessee Williams	1911-1983	U.S. playwright
Alan Turing <sup>34</sup>	1912-1954	British mathematician created first computer theoretical framework,
Benjamin Britten	1913-1976	English composer
Leonard Bernstein	1918-1990	U.S. Conductor, composer
Malcom Forbes <sup>35</sup>	1919-1990	Billionaire Financier
Pier Paolo Pasolini	1922-1975	Italian film maker
James Baldwin	1924-1987	Black American author
Yukio Mishima	1925-1970	Japanese author
Roy Cohn <sup>36</sup>	1927-1986	MacCarthy prosecutor of gays
Andy Warhol	1930-1987	U.S. artist
Michael Bennett	1943-1987	U.S. choreographer, musical theatre

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<sup>33</sup>Hammarskjold, Dag. 1964. *Markings*. New York: Knopf

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### Topic 3 • Demographics

#### Who are gays, lesbians, and bisexuals?

Identifying gays, lesbians and bisexuals is difficult, if not impossible in our heterosexist and homophobic society. Since LGBs are legally fired from their jobs, lose their housing, lose rights to their children and much more simply for being engaging in homosexual behavior, LGBs have a vested interest in not being identified. Accordingly, all research that tries to describe the majority of lesbian and gay people in the U.S. should be questioned and scrutinized. Much of the research, starting with the Kinsey report from the late 1940s, is tainted by the use of “biased samples,” i.e., samples that are not representative of the entire population. For example, many of the stereotypes of gays being alcoholics, criminal and mentally unbalanced came from the psychological studies performed in the 1940s and 1950s. The problem researchers faced was where to find homosexuals. Before the modern gay liberation movement, homosexuals had little more than bars as social gathering places. Thus, researchers faced with finding homosexuals to conduct their studies relied upon bars and other convenient locations such as prisons and mental hospitals. Is it no wonder that these subpopulations revealed that the participants were alcoholics, criminals and mentally unbalanced! Furthermore, how do you define LGBs? Is it based on sexual behavior, sexual and affectionate feelings, socialization patterns, etc., and how often or when in a person's life. Often, gays and lesbians do not come out until later in their lives, after engaging in heterosexual behavior including marriage and producing children. A clear definition of homosexuality influences all research attempting to identify common characteristics.

#### Economic Status of Lesbians and Gay Men

The stereotype that gays have a median income 15%<sup>37</sup> higher than the median family income and have higher educational levels are not valid. These claims originated from marketing companies that want to convince advertisers that they should target the gay and lesbian community and from a misinterpretation of the 1990 U.S. Census data. In the two marketing cases, statistics were obtained from selected groups of readers that are not representative of the larger population. The 1990 U.S. Census of the U.S. population cross-correlated “unmarried partner” and the gender of that partner. Although the numbers showed gays and lesbians earning more than heterosexuals, these advantages disappeared when gender differences were included. Furthermore, age, education, geographic location and other variables affect incomes and need to be matched to accurately obtain a representative sample. So far, only one study of this kind has been conducted<sup>38</sup>. Lee Badgett used data from the General Social Survey that allowed for the identification of people who had sex with partners of the same sex. This random sample discovered that LGBs earned less (5 to 27%) on average than behaviorally heterosexual people.

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<sup>37</sup> Drew, Paul, "Alternative Market: Low Ratings, High Profits," *Billboard* June 7, 1986.

<sup>38</sup>Badgett, M.V. Lee (1993). “Economic evidence of sexual orientation discrimination,” University of Maryland. August .

Some gay and lesbian people are wealthy, just as some heterosexual people are wealthy. But some gay and lesbian people are poor, and most are somewhere in the middle along with the majority of heterosexual people. As the best available academic study shows, the real economic difference is more likely to come from the harmful effects of employment discrimination against lesbian, gay and bisexual people. That study confirms what other groups facing discrimination also know: discrimination doesn't just hurt psychologically — it hits people in their pocketbooks.<sup>39</sup>

### Response to Discrimination

Gay people are like all people everywhere, work in all kinds of professions—ministers, teachers, banktellers, doctors, mailcarriers, secretaries, congressional representatives, etc. However, given the widespread discrimination (actual or merely threatened) against gays in employment, housing and other major modes of self-identity, it is not surprising that gays manifest many of the same self-destructive, self-deluding, self-oppressing patterns of behavior shared by other historically oppressed minorities.<sup>40</sup> The threat of job discrimination prevents some gays from totally participating in the business culture.

Some gays respond to the threat of employment discrimination by becoming workaholics. Their work becomes a mask by which they divert others from examining them too closely and also serves to distract themselves from self-examination. Further, many are driven by a half-conscious belief that if they just show themselves productive enough, they will become "a good person" and overcome their invisible stigma. Instead, their hyperactivity achieves further alienation from themselves and others.

Other gays under-identify with their jobs, resulting in self-defeating poor work performance due to a sense of lack of security and commitment. This becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy of society's estimates of gays. These gays will seek employment in dead-end jobs, ones that do not subject the gay to peer review. Self-employment or frequent job changes effectively reduce the chances that discrimination will occur. In either case, society's discrimination results in many gays not attaining self-worth through gainful employment.

### Aspects of Sexual Identity

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<sup>39</sup>National Organization of Gay and Lesbian Scientists and Technical Professions, Inc. and Institute for Gay and Lesbian Strategic Studies. 1994. "Beyond biased samples: Challenging the myths of the economic status of lesbian and gay men."

<sup>40</sup>For a comparison of black, Jewish, and gay coping mechanisms, especially self-oppression, developed in response to widespread discrimination, see Barry Adam's excellent *The Survival of Domination: Inferiorization in Everyday Life* (New York: Elsevier, 1978), on gay self-oppression, see Adam's chapter 4; see also Andrew Hodges and David Hutter, *With Downcast Gays: Aspects of Homosexual Self-Oppression*, 2d ed. (1974; Toronto: Pink Triangle Press, 1979).

Sexual identity can be seen as having three facets<sup>41</sup>. The first, core morphologic identity (*Gender Identity*), is that deep inner sense of being male or female. The second, gender role behavior (*Social Sex-Role*), refers to behavior relative to the cultural expectations for those of the same gender— i.e., characteristics of being stereotypically “feminine” or “masculine.” It is only in the third, sexual partner orientation (*Sexual Orientation*), that gay or lesbian individuals necessarily differ from heterosexuals in that they are affectionately and sexually attracted to members of their own gender. It is important to recognize that these three identities are independent of each other and any combination may occur with many people identifying between the two extremes. Also, these identities are not fixed, but vary over time and are influenced by historical and cultural influences.

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<sup>41</sup>Green, R. 1974. *Sexual Identity and Conflict in Children and Adults*. New York: Basic Books.

## Origins

Several hypotheses regarding the origins of sexual orientation have been offered<sup>42</sup>. Among them are explanations based on genetic, hormonal, psychological, and social factors. Regardless of the specific antecedents of homosexuality, which many involve elements of both “nature and nurture,” the roots of sexual identity are generally believed to be established during the latency period of childhood, well before adolescence<sup>43,44</sup>. The process by which those roots give rise to meanings that are personalized and integrated into an individual’s concept of self is lifelong and is marked by predictable developmental stages<sup>45</sup>. There are both biological and social factors that affect sexual orientation, factors that are culturally specific and change over time.

When it is realized that 100 percent of the males in certain societies engage in homosexual as well as heterosexual alliances, and when it is understood that many men and women in our society are equally capable of relations with partners of the same or opposite sex, and finally, when it is recognized that this same situation obtains in many species of subhuman primates, then it should be clear that one cannot classify homosexual and heterosexual tendencies as being mutually exclusive or even opposed to each other.<sup>46</sup>

## Incidence

An accurate estimate of the number of gay and lesbian is untenable. The Kinsey, Pomeroy, and Martin (1948)<sup>47</sup> study of sexuality in the 1930’s and 1940’s was important for two reasons: (1) the infamous 10% figure often quoted as being the percentage of humans who are homosexuals originated from the study, and (2) the researchers realized that a more complex model of sexuality was needed and developed the well-known “Kinsey Scale” (see Figure 2) that plots human sexual behavior across a spectrum from exclusively homosexual to exclusively heterosexual. Although the numbers are not accurate, the Kinsey research demonstrated that Americans were sexual and expressed themselves both heterosexually and homosexually, and the amount and kind of activity changed with age, gender, and marital status.

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<sup>42</sup>Greydanus, D.E., & Dewdney, D. 1985 Homosexuality in adolescence. *Seminars in Adolescent Medicine*, 1, p. 117-129

<sup>43</sup>Green, 1974

<sup>44</sup>Troiden, R.R. 1979 Becoming homosexual: A model of gay identify acquisition. *Psychiatry*, 42, p.362-373

<sup>45</sup>Troiden, R.R. 1986 *The Formation of Homosexual Identities: Outline of a Working Paper*. A presentation to the Institute for Continuing Education in Adolescent Health Care: National Symposium on Gay and Lesbian Adolescents, Minneapolis, MN, May 30, 1986.

<sup>46</sup>Ford, C.S., & Beach, F.A. *Patterns of Sexual Behavior*. New York: Harper and Brothers, 1951. p. 236.

<sup>47</sup>Kinsey, A.C., Pomeroy, W.B. & Martin, C.E. 1948 *Sexual Behavior in the Human Male*. Philadelphia: W.B. Saunders Co.

The often quoted “10%” of the population as being homosexual or the more recent studies<sup>48</sup> indicating a lower number, are most likely underestimates. “[Homosexuality] is one of the most difficult things to measure,” says Tom Smith, director of General Social Survey at the National Opinion Research Center (NORC). “It’s personal and intimate, some people won’t admit to it, and its practice is [legally] questionable in some states. Many people won’t give a true response which leads to under-reporting.”<sup>49</sup> An attempt was made by Clark & Tifft (1986) to gauge possible under-reporting discrepancies. In a study of undergraduates at the University of Illinois, initially, the students reported same-gender sexual contacts only 7% of the time. But when the students were allowed to change their answer when confronted with contrary information (polygraph tests), then 22.5 % reported homosexual contact. Such a substantial degree of bias, more than 200%—indicates the difficulty in making reasonable estimates.

It is important to remember that all these studies are conducted in sex-negative, heterosexist and homophobic societies. Estimates as to the incidence of homosexuality should be considered to be underestimates. To truly understand sexual orientation, it is important to look at other cultures and times to see how they constructed sexuality.

#### Cultural/Historical Perspective

Homosexuality has existed through the ages and across many cultures. At times it has been accepted as a natural part of the repertoire of human behavior. In some cultures<sup>50</sup> (New Guinea, Melanesia), everyone behaved homosexually until they approached 30-years of age, whereupon they were expected to marry heterosexually and raise children—yet still allowed to engage in homosexual relations. Other cultures granted special status upon homosexuals because of their apparent “two spirit” nature (Native Americans--Mohave, Hopi; Mexico--Zapotecs; Siberia--Chukchi; Polynesia; Tahitians; India). Also, there existed all one-gender societies that were primarily homosexual (Amazons, Buccaneers, Hoboes, Cowboys, and Loggers).

Every society prescribes behavioral norms and sexual behaviors are never totally free from social constraints. Although homosexuality is found everywhere on earth, in some societies such as ours, its expression is suppressed. These societies are classified as being *sex negative* or *homoerotophobic*. An even larger number of societies condone or even encourage homosexual behavior (*homoerotophilic* or *sex positive*) for all or some of its members under specific conditions. “Behavior that is considered aberrant or deviant in one place may be the norm in another.”

There seems to be no one inherent reason why a society approves or disapproves of homosexuality. Some have suggested a declining

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<sup>48</sup>Michael, R.T., Gagnon, J.H., Laumann, E.O, and Kolata, G. (1995). *Sex in America: A definitive survey*. Little, Brown and Company: New York

<sup>49</sup>Giger, Bill. “Is 10% Too High? *Frontiers*, June 21, 1991

<sup>50</sup>Williams, W. 1986. *The Spirit and the Flesh: Sexual Diversity in American Indian Culture*. Boston: Beacon Press.

population as reason for disapproval, so sex for procreation is given a higher value. Others emphasize the value placed on the male role and condemnation of anything which does not adhere to it. Others have cited social factors such as the low status and lack of power of women (male homosexuality may be extolled or in many cases lesbian behavior severely restricted), or economic factors (men who are too poor to acquire a wife substitute male lovers until they can marry). But no one explanation seems to work in all cases.<sup>51</sup>

In Europe since the 13th Century, the Judeo-Christian tradition has generally seen homosexuality as morally unacceptable and at times resulting in excommunication and even loss of life. Traditional religious beliefs continue to be reflected in the secular community. Homosexual expression is still illegal in 22 states where sodomy laws still exist<sup>52</sup> but are rarely enforced. Discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation is often practiced and condoned<sup>53</sup>. Furthermore, both the medical and psychiatric communities have historically considered homosexuals to be either sick or perverted<sup>54</sup>.

In the 1960s, the advent of the modern gay and lesbian rights movement led to a more critical examination of long-held beliefs. Several churches have shown increasing tolerance and understanding in their ministries to gays and lesbians<sup>55</sup>. In 1974, the American Psychiatric Association, amid much internal controversy, removed homosexuality per se from its list of mental disorder, declaring it simply another manifestation of sexual expression.

### Conclusion

Scientists are just as much a part of their culture as anyone else and the old arguments that homosexuality is “unnatural,” an “illness,” or an “aberration” are just disguises for the religious terms “sin” or “evil.” “[T]he psychiatric perspective on homosexuality is but a thinly disguised replica of the religious perspective which it displaced”<sup>56</sup>. If scientific curiosity was the sole reason for the research into human sexuality, then there would be equal numbers of experiments and investigations into both heterosexuality and

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<sup>51</sup>Blumenfeld, W.J., & Raymond, D. *Looking at Gay and Lesbian Life*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1989.

<sup>52</sup>National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, 1987. “Privacy project moves full steam ahead.”

<sup>53</sup>Rivera, R. 1982 Homosexuality and the law. In W. Paul, J.D. Weinrich, J. Gonsiorek, & M. Hotvedt (Eds.), *Homosexuality : Social, Psychological, and Biological Issues* (pp. 323-336). Beverly Hills, CA: Sage Publications.

<sup>54</sup>Chilman, C.S. 1983 *Adolescent Sexuality in a Changing American Society*. New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

<sup>55</sup>Nelson, J.B. 1982 Religious and moral issues in working with homosexual clients. In J.C. Gonsiorek (Ed.), *Homosexuality and Psychotherapy: A Practitioner’s Handbook of Affirmative Models* (p.163-175). New York: The Haworth Press.

<sup>56</sup>Szasz, Thomas. *The Manufacture of Madness*. New York: Dell Publishing Co., 1970. p. 170

homosexuality. But there are not. The research is almost exclusively on the issues of homosexuality and one must question why this has happened.

If we suppose that homosexuality has a biological basis, that the condition is innate and not “contagious,” then it could be argued that discrimination should not occur since it would be akin to skin color or left-handedness— attributes that our society deems “neutral” and worthy of legal protection. Thus the issue of homosexuality should not matter.

If we suppose that homosexuality is the result of a psychoanalytic or environmental cause, then this too would seem to be of little relevance for social policy since infants and young children are not held responsible for what is done to them.

Finally, if we suppose that homosexuality is a choice, why is it not construed as analogous to religious freedom of expression? “A belief in pluralism dictates acceptance of varying views, why might such not be the case with differing sexual practices? Perhaps, some day we will puzzle over why this was *not* society’s attitude, just as we now feel morally superior to those who persecute members of minority religious sects”<sup>57</sup>.

“To label homosexuality as result of a “genetic aberration” or a biological “mistake” or a mental “disorder” or “willfulness” or a “breakdown in the normal family” or a hormonal “imbalance” is to cease to describe the phenomenon and instead to make a value judgment”<sup>58</sup>.

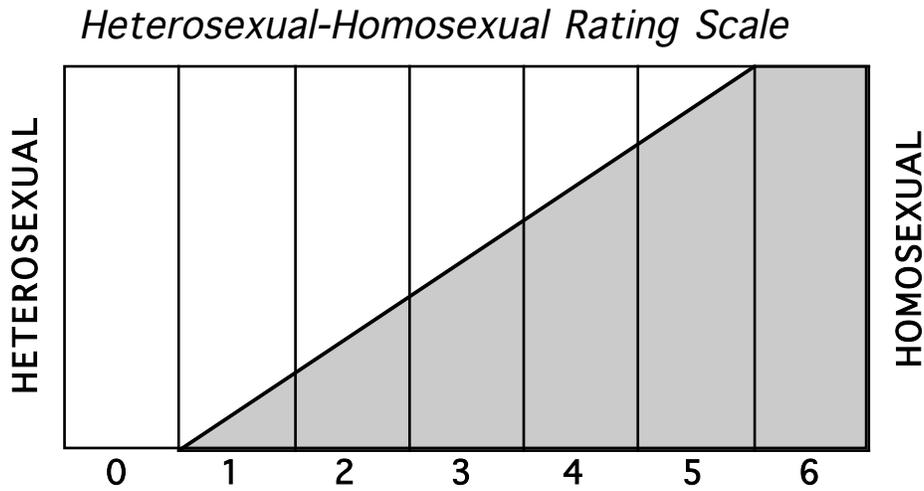
The many theories on sexual identity formation suggests that the phenomena is highly complex including genetic and social influences. Cross-cultural studies reveal that sexuality is highly fluid for most people, with only a small percentage of people strongly committed to a narrow field of acceptable sexual and relational associations. The more important question is to ask what are the causes of homophobia and heterosexism. It is the hatred and prejudice towards people of differing sexual orientations that is the problem. Let’s stop blaming the victim.

