

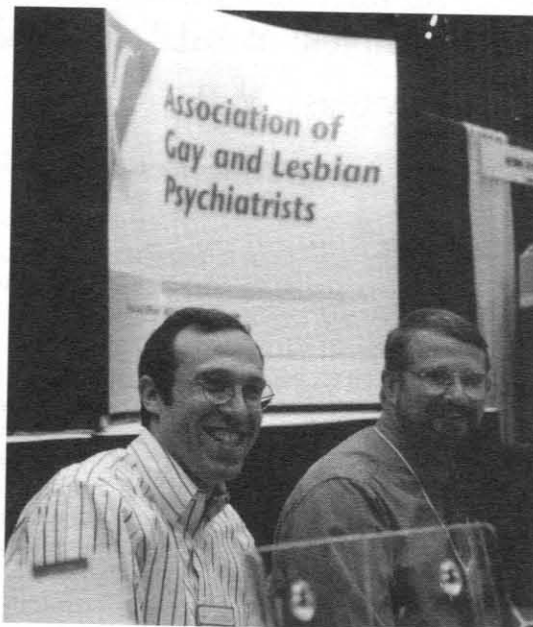


Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists

VOLUME XXVI(3): AUGUST 2000

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Drs. Howard Rubin and Bill Herz at AGLP's official booth, Chicago Annual Meeting, May 2000

More Photos and Convention Highlights appear on page 10

AGLP Fall Meeting **Saturday, September 9, 2000** Roy Harker, National Office Director

Plans for the AGLP Fall Meeting are in place and your attendance is strongly encouraged. This important planning meeting of the AGLP Council will set the tone for years to come as our organization continues to grow and flourish.

The Fall meeting is open to all members, but only Council members may vote. The Bylaws allow the president of AGLP to appoint task forces whose chairs serve on the Council. If you have an issue that you feel needs to be brought to the attention of the membership, this is your opportunity! Your concerns and suggestions should be made known to Phil Bialer, M.D., AGLP President, at least two weeks before the meeting date to be included on the agenda. The Meeting will take place in the JW Marriott Hotel, 1400 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC in Suite 1123, 9:00am to 5:00pm.

A block of rooms is reserved for AGLP members at the Washington Plaza, Massachusetts Avenue at 14th (10 Thomas Circle), NW, Washington, DC. The discounted room rate is \$119.00 per night (single/double), \$129.00 (triple). Call (800)424-1140 or 202-842-1300 and ask for block #9702. The block runs Friday, September 8, and Saturday, September 9 (two nights only). The cut-off date for reservations is August 18.

A reception will be hosted, on Saturday, September 9th at 7:00, by former-president Dan Hicks in his home in Washington. The address is 1309 T St. NW #2. Please call the National Office at 215-222-2800 to make your RSVP known.

Please make a point to attend this important meeting. I'll see you in Washington!

The Newsletter of the
**Association of Gay and
Lesbian Psychiatrists**

Editor, Guy Glass, M.D.

Published quarterly from 145 East 15th Street, Suite 1F, New York, NY 10003.

The views expressed in the *Newsletter* are those of the writer and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists. The sexual orientation of any writer or any person mentioned in the *Newsletter* should not be inferred unless specifically stated. Mailing lists for the *Newsletter* are confidential, to be used only by the Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists, and do not imply sexual orientation.

INFORMATION FOR AUTHORS

Persons wishing to submit articles for publication should send them to: Guy Glass, M.D., Editor, *Newsletter* of AGLP; is 145 East 15th Street, Suite 1F, New York, NY 10003. (Phone: (212)982-0328, FAX (212)982-1879, E-mail: gglass@aglp.org) Submissions should be clearly readable. Submissions on electronic media (5.25 or 3.5 inch floppy disks) in IBM compatible formats are appreciated. A hard copy should be included along with a notation indicating which word processing program was used. Submissions become the property of AGLP and will not be returned unless requested and accompanied by a self-addressed and stamped envelope. The *Newsletter* reserves the right to make editorial changes and to shorten articles to fit space limitations. Name, address, daytime telephone number, and a short biographical statement about the author should accompany the submission even if the author requests anonymity in publication (which is discouraged). The deadline for inclusion in the next issue is September 30, 2000.