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<sup>57</sup>Blumenfeld, W.J., & Raymond, D. *Looking at Gay and Lesbian Life*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1989. p. 145

<sup>58</sup>Blumenfeld, p. 146

Figure 2—Kinsey Rating Scale



Scale	0	1-6	2-6	3-6	4-6	5-6	6
<i>Adult</i>							
Female	72-90%	2-9%	2-4%	1-3%	1-3%	1-3%	1-3%
Male	75.6%	22.9%	19.6%	13.7%	10.4%	8.0%	6.2%
<i>Adolescent</i>							
Female	34%	6%	1%	1%	-	-	2%
Male	64.8%	29.5%	25.1%	16.5%	12.0%	8.3%	5.6%
	Exclusively Heterosexual	Mostly Heterosexual with incidental Homosexual experience	Heterosexual with substantial Homosexual experience	Equal Heterosexual and Homosexual experience	Homosexual with substantial Heterosexual experience	Homosexual with incidental Heterosexual experience	Exclusively homosexual

Alfred C. Kinsey, et al. 1948. *Sexual Behavior in the Human Male*. Philadelphia: Saunders, p.654, Table 150

Alfred C. Kinsey, et al. 1953. *Sexual Behavior in the Human Female*. Philadelphia: Saunders, p.499

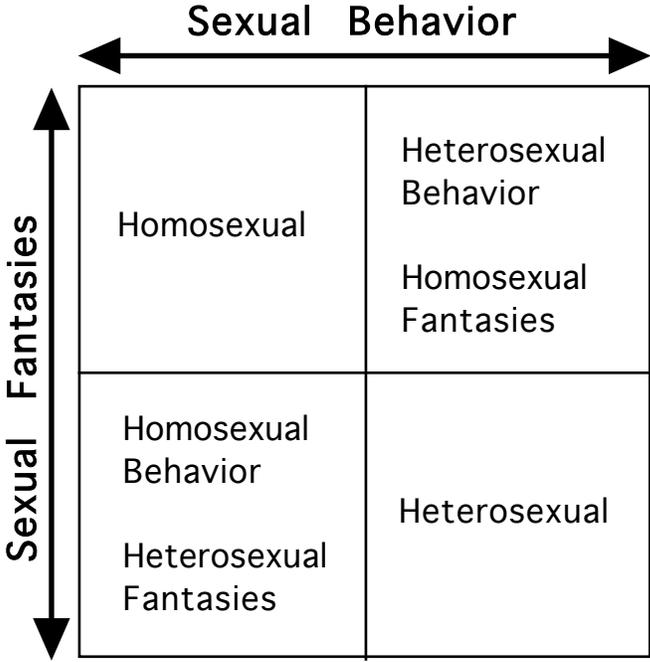
NOTE: The Kinsey statistics are "based on those persons who have had physical contacts with other (males), and who were brought to orgasm as a result of such contacts." (p.623) Since the Kinsey research was conducted in the early 1940s, the amount of homosexual behavior is thought to be significantly under-reported.

“Since only 50 percent of the population is exclusively heterosexual throughout its adult life, and since only 4 per cent of the population is exclusively homosexual throughout its life, it appears that nearly half (46%) of the population engages in both heterosexual and homosexual activities, or reacts to persons of both sexes, in the course of their adult lives.” (Alfred C. Kinsey, et al. 1948. *Sexual Behavior in the Human Male*. Philadelphia: Saunders, p.656)

“Social custom and our Anglo-American law are sometimes very severe in penalizing one who is discovered to have had homosexual relations. . . It is, therefore, peculiarly difficult to secure factual data concerning the nature and the extent of the homosexual in Western European or American cultures.”

(Alfred C. Kinsey, et al. 1948. *Sexual Behavior in the Human Male*. Philadelphia: Saunders, p.610)

Figure 3—Sexual Behavior/Fantasies



Where are you on the chart?

What people do is not always what people feel or think. How many times have you been doing something while thinking about something else? The same goes for sex. Many people who engage in a sexual act are fantasizing about someone else. And many times it's someone of the same sex!

## Health Concerns

### Drug and Alcohol Abuse

For almost thirty years, it has been generally accepted that approximately 30%<sup>59</sup> of gays and lesbians experience various degrees of alcoholism. However, Nardi<sup>60</sup> showed that this figure needs to be reevaluated given the methodological problems in the collection of the previous data by using bar patrons and not the community at-large. McKirnan and Peterson (1989)<sup>61</sup> performed the most recent large-scale analysis regarding patterns of alcohol and drug use amongst homosexuals. They discovered that:

		General Population <sup>62</sup>	Homosexual Population
Alcohol	Abstainers	29%	14%
	Moderate Drinkers	57%	71%
	Heavy Drinkers	14%	15%
Drug Use (males age 18-25)	Marijuana (frequent)	23%	16%
	Marijuana (lifetime)	68%	79%
	Cocaine (frequent)	2.7%	3.3%
	Cocaine (lifetime)	35%	52%

Notes: lifetime = if ever used during lifetime, frequent (marijuana) = 10 of the previous 30-days, frequent (cocaine) = 5 of the previous 30-days.

Although homosexuals abstained from drinking half as much as the general population, this did not translate into greater alcohol abuse. The percentage of heavy drinkers was the same for both populations. The only difference found was that problems associated with heavy alcohol use was spread more evenly over the entire age-range of homosexuals while these problems are found primarily amongst young heterosexual drinkers.

**Conclusion: gays and lesbians are more likely to drink alcohol than the general population, but they are at no greater risk of becoming alcoholics.**

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<sup>59</sup>Fifield, L. 1975 *On my way to nowhere: Alienated, isolated, drunk*. Los Angeles: Gay Community Services Center and Department of Health Service; and, Saghir, M., and Robins, E. 1973 *Male and female homosexuality*. Baltimore: Williams & Wilkins.

<sup>60</sup>Nardi, P. 1991. "Alcoholism and Homosexuality: A Theoretical Perspective." Reprinted *Society, Culture, And Drinking Patterns Reexamined*. David J. Pittmand and Helene Raskin White (Eds.), New Brunswick, New Jersey,: Rutgers Center of Alcohol Studies.

<sup>61</sup>McKirnan, David J., and Peterson, Peggy L. 1989. "Alcohol and Drug Use Among Homosexual Men and Women: Epidemiology and Population Characteristics." *Addictive Behaviors*, V.14, p.545-553

<sup>62</sup>Clark, W.B., & Midanik, L. 1982. Alcohol use and alcohol problems among U.S. adults: Results of the 1979 national survey. In National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, *Alcohol and health: Alcohol consumption and related problems*. (Monograph No. 1)

Homosexuals' frequent use of drugs was somewhat higher than the general population. Again, frequent drug use was very uncommon in the older general population, while a significant proportion of the older homosexual sample reported frequent use.

**Conclusion: gays and lesbians are more likely to use drugs than the general population, but their frequent use is almost exactly the same.**

High rates of substance abuse among homosexuals are generally attributed to psychosocial factors. Bars or similar settings have traditionally been an important social focus in gay and lesbian culture, due to a history of exclusion or discrimination in other "mainstream" social settings.<sup>63</sup> This may contribute to substance abuse through simple exposure and/or through cultural norms that sanction alcohol or drug use as a component of social interaction<sup>64</sup>. The vulnerability induced by the cultural importance of bars may be exacerbated by the stress many homosexuals feel as stigmatized members of a sexual minority<sup>65</sup> and, more recently, the AIDS crisis.<sup>66</sup>

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<sup>63</sup>Achilles, 1967 "The development of the homosexual bar as an institution. In J.H. Gagnon & U. Simon, (Eds.), *Sexual Deviance* (pp. 228-244), New York: Harper & Row.

<sup>64</sup>Nardi, P. M. 1982 "Alcoholism and homosexuality: A theoretical perspective. *Journal of Homosexuality*, 7, 9-25.; Ziebold, T. O. January 1979. "Alcoholism and recovery: Gays helping gays." *Christopher Street*, pp. 36-44

<sup>65</sup>McKirnan, David J., and Peterson, Peggy L. 1988 "Stress, expectancies and vulnerability to substance abuse: A test of a model among homosexual men." *Journal of Abnormal Behavior*, 97, 461-466.

<sup>66</sup>McKirnan, David J., and Peterson, Peggy L. 1989

### Topic 3 • Biological Brain Research

The obvious physical differences between male and female humans have been recognized since the beginning of time. With the advent of the scientific age, finer and finer details have been examined to better describe all physical phenomena, including male and female differences. Electron microscopes and magnetic resonance imaging during the 1970s and 1980s have produced a solid body of data that indicates that “sex difference in the brains of almost every mammalian family examined so far: rodents, birds, monkeys, and—most recently and most intriguingly—human beings”<sup>67</sup> exists. This science of sexual neurobiology has found the following:

- (1) Male human brains are on the average 15% larger than female human brains and that this size differential does not start to develop until the male child is 2 to 3 years-old.<sup>68</sup>
- (2) Male rats have fewer synapses connecting the two parts of the hypothalamus than females do.
- (3) For all mammals and other animals studied so far, there has been found male-female differences in the volume, biochemistry, and receptor and synaptic density of nuclei in the brain and spinal cord.
- (4) One example of brain difference is the sexually dimorphic nucleus of the preoptic area (SDN-POA) of rats. It is found to be many times larger than that of female rats even though this area originally starts off the same size in both sexes. This nucleus has been used as a model neuronal system for the study of sexual differentiation in mammals. Experiments have revealed that all brains of rats start out ‘female’ at the time of birth and with continued maturation of the testes in the male, testosterone secretions (androgenization) increases the size of the SDN-POA and other steroid receptor nuclei’s. In rats, there is only a tiny window of time when the action of testosterone can androgenize the brain. This occurs shortly before and after birth (5 to 6 days each way). Experiments have shown that if the window is missed by males or taken advantage of in female rats, unusual behavior and physiology results.

“Male rat pups that are insufficiently exposed to testosterone around the time of birth (by castration or other experimental means), show increased female-like sex behavior (Lordosis) and decreased male-like sex behavior (such as mounting). In adulthood, they also exhibit the typical female pattern of cyclical gonadotropin release. Likewise, female pups given testosterone injections perinatally show decreased Lordosis and increased male-like sex behavior in adulthood, as well as tonic (male like) pattern

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<sup>67</sup>Gibbons, Ann. 1991. “Is Homosexuality Biological?” *Science, News & Comment*. Vol. 253 August p.957

<sup>68</sup>Swaab, Dick. 1991. “Is Homosexuality Biological?” *Science, News & Comment*. Vol. 253 August p.958. Dick Swaab is a researcher of the Netherlands Institute for Brain Research in Amsterdam.

of gonadotropin secretion. Interestingly, while male/female expression has been largely switched in these animals, so too has male/female brain structure. . . . This switch is characteristic of other sexually dimorphic brain structures as well.”<sup>69</sup>

Although these findings of brain structure, sexual difference and differences in sexual behaviors have been conclusively documented, the functional significance for these brain structures is far from clear. Sandra Witleson of McMaster University in Ontario believes that the mounting neurobiological evidence supports the belief that brain structures have consequences in behavior and thinking. However, the socially oriented investigator psychologist Janet Hyde of the University of Wisconsin, argues that the ‘gender gap’ in test scores is waning and thereby brings to questions the “very existence of the phenomenon the brain theories were constituted to explain.”<sup>70</sup>.

But do different brain structures result in different cognitive and behavioral patterns? Answering these conflicting views is not easy. In the area of intellectual abilities, the differences in cognition are not large<sup>71</sup>, they change according to age and ability level, and standardized tests are crude tools for resolving questions about sex differences they weren’t designed to measure. Animal research points to a strong connection between brain structure and behavior, yet correlating this to human brain structure is in its infancy. For example, the question of brain structure and sexual orientation has come to prominence with the recent research by neurobiologist Dr. Simon LeVay. Dr. LeVay’s work on the hypothalamus suggested that the size of INAH-3 is related to a humans’ sexual orientation<sup>72</sup> (INAH-3 corresponds to the rat’s SDN-POA). Many persons, particularly lesbians, have taken great exception to his work on a number of issues<sup>73</sup>; the size of the sample, the source of the tissue (AIDS cadaver), the exclusion of women brain tissue, and the definition of heterosexuality and homosexuality. In support of the genetic source for sexual orientation, researchers have studied family composition and sexual orientation, particularly twin studies. Michael Bailey of Northwestern University and Boston University psychiatrist Richard C. Pillard have found that “52% of the identical twins, 22% of the fraternal twins, and 11% of the adoptive brothers”<sup>74</sup> were homosexual. (Incidentally, this analysis determined that the expression of homosexuality of non-twin

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<sup>69</sup>Unpublished commentary from an anonymous NOGLSTP Member. 1992

<sup>70</sup>Barinaga, Marcia. 1991. “Is ‘Gender Gap’ Narrowing?” *Science, News & Comment*. Vol. 253 August p.959

<sup>71</sup>The largest difference is for one type of spatial ability, mental rotations ( $d=.73$ ), but the gender difference in mathematical performance is moderate ( $d=.43$ ), and there is no gender difference in verbal ability. See—Hyde, Janet. 1990. “Meta-Analysis and the Psychology of Gender Differences.” *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*. v. 16, no. 1 Autumn

<sup>72</sup>LeVay, Simon. 1991. “A Difference in Hypothalamic Structure Between Heterosexual and Homosexual Men.” *Science*. Vol. 253, August. p.1034

<sup>73</sup>Ross, Amy Ph.D. 1991. “Comments on Simon LeVay’s Study ‘A Difference in Hypothalamic Structure Between heterosexual and Homosexual Men’.” Unpublished

<sup>74</sup>Bailer, Michael; Pillard, Richard. 1991. *Archives of General Psychiatry*. December

biological brothers was equal to 9.2%, suggesting that the incident of homosexuality in the general male population to be between 4% and 10%.) But is there a social component to homosexuality? Bailey states, “No one has ever found a postnatal social environmental influence for homosexual orientation—and they have looked plenty.”<sup>75</sup> Most researchers now agree that sexuality has a biological component and how it is expressed is culturally influenced.

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<sup>75</sup>Holden, Constance. 1992. “Twin Study Links Genes to Homosexuality.” *Research News*, January. p.33

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## Topic 4 • Points of Contact

### Introduction

In the City of Los Angeles, there have been many civil demonstrations that deal with just about every issue. Sometimes, these constitutionally protected expressions get out of hand and become destructive riots. Two such riots, the 1964 Watts Riot and the 1992 “Los Angeles Riots”, took a massive toll in both human suffering and property damage.

The U.S. Constitution protects free speech and the right of dissent and sets as a goal the elimination of prejudice against many groups of people. Because the discriminations and protections afforded lesbian/gay/bisexual (LGB) people are inconsistent from state-to-state, gays and lesbians have used a multitude of methods to educate and change social structure.

Police officers will encounter LGBs in all kinds of situations and how they respond is crucial. This section, Topic 4 • Points of Contact, explores some of the ways police officers will come into contact with the gay and lesbian community. One very powerful way in which LGBs have voiced their discontent with the social biases against them is through large scale demonstrations. Although most demonstrations are peaceful, some have turned violent. How the police respond to these demonstrations can either help diffuse the situation or make it worse.

Officers responding to a demonstration must maintain their personal safety and the safety of the demonstrators and nearby civilians. Applying stereotypic characteristics to the demonstrators must be avoided since by doing so can lead to over-simplifications and overreaction. During LGB demonstrations, it is asked that the officer try and understand the pain the demonstrator must have experienced and how difficult it must be to live one’s life in a homophobic society. More than likely, the demonstrator who is outraged at that moment is a good, hardworking person who is tired of hiding his/her sexuality.

The general rule to keep in mind when dealing with lesbians, gays and bisexuals, is to respect them as equals to yourself. This means that you treat LGBs like everyone else. Remember, the badge you wear stands for quality and professionalism at all time which requires you to override any personal prejudices you may have against lesbians, gays or bisexuals.

## Locations and Situations of Contact

There are no places where police officers will be isolated from gay men and women. Gays, lesbians and bisexuals are in every line of work, every city, every state and every country. LGBs come in every color, religion and cultural background just like uniformed officers. LGBs are not identifiable by any physical characteristics.

Certain locations in the Los Angeles area are frequented by gays in large numbers. Areas such as West Hollywood/Hollywood (Hollywood Division), North Hollywood along Ventura Blvd. (North Hollywood Division), the Silverlake area (Northeast Division) and Venice beach (Pacific Division) not only have large gay and lesbian clientele, but have many gay owned and operated businesses. Restaurants, bars, bookstores, hotels and much more all cater to gay and lesbian individuals. These predominately gay locations make it safe for gays and lesbians to be themselves, including displaying their affection publicly.