ADVERTISING RATES

The *Newsletter* of the Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists accepts limited advertising depending upon space and applicability to issues affecting psychiatrists who either are gay or lesbian or treat gay and lesbian patients. The mailing lists for AGLP are confidential and never sold or provided to any vendor.

Full Page Ad	\$200
Half-Page Ad	\$125
Business Card	\$50

Community service announcements are printed without charge, but are accepted only on a limited basis depending upon space limitations and applicability.

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GAY AND LESBIAN PSYCHIATRISTS**

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Editor's Column

An Interview with Dr. Richard Isay Recipient of AGLP's 2000 Distinguished Service Award Guy Glass, M.D.

Guy Glass: I understand you just came back from Norway. Can you talk a bit about that trip?

Richard Isay: I was in Trondheim, Norway invited to conduct a symposium on my work by the Norwegian University of Science and Technology and the University Psychiatric Hospital. It was a two-day symposium and I gave four papers based on my books. Both gay and straight psychiatrists and psychotherapists were very receptive. It was the first opportunity they've had to hear somebody talk about psychotherapy and the development of gay men. It was interesting for me and, hopefully, for them as well.



Richard Isay, M.D., recipient of AGLP's Distinguished Service Award, Chicago, May 17, 2000

G: What is the state of psychotherapy with gay patients there?

R: Conversion therapists and psychoanalysts have dominated the thinking about psychotherapy with gay and lesbian patients, so I was invited to give a balance to this biased view. And they were enormously receptive.

G: What was it like for you to win AGLP's Distinguished Service Award?

R: I have a long relationship with AGLP which dates back to about 1980 when I read a letter by Frank Rundle about the Caucus of Gay Psychiatrists in *The New York Times*, and I was married and closeted at the time, so I made contact with Frank and met him and Dave Kessler in San Francisco. I went to my first AGLP reception there which was attended by about ten other people. AGLP has meant a lot to me. It's always been very supportive, interested in what I was doing. As you know I was also chairman of the Committee on Gay and Lesbian Issues of the APA; AGLP and *Psychiatric News* were very instrumental in helping me to publicize the bias of the American Psychoanalytic Association.

G: You mentioned at the Awards Dinner the role that AGLP played in your personal coming out process...

R: I was referring to the fact that I attended the 1980 reception in San Francisco, following which I went back to my room and came out to my wife! But AGLP can't take all the credit for that because I had met Gordon four months before and there's nothing more powerful in helping to make somebody certain of his sexuality that falling in love.

G: What do you consider your most important professional achievement?

R: Putting together a developmental pathway for gay men. And especially being able to synthesize what my patients told me about the importance of their father's rejection early on. In a recent paper I discuss the role of the mother in the childhood of homosexual boys and the separation problems which may contribute to the difficulties of some in adult relationships.

Also, I was the only openly gay person in the American Psychoanalytic Association for about

Letters to the Editor...



Dear Editor,

We are two international members that attended AGLP and APA in Chicago this year. We were satisfied with the AGLP sessions and we find them very useful and inspiring in our national work in Norway concerning psychiatry and gay issues. That Richard Isay was awarded was specially nice to observe. Two weeks later he held a symposium in Norway and we would like to inform you and your readers about this:

Richard Isay gives the first symposium ever held on psychotherapy and gay men in Norway.

Dr. Isay was invited by Dr Ø. Jensen and The University of Trondheim in Norway to hold a two-day symposium at the University Psychiatric Hospital in May this year. Dr Isay presented his important theoretical work as the Newsletter's readers are familiar with from his books. Included in his outstanding presentation was also his latest paper "Gender in Homosexual Boys," published in *Psychiatry* last summer. These topics are still rather unfamiliar within the Norwegian mental health professionals. So far remnants of pathological thinking combined with silence have been prevailing, this in contrast to the fact that the Norwegian legislation includes the right of registered gay partnerships and antidiscrimination bills. This symposium with Richard Isay was therefore important in the work to improve the knowledge and attitudes among Norwegian mental health professionals.