It is important for the police officer to act professionally and respectfully toward gays and lesbians at all times, not just in the “gay” areas. For example— most gays do not live in these areas and as such, you are just as likely to be seated next to some gay people while having lunch (Code-7) at Sizzler’s. If you engage in using pejoratives against gays, you may be overheard and reinforce a bigoted image of the police department to these people plus open yourself up to being reported for unprofessional conduct.

**Disclaimer: The following legal citations are normally discussed at length in the law classes. This information has been reworded to illustrate particular situations and is provided as reference only. Consult your penal code for exact wording.**

### A. Domestic Violence

Domestic violence is a serious problem and affects many women and men. Laws have been enacted that make it mandatory to arrest the aggressor that has caused injury on the victim. Although the law originally pertained only to male/female relationships, same sex couples were added in 1994. [*Spousal Abuse 273.5 P.C.*— applies to men and women living together, married, recently separated, have a child together, or same sex couples.]

In gay or lesbian domestic violence situations, the dynamics of violence and the emotional responses are virtually identical to heterosexual spousal abuse. Besides the Spousal Abuse Laws, two other laws are often used to protect the gay and lesbian victims. If a threat of violence is made against another person, a written report can be taken [*Domestic Violence 13700 P.C.*— applies to cohabitants or former cohabitants, not gender specified and no romantic relationship required. This is not a crime report, only informational]. If actual battery occurs, then a private person’s arrest can be made [*Battery 242 (e) P.C.*— applies to people who live or have lived together, previously married or dating, or has had an engagement relationship, and not gender specified]. When there is “serious bodily injury” or a weapon was used, it is a felony and does not require a private person’s arrest.

Appropriate Conduct: When officers arrive at the scene of a domestic violence call, the officers need to treat the persons exactly as they would in a heterosexual situation. When addressing the couple, do not make assumptions about who is the aggressor or victim based on the person's size or masculine/feminine behavior (if displayed). A report issued by the Los Angeles County Domestic Violence Council (1994) stated that in cases of gay/lesbian domestic quarrels, the wrong person is arrested **80%** of the time due to gender stereotyping. There are no rules in gay relationships and thus no stereotypic guidelines as to who most likely is the suspect or who is the victim. The officers must listen, be understanding and relay the legal facts to all persons the same as they would do so to heterosexual couples. In the written report, check the "Domestic Violence" box and document the living conditions in the report narrative.

## B. Hate Crimes

Hate crimes are crimes motivated by particular kinds of hate or prejudice. In California, the hate crime laws include the categories: race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin or sexual orientation. The law requires the officer to not only make a crime report, e.g. battery or vandalism, but to write on the form that hatred or prejudice was the motivation ["Civil Rights" Title 11.6, Section 422.6, California Penal Code].

Appropriate Conduct: An example of a gay hate crime would be a gay man reporting that his business had been vandalized by someone who painted his building with a pink triangle and the words "die faggot." The officers arriving at the scene must remember to keep all personal prejudices to themselves. It can be difficult for officers to remain unbiased and professional when confronted with situations contrary to their personal beliefs. However, offending the victims only victimizes them twice. Thus, police officers need to take the appropriate reports, ask questions since victims often will not volunteer "Hate" information, encourage victims to give details without censorship, and to give victims the information they would need to complete and follow through on reporting the hate crime. It is the responsibility of the officer to report the incident as a hate crime if either the victim requests it or the officers suspect it.

## C. "Lewd" Conduct

Any person who exposes his or her genitals in a public place without a reasonable expectation of privacy ( e.g., movie theaters or park bathrooms) or who solicits or assists any other person to expose themselves [Indecent Exposure 314 P.C.]. Also included in "lewd conduct" is any person who solicits anyone to engage in lewd or dissolute conduct in a public place, solicits or engages in prostitution, or loiters in or around a public toilet for the purpose of soliciting or engaging in lewd conduct [Disorderly Conduct 647 (a) (b) (d) P.C.]

Appropriate Conduct: Fifty-four percent of the arrests for lewd conduct are married men<sup>76</sup>. Although the lewd conduct laws are gender non-specific, they have disproportionately been used against gay men. It is from this historical perspective that

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<sup>76</sup> Humphreys, Laud, "Tearoom trade." Chicago: Aldine, 1970

police officers must overcome their personal prejudices. During the interview and possible arrest of the suspect, it is important for the officer to clarify that the problem is due to the act of lewd conduct and not because of the person's sexual orientation. There is no purpose or advantage in using negative or making verbal moral condemnations of the suspect.

#### D. Activism and Civil Disobedience

The late 1980s and early 1990s saw a surge of gay and lesbian political activism. This activism can result in illegal behavior either through the blocking of entrances and/or exits or the obstruction of public places such as streets and sidewalks, or unlawful assembly [*Unlawful Assembly 409 P.C.*]— after reading a written dispersal notice to an unlawful assembly, the remaining demonstrators can be arrested].

Two groups most active in gay, lesbian and AIDS demonstrations were *ACT-UP* and *Queer Nation*. *ACT-Up* (AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power) is a large national organization that brings media attention to the plight of AIDS victims through a variety of public demonstrations, including the disruption of meetings and public buildings. *Queer Nation* was an activist group in the early 1990s that had as one of its goal the elimination of homophobia. *Queer Nation* was not a formal organization and operated as a democratic anarchy in which members brought issues to the general meetings, and if other members wished to participate in a particular action, they did so voluntarily. *Queer Nation* did not advocate illegal acts, but supported the actions of member who individually took such actions.

Appropriate Conduct: All persons in the U.S. have the right to express their beliefs through legal free speech. When police officers must take action to disperse an unlawful assembly or stop civil disobedience, safety considerations are of utmost importance. This includes the safety of the officers, the civilian bystanders, property and the demonstrators. Applying stereotypic characteristics to the demonstrators must be avoided since, it can lead to over-simplifications and overreaction, thereby aggravating the situation. Do not use pejoratives or other denigrating comments toward the demonstrators; this can only inflame an already volatile situation. Officers demonstrating strength and calmness are the most effective.

#### E. Public Safety

Public safety includes the enforcement of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) regulations [*Business and Professions Code 25602*— applies to persons who sell, serve or give alcoholic beverages to habitual or intoxicated persons; *Business and Professions Code 25658*— applies to persons who sell, serve or give alcoholic beverages to any person under the age of 21-years of age], and the police backup of the Fire Department in cases of over-crowding [*Los Angeles Municipal Code 57.04.06*— enforcement of the maximum capacity, and *Code 57.33.03, .05*— posting of the maximum capacity].

Appropriate Conduct: Historically, police were used by society to harass gays and lesbians. This primarily occurred at bars. Although enforcement of ABC regulations and Fire Codes are desirable, the presence of police in gay bars is potentially very explosive. Officers who must enter gay bars are reminded that gays and lesbians are their equal and should not be treated as second-class citizens. It is recommended that officers in these public safety situations stay focused on the job of ensuring safety for all. Epithets and verbal assaults only aggravate these situations and undermine the goal of regaining a safe environment. Taking unnecessary precautions such as latex gloves prior to entering a gay or lesbian establishment should be discouraged.

#### F. Victims of Violence

A person who is a victim of violence deserves police support. Whether the violence stems from domestic conflict or hate crimes, whether it involves heterosexuals or homosexuals, it is the duty of police officers to take the necessary actions to stop the violence, see that medical assistance is obtained and that follow-up criminal prosecution is enforced. When officers encounter victims of violence, it is important for the officers to be understanding, compassionate and knowledgeable about soliciting information. Ultimately, an effective police force is related to effective communication skills.

## G. Youth

Some gay and lesbian youths are thrown out of their homes when they reveal or are discovered to be homosexual. With no work skills, restrictive work laws and very little survival skills, many of these teens resort to prostitution.

Appropriate Conduct: Runaways and Throwaway adolescents will be the most prevalent sub-group of youths police officers will come into contact with. These are adolescents struggling to survive. Police officers need not only enforce prostitution and vagrancy laws, but be knowledgeable about social services targeted towards adolescents. Police officers are not to use derogatory language that demean the adolescent.

## H. Prostitution

Any consideration—including money, food, shelter, drugs, etc.—offered for a sex act is considered prostitution [*Prostitution 647 (a),(b) P.C.*]. There is no gender differentiation within the law. Although prostitution can be found in many places in Los Angeles, two areas—Santa Monica Blvd. for male prostitutes and Sunset Blvd. for female prostitutes—have been identified. Because police officers interact mostly with the seedy side of life, prejudicial beliefs against certain classes of people may develop. Similarly, just because sections of these two boulevards have been associated with prostitution, it would be wrong to assume that any person walking there must be a prostitute.

Appropriate Conduct: Police officers should remember that when questioning a suspect, until there is evidence of a criminal activity, they are their equal and should be treated the same. Just because a male prostitute is more likely engaging in homosexual prostitution, does not make him worse than a female prostitute or other criminal. The gay prostitute should be treated like any other suspect with the officers conducting a professional investigation. Antagonizing the suspect with gay pejoratives could escalate the interview into possible physical altercation.

## I. Medical Emergencies

Police officers have the option to provide emergency First Aid and to summon emergency medical personnel.

Appropriate Conduct:

- 1) Providing emergency First Aid— When providing First Aid, police officers must be concerned about all infectious disease transmission. The safety protections taught in the health classes should be used any time blood is anticipated. Most officers carry mouth pieces for mouth-to-mouth resuscitation or plastic gloves. These devices should be used. Remember, an officer's primary goal each day is to go home safely.
- 2) Directing emergency Medical Personnel— Police officers need to be aware that the injured party may have a significant friend or lover on the premises. These people are important to the victim and should not be ignored. When medical personnel arrive at the

scene of the accident, try to involve these people.

#### Topic 4 • Hate Crimes

Aggression against individuals because of their sexual orientation or perceived sexual orientation is often referred to as “fag-bashing” or “gay-bashing,” and are both commonplace and on the up-swing in American society. The homophobia that is the root of these acts of violence manifests itself not only at the individual level, but has been institutionalized through the media, religion, schools, sciences, medicine, and legal system. Besides outright physical attacks and verbal abuse through insults and jokes, gays and lesbians are faced with being ignored and excluded from most social institutions.

Currently, American society is a patch-quilt of conflicting laws and social mores. Twenty-three states still have sodomy laws on the books. Although these laws are rarely enforced, they function as mechanisms of psychological intimidation towards gays and lesbians. Other states have instituted Hate Crime Laws that include crimes based on sexual orientation (20 states and the District of Columbia)<sup>77</sup>.

The growth in Hate Crime Laws corresponded with the development of the Civil Rights Movement. In 1975, Supervisor John Anson Ford of the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations, was the first to use the term “hate crimes.” Later in 1988, in its *Hate Crime in Los Angeles County* report, hate crimes was defined as “acts directed at an individual, institution, or business expressly because of race, ethnicity, religion or sexual orientation.” Their guidelines used for determining if a crime is a hate crime included: involve a specific target, bigotry must be the central motive for the attack, assaults must be started with epithets and no other motive is present. In addition, the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations excluded actions such as: graffiti on freeway overpasses and public phone booths that are not directed at a specific target; interracial crime not motivated by race, ethnicity, religion, or sexual orientation; name calling not accompanied by assault; and rallies and leafleting by hate crime groups. Not all hate crime ordinances have included sexual orientation as one of the protected status, thus comparing data from different locales is difficult.

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<sup>77</sup>States with laws that address hate crimes based on sexual orientation include: Arizona, California, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New Hampshire, Nevada, Oregon, Rhode Island, Texas, Wisconsin, Vermont, Utah

### Incidence and Types

For the period 1988-1991, hate crimes against gays and lesbians nation-wide has increased each year for a total change of 161%<sup>78</sup>. In the 1991, the *Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations*,<sup>79</sup> found that of the 672 commission documented hate crimes were distributed as follows:

<u>Victim</u>	<u>% of Total 1991 Hate Crimes</u>
Gay Men	21.8
Black	19.4
Jewish	19.4
Latino	10.0

But what kinds of behavior was exhibited during these hate crimes? A breakdown by Los Angeles County (1989) revealed that the kind of hate crime perpetrated (387 reports) was not the same for all categories of victims.

Kind of Behavior	Racial	Religious	Sexual Orientation
Assault / Attempted Assault	31.8%	8.8%	62.8%
Graffiti / Hate Literature	32.3%	56.0%	30.2%
Property vandalism	13.2%	7.2%	2.3%
Criminal Threats	11.3%	15.2%	3.5%
Vandalism plus Graffiti	7.2%	5.6%	-
Arson / Other	4.2%	7.2%	1.2%

As you can see, gays and lesbians were much more likely to be assaulted than any other category of victims. It must be emphasized that the number of hate crime reported is but a small number of the actual cases. The fear of being publicly identified gay or lesbian

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<sup>78</sup>National Gay & Lesbian Task Force Policy Institute, 1991. *Anti-Gay/Lesbian Violence, Victimization & Defamation*. 1734 14th St. NW Washington, DC 20009-4309, (202) 332-6483

<sup>79</sup>Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations. 1989. *Hate Crime in Los Angeles County 1989*. Los Angeles, CA.

stops most victims from filing a report. It is estimated that 70% of all hate crimes against gays and lesbians goes unreported.<sup>80</sup>

### Enforcement of Hate Crime Laws

Many affected groups are reluctant to report hate crime episodes because of the perception that law enforcement personnel do not take it seriously and that the police are anti-gay. Much of the hate crime is committed by teenage boys and young adults and their act is often considered a “prank” performed by a basically “good kid.”<sup>81</sup> And the courts themselves have handed lenient sentences on the basis of the so-called “homosexual panic” or “gay advance” defense. Use of these defense tactics is an attempt to shift responsibility for the crime to the victim and away from the defendant.

### Roots of Hate Crimes

The roots of hate crimes are complex and extensive. The primary source stems from an irrational fear of someone who is different accompanied with a feeling of inferiority. Hate crimes manifest themselves between the haves and the have-nots, the educated and the uneducated, the powerful and the weak. Often the seed of hate is sowed in the person’s home through the application of discriminatory words and attitudes. Gangs are an extension of a person’s family and exacerbate the feelings of “us” versus “them.” Adding in alcohol and drug use, inhibitions against one’s enemies are released, often violently. Hate crimes typically start with negative epithets that lead to violence.

### Victims and Witnesses

Many victims and witnesses are unwilling to participate in hate crime reporting because:

1. Personal Shame — Many victims have internalized homophobia and feel a personal shame about who they are. Subsequently, they may feel that “I deserved it” and not report the incidence.
2. Fear of Police Abuse — Gays and lesbians fear police abuse of their community and as such fear reporting hate crimes since they feel that they would be discredited, put-down, and verbally and possibly physically accosted.

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<sup>80</sup>Gallagher, John. 11-5-91. “A Month of Hate: An Epidemic of Violence.” *Advocate* p.42

<sup>81</sup>Finn, P., & McNeil, T. 1987. *The Response of the Criminal Justice System to Bias Crime: An exploratory Review*. Submitted to U.S. Department of Justice. Cambridge, MA: abt Associates.

3. Fear of Being Discovered Gay — Many gays and lesbians are not out about their sexual orientation. To report a hate crime results in a public document being filed and possible subpoena and public appearance. Thus, to the closeted gay and lesbian, to file a hate crime could jeopardize their carefully constructed world and result in family turmoil, loss of job, loss of security clearances, excommunication from their church, etc.
4. Fear That It Isn't Important — Many gays and lesbians will minimize the hate crime incidence with excuses that they are too busy to report, insurance will fix the damage, that the attack produced minor cuts and bruises, that the police will never catch the violator, or that it is wimpy to call the police department.
5. Alcohol— Hate crime often occur near a bar and subsequently the witnesses and victims may be under the influence of alcohol. Thus, these persons may fear that the police will treat them as suspects rather than as victims.

### Solutions

To counteract the surge in hate crimes, the following actions are recommended:

1. Be Part of the Solution — Care enough to take an active role.
2. Know About Hate Crimes —
  - a. Be able to identify and discern when a crime is motivated by “Hate”
  - b. Know how to report
  - c. Follow-up on filing.
3. Talk About Hate Crimes —
  - a. Spread the word to other officers, family and friends
  - b. Get the word out to the community
4. Self Defense Classes — People need to know how to protect one's self if attacked, but better yet for people to learn how to avoid dangerous situations.
5. Use Local Government Agencies — Police are only one a limited source of protection. It is needed to get local government involved and commitment from the top-down.
6. Improve Media Coverage — Both Gay and Non-Gay media should publish regular reports about the incidence of hate crimes. This includes reporting both the attack and court results.
7. Report — Tracking will be ineffective if no one reports.

## Topic 5 • HIV/AIDS

AIDS is not a “homosexually-spread disease.” Rather, it is a disease primarily spread blood-to-blood and by unprotected, unsafe sexual behavior both homosexual and heterosexual. In Africa, unprotected heterosexual intercourse has been the prime mode of transmission<sup>82</sup>. Worldwide, the proportion of AIDS patients infected heterosexually is 75% of all cases.<sup>83</sup>

The number of AIDS-related deaths among intravenous drug abusers actually exceeds those occurring in homosexual men. Although AIDS has been perceived by the U.S. population as a gay disease, intravenous drug users account for more than 53% of AIDS-related mortality during the last 5-years in contrast to 38% for homosexuals and bisexuals. The sharing of syringes is one of the most efficient means of transmitting HIV. Since the "safe sex" campaign directed at the gay community, new HIV infection rates in gay men has plummeted from 10% in 1984 to 0% for the period 1986-88 in a San Francisco seroconversion study.<sup>84</sup> Conversely, the new HIV infection rates for intravenous drug users has increased from 10% in 1985, to 15% in 1986. Intravenous drug users account for 32% of all AIDS related deaths in 1991<sup>85</sup>.