Our main concern this year will be to get the Norwegian Psychiatric Association to issue a statement similar to the APA statement on reparative therapy. At the Annual Meeting last year this was met with a lot of resistance and finally it was decided to discuss it more thoroughly at this year's Annual Meeting in October. We are therefore very grateful that Richard Isay came to Norway and made his important contribution to the ongoing struggle.

Reidar Kjaer, M.D.; rekjaer@hotmail.com

Morten S. Selle, M.D.; selle@catholic.org

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EDITOR'S COLUMN
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

four years and because of the organization's refusal to pay any attention to what I was talking about in my papers about psychotherapy and gay development I encouraged them by adverse publicity and the threat of a lawsuit to admit gay and lesbian candidates to their training programs. I also think this was an important contribution.

G: That brings me to my next question, which is that I wonder if you could talk about the current stance of the American Psychoanalytic Association towards gay and lesbian candidates.

R: They are certainly admitting gay and lesbian candidates. That is not simply because we are stellar applicants. But the psychoanalytic institutes need bodies, and psychologists and gays and lesbians are now providing one source of good applicants for the institutes.

Analysts have gotten to know more gays and lesbians - most analysts in the early 1990's didn't know many except those few that they occasionally saw in their practice. This is helping them to understand us better, see us as less different and less "deviant."

G: Do you mostly see patients in analysis?

R: I see most of my patients now in psychotherapy. My practice is 95% gay men who are the basis for everything I write. And then I supervise at Cornell, usually either a gay resident or straight resident who is treating someone gay.

R: What are you working on for the future?

G: I've been working slowly on a new book. But whenever I talk about a book that I'm writing, it puts me under pressure to produce and that has a negative effect. If I want to keep writing I can't talk about it. I write about four hours a week so I figure by 2005 it will be ready.

G: I don't have any other questions. Is there anything else that you want to say?

R: Knowing that the psychoanalytic institutes are admitting gay men and lesbians, I want to say to those thinking of applying that there is probably no better training in psychodynamic therapy. If they're going to apply, their personal life should be in order, they should know very well who they are, they should know their own voice and not be afraid to speak with it. Because we are still minorities within such heterosexual institutions, we shouldn't depend for our livelihood on them.

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President's Column

Phil Bialer, M.D.

Notes from a convention: Part Two

In many ways this was one of the smoothest meetings I've been to for awhile. Smooth in the sense that all the planning that went on for months behind the scenes seemed to have paid off once we all arrived and the meeting got under way. There are many people to thank, but first and foremost is Bill Gilmer and the local arrangements committee in Chicago. From the hotel to all the social events, I heard nothing but positive comments and praise.

Then there is Mary Barber to thank for putting together another very successful and stimulating pre-conference symposium entitled "Sexing the Body: Gender Politics and the Construction of Sexuality." Mary was also responsible for organizing meetings and discussion groups in the Hospitality Suite; this part of our educational program for the week was very active and well attended by our membership.

Finally, there are all the board members and committee heads to thank for their leadership and commitment to the organization. In particular, I want to mention Lowell Tong, who headed a task force to explore the issues regarding the inclusion of transgender individuals specifically in the wording of our bylaws. His work helped us resolve this issue amicably (see minutes of the business meeting for the discussion and outcome of the proposal). Last, but certainly not least we must thank our National Office Director, Roy Harker for his tireless work - this meeting (as far as AGLP is concerned) could not happen without him.

The meeting was also disturbing in some ways. There was a notable lack of women in attendance at many of our events; even the ones specifically organized for our women members. This is disturbing because this organization was founded to represent the interests of both lesbian and gay psychiatrists, and if we are failing in this mission then we need to figure out why and try to solve it. I have asked Mary Barber, who is now president-elect to form a task force to explore this situation.

Also disturbing was some of the fall-out from the cancellation of the debate on reparative therapy. The debate itself was probably ill-conceived to begin with. Marshall Forstein, who was scheduled to be one of the participants, led an excellent, somewhat soul-searching, discussion of the process involved in setting up and canceling the debate and our membership's response and disagreements regarding the issue. By the end of the week, there was a full-page ad in the Chicago edition of *USA Today* denouncing the "psychological activists" and the APA for the debate's cancellation, as well as denouncing the APA's position statement against reparative therapy as squelching the rights of those who want to give or receive such "treatment". There was further coverage about the cancellation and a related demonstration in the *Chicago Tribune*. As much as I can rationalize how bigoted and fanatical the anti-gay ministries are, these ads and arguments still provoke a strongly negative emotional response.