### World Wide

The world AIDS statistics are numbing and frightening. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that sub-Saharan Africa—where 9 million people are already infected—will soon experience a net population loss due to AIDS. Around the globe, the reaction of world leaders has been characterized by denial, avoidance, and complacency, leading to widespread abuse. In Argentina, HIV-positive prisoners are chained to hospital beds. In Mexico, there is widespread testing and discrimination by hospitals and corporations. In India, HIV-positive drug users are held in camps, where they are shackled and given Bibles. In Brazil, thousands of HIV-positive children live in the streets, uncared for. In Australia, the government refuses funding for the nation’s leading AIDS hospital. In South Africa, people with AIDS are quarantined.

### Consequences for Law Enforcement Officers—

1. When interacting with the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual community, it is false to assume that they all have AIDS. In fact, Lesbians are the least at risk of infection with HIV (human immunodeficiency virus), the virus associated with AIDS, of any population group. There is no need to take “extra precautions” when dealing with LGBs.

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<sup>82</sup>“Homophobia: Discrimination Based on Sexual Orientation,” *Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/LA*, PO Box 741346 Los Angeles, CA 90004, (213) 931-9429

<sup>83</sup>Curran, Dr. James. “Any change is risky when talking about AIDS.” The Associated Press, November 1991

<sup>84</sup> Chris Anne Raymond, Ph.D., "Combating a Deadly Combination: Intravenous Drug Abuse, Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome," *JAMA* Vol. 259, No. 3, Jan. 15, 1988, p.329-332

<sup>85</sup>Merkin, Bruce. “A Holocaust in Slow Motion.” *Advocate*, #592, 12/17/92

2. Conversely, it is false to assume that persons presumed to be heterosexual, i.e., a pregnant woman, are not HIV-positive.
3. It is suggested that Law Enforcement Officers treat all persons equally and use appropriate precautions when the situation carries a potential risk of exposure to bodily fluids— not because of the sexual orientation of the person.

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Topic 6 • Adolescent Issues

(Much of this article is reprinted with the permission of the author—Robert J. Bidwell, MD, Senior Fellow In Adolescent Medicine of the Department of Pediatrics, University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle)

Classic pediatric thought has viewed homosexuality in adolescence as either a transient experimental phase on the path toward a mature heterosexuality or as a pathologically truncated form of development that might proceed into adulthood. In recent years there has been a growing awareness that for certain number of youths, a gay or lesbian identity is a natural developmental outcome<sup>86,87,88,89</sup>. With this awareness has come a recognition that growing up gay or lesbian is marked by its own special set of dangers and obstacles above and beyond the usual turmoil of adolescence. Nevertheless, aspects of old prejudices remain, even within the professional communities working with youth. However, at the same time, it is these very same professionals who can play a role in facilitating a healthy transition from childhood to adulthood for the gay and lesbian adolescent.

Many heterosexual teens may engage in homosexual experimentation; the converse is also true. Furthermore, because of the strong internal and external proscription to the natural expression of their sexuality, it would not be unreasonable to expect that many gay and lesbian adolescents are not homosexually active during their teen years. If one accepts that approximately 10% of the population is (primarily) homosexual, then perhaps 2.9 million of the 29 million American adolescents are lesbian or gay.

In the 1960s, the advent of the gay and lesbian rights movement led to a more critical examination of long-held beliefs. Pediatric thought has experienced a similar

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<sup>86</sup>Martin, A.D. 1982. "Leaning to hide: The socialization of the gay adolescent." In S.C. Feinstein (Ed.) , *Adolescent Psychiatry*, Vol. 10, (pp. 52-65). Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

<sup>87</sup>Remafedi, G.J. 1987. "Adolescent homosexuality: Psychosocial and medical implication." *Pediatrics*, 79, p.331-337.

<sup>88</sup>Remafedi, G.J., & Blum, R. 1986. "Working with gay and lesbian adolescents." *Pediatric Annals*, 15, p.773-783

<sup>89</sup>Rig, C.A. 1982. "Homosexuality in adolescence." *Pediatric Annals*, 11, p.826-831

transformation. In this decade the American Academy of Pediatrics<sup>90</sup> published its report on reality of gay and lesbian adolescents and the responsibility of health professionals to recognize and address their special medical and developmental needs. Nevertheless, despite marked changes in attitude toward homosexuality in certain sectors of society, the reality is that most gay and lesbian adolescents continue to grow up in an unfriendly environment.

### Developmental Tasks

Adolescence, regardless of sexual orientation, is a time of exploration and discovery that ideally results in the accomplishment of certain developmental tasks<sup>91</sup>. These include the establishment of a stable identity and enhanced self-esteem, adaptation to an adult sexual role, emancipation from the family and the formulation of career or vocational goals.

Only those who have passed through a gay or lesbian adolescence can fully understand the unique experience of those teens who must slowly come to terms with their homosexuality—the confusion and pain as well as the strength that derives from being a survivor in a largely hostile environment<sup>92</sup>. Many of those rights of passage through which other teens pass are not open to the gay and lesbian adolescent. The glances and shy smile exchanged across a classroom the sending of a valentine, the agony of the first telephone call asking for a date, the shared bay of popcorn in a movie theatre and the walk home on a moonlit night with arms about one another, the first kiss and touch—all these are simply not realities for most gay and lesbian teens or are experienced heterosexually with a sense of falseness and confusion.

Above all else, growing up gay or lesbian is living daily with a terrible secret that no one must ever know. There is an ever-present fear of being found out or exposed. Gay adolescents must be ever on guard so that should a conversation turn suddenly to homosexuality of a friend or parent launch into a “queer joke,” they are not given away by a quivering in their voice or fear in their eyes.

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<sup>90</sup>American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Adolescence, 1983. “Homosexuality and adolescence.” *Pediatrics*, 72, p.249-250

<sup>91</sup>Hammer, S.L. 1982. “Adolescence.” In V.C. Kelley (Ed.) *Practice of Pediatrics, Vol I*. Philadelphia: Harper and Row.

<sup>92</sup>Martin, 1982

There is also the overwhelming sense of loneliness and isolation<sup>93</sup>. Lesbian, gay and bisexual youths feel **victimized**. For heterosexual youths, positive role models everywhere affirm the normality of their sexual urges and expression. Gay youth are acculturated through the same set of models. Although positive gay and lesbian role models abound, they are almost completely inaccessible to these teens. Instead, this important inner truth is either ignored completely, passed off as a phase, or viewed negatively. Because these negative messages often come from those who are most loved and trusted, they are internalized and lead to a sense of guilt and self-contempt.

Furthermore, for most gay teens there is no trusted friend to whom to confide, nor are there healthy outlets for the first steps in sexual exploration. Because of the barriers to the healthy expression of their sexuality, these first steps often lead to “the baths, bars, or bushes.” Here anonymity provides a false sense of safety but does little to promote genuine intimacy, commitment, and self-esteem.

Deisher (1972)<sup>94</sup> and Remafedi (1987)<sup>95</sup> have documented the physical and emotional turmoil experienced by many gay male adolescents. The experience of the lesbian is less well documented but might be presumed to be similar. **Alcohol and substance abuse, runaway** behavior, poor school performance, **peer and family conflict**, depression, and attempted **suicide** are among the predictable consequences of rejection, isolation, and low self-esteem.

### Adaptations

Sexual identity is not a matter of choice. However, gay and lesbian teens can choose how they will respond to their inner reality. Many repress or suppress their sexual selves. Often they will channel their attention and energy into other pursuits such as athletics, scholastics, or the arts: many will eventually marry and raise families. Some, with maturity, come to accept a gay or lesbian identity whereas other will carry their “awful secret” with them for a lifetime. A minority of gay and lesbian adolescents will “come out,” admitting their homosexuality, or are exposed involuntarily. **These teens face the**

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<sup>93</sup>Martin, 1982.

<sup>94</sup>Roesler, T. & Deisher, R.W. 1972. “Youthful male homosexuality.” *JAMA*, 219, p.1018-1023

<sup>95</sup>Remafedi, G.J. 1987 “Homosexual youth: A challenge to contemporary society.” *JAMA*, 258, p.222-225.

**real possibilities of rejection by families and friends as well as physical and emotional abuse<sup>96</sup>. Many are thrown out of their homes or become runaways.** Society has few safety nets for these homeless youths who are often forced by circumstances into theft, drug dealing, or prostitution to survive on the streets. A final choice for some teens, unable to tolerate the pain of either remaining “in the closet” or “coming out,” is suicide. Roesler and Deisher (1972)<sup>97</sup> and Remafedi (1987)<sup>98</sup> found that more than **one-third** of the gay and bisexual adolescents in their studies **had attempted suicide**.

In essence, gay and lesbian teens are denied not only their sexuality, but their adolescence as well. Unable to freely admit or express one of the most important parts of their being, they are prevented from accomplishing the expected developmental tasks of adolescence<sup>99</sup>. The gradual discovery of who one is and how one relates to others requires extensive social interaction and experimentation. For most gay teens this is simply impossible. It is rare for the gay or lesbian adolescent to have access to accurate and unbiased information about homosexuality and gay lifestyles. The myths surrounding homosexuality abound and continue to have a powerful influence on both popular and professional thought. Adolescents, both gay and lesbian, accept many of these myths as fact. To prevent or repair damaged self-esteem, these misconceptions must be corrected. Gay teens must know, first of all, that their sexual orientation is not a choice. Nor is it a contagion. Nor is it the product of some developmental interruption or flaw. Rather, their feelings are completely valid and natural representation of the human experience. They are as likely as their heterosexual peers to lead happy, fulfilling, and productive lives once a personal peace has been made with their sexuality<sup>100</sup>.

Gay and lesbian teens should be provided the positive role models they have been denied and that are present in every field of endeavor—the arts and sciences, religion, politics,

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<sup>96</sup>Remafedi, G.J. 1987 “Male homosexuality: The adolescent’s perspective.” *Pediatrics*, 79, p.326-330.

<sup>97</sup>Roesler and Deisher, 1972

<sup>98</sup>Remafedi, 1987(a)

<sup>99</sup>Malyon, A.K. 1981. “The homosexual adolescent: Developmental issues and social bias.” *Child Welfare*, 60, p.321-330.

<sup>100</sup>Gonsiorek, J.C. 1982. “Results of psychological testing on homosexual populations.” In W. Parry, J.D. Weinrich, J. Gonsiorek, & M. Hotvedt (Eds.) *Homosexuality: Social, Psychological, and Biological Issues*. (pp. 71-80). Beverly Hills, CA : Sage Publications.

and sports. The sexual and affectional feelings of gay and lesbian youth should be validated as natural and healthy. They deserve the same permission as other teens to explore and experiment to learn about their developing selves and to expand their capacities for sharing, intimacy and love.

## Topic 6 • Adolescent Suicide

The suicidal rates for adolescents has been increasing in recent years to the point that it is now the 2nd-3rd leading cause of death for adolescents between the ages 15-19. More than 5,000 US adolescents and young adults (aged 15 to 24) take their own lives each year.<sup>101</sup> This is a 300% <sup>102</sup> increase in just the last 20 years. There are numerous studies linking the causes to various affective disorders including increased levels of competition, isolation and failure among this age group. For example, a history of physical and sexual abuse is associated with a higher rate of self-destructive behaviors.<sup>103</sup> However, little attention has been given in the professional literature to the homosexual subgroup.

A limited number of psychologist case studies have indicated that suicide and suicidal thoughts occur at much higher than expected rates amongst their homosexual clients. Jay and Young<sup>104</sup> found that 40% of the 5,000 homosexual men and women they surveyed seriously considered or attempted suicide. Black and white gay men were 12 and 3 times more likely respectively to be suicidal than heterosexual men<sup>105</sup>.

But when did these attempts occur? Homosexual men were more likely to have made attempts during adolescence than in adulthood. At least one-third of homosexual and bisexual boys reported suicidal attempts, and repeat attempts were common<sup>106,107</sup>. Suicide attempts most often occurred during adolescence for persons associated with a history of childhood gender atypical behavior or emotional disturbance<sup>108</sup>. The recent *Report of the Secretary's Task Force on Youth Suicide* concluded that "gay adolescents were two to three times more likely than peers to attempt suicide, accounting for as many as 30% of completed youth suicides each year."<sup>109</sup> And finally, in a random sample of

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<sup>101</sup>National Center for Health Statistics (1986). *Vital Statistics of the United States, Volume 2: Mortality, Part A*. Hyattsville, MD.

<sup>102</sup>National Center for Health Statistics (1985, September). *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*. Washington, DC.

<sup>103</sup>Frymier, J. (1988). Understanding and preventing teen suicide: An interview with Barry Barfinkel. *Phi Delta Kappan*, 70, 290-293

<sup>104</sup>Jay K, Young A, eds. *The Gay Report: Lesbians and Gay Men Speak Out About Their Sexual Experiences and Life-styles*. New York, NY: Simon and Schuster; 1979

<sup>105</sup>Bell A, Weinberg M. *Homosexualities: A Study of Diversity Among Men and Women*. New York, NY: Simon and Schuster; 1978

<sup>106</sup>Roesler T, Deisher RW. Youthful male homosexuality. *JAMA*. 1972; 219:1018-1023

<sup>107</sup>Remafedi G. Adolescent homosexuality: psychosocial and medical implications. *Pediatrics*. 1987; 79:331-337

<sup>108</sup>Saghir MT, Robins E. *Male and Female Homosexuality: A Comprehensive Investigation*. Baltimore, MD: Williams & Wilkins; 1973

<sup>109</sup>US Department of Health and Human Services. *Report of the Secretary's Task Force on Youth Suicide, Volume 3: Prevention and Interventions in Youth Suicide*. Rockville, MD; 1989

US psychiatrists<sup>110</sup>, adolescent self-injuries were considered to be more serious and lethal than those of their heterosexual peers.

Two reports will be reviewed. The first one, *Risk Factors for Attempted Suicide in Gay and Bisexual Youth*, by Gary Remafedi, identifies risk factors for suicide attempts among bisexual and homosexual male youths. The second report, *Suicide Among Homosexual Adolescents*, by Ronald Kourany, surveys psychiatrists about their experiences with adolescent homosexuals.

*Risk Factors for Attempted Suicide in Gay and Bisexual Youth*, by Gary Remafedi<sup>111</sup>

The subjects for this study were not referred from mental health treatment facilities, but obtained mostly through gay publications and out-reach programs. They were residents of the Pacific Northwest and were 82% white, 13% African-American, 4% Hispanic, and 1% Asian in ethnic composition.

The participants complete the Scale for Suicide Ideation<sup>112</sup>, Bem Sex Role Inventory<sup>113</sup>, Beck Depression Inventory<sup>114</sup>, Hopelessness Scale<sup>115</sup> and the Modified Attitudes Toward Homosexuality Scale<sup>116</sup>. **Thirty percent (30%) of the participants reported at least one suicide attempt.**

Findings:

1. Differences in gender role and sexual orientation development were prominent. Suicide attempters were more likely than nonattempters to be feminine or undifferentiated and less likely to be masculine or androgynous.
2. Suicide attempters engaged in homosexual and heterosexual activity to the point of orgasm at younger ages than their peers (approximately 14.3- vs. 16.1-years of age respectively).
3. Compared with peers, a larger proportion of suicide attempters reported illicit drug use and arrest for criminal activities.

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<sup>110</sup> Kourany RF. Suicide among homosexual adolescents. *Journal of Homosexuality*. 1987; 13:111-117

<sup>111</sup>Remafedi, Gary; Farrow, James; and Deisher, Robert: Risk Factors for Attempted Suicide in Gay and Bisexual Youth. *Pediatrics* Vol. 87 No. 6, June 1991, p.869-875

<sup>112</sup> Beck AT, Kovacs M, Weissman A. Assessment of suicidal intention: the scale for suicide ideation. *Journal Consulting Clinical Psychology*. 1979;47:343-352

<sup>113</sup> Bem S. The measurement of psychological androgyny. *Journal of Consulting Clinical Psychology*. 1974;42:155-162

<sup>114</sup> Beck AT, Ward CH, Mendelson M, et al. An inventory for measuring depression. *Arch General Psychiatry*. 1961;4:561-571

<sup>115</sup> Beck AT, Weissman A, Lester D, et al. The measurement of pessimism: the hopelessness scale. *Journal Consulting Clinical Psychology* 1974;42:861-865

<sup>116</sup> Price JH. High school students' attitudes toward homosexuality. *Journal School Health*. 1982;52:469-474

4. One third of all suicide attempts were attributed to personal or interpersonal turmoil about homosexuality.
5. One third of first attempts occurred in the same year that subjects identified their bisexuality or homosexuality and most other attempts happened soon thereafter.
6. Suicide attempts were not explained by experiences with discrimination, violence, loss of friendship, or current personal attitudes toward homosexuality.
7. This report did not find a significant association between suicide attempts and running away from home.
8. **Suicide attempters recognized homosexual or bisexual attractions and told other persons at younger ages** (approximately 9.3- vs. 10.7-years of age respectively).
9. **For each year's delay in bisexual or homosexual self-labeling, the odds of a suicide attempt diminished by 80%.**
10. **Sexual abuse was not a statistically significant predictor of suicide attempts**, because bisexual or homosexual identification usually preceded sexual experiences.
11. There were no statistically significant differences between suicide attempters and nonattempters with regard to age, educational level, race, religion, residence, or source of financial support.

Gay-identified adolescents are a subset of all youth who will eventually disclose a homosexual orientation.<sup>117</sup> Therefore, the experiences of openly gay and bisexual youth may be quite different from those of other boys who are "confused, hiding, or delayed in identifying sexual feeling." "Ultimately, the study of suicide among gay and bisexual youth may shed new light on the unifying characteristics of adolescent victims, unraveling the common threads of risk which transcend the issue of sexual orientation."

*Suicide Among Homosexual Adolescents*, by Ronald Kourany<sup>118</sup>

A survey was made by Ronald Kourany from the clients of 166 selected members of the American Society of Adolescent Psychiatry. Of those who responded, 65% speculated that the general reasons for suicide were: problems in the family, intrapsychic distress, social and environmental pressures, depression, character disorders, or schizophrenia. However, when asked to comment about suicidal gestures among homosexual adolescents, nearly 60% of the respondents said they had no experience or opinion on the subject.

Those respondents with homosexual client experience, 66% considered suicidal gestures by homosexual adolescent more serious and more lethal than similar ones by the heterosexual group. The respondents felt that the association of homosexuality with suicidal behavior could happen at any particular point in the course of therapy.

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<sup>117</sup> Remafedi G. Adolescent homosexuality. *Medical Clinical North America*. 1990; 74:1169-1179

<sup>118</sup> Ronald F. C. Kourany, MD, "Suicide Among Homosexual Adolescents," *Journal of Homosexuality*, Vol. 13(4), Summer 1987

The lack of experience by most of the psychiatrists in dealing with homosexual adolescents is surprising and could be the result of:

- a. few homosexual adolescents seeking psychiatric help—possibly because homosexual adolescents feel even more threatened when considering the option of seeing a psychiatrist.
- b. few homosexual adolescents see psychiatrists before committing suicide—not borne out by any known research, but suggested by this survey.
- c. homosexual adolescents are better adjusted and consequently require less professional help—none of the respondents mentioned this possibility.
- d. many of the psychiatrists restricted their practices to exclude the homosexual adolescents—possibly from not recognizing or not wanting to treat these patients.

Conclusion: Many psychiatrists did not think that they were working with homosexual adolescents; thus, the existence of heterosexism in the psychiatric profession has to be considered. The majority of the respondents agreed that these teenagers were at higher risk for suicide and that their gestures were more severe.

### The School Experience

Leonard Jenkins, an Ohio teen, came out to his teachers when he was 14. "His teachers told him he had nothing to live for," recalled his mother, Rada. "Another teacher told Leonard that he would rather for his son to come home any day with cancer than to have what Leonard had. The kid was 14, just coming out, and he was sacred to death. It's no wonder there is so much suicide among these young people." Leonard was a straight-A student who tried to hang himself in the band room. He was hospitalized for three months where upon the family moved. At another school, he was able to graduate but by having to stay completely in the closet.

Chris Jones, an 18-year old Midwesterner, made six suicide attempts. In sixth grade he took an overdose of aspirin. In eighth grade he tried jumping out of a tree, but another branch broke his fall. When he was a sophomore in high school, he tried taking prescribed pills, but they were not enough to kill him. Later that year, he borrowed a friend's gun and tried shooting himself but only slightly injured himself. Still that same year, he tied a bag around himself and lit a candle, hoping that it would use up the oxygen. His final attempt landed him in the hospital for three weeks. Who knows what he will do next?

There are many thousands of similar stories each year, many of them fatal.

### Current School Status

Only three school districts in the United States—Los Angeles, Oakland, New York City— have at-risk programs aimed at the adolescent homosexual. Virtually none of the suicide prevention programs mention the connection of suicide and homosexuality. Even the federal studies into suicide purposely squelch research that may lead to a recognition that this issue is important and that it needs to be addressed in our public schools.

## **LOS ANGELES / CALIFORNIA AREA ORGANIZATIONS**

### ADOLESCENT SERVICES—

- Friends of Project 10, Inc.: is a tax-exempt educational organization established in 1986 to assist schools and school districts in setting up counseling programs modeled after the PROJECT 10 program in the Los Angeles Unified School District. Included in the mission of the organization is the distribution of non-judgmental materials which provide accurate information about human sexuality and which stress personal responsibility and risk-reduction behavior. FRIENDS OF PROJECT 10, INC., works with parents, community members, teachers, school administrations, elected officials and other professionals. Inquires regarding educational materials, United Way designation, scholarships and memorial bequests, should be addressed to: FRIENDS OF PROJECT 10, INC. (ID# 95-4080446), Virginia Uribe, Ph.D., 7850 Melrose Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90046, (213) 651-5200, (818) 441-3382
- Gay & Lesbian Adolescent Social Services (GLASS): GLASS is a county of Los Angeles sponsored and financed service aimed at gay and lesbian adolescents. The program includes residential placement for abandoned or battered children. Currently, the programs operates four groups homes specifically comprised of gay and lesbian adolescents. GLASS, 650 N. Robertson Blvd., Ste. H, Los Angeles, (310) 358-8727.
- Eagles Center: The Eagles Center is a branch of Los Angeles Unified School District's Central High School. As a continuation school, the Eagles Center is designed to assist at-risk students in completing school. EAGLES Center, Jerry Battey—Teacher / Director, Los Angeles, CA, (213) 937-7334.

### GENERAL SERVICES—

- Gay and Lesbian Center LA, 1625 N. Schrader Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90038, (213) 993-7415
- The Lesbian and Gay Public Awareness Project, P.O. Box 65603, Los Angeles, CA 90065, (818) 990-8000
- Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Inc. (PFLAG), P.O. Box 24565, Los Angeles, CA 90024, (213) 472-8952
- Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/LA (GLAAD), 8455 Beverly Blvd., #305, Los Angeles, CA (213) 658-6775
- Lawyers for Human Rights Bar Association, PO Box 480318, Los Angeles, CA 90048, (310) 788-9224
- Christopher Street West, 7985 Santa Monica Blvd. Ste 109-24, W. Hollywood, CA 90046, (213) 656-6553
- American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) Gay & Lesbian Rights Chapter, 1616 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90026, (213) 977-9500
- One Institute, 3340 Country Club Dr., Los Angeles, 90019, (213) 735-5252
- Stonewall Democratic Club, PO Box 26367, Los Angeles, CA 90038, (213) 969-1735

- Log Cabin Republican Club, 7400 Hollywood Bl., Ste 327, Los Angeles, CA 90029, (213) 486-4232
- Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Police Advisory Task Force, PO Box 931135, Los Angeles, CA 90093, (213) 871-5861
- Golden State Peace Officers Assn. of Southern California, PO Box 46505, Los Angeles, CA (818) 592-5200

## **NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

(Contact the national organization to find out where there is an office near you)

### AIDS/HIV Support, Education, Advocacy

- ACLU AIDS & Civil Liberties Project, Box 1161, Philadelphia, PA 19105, (215) 592-1513
- ACTUP: AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power, 496-A Hudson St. #G4, New York, NY 10014, (212) 533-8888
- AIDS Project: Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund, 666 Broadway, New York, NY 10012, (212) 995-8585
- AIDS Treatment News, Box 411256, San Francisco, CA 94141, (415) 255-0588
- American Red Cross AIDS Education Projects, 1900 25th Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98144, (206) 323-2345
- Gay Men's Health Crisis, 129 W. 20th St., New York, NY 10011, (212) 807-6655
- The NAMES Project, Box 14573, San Francisco, CA 94114, (415) 863-5511
- National AIDS Hotline, Box 13827, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709; (800) 342-AIDS (English); (800) 344-SIDA (Spanish Access); (800) AIDS TTY (Deaf Access).
- National Minority AIDS Council, 714 G St. SE, Washington, DC 20003, (202) 544-1076
- National Task Force on AIDS Prevention, 273 Church St., San Francisco, CA 94114, (415) 255-8378
- National Women's Health Network, 1325 G. St. NW (level B), Washington, DC 20005, (202) 347-1140
- National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, 1734 14th ST. NW Washington, D.C., 20009-4309, (202) 332-6483

### Archives / Libraries / History Projects

- Gay & Lesbian Archives of Washington, DC, Box 4218, Falls Church, VA 22044, (703) 671-3930
- International Gay & Lesbian Archives, Box 38100, Los Angeles, CA 90038-0100, (213) 854-0271 (This library is moving onto the University of Southern California campus late 1995).
- MCC Library, Metropolitan Community Church, 1919 Decatur, Houston, TX 77007, (713) 861-9149
- Stonewall Library, c/o Metropolitan Community Church, 330 SW 27th St., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315, (305) 391-7599

### Business & Professional Associations

- American Association of Physicians for Human Rights, 2940 16th St #105, San Francisco, CA 94103, (415) 255-4547
- American Federation of Teachers National Gay & Lesbian Caucus, 3328 Edgemont St., Philadelphia, PA 19134, (215) 425-1831
- National Education Association Gay & Lesbian Educators Caucus, c/o Robert Beile, 5640 Springhouse Dr. #10, Pleasanton, CA 94566, (415) 734-8291
- National Organization of Gay & Lesbian Scientists & Technical Professionals (NOGLSTP), Box 91803, Pasadena, CA 91109

Education & Research

- Center for Research & Education in Sexuality (CERES), San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA 94132, (415) 338-1137, Editorial office of *Journal of Homosexuality* (Haworth Press).

### Ethnic & Nationality Resources & Publications

- National Association of Black & White Men Together (NABWMT), 584 Castro ST. #140, San Francisco, CA 94114, (415) 431-1976
- Pyramid Periodical: Journal for Gay People of Color, Box 1111 Canal St. Stn, New York, NY 10013, (212) 421-3560

### Family / Youth / Age-Related Resources

- Federation of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), box 27605, Washington, DC 20038, (202) 638-4200

### Legal Services & Resources

- Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund, 666 Broadway, New York, NY 10012, (212) 995-8585

### Military Resources

- Gay Veterans Association, Inc., 346 Broadway #814, New York, NY 10013, (212) 787-0329

### Political, Social & Support Movements

- Human Rights Campaign Fund, 1012 14th St NW #607, Washington, DC 20005, (202) 628-4160
- National Coming Out Day, Box 15524, Santa Fe, NM 87506, (505) 982-2558

### Directories, Bibliographies, Guides, Travel

- Bob Damron's Address Book, Box 11270, San Francisco, CA 94101, (415) 777-0113
- Gayellow Pages, P.O. Box 292 Village Stn, New York, NY 10014, (212) 674-0120

### Publications

- *The Advocate*, Box 4371, Los Angeles, CA 90078-4371, (213) 871-1225
- *Bisexuality*, Gibbin Publications, Box 20917, Long Beach, Ca 90801-3917, (213) 597-2799
- *Christopher Street*, Box 1475, New York, NY 10008, (212) 627-2120
- *Journal of Gay & Lesbian Psychotherapy*, Haworth Press, 10 Alice St., Binghamton, NY 13904-1580, (607) 722-5857
- *Journal of Homosexuality*, Haworth Press, 10 Alice St., Binghamton, NY 13904-1580, (607) 722-5857
- *Feminist Bookstore News*, Box 882554, San Francisco, CA 94188, (415) 626-1556
- *Out*, 110 Green St., Suite 600, New York, NY 10012 (800) 876-1199, 669-1002.

### Publishers

- Alyson Publications, 40 Plympton St., Boston, MA 02118, (617) 542-5679
- Amethyst Press, Inc., 462 Broadway #4000, New York, NY 10013, (212) 966-8400
- Gay Sunshine Press / Leyland Publications, Box 40397, San Francisco, CA 94140, (415) 824-3184
- Wlm. Publications, 3601 Crowell Rd #100, Turlock, CA 95380, (209) 667-0966

### Religious Organizations

- Affirmation / Gay & Lesbian Mormons, Box 46022, Los Angeles, CA 90046, (213) 255-7251
- Affirmation: United Methodists for Lesbian & Gay Concerns, Box 1021, Evanston, IL 60204, (708) 475-0499
- American Baptists Concerned, 870 Erie St., Oakland, CA 94610-2268, (415) 465-8652
- Axios: Eastern & Orthodox Christians, 328 W. 17th St. #4F, New York, NY 10011, (212) 989-6211
- BALGC (Buddhist Association of the Gay & Lesbian Community), c/o Boxholder, Box 1974, Bloomfield, NJ 07003
- Brethren / Mennonite Council for Lesbian & Gay Concerns, Box 65724, Washington, DC 20035, (202) 462-2595
- A Common Bond, Box 405, Ellwood City, PA 16117, (412) 758-0704 (Ex Jehovah's Witnesses)
- Dignity Inc., 1500 Massachusetts Ave NW #11, Washington, DC 20005, (202) 861-0017 (Gay & Lesbian Catholics & their Friends)
- Emergence International, Box 581, Kentfield, CA 94914-0581, (415) 485-1881 (Christian Scientists supporting Lesbians & Gay Men)
- Evangelicals Concerned, 311 E. 72nd St. #1G, c/o Ralph Blair, New York, NY 10021, (212) 517-3171
- Integrity, Inc., Box 19561, Washington, DC 20036-0561, (718) 720-3054
- Lutherans Concerned / North America, Box 10461, Chicago, IL 60610-0461
- Metropolitan Community Church, 5300 Santa Monica Bl., Ste 304, Los Angeles. (213) 930-1600
- National Ecumenical Coalition, Inc., 4300 N. Old Dominion Dr. #803, Arlington, VA 22207-3246, (703) 522-9759
- National Gay Pentecostal Alliance, Box 1391, Schenectady, NY 12301-1391, (518) 372-6001
- New Jewish Agenda, 64 Fulton St. #1100, New York, NY 10038, (212) 277-5885
- Open Hands, Box 23636, Washington, DC 20026, (202) 484-1233 (United Methodists for Gay / Lesbian Concerns)
- Quaker Lesbian Conference, 33 Buchanan Dr., Sausalito, CA 94965, (415) 331-3820
- Reformed Church in American Gay Caucus, Box 8174, Philadelphia, PA 19101-8174
- Seventh Day Adventist Kinship International, Box 3840, Los Angeles, CA 90078-3840, (213) 876-2076
- United Lesbian / Gay Christian Scientists, Box 2171, Beverly Hills, CA 90212-2171, (213) 850-8258
- Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, 5300 Santa Monica Blvd. #304, Los Angeles, Ca 90029, (213) 464-5100
- World Congress of Gay & Lesbian Jewish Organizations, Box 18961, Washington, DC 20036

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## Topic 8 • Family/Relationships

### Parents, Families and Community

Parents confronted with the possibility of a son or daughter who might be gay are filled with an emotional tangle of confusion, guilt, anger, fear, revulsion, and grief. No amount of reassurance or education will immediately reduce this emotional reaction. Nevertheless, when counseling parents, therapist should correct misconceptions about the origins and nature of homosexuality and gay and lesbian lifestyles. The urge for parents to label an adolescent or to seek psychotherapy to alter sexual orientation should be resisted. Many books and pamphlets are available to the concerned parent. Furthermore, in many communities additional support is available through local chapters of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG, PO Box 24565, Los Angeles, CA 90024).

Fundamental changes must take place in society's view of homosexuality to ensure that future generations of gay and lesbian adolescents do not experience continued barriers to development. Health care professionals can be leaders in this change by raising community consciousness to an awareness of the unmet needs of gay and lesbian youth and by helping put in place structures that will meet those needs. The traditional fears of addressing these issues must be abandoned. Although most gay and lesbian teens emerge from their adolescent years as survivors against great odds, too many lives have been stunted or lost for no other reason than society's failure to admit their existence and to protect and nurture their emerging identities.

For many gays and lesbians, alternative family structures have developed that rely upon close ties with friends and other non-biologically related persons. Often, LGB are estranged from their original family. Thus, a family that extends beyond the nuclear family is most common for lesbians and gays.

Lesbians and gay men frequently are parents through either marriage, adoption, artificial insemination or heterosexual relationships. Because our court system usually assigns parenting rights to mothers over fathers, the issue of lesbians as mothers has become a significant issue. Particularly in cases of child abuse and in gay and lesbian households, the parent-of-record is an important fact for the investigation.

## Lesbian Mothers

In the late 1970's, Bernice Goodman identified a number of characteristics common for lesbian mothers. These include:

1. The personalities and attitudes of lesbian mothers concerning child rearing were as diverse as that found among heterosexual mothers.
2. Lesbian mothers are as ambivalent about their children as much as heterosexual mothers.
3. The lifestyles of lesbian mothers have a range equal to that of heterosexual mothers with two significant differences:
  - a. Some lesbian mothers have an overwhelming sense of guilt and shame about their choice of a woman as her lover.
  - b. The lesbian mother has the greater potential, and therefore advantage, to refuse the basic oppression of needing a "man" in her life than the heterosexual mother.