This is an issue that will be with us for years to come. I hope to organize a symposium sponsored by AGLP that will present papers that have scientifically studied the clinical and ethical aspects of reparative therapy. I also hope that our membership can continue to discuss (through this *Newsletter*, our web site, or at the fall and annual meetings) the most productive ways to address the forces that continue to attack us for being who we are.

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From the hotel to all the social events, I heard nothing but positive comments and praise.

Membership Committee Report

Cheryl Chessick, M.D. and John Gosling, M.D., Co- Chairs.

The APA was a wonderful, over stimulating, and politically active time as usual. The Membership Committee hosted the Opening Reception. Especially the men enthusiastically attended it but unfortunately still very few women. The hope of the Membership Committee is that we can find innovative ways to involve more women in AGLP. Anyone with any ideas as to how we may do this, please contact any member of the Membership Committee with your ideas. We renewed many lapsed memberships and signed up several new members on the evening of the reception. A special thanks to Kenn Ashley and Roy Harker who helped us out tirelessly at the signing in table for the entire duration of the reception.

Many thanks to all the members who helped staff the AGLP booth in the Exhibition Hall. A special word of thanks again to Roy for taking care of the novel design and for doing most of the work in setting the booth up and then dismantling it. There appeared to be a lively interest in our booth with many "furtive glances" from the more timid passers-by to overt interest and requests for information about AGLP from the more courageous!

As of 5/31/00, the total membership is as follows:

- Founding: 1
- Patron: 1
- Sponsoring: 25
- Full: 340
- Associate: 29
- Resident: 86
- Medical Student: 14
- International: 43
- Newsletter: 67
- Total: 606

The Membership Committee meeting was well attended. John and Cheryl reported that they called as many of the new members last year as time allowed and encouraged them to participate in AGLP activities. We will continue to do the same this year although we will solicit the help of other members as well. The Committee will continue to host the opening reception at the APA. This remains a wonderful way to meet other members of AGLP and to encourage lapsed members to renew their memberships. It is also a great occasion to obtain new members. Roy Harker reported that the AGLP web site is proving to be a fruitful resource to discover information about AGLP and is a rich source of new members.

Fritz Knoff, who unfortunately was unable to attend the meeting this year, will be designing a letter for all Residency Training Programs to introduce them to AGLP. Special words of thanks to Fritz for all his hard work this last year to obtain such a comprehensive list. Phil Bialer would also like to take a copy of the letter to ADPRT this year. The Membership Committee would like to encourage those members at the District Branch level to be more actively involved with AGLP. For those who are members already, please consider starting a District Branch Committee. We would also like to encourage members to consider upgrading their membership to the next level in the coming year. This year a Pre-Reception for AGLP Sponsors was held before the Closing Dinner. The intention is to make this an annual event in acknowledgement of the contribution of these members to AGLP. We spent the rest of the meeting discussing ways to involve and minority groups, which are still underrepresented in AGLP. As always, any member of AGLP would be most welcome to join the Membership Committee at anytime.

Below is a list of the Membership Committee members with their phone numbers or e-mail addresses. If you know of someone that you think would be interested in AGLP and would like to speak to anyone on the Committee, please feel free to contact any one of us.

John Gosling (Co-chair person) jgandros@aol.com
 Kenn Ashley kashley820@aol.com
 Nicholas Dumont info@dumont.org
 Richard Hire Rhire@psychoanalysis.com
 Ubaldo Leli DOCTORLELI@aol.com
 Pierfranco Trincas (Italy)

Cheryl Chessick (Co-chair person) cherylc@nilenet.com
 Phil Bialer pbialer@bethisraelny.org
 Bill Gilmer w-gilmer@nwu.com
 Fritz Knoff fritzk@traknet.com
 Lisa Rone 312-787-0700

That's all for now...take care, and have a fabulous summer!

Cheryl and John

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APA Resolution on Gay Marriage

Dan Hicks, M.D.