It is the sense of guilt and shame that interferes with the lesbian mother's interaction with her children. Questions of 'proper' behavior constantly come up and frequently within a heterosexist context. How is the lesbian mother to answer her child when the child informs the mother that he/she is being picked-on at school for having a 'dyke' mom? During the late 1970s, the feminist and lesbian movements were primarily concerned with consciousness raising. As such, little direct political action was taken against the school, but rather the psychological processes of accepting the child's feelings of being placed in a position of difference evolved from the mother's challenge to her inner feelings of guilt and shame.

The most recent research into lesbian mothers estimates that there are 1.5 million U.S. lesbians<sup>119</sup> who are mothers and have reaffirmed the initial work of Bernice Goodman. Although surveys<sup>120</sup> of lesbians have revealed that one-third have been heterosexually married and of these, one-half have had children, there are great similarities between lesbians and divorced heterosexual mothers concerning marital history, pregnancy

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<sup>119</sup>Henry III, William, 1990, "The Lesbians Next Door," *Time*, Fall Special Issue p.79

<sup>120</sup>Kirkpatrick, Martha MD. 1987. "Clinical Implications of Lesbian Mother Studies." *Journal of Homosexuality*. Vol. 14 no 1-2 p. 201-11

history, child-rearing attitudes, and lifestyle<sup>121</sup>. One difference is the special fears the lesbian mother has concerning custody battles resulting in public disclosure of their homosexuality and the potential loss of their children. Attendant with these fears was the mother's personal concerns that her lesbianism may affect the development of her child, what and when to divulge her sexual orientation to her child, and the introduction of a lover into the household. Other research has shown<sup>122</sup> that lesbian mothers are virtually indistinguishable from heterosexual mothers except in their relationship to their partner. Motherhood did not change the woman's desire to be a lesbian, if anything it reinforced her desires to make relationships with other women and these other women in turn discovered buried maternal longings to have children of their own. Lesbians began to understand that even though the family environment has significant impact on the child:

There is no theoretical or clinical evidence to support the idea that role models create sexuality. If that were correct, there would be no homosexuals, since we were all conceived in a heterosexual relationship, and since most children grow up in a heterosexual environment.<sup>123</sup>

The research on children raised by open lesbian mothers has shown that there are no differences between children brought up by lesbians and children brought up by heterosexual single parents. Children of lesbians exhibit no greater homosexuality than the society at-large.<sup>124</sup> For children raised by closeted lesbian mothers, when the mother reveals to the children that she is lesbian the children do "experience shock and surprise at the disclosure of a mother's lesbian relationship . . . and do defend their mother

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<sup>121</sup>Golombok, S., Spence, A., & Rutter, M. 1983. "Children in lesbian and single parent households: Psychosexual and psychiatric appraisal." *Journal Child Psychology and Psychiatry*. v24, p.551-572.

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Kirkpatrick, M., Smith, A., & Roy, R. 1981. "Lesbian mothers and their children: A comparative study." *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*. v51, p.545-551

<sup>122</sup>Hanscombe, Gilliam; Forster, Jackie. 1982. *Rocking the Cradle—Lesbian Mothers: A Challenge in Family Living*. Alyson Publications, Inc. Boston p.64

<sup>123</sup>Goodman, Bernice. 1977. *The Lesbian: A Celebration of Difference*. Out & Out Books. p19

<sup>124</sup>Green, Richard. 1978 "Sexual Identity of 37 Children Raised by Homosexual or Transsexual Parents." *American Journal of Psychiatry*, Vol. 135, No.6. June p.692-7

against criticism, especially from the father.”<sup>125</sup> In these cases it is suggested<sup>126</sup> that peer counseling of children with similar experiences may be very valuable to such children. Therapeutic techniques should deal more with the usual issues of family intimacy and trust, than on the “deviance of the lesbian mother.”

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<sup>125</sup>Kirkpatrick. 1987 p.210

<sup>126</sup>Kirkpatrick. 1987 p.211

### MINORITY ISSUES

(Reprinted by permission: Uribe, Virginia Ph.D.. 1989. *PROJECT 10 Handbook*. Friends of Project 10, Inc. 7850 Melrose Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90046 (213) 651-5200)

The various cultures and races reflected in the United States are also reflected in the Lesbian and gay population. Such adolescents face the prospect of living their lives within three rigidly defined and strongly independent communities: the lesbian and gay community, their ethnic or racial community, and the society at large. Each community fulfills basic needs which are often imperiled if such communities were to be visibly integrated. A common result is the constant effort to maintain a manner of living that keeps the three communities separate, a process that leads to increased isolation, depression and anger centered around the fear of being separated from all support systems including the family.

A unique feature of the ethnic family constellation is that it centers around the integration of the extended family within its support system. The ethnic family support system resembles more of a tribe with multiple family groups rather than a nuclear family structure consisting solely of parents and children. For the ethnic person the family constitutes a symbol of their basic roots and the focal point of their ethnic identity. “Coming out” to the family is a different process for the ethnic gay and lesbian than for the non-ethnic person since such a process tends to involve more than the nuclear family.

Aside from the involvement of more family members, the family collective is the major support system for the ethnic person during the arduous times of experiencing discrimination, slander and inferior treatment. The family is the source of great strength for primary relationships; in other words the family is the emotional bond for their conscious self and personal psychology. “Coming out” to the family not only jeopardizes the intrafamily relationships but also threatens their strong association with their ethnic community. As a result they run the risk of feeling uprooted as an ethnic person.

Discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation is often compounded by economic disadvantage. The ethnic person is a visible minority and, therefore, is more easily subjected to discrimination policies. Among blacks and Hispanics, employment discrimination is often present despite the level of education, academic degrees and years

of employment. Further, unemployment rates are higher among some minority groups adding the burden of poverty, drug and alcohol abuse to quality of interaction among ethnic lesbians and gays.

The upholding of negative stereotyping and the practice of discrimination against lesbians and gays places the ethnic gay man and lesbian as the least desirable combination for acceptance and assimilation. A hierarchy, suggesting preference for Whites over Latinos, over Blacks, over Asians, or American Indians or any combination of these except for Whites, defines and complicates the level of intensity of discrimination. This endless downward spiral continues when one introduces other variables such as gender, sex role behavior, physical disabilities, shades of skin color, age, religious affiliation, and other variables.

Underutilization of mental health services by minorities is a well know fact. Social services are often inadequate because of language problems, culture and class differences, lack of minority counselors, and lack of training and sensitivity to lesbian and gay issues. In most minority groups the family is the primary socializing function. The family buffers its individual members from the stresses of being a minority in an society. It has also been depicted as a defense adaptation—”they take care of their own”—and the underutilization of mental health services has been attributed to this phenomenon.

Finally, the role of the church and other cultural influences which rigidly define sex roles make it especially difficult for minority lesbians and gays to develop positive self-esteem.

The ethnic lesbian and gay community has begun to establish various groups in order to maintain support systems and to unify its efforts toward reducing the oppression this community experiences. Ethnic groups and conferences have become more varied and frequent. The formation of such groups and conference appears to be a healthy way to deal with the social and political realities which ethnic gay men and lesbians experience daily.

Police personnel need to recognize the special issues that exist among minority lesbians and gays and should work toward understanding cross cultural differences.

Interview with Lester Wong and Lillian Gee

(from the documentary “Pink Triangle.”)

Lester: So I went to my mother who was asking me why wasn't I dating a girl? And why I wasn't planning on getting married, and was I going to get married?

And I tried to explain to her in Chinese, 'cause she doesn't speak English, that I'm gay. And the way I had to do it was to say, “Ma, I love men.”

And her reaction was, “I don't care if you love men, you still have to get married.”

I grew up in Chinatown and all my friends were Chinese until I decided to “come out.” And coming out meant leaving and knowing that you couldn't get support from your friends or community—and not even trying to because you're afraid to ask. And trying to go to a white gay lifestyle—and trying to fit in there. It didn't work.

Lillian: In Asian culture I have my role as a woman, but there is no role at all for me as a lesbian. I think outside of Chinatown, in white America, it's a much more violent opposition to gay people—it's a much more actively negative thing to be gay.

Lester: Growing up as a little Chinese kid—all these ignorant white ideas—these people calling me “fag” for no reason at all—it was a racial thing. They needed someone to dump on and they used the words “fag,” “Queer,” and “sissy,” on me because I was Chinese.

Lillian: I think that's the way racism and homophobia came from—exactly the same fears on the part of whites. And so they use a homophobia expression like “faggot” to really express a racial fear.

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Topic 10 • Police Concerns

Although times are changing and there is a greater acceptance of gays and lesbians, homophobia is still an issue for many police departments. This is a national problem, but examples taken from the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) will be used. Note, these examples are simply to illustrate the kinds of problems encountered within police departments. The LAPD has radically changed as evidenced by this comprehensive gay and lesbian cultural awareness program.

Example—Homophobia within Police Departments

In 1975, then Police Chief Ed Davis reflected the negative attitude at the time about gays and lesbians and the police department as reflected in a memo sent to the Christopher Street West Association.

May 23, 1975

Ms. Sharon D. Cornelison, President  
Christopher Street West Association  
P.O. Box 3949  
Hollywood, California 90028

Dear Ms. Cornelison:

As you no doubt expected, I am declining your invitation to participate in the celebration of “GAY PRIDE WEEK.” While I support your organization’s constitutional right to express your feelings on the subject of homosexuality, I am obviously not in sympathy with your views on the subject. I would much rather celebrate “GAY CONVERSION WEEK” which I will gladly sponsor when the medical practitioners in this country find a way to convert gays to heterosexuals.

Very truly yours,

E.M. Davis  
Chief of Police

Examples of homophobia within a police department?

1. Police Department requires that police officer adopt a ‘macho’ attitude, and often that ‘macho’ and manifests itself in the intolerance of homosexuals. A bias against homosexuals is bred into every new generation of officers. Those cadets who do not join in and make

- offensive comments about homosexuals may be suspected of being homosexual themselves.
2. Derogatory comments made about gays and lesbians have been frequent. It is common to hear officers talking about ‘faggots’ and ‘bull dykes.’
  3. The banter in the officer’s locker-room reveals occasional police officer’s bias attitude toward homosexuals. The worst insult that can be said about another officer is that the officers is a ‘cocksucker,’ ‘faggot,’ or ‘fruit.’ This is considered a far more serious insult than saying that an officer cannot shoot or that an officer is incompetent.
  4. You only have to ride with a patrol car for one shift to discover how prejudiced some police officers are against homosexuals.
  5. Officers sometimes would taunt and threaten homosexual suspects, telling them that they would be raped in jail and that they would enjoy it.

#### Example—Discrimination against Lesbians and Gay Men within Police Departments

Until this year, 1992, the LAPD had refused to actively recruit gay and lesbians unlike cities such as Boston, Atlanta, Philadelphia, Santa Monica, and New York<sup>127</sup>. When gays and lesbians applied, they were systematically excluded during the interview process with such questions as “Have you ever had sex with other men?” “Have you ever participated in any other form of deviant sex?” and were required to provide the name and address of at least one member of the opposite sex with whom they currently are romantically involved. In an extreme case, officers have failed to receive back-up during potentially life-threatening situations because the commanding officers felt that the officer “needed to be taught a lesson.”<sup>128</sup>

#### Reform Measures

What is required are dramatic changes in the attitudes and conduct of police department’s leadership and rank-and-file; marked improvement in the Department’s training, deployment, patrol, complaint, investigation, reporting, and community relations procedures and practices; sweeping modifications in the ways in which the LAPD handles the recruiting, hiring, and employment conditions of lesbians and gay men; and strong, independent, and effective civilian oversight of the Department and its management.

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<sup>127</sup> See April 23, 1987 *Survey of Major Police Depts.* “Outreach to Gays and Lesbians”; “Garner Pushes for Gay Cops,” *PGN*, July 21-27, 1989, p.3; “Lesbians, Gay Men Urged To Try for Police Program,” *Gay Windows*, July 9, 1987; *Lesbian News*, May 1991,(advertisement) p.41.

<sup>128</sup>Grobesson Declaration, pp. 22

### Reform Process for the LAPD

Within the 8,300 member LAPD force, there are now 9 openly gay and lesbian officers (as of 1995)<sup>129</sup>. The environment for gay and lesbian police officers is changing towards a more tolerant and supportive atmosphere. Initially, a community action committee was formed over concerns about police harassment of gays and lesbians. Closeted LGB officers formed their own private group and indirectly helped the community group. Requests by the community groups to the police department for active recruitment of LGB officers stalled until there were open personnel willing to work the Gay Pride Festival information booths. Finally, a number of officers came out. The first year a booth set-up (1991) at the Pride Festival was unsanctioned by the LAPD. By the second year (1992), with many more officers coming out as gay or lesbian, the Pride Festival booth not only was sanctioned by the LAPD, but the officers were on duty, paid and allowed to wear their uniforms while recruiting.

Officer Paul Butler, who was hired as an openly gay in 1988 and started teaching the Gay and Lesbian Cultural Awareness Program in 1991, said, "I have gotten no hassles, no negative comments from anybody . . . and I've gotten an enormously large number of very positive comments. I literally had one partner come to the festival. He and his wife popped 10 bucks apiece to walk up to the booth and commend us for what we were doing, which is a pretty good feeling." About coming out, Butler says, "I feel really, really good . . . But, in light of what a positive experience it has been, I wish we hadn't waited as long as we did."<sup>130</sup>

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<sup>129</sup> It has been reported that, "[i]n the San Francisco County Sheriff's department, 20% of the sworn work force is gay or lesbian, a lesbian lieutenant supervises a 70-officer bailiff security office, several gay sergeants are watch commanders, and the department's budget officer is a lesbian." Serrano, "Gay Police Leave the Shadows," *LA Times*, Sept. 3, 1990, p1, col. 1.

<sup>130</sup>Owens, Luke. "Openly Gay LAPD Officer Speaks Out." *Update*, Aug. 14, 1991

Topic 10 • Costs of Discrimination against Gays and Lesbians

Discrimination has both costs associated with excluding and discharging specific groups and the personal sacrifice. The costs associated with discrimination against gays and lesbians has been well documented in the U.S. military.

PENTAGON COST OF DISCHARGING GAYS

The Pentagon has spent nearly **\$500 million**<sup>131</sup> over the last decade replacing men and women forced from the service because of their homosexual orientation.

The General Accounting Office found that the service branches **discharge** an average of **1,500 people each year** for being gay. Pentagon policy deems homosexuality incompatible with military service and the maintenance of “good order, morale and discipline.” The GAO study (1992) found that enlisted men and women make up almost all the homosexual discharges because officers are allowed the option of resigning. Pentagon policy against homosexuality also appears to fall disproportionately on women (at almost a 10:1 ratio)<sup>132</sup>, and the Navy is the most aggressive service branch in discharging homosexuals.

Because the Pentagon was unable to provide a breakdown of its internal investigations, the report included no estimate on how much the government spends in pursuing thousands of cases of alleged homosexuality. In 1990, the Pentagon spent \$28,226 to recruit and train each enlisted person and \$120,772 per officer. Between 1980 and 1990 a total of 16,692 enlisted men and women and 227 officers either were discharged or resigned because of homosexuality. In 1990 dollars, that works out to \$498 million.

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<sup>131</sup>AP, “Pentagon Cost of Discharging Gays Put at \$500 Million.” *Los Angeles Times*, Friday June 19, 1992, pA14

<sup>132</sup>Lewin, “Gay Groups Suggest Marines Selectively Prosecute Women.” *NY Times*, Dec. 4, 1988 at 34, Col. 1.

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## NEW PENTAGON REPORT FINDS THAT GAYS ARE NOT SECURITY RISKS

A Pentagon study, “Homosexuality and Personnel Security” (10/91) concluded that gays and lesbians are not security risks and that “sexual orientation is unrelated to moral character.” The 39-page study focused exclusively on the issue of security clearances and sexual orientation, examining case histories and articles about people who committed or attempted to commit breaches of security since 1945. It found that monetary gain, and not sexual orientation, was the chief factor in whether a person was disloyal to the U.S. The report found no instances where homosexuality was a factor in a security breach. This report follows two previous Pentagon-commissioned studies by the Personnel Security and Education Center (PERSERC)<sup>133</sup> which advocated that homosexuality not be considered a factor in granting security clearances and urged the Pentagon to repeal its directive barring gays and lesbians from the service.

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<sup>133</sup> Dyer, Date; “Gays in Uniform: The Pentagon Secret Report,” Boston: Alyson Press, 1990

Topic 10 • Outing

“Outing” is a process by which a closeted gay person is brought to the attention of the general public through media disclosure. “Outing” is very controversial both in and out of the lesbian and gay community. Because of the terrible discrimination against LGBs, many gays believe that “outing” is never acceptable. Others believe that “outing” public figures is OK and in fact necessary to break the wall of silence that surrounds gays and to make the world aware of how many LGB there are. Some believe that “outing” is most importantly used against closeted homosexuals who actually persecute gays and lesbians. And finally, some people believe that everyone who is homosexual needs to be “outed” so as to destroy the last vestiges of secrets.