The issue of gay "marriage," or gay unions, is one of the most important mental health issues facing us today. It is important for our members to become involved in their district branches to help pass a resolution supportive of gay unions so that it can come to the Assembly by the fall. The Committee of Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Issues has been working on this issue for the last several years. They developed a resource document which was approved by the Board of Trustees and can be obtained through the AGLP website or contacting the committee staff Jan Taylor at APA 202-682-6897. The proposal passed by the committee in May was approved by the next level, the Council, but was held up by the Joint Reference Committee for further revisions. We hoped that it would be ready to give out to our members to use in their district branches, but it needs further revision before we can use it.

Two years ago, we went through a similar very intensive process which resulted in the APA taking affirmative action about reparative therapy. That is why it is essential that district branches now become involved, to come up with a consensus statement to send to the Assembly and the Board by this fall. The APA structure is such that resolutions can develop through the legislative branch (the district branches and their representatives in the Assembly), or through the more centralized process of going through committee, to council, etc. until it finally reaches the Board for approval. For the reparative therapy proposal, we used the statement passed by the committee, council, JRC, etc. to also be approved through district branches and go through the assembly and to the trustees by mobilizing our allies. This year, we cannot wait for the committee proposal to get to the assembly.

The Colorado district branch proposed the following: We adopt the Psychoanalytic Statement adopted two years ago: Because marriage is a basic human right and an individual personal choice: resolved, the State should not interfere with same gender couples who chose to marry and share fully and equally in the rights, responsibilities, and commitment of civil marriage.

As always, the Colorado folks shoot from the hip; this is very direct and succinct. My sources tell me that we would face resistance around the term marriage, so I am suggesting we substitute same sex unions, as was passed in Vermont. Also, the APA would not necessarily speak against the government (ie the State), but would want the argument framed in more mental health and discrimination terms. I am currently working on a condensed version of the resource document to get passed through the Washington Psychiatric Society, which is historically very supportive and willing to take it to the Assembly meeting in September once it is passed. Once it is approved, I will forward it on our list-serve to other members to use. I encourage all of you to work in your own district branches to work to get allies to pass a similar proposal, and also to contact allies who are Area Reps, Assembly Reps, and Trustees to support this.

It is important to have a document with similar wording proceeding through the various channels; otherwise, if several versions come up to the Assembly, it will be sent back to committee for further work and could be buried for some time. Therefore, it is imperative that we share our wording and our progress on the list-serve (sign up through Roy Harker in the National AGLP office) so that we have similar wording and share feedback of obstacles and revisions along the way.

Remember, this is a very important year and important issue; we need all of you to get involved. And remember to also get involved in your local elections; we need leaders who are clearly supportive of mental health and gay/lesbian issues, especially with Supreme Court nominations coming up!

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It is important to have a document with similar wording proceeding through the various channels;

► MY VIEW

Personal side of same-sex marriages

Recently, the Vermont Supreme Court ruled that same-sex committed couples must be granted the same civil rights and privileges afforded to heterosexual married couples. Whether the granting of these rights takes the form of domestic partnership or gay marriage, it will be a step forward that my family will welcome and applaud.

To put a personal face on what legal recognition of same-sex partnerships would mean, let me tell you about my family. We are two women physicians with a toddler-age child. We both have parents,



Dr. Mary Barber is a psychiatrist practicing in Kingston. She resides in Middletown.

siblings, and extended family who are very much involved in our lives and in our child's life. We work in this community, and have friends here, both gay and straight. We consider ourselves a married couple.

Yet our relationship is not legally recognized. What does this mean? It means that things such as inheritance of property when one partner dies, the ability to visit the sick partner in the hospital,

and the ability to make medical decisions for her if she is unable to speak for herself are not guaranteed. We have tried to anticipate some of these situations with wills, powers of attorney, and health care proxies, but some amount of discretion still lies with judges and others who may decide to honor or overrule such documents.

My partner gave birth to our daughter, whose conception was planned, and wanted, by both of us. We are both raising her, and she calls us "Mama" and "Mommy." Still, I had no legal relationship to her until we completed a lengthy and costly second parent adoption process. The process,

which took nearly a year, involved filling out a thick application, getting fingerprinted, a home visit by social workers, and finally presenting our case to a judge. The worthwhile result is that we are now both legally her parents.