## Topic 10 • Complaint Process

### Misconduct

“The reporting of misconduct and prevention of the escalation of misconduct are areas that demand an officer to exercise courage, integrity, and decisiveness. Department Manual Section 3/815.05 requires that when an employee who is not a supervisor becomes aware of possible misconduct by another member of this Department, the employee shall immediately notify a sworn supervisor. Furthermore, an employee who observes serious misconduct shall take appropriate action to cause the misconduct does not relieve the other officers present from this obligation.

An officer’s obligation to report and prevent misconduct begins the moment the officer is sworn in as a member of the Los Angeles Police Department. Experience, rank, or tenure are not factors in knowing the difference between right and wrong, and they do not provide an excuse for failing to take appropriate action. Although supervisors are responsible for investigating allegations of misconduct, all Department employees are responsible for preventing and reporting misconduct.”<sup>134</sup>

### Disciplinary Procedures

1. When any employee who is not a supervisor becomes aware of possible misconduct by another member of this Department, the employee shall immediately notify a supervisor. (§ 815.05).
2. A supervisor who becomes aware of an alleged act of misconduct shall (§ 815.10):
  - a. Take appropriate action to prevent aggravation of the incident.
  - b. Prepare a Personnel Complaint, Form 1.81, without unnecessary delay.
  - c. Conduct a complete preliminary investigation at the time of the initial interview.
  - d. Immediately forward the original Form 1.81 to the concerned employee’s commanding officer, who shall review the Form 1.81 and promptly forward it to Internal Affairs Division.
  - e. When immediate action is necessary or the alleged misconduct is such that it may subject the Department to severe criticism or

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<sup>134</sup> Daryl F. Gates, “Police Offices’ Duty To Report Misconduct,” *Memorandum No. 2*, April 17, 1991

liability, ensure that the following notifications are made without delay;

1. The concerned employee's watch commander, or OIC, shall notify the employee's commanding officer.
  2. Internal Affairs Division.
3. A watch commander who becomes aware of an alleged act of misconduct shall (§815.15):
- a. Ensure that a Personnel Complaint, Form 1.81, is prepared without unnecessary delay (3/810.20).
  - b. When the personnel complaint has been prepared, cause it to be forwarded to the commanding officer of the concerned employee without delay.
  - c. Cause an investigation as necessary to be conducted.
  - d. Notify the commanding officer if the misconduct is such that immediate action by the commanding officer is necessary.
  - e. Notify the Watch Commander, Detective Headquarters Division, if the misconduct is such that immediate action by the concerned commanding officer is necessary and the commanding officer is not available.
4. The primary responsibility for investigating allegation of misconduct shall rest with the concerned employee's commanding officer (§815.20). If the commanding Officer wishes Internal Affairs Division to conduct the investigation, the Commanding Officers, Internal Affairs Division, shall be contacted and provided with the reasons for the request. The involved employee's commanding officer shall notify the employee every 30 days of the status of the investigation.
5. Investigation of personnel complaint, including the recommendations and conclusions of the commanding officer, the accused employee's review when applicable, and review through channels, shall be complete and the report submitted to the Commanding Officer, Internal Affairs, within 30 days after the date the complaint was initiated. (§820.01)
6. When an administrative interrogation focuses on or involves possible criminal misconduct by an employee, the employee shall be advised of his/her Miranda rights before questioning begins. If the employee waives his/her Miranda rights, no further admonition is necessary.(§820.07)

Bystander Officers at Unauthorized Use of Force Incidents<sup>135</sup>

Appropriate action shall continue to be taken against those officers whose conduct has been determined to be in violation of Department policy. All other bystander officers (including those officers whose conduct has been determined to be within Department policy) shall be listed as witnesses in the investigation.

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<sup>135</sup>Daryl F. Gates, “Bystander Officers at Unauthorized Use of Force Incidents,”  
*Administrative Order No. 5*, June 12, 1992

<sup>136</sup>Daryl F. Gates, “Bystander Officers at Unauthorized Use of Force Incidents,”  
*Administrative Order No. 5*, June 12, 1992

Topic 10 • Supervisors and Managers

The law enforcement executive should consider the need for training supervisors in techniques of managing and supervising a diverse work force.

a. The workplace includes employees with different sexual orientation:

Managing diversity in the workplace requires an understanding on part of the supervisor that there are three interrelated aspects of human behavior—gender, sexual orientation, and gender roles. In all societies, specific gender roles are prescribed with associated behavioral patterns on the basis of the person’s biological sex. Biological females are expected to behave, dress, work and have interests in a manner appropriate for being a female. Likewise male roles exist for biological males. However, many people do not fit neatly into a societies’ gender role expectations. Each society has developed ways of dealing with people who do not conform to their gender roles. Some societies are very accepting and through religious practices, have created a reverence for diversity. Other societies, such as Western culture, have been less tolerant. For example, in Western culture, gay and lesbians do not fit the heterosexual definition of gender role appropriate for males and females respectively. Likewise, males who act like females, and females who act like males violate Western culture standards of appropriate behavior.

Not all law enforcement employees will meet the social expectations of their gender role. Managers in law enforcement environments need to be aware and understand that employee behavior not adhering to expected gender roles is unrelated to professional behavior. Police agencies will include employees who are gay and lesbian, effeminate males and masculine females, and that these differences are to be accepted.

b. Employees open about their sexual orientation require understanding and sensitivity from their supervisors:

Heterosexual employees are almost always open about their sexual orientation. For the law enforcement manager, problems may arise when gay, lesbian and bisexual employee also become open—either by choice or by discovery—about their sexual orientation. Heterosexuality is the social norm in Western culture. Employees who do not adhere to heterosexuality may be subjected to adverse discrimination. The law enforcement manager needs to be accepting of gay, lesbian and bisexual employees and be sensitive that the work environment is safe and conducive to all employees.

## Managing Organizational Diversity

- a. Monitoring subordinate's professional behavior as it relates to gay, lesbian, and bisexual issues relative to providing police services to the community is a responsibility of the supervisor:
1. It is the supervisor's responsibility to ensure that appropriate police services are provided during common police contacts with the gay, lesbian and bisexual community.
  2. It is the supervisor's responsibility to ensure that hate crime statutes are correctly applied.
  3. It is the supervisor's responsibility to ensure that adequate documentation for these activities (a & b) for appropriate follow-up with employees.
- b. Monitoring subordinate's professional behavior as it relates to gay, lesbian, and bisexual agency employees is a responsibility of the supervisor:
1. Identify sexually offensive language and behavior in the workplace.
  2. Provide documentation of incidents contrary to agency policy for appropriate follow-up with employees.
  3. Providing support/referrals to gay, lesbian and bisexual officers as needed.
  4. Understand the potential difficulties and concerns of gay, lesbian, and bisexual employees in revealing their personal sexual orientation.

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## Topic 11 • Hate Crimes

### Los Angeles Hate Crime Law

The goals of the Los Angeles hate crime ordinances included: tracking—gather and record hate crime incidence, evaluate—to use the data to analysis the problem and make recommendations, and educate—bring this information to the attention of the media and citizenry. In 1987, California made crimes based on sexual orientation a crime under Penal Code.

#### • The Law: California Penal Code — Title 11.6, Section 422.6 “Civil Rights”

Subsection A: “No person shall, whether or not acting under color of law, by force or threat of force, willfully injure, intimidate, or interfere with, oppress or threaten any other person in the free exercise or enjoyment of any right or privilege secured to him or her by the constitution or laws of this state, or by the Constitution or laws of the United State, because of the other person’s race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin or sexual orientation.”

Subsection B: “No person shall, whether or not acting under color of law, shall knowingly deface, damage, or destroy the real or personal property of any other person for the purpose of intimidating or interfering with the free exercise of any right or privilege . . .etc.”

Simply Put: “All persons in this state have the right to be free from violence or intimidation against their person or property, because of their race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, political affiliation, age, disability, or position in a labor dispute.”

#### • Punishment:

Any person convicted of violating California Penal Code, Section 422.6 may be punished by:

- a. Up to six months in jail.
- b. Up to \$5,000 in fines
- c. or both

Aggravated Circumstances: If the violator commits a Hate Crime and:

- a. The victim is PHYSICALLY INJURED or the violator has the present ABILITY to commit a violent (injurious) act;
- b. There is property damage in EXCESS of \$1,000;
- c. The criminal is a REPEAT OFFENDER who has been previously convicted of Hate Crimes

Then the crime becomes a FELONY and the punishment DOUBLES:

- a. Up to one year in prison.
- b. up to \$10,000 in fines
- c. or both.

• Examples of Hate Crimes:

Verbal Harassment (Name calling)  
Graffiti (Swastikas on Temples)  
Hate Mail (Threats, derogatory)  
Vandalism (Window smash, etc.)  
Bomb Threat (Targeting)  
Arson (Molotov cocktail, auto)  
Assault and Battery (Up to murder)

Note: The City of Los Angeles Standard is higher fines than the state. Also, the Los Angeles City and District Attorney's have issued opinions that verbal harassment is not filable since there is no physical evidence.

## Topic 11 • Sodomy Laws<sup>137</sup>

In 1986, the U.S. Supreme Court in *Bowers v. Hardwick*<sup>139</sup> refused to strike down a Georgia law criminalizing sodomy. While the majority opinion stated that there was no constitutional right to engage in homosexual sodomy, the law that it upheld forbids all sodomy. At the time, some argued that the decision was of little consequence because sodomy laws are rarely enforced.

Since *Hardwick*, however, some prosecutors seem to be more willing to prosecute sodomy cases—and defendants find themselves without protection. Ironically, some of the first to suffer prosecution are heterosexuals. Particularly during divorce or rape proceedings, a number of men who were acquitted of the original charges were subsequently convicted of sodomy for having engaged in oral sex. (Legally, sodomy refers to either anal or oral sex.)

The penalties can be severe. Rhode Island, which has a blanket prohibition, demands a prison sentence of not less than 7 years and no more than 20. In Montana, which outlaws only homosexual sodomy, a conviction can bring a 10-year sentence and/or a \$50,000 fine.

The Legal Status of Sodomy (Legal in only 28 states—1995)

- Legal: California, Oregon, Washington, New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, New Jersey, Delaware, Alaska, Hawaii, Kentucky, Nevada, District of Columbia.
- Illegal between persons of the same sex: Montana, Texas, Kansas, Arkansas, Missouri, Tennessee
- Illegal for all: Idaho, Arizona, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Minnesota, Michigan, Rhode Island.
- Illegal with anyone other than spouse: Utah, Alabama

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<sup>137</sup> "Georgia on My Mind" *Reason*, October 1989, p.14

<sup>138</sup> "Georgia on My Mind" *Reason*, October 1989, p.14

<sup>139</sup> *Bowers v. Hardwick*, 106 S. Ct. 2841, 2843 (1986) Within two weeks of the *Bowers* decision, the Missouri Supreme Court, citing *Bowers*, upheld Missouri's sodomy law from privacy challenges. *State v. Walsh*, 713 S.W. 2d 508, 511 (Mo. Banc 1986).

**TABLE 1—Sodomy Statutes by States**<sup>140</sup>

Of the 50 states of the United States, as of 1995, 22 of them still had state statutes that prohibit consensual sodomy. This table presents a summary of the applicable state statutes and sentencing. Interestingly, there is great variation amongst states as to what sexual acts and by whom are deemed illegal. Likewise, sentencing includes imprisonment of 30 days to life with possible fines from \$500 to \$50,000, or both.

<b>State</b>	<b>Statute</b>	<b>Specific Acts</b>	<b>Sentencing</b>
Alabama	<i>Alabama Code</i> Sec. 13A-6-65, 1975; 13A-6-60(2), 1975; 13A-5-7,1975	Any act of sexual gratification between persons not married to each other, involving the sex organs of one person and the mouth or anus of another. Consent is no defense.	Definite term of imprisonment in the county jail or hard labor for the county for not more than one year.
Arizona	<i>Arizona Re. Stat. Ann.</i> Sec. 13-1411, 1978; 13-707, 1978	Any person who knowingly and without force commits the infamous crime against nature—Class 3 misdemeanor. If with a child under the age of 15—Class 2 misdemeanor.	Class 3 misdemeanor; imprisonment for thirty days.
Arkansas	<i>Arkansas Stat. Ann.</i> Sec. 41-1813, 1975-(1); 41-901(2)(a), 1981	A person commits sodomy if the anus, mouth or vagina of a person or animal is penetrated by the penis of a person or animal of the same sex.	Sentence shall not exceed one year.

<sup>140</sup>Walden, John, *West's Education Law Reporter*, "Homosexuality and Public Education," v.55 n.1, pp. 7-33, Oct. 12, 1989

<sup>141</sup>Walden, John, *West's Education Law Reporter*, "Homosexuality and Public Education," v.55 n.1, pp. 7-33, Oct. 12, 1989

<b>State</b>	<b>Statute</b>	<b>Specific Acts</b>	<b>Sentencing</b>
Florida	<i>Florida Stat. Ann. Sec.</i> 800.02, 1976; 775.082; 775.083; 775.082(4)(b), 1976; 775.083(1)(e), 1976.	Whoever commits any unnatural and lascivious act with another person.	Imprisonment not exceeding 60 days. Fines not to exceed \$500.
Georgia	<i>Georgia Code Ann. Sec.</i> 16-6-2, 1982	A person who performs or submits to any sexual act involving the sex organs of one person and the mouth or anus of another.	Imprisonment for not less than one nor more than 20 years. For aggravated sodomy — life.
Idaho	<i>Idaho Stat. Sec.</i> F18-6605	Crime against nature	Imprisonment 5 years to life.
Kansas	<i>Kansas Stat. Ann. Sec.</i> 21-3505, 1974; 21-4502(1)(b), 1974; 21-4503(2)(b), 1974	Sodomy is oral or anal copulation between persons who are not husband and wife or consenting adult members of the opposite sex, or between a person and an animal.	Imprisonment not to exceed 6 months or a fine not exceeding \$1,000.

<b>State</b>	<b>Statute</b>	<b>Specific Acts</b>	<b>Sentencing</b>
Louisiana	<i>Louisiana Rev.Stat.Ann.</i> Sec. 14:89, 1982	The unnatural carnal copulation between a human being with another person of the same or opposite sex or with an animal.	Imprisonment for not more than 5 years and/or fine not to exceed \$1,000.
Maryland	<i>Maryland Code Ann.</i> Art. 27 Sec. 553,554,1982.	A person who performs or submits to any sexual act involving the placing of the sexual organs into his or her mouth.	Fined not more than \$1,000 or be imprisoned for a period not exceeding 10 years (or both).
Massachusetts	<i>Massachusetts Gen.Laws Ann.</i> Ch 272, Sec. 34, 1970	Whoever commits the abominable and detestable crime against nature wither with mankind or with a beast.	Imprisonment for not more than 20 years.
Michigan	<i>Michigan Comp.Laws Ann.</i> Sec. 750.158, 1968	Any person who commits the abominable and detestable crime against nature either with mankind or with any animal.	Imprisonment of not less than 1 day and the maximum of life.
Minnesota	<i>Minnesota Stat.Ann.</i> Sec 609.293, 1981; 609.342; 609.344	"Sodomy" means carnally knowing any person by the anus or by or with the mouth.	Imprisonment not to exceed 1 year or a fine of not more than \$1,000.
Mississippi	<i>Mississippi Code Ann.</i> Sec. 97-29-59, 1972	Convicted of the detestable and abominable crime against nature committed with mankind or with a beast.	Imprisonment not to exceed 10 years.
Missouri	<i>Missouri Code Ann.</i> Sec. 566.090	Sexual misconduct between same sex.	Imprisonment not to exceed 1 year or fine of \$1000.
Montana	<i>Montana Code Ann.</i> Sec. 45-5-505, 1981	A person who knowingly engages in deviate sexual relations.	Imprisonment not to exceed 20 years or fined an amount not to exceed \$50,000, or both.

<b>State</b>	<b>Statute</b>	<b>Specific Acts</b>	<b>Sentencing</b>
North Carolina	<i>North Carolina Code Ann. Sec. 16-15-120, 1977</i>	Commits the crime of buggery whether with mankind or with beast.	Imprisonment for 5 years or shall pay a fine of not less than \$500, or both.
Oklahoma	<i>Oklahoma Stat. Ann. Tit. 21, Sec. 886, 1983</i>	Commits the detestable and abominable crime against nature with mankind or with a beast.	Imprisonment in the penitentiary for not more than 10 years.
Rhode Island	<i>Rhode Island Gen. Laws Sec. 11-10-1, 1969</i>	Commits the abominable and detestable crime against nature, either with mankind or with any beast.	Imprisonment not exceeding 20 years nor less than 7 years.
South Carolina	<i>South Carolina Code Ann. Sec. 16-15-120, 1977</i>	Commits the abominable crime of buggery, whether with mankind or with beast.	Imprisonment for 5 years or pay a fine of not less than \$500 or both.
Tennessee	<i>Tennessee Code Ann. Sec. 39-2-612, 1982</i>	Crimes against nature, whether with mankind or any beast.	Imprisonment in the penitentiary for not less than 5 years nor more than 15 years.

<b>State</b>	<b>Statute</b>	<b>Specific Acts</b>	<b>Sentencing</b>
Utah	<i>Utah Code Ann.</i> Sec. 76-5-403, 1983	Sodomy is any sexual act with a person over 14 years of age involving the genitals of one person and the mouth or anus of another person, regardless of the sex of either participant.	Imprisonment not to exceed 6 months.
Virginia	<i>Virginia Code</i> Sec. 18.2-10, 1982	Carnally know in any manner any brute animal or carnally know any male or female person by the anus or by or with the mouth, or voluntarily submit to such carnal knowledge.	Imprisonment of not less than 1 year nor more than 5 years and a fine of not more than \$1,000.

## LAWS AND LAW CASES

### 20th Century U.S. History of the Interaction of Law Enforcement and the Gay and Lesbian Community

Surveillance of suspected homosexuals, particularly wealthy men, as well as infiltration of gay organizations were part of a major F.B.I operation during the Fifties, Sixties, and up to the late Seventies.<sup>142</sup> While the justification for the surveillance activities was “susceptibility to blackmail,” thirty years of such operations revealed no tangible evidence of “gay security leaks” or “gay traitors.”

In California, until 1976, private homosexual conduct between consenting adults, even in the privacy of their own bedrooms, was punishable by up to life imprisonment.<sup>143</sup> Slow dancing between persons of the same sex was a violation of the regulations of the Los Angeles Police Commission until the mid-Seventies.<sup>144</sup> Into the late 1970s, judges of the Los Angeles Municipal Court often imposed conditions of probation on gay male defendants restraining them from “publicly associating with known homosexuals” and “frequently places where homosexuals congregate.”<sup>145</sup> As recently as 1976, there was absolutely no recourse for persons who were fired by private employers who accused them of being homosexuals or for tenants who were evicted from their apartments because they were gay.<sup>146</sup> Even after decriminalization of private homosexual conduct in 1976, it remained a crime for one adult to ask another adult to engage in private consensual homosexual activities, so long as the request was made in a “public place,” such as bars and nightclubs—ordinary gathering spots for social and sexual conversation.<sup>147</sup> Public displays of affection, such as kissing, could subject a gay person

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<sup>142</sup>Commission of Personal Privacy, December 1982. State of California, State Personnel Board, Policy and Standards Division, 801 Capitol Mall, Sacramento, CA 95814 Ref #720

<sup>143</sup>Commission of Personal Privacy, December 1982 Ref. #721

<sup>144</sup>Commission of Personal Privacy, December 1982 Ref. #722

<sup>145</sup>Commission of Personal Privacy, December 1982 Ref. #723

<sup>146</sup>Commission of Personal Privacy, December 1982 Ref. #724

<sup>147</sup>*Pryor v. Municipal Court* (1979) 25 Cal.3d 236, finally invalidated this provision of the Penal Code.

to a jail term and lifetime registration as a sex offender, although the only “offended” viewer was an undercover vice officer.<sup>148</sup>

### National Status on Homosexuality

Much of the case law dealing with homosexuality involves the municipal police force, U.S. intelligence agencies or the armed forces. It is in some of these cases that the courts have dealt with the issue as to whether homosexuality *per se* can be used as just cause to fire an employee or refuse to hire an applicant. In virtually all cases, the question as to whether sexual orientation enjoys constitutional protection is the major issue.

At the municipal police level, the courts have decided that openly gay personnel can be denied employment (*Childers v. Dallas Police*<sup>149</sup>, 1981; later overturned by Texas Supreme Court 2/5/92) because of three reasons: (1) the activities of the employee must reflect the community values and homosexuality is not a community value; (2) a homosexual must be discreet and being openly gay would impair the functioning of the governmental body; and, (3) the employee would sustain harassment from his/her fellow employees which would result in disharmony in the department. The third reason is of particular interest since it puts the burden of harassment onto the person being harassed, not the harasser—contrary to our cultural and legal defense of hate crimes.

### California and Los Angeles—Legal Prohibitions on Discrimination based on Sexual Orientation

California decriminalized sodomy in 1975. In September of 1992, AB2601 was signed into law that included sexual orientation as a protected class for cases of employment discrimination. This allowed for the State Labor Commissioner to investigate claims of discrimination based on sexual orientation against employers and exempted small businesses and religious organizations.

For city of Los Angeles, sexual orientation was included as a protected class through a 1979 City Ordinance #152,458, with regards to Employment (Sec. 49.72), Housing (Sec. 49.73), Business Establishments (Sec. 49.74), City Facilities and Services (Sec. 49.75),

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<sup>148</sup>See *People v. Rodrigues* (1976) 63 Cal.App.3d Supp. 1.

<sup>149</sup> *Childer v. Dallas Police*, 513 F. Supp. 134 (N.D. Tex. 1981)

and Educational Institutions (Sec. 49.75). Also see, the Municipal Code, Chapter 4, Vol. 1, Sections 49.70.

## Relevant Cases

- 1976 Doe v. Commonwealth's Attorney, 425 U.S. 901 (1976)  
The U.S. Supreme Court decided that the right of privacy does not extend to private homosexual conduct between consenting adults. (Virginia sodomy test)
- 1981 Childers v. Dallas Police, 513 F. Supp. 134 (N.D. Tex. 1981)  
The Dallas Police denied Childer a position in the property department. The Court agreed that Childer had been denied the position because of his outspoken views on homosexuality but that the Police department was justified for doing so because it was necessary for efficient operation of the government. The three reasons given were: (1) The activities of those employed by the department must reflect the community values; (2) Childer had been indiscreet about his homosexual activities and that it would impair the functioning of the governmental body; and, (3) Childer would most likely sustain harassment from his fellow employees which would result in disharmony in the department. This was later overturned but impacted law enforcement employment practices for many years.
- 1986 Bowers v. Hardwick, 478 U.S. 186, 106 S.Ct. 2841, 92 L.Ed.2d 140 (1986)  
— 1982 — After having sex with another adult male in the bedroom of his house he was charged with violation of a Georgia statute criminalizing sodomy. He filed suit in federal district court challenging the law's constitutionality. He claimed that: (1) being a practicing homosexual, he was in constant fear of arrest; and, (2) the law was in violation of the U.S. Constitution. The suit was dismissed at the district level. The Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals held that the Georgia law in fact violated Hardwick's fundamental rights and that it was too encompassing — reaching into the privacy of Hardwick's home. The U.S. Supreme Court decided: (1) The Constitution does not confer a basic right to engage in sodomy and thus the Due Process laws are not applicable; and, (2) simply having the activity occur in the privacy of the home did not give sodomy legal protection.
- 1987 Padula v. Webster, 822 F.2d 97 (D.C.Cir.1987)  
FBI refused to employ Margaret Padula because she was a homosexual. The District Court decided: (1) The FBI's decision was shielded from judicial review by congressional action; (2) Homosexuality was not protected by the equal protection clause of the fourteenth amendment; (3) The Administrative Procedure Act did not subject the agency's decision to review; (4) Vague FBI anti-discrimination policy did not commit itself to accepting homosexuals; and, (5) Homosexuals are not constituted a suspect class of the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

1988 Webster v. Doe, 486 U.S. 592, 108 S.Ct. 2047, 100 L.Ed.2d 632 (1988)  
Doe was a C.I.A. employee who admitted to being homosexual. The agency determined that this was sufficient to classify him as a security risk, and ultimately he was discharged. The Court decided: (1) The director's authority was absolute in employment decisions; and, (2) Unless a constitutional violation existed, the director's judgment could not be overturned.

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## RESOURCES

### **Gay and Lesbian Support Books**

- Altman, Dennis. *The Homosexualization of America*. New York: St. Martins Press, 1982. The politics and social aspects of homosexuality in America.
- Blumenfeld, Warren J., and Raymond, Dave. *Looking at Gay and Lesbian Life*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1988. An encyclopedic wealth of well-researched, up-to-date information about every major aspect of gay and lesbian life.
- Boswell, John. *Christianity, Social Tolerance and Homosexuality*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1980. Award-winning literary account describing how Christian Intolerance of homosexuality became dominant only after the 16th Century AD.
- Clark, Don. *The New Loving Someone Gay*. Berkeley: Celestial Arts, 1987. A sympathetic and perceptive guide for gay people and their friends, families, and therapists who want to understand and support them.
- Cohen, Susan and Daniel. *When Someone You Know is Gay*. New York: M. Evans and Company. 1989. Book written for heterosexual teenagers on the subject of homosexuality.
- Cook, Ann Thompson. *And God Loves Each One*. Dumbarton United Methodist Church, Washington, DC. Available through PO Box 24213, Nashville, TN, 37202. An enlightened pamphlet that explores the church's positive relationship with its lesbian and gay members.
- Cowan, Thomas. *Gay Men and Women Who Enriched the World*. New York: William Mulvey Inc., 1989. Numerous gay and lesbian role models throughout history.
- Leder, Jane Mersky. *Dead Serious*. New York: Avon Books, 1987. A book for teenagers about teenage suicide.
- Plant, Richard. *Pink Triangle*. New York: Harry Holt & Co., 1986. The true, life and death story of homosexual prisoners in the Nazi concentration camps.
- Rutledge, Leigh W. *The Gay Book of Lists*. Boston: Alyson Publications, 1987.
- Wallace, Amy; Wallace, Irving; and Wallechnisky, David. "67 Renowned Homosexuals and Bisexuals," *The People's Almanac Presents The Book of Lists*. N.Y.: William Morrow, 1977
- Whitlock, Katherine. *Bridges of Respect*. Philadelphia: American Friends Service Committee, 1988. A resource guide for young gays and lesbians from the American Friends Service Committee.
- Williams, Walter. *The Spirit and the Flesh, Sexual Diversity in American Indian Culture*. Beacon Press, 1986. A valuable source book, bringing together a wealth of information on the status of gender-variant men in a variety of Native American societies.

### **Autobiographies and Stories for Students**

- Brown, Rita Mae. *Rubyfruit Jungle*. New York, Bantam Press, 1973. A story of growing up lesbian.
- Fricke, Aaron. *Reflections of a Rock Lobster*. Boston: Alyson Publications, 1981. A true gripping story about growing up gay: about coming to terms with being different in a small New England town.

- Garden, Nancy. *Annie on My Mind*. Toronto: Sunburst Book, 1982. Lesbian fictional story set at MIT.
- Hart, John. *So You Think You're Attracted to the Same Sex*. Suffolk, Great Britain: 1984. Intended to help those who are worried about their sexual orientation.
- Muchmore, Wes and Hanso, William. *Coming Out Right*. Boston: Alyson Publications, 1982. Advice for gay men who are just coming out and those who are still learning about certain aspects of gay life.
- White, Edmund. *A Boy's Own Story*. New York: Plume Fiction, 1982. A story of growing up as a gay adolescent boy.

### **Books for Parents of Lesbians and Gays**

- Back, Gloria Guss. *Are You Still My Mother? Are You Still My Family?* Warner Books, 1985. This social worker addresses the emotional needs of parents with gay children. She talks about going through phases of shock, anger, guilt, and self-depreciation, and gives specific advice on how to handle difficult situations such as telling friends and dealing with religious questions.
- Fairchild, Betty and Howard, Nancy. *Now That You Know: What Every Parent Should Know About Homosexuality*. Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1979. This addresses how today's experts define homosexuality, and what it means to be a parent. Probably the best "first" book to give your parents.
- Griffin, C. Wirth. *Beyond Acceptance: Parents of Lesbians and Gays Talk About Their Experiences*. Prentice-Hall, 1986. Twenty-three parents tell how they wrestled with the personal and cultural implications of the fact that they had lesbian or gay adult children.
- Mullen, Ann. *Parents Matter*. Naiad Press, Inc., 1987. Parent relationships with lesbian daughters and gay sons.

### **Gay and Lesbian Support Videos**

- "Gay Cops," 20- minute video from *60-Minutes* with Mike Wallace.
- "Growing Up Gay," 55 minutes, 1994. Brian McNaught. TBR Production, PO Box 2362, Boston, MA 02107 Excellent exploration of being a gay child.
- "Homosexuality: What Science Understands." Video in two parts. Part One: What Science Understands, Part Two: Counseling Gays and Lesbians. Recaps the last forty years of research into homosexuality beginning with Kinsey. Part two examines what a mental health care provider should know about homophobia. Includes study guide with syllabus, glossary, bibliography, and transcript. Intelligence In Video, 123 W. 44th St., Garden level A, New York, NY 10036
- "Pink Triangles" Warren Bluenfeld, Alice Friedman, Robin Greeley, Mark Heumann, Cathy Hoffman, Margaret Lazarus, Julie Palmer, Len Sorenson and Renner Wunderlich. 35 mm documentary designed to explore prejudices against lesbians and gay men, to document homophobia through interviews with people who have first-hand knowledge of discrimination. Cambridge Documentary Films, Inc., PO Box 385, Cambridge, MA 02139
- "Sticks, Stones, and Stereotypes," Carole Johnson, Editor, Equity Institute Appreciating Diversity Program, 1988. A video-curriculum movie about name calling.

- “Who’s Afraid of Project 10?” Project 10, Fairfax High School, 1988. Describes both sides of the issue of whether or not lesbian and gay high school children should have access to a gay counseling and support groups, Project 10.
- “The Life and Times of Harvey Milk,” 87 min., Cinecom International Films, 1250 Broadway, New York, NY 10001. Academy Award-winning documentary. Harvey Milk, a courageous white gay politician, who served as San Francisco’s City Supervisor was assassinated along with Mayor George Moscone. The film reconstructs the events before and after the assassination, and focuses on the coalition efforts of gay, straight and Third World communities, and on the homophobia that led to the assassination.
- “What if I’m Gay,” 55 min. color, CBS Schoolbreak Special, 1987. The video shows five teenagers facing the question of their sexuality in a high school setting. Very well done glimpse into the repressed sexuality aspects of homophobia. Coronet/MTI film & Video, 108 Wilmot Road, Deerfield, IL 60015, (312) 940-1260.
- “Michael, a Gay Son,” 16mm, 27 min. color, Filmmaker’s Library, 133 E. 58th St., New York, NY 10022. Michael’s decision to “come out” to his family reveals his feelings and needs and those of his family. The dynamics of a family unprepared to accept his revelation is portrayed, giving insights into this common dilemma.

### **Gay and Lesbian Support Pamphlets**

- Fund for Human Dignity / National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, 666 Broadway, Room 410, New York, NY 10012, (212) 529-1600
  - “Coming Out” (In English and Spanish)
  - “20 Questions About Homosexuality”
  - “Who’s Behind the Gay Right Movement”
  - “Answers to a Parents Questions about Homosexuality”
  - “Combating Homophobia”
  - “Workshops on Homophobia”
- Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, PO Box 24565, Los Angeles, CA 90024, (213) 472-8952
  - “About our Children”(Some of the facts)
  - “Can We Understand?” (A guide for parents)
  - “Coming Out to Your Parents” (For young adults and parents)
  - “Why is my Child Gay?” (Eleven scientist respond)
- Lesbian and Gay Public Awareness Project, PO Box 65603, Los Angeles, CA 90065, (213) 281-1946
  - “Homophobia - What Are We So Afraid Of?” (Excellent fact guide)
  - “In Our Own Image” (Positive portraits of lesbians and gays)

### **Professional Articles on Homosexuality**

#### **Suicide**

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- Hedin, H. *Black Suicide*. New York: Basic Books, 1969

- Kourany RF. Suicide among homosexual adolescents. *Journal of Homosexuality*. 1987; 13:111-117
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- *Acanfora v. Board of Education*, 359 F. Supp. 843 (D. Md. 1973)
- *Adams v. State Professional Practices Council*, 406 So.2d 1170 [1 Ed.Law Rep. 1048] (Fla.App. 1981), review denied, 412 So.2d 463 (Fla.1982)
- *Aumiller v. University of Delaware*, 434 F. Supp. 1273 (D.Del. 1977)
- *Bd. of Ed. of Long Beach, Etc., v. Jack M.*, 19 Cal.3d 691, 139 Cal.Rpt. 700, 566 P.2d 602 (1977)
- *Bowers v. Hardwick*, 106 S. Ct. 2841, 2843 (1986) Within two weeks of the Bowers decision, the Missouri Supreme Court, citing Bowers, upheld Missouri's sodomy law from privacy challenges. *State v. Walsh*, 713 S.W. 2d 508, 511 (Mo. Banc 1986). After *Bowers*, the only other sexual privacy challenge to a statute so far (1989) to reach a state's highest court, that of Louisiana, also held that homosexual sodomy is not constitutionally protected, again citing *Bowers*. *State v. Neal*, 500 So.2d 374, 378 (La. 1987) (upheld anti-solicitation statute and, *in dicta*, a sodomy statute).
- *Burton v. Cascade School District Union High School No. 5*, 512 F.2d 850 (9th Cir.1975), *cert. denied*, 423 U.S. 839, 96 S.Ct. 69, 46 L.Ed.2d 59 (1975)
- *Chicago Bd. of Ed. v. Payne*, 102 Ill.App.3d 741, 58 Ill.Dec. 368, 430 N.E.2d 310 [2 Ed.Law Rep. 171] (Ill.App.1981)
- *Childers v. Dallas Police*, 513 F. Supp. 134 (N.D. Tex. 1981)
- *Doe v. Commonwealth's Attorney*, 425 U.S. 901 (1976)
- *Gay Law Students Association, et al. v. Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company, et al.*, 24 Cal. 3d 458, 595 P.2d 592, 156 Cal. Rptr. 14, 1979
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