My partner and I are fortunate to have the legal protections we have set up for our family. Many gay couples are not able to afford attorney's fees. Many do not have supportive families of origin who would accept property inheritance or child custody claims by a surviving gay partner. Many gay couples are living in areas where local judges would be unlikely to rule in their favor regarding wills, child custody, or second parent adoption.

Some people will take issue with the Vermont Supreme Court's ruling because of their personal religious beliefs. This is a misunderstanding of the court's decision, which involves civil marriage or domestic partnership only, and would not mean that the Vermont government would force any faith to recognize same-sex unions. In fact, many mainstream churches and synagogues already recognize and perform such unions. My partner and I had a religious commitment ceremony two years ago in a large established church, with family and friends attending. The ceremony was meaningful to us personally and spiritually, and differed from a heterosexual marriage in only one way – there was no marriage license.

Whether you agree or disagree with the Vermont decision, I hope I have shed some light on its meaning to people in our community and across the nation.

reprinted by permission from the Middletown (NY) Times-Herald Record, January 27, 2000.

Iwrote this article to my local newspaper with some trepidation. A couple of months before I decided to write, several local churches had taken out a full-page advertisement condemning same-sex marriages and homosexuality in general. And although the editors of *The Record* wrote favorably about the Vermont decision, at least a few virulently antigay letters to the editor appear regularly in the paper each week. Of course, seeing antigay material in the paper was just what made me feel I

needed to write, to reach people who might not have such blind hatred, but might just need some education on the issue. I took care in writing to not reveal my partner's or daughter's name, and to not provide any identifying data about them to protect their safety.

I was so focused on possible negative consequences of the article, that I didn't even think about positive consequences, which were all I saw in the end. Several friends called to say they saw the article, and some of my gay friends' parents clipped the article for them. The minister and several parishioners at our church saved the article and showed it around. The most unexpected result of writing was being invited to speak about the article to people in a nearby mental health residence, some of whom were former patients! This offered me a totally new coming-out experience, and turned out to be very rewarding. Just to give one example of how, in the audience was a man with bipolar illness who was in a long-term relationship with a man, yet identified as straight and giggled nervously whenever any issues about the relationship or his sexuality were brought up. He was able to sit still for most of my discussion, since it wasn't focused on him, and to even ask some thoughtful questions.

I hope that you can see from reading the article that you don't have to be a great writer, or an "expert" on gay and lesbian issues, to have useful things to say in your community. I've also learned that although you face some risk by being so open, the potential rewards are also great.

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AGLP Fact Finding Report Transgender Issues: Proposed Amendments to AGLP Bylaws

Lowell Tong, M.D.

[Editor's Note: This document was prepared for and distributed at AGLP's Business Meetings in Chicago. For a description of the discussion that followed, see the Meeting Minutes in this issue]

At the May, 1999 AGLP business meeting in Washington D.C. an amendment to the AGLP bylaws was proposed by one of our fellow members, Dr. Wynelle Snow, M.D. The amended bylaws proposal was to add transgender issues (or related terminology such as transgendered people, sexual minority, sexually alternative lifestyles or identities) to the goals and objects of the association, and throughout the body of the bylaws wherever "gay, lesbian, and bisexual" were listed. The proposal prompted a lively response, with reactions wide ranging in emotional intensity and content. It was decided that because of the complexity of opinions expressed, it would be better to understand these further and to seek broader input from our membership. A vote on the proposal was postponed. In preparation for a discussion and vote on this topic, AGLP president Dr. Phil Bialer asked me to survey members on their opinions about the amendment proposal. Dr. Bialer and I wrote separate articles in the AGLP *Newsletter* soliciting opinions, and I also solicited thoughts from a list of specific AGLP members suggested by AGLP leadership.

I spoke to many members throughout the year. I also received written replies from a small percentage of the total AGLP membership, but those small numbers were balanced by the depth and breadth of their thoughtful replies. I promised that no attributions would be given to any specific opinion. This report is not a tally of "votes." This report is divided into 1) concrete ways to address transgender psychiatrists and issues within AGLP, and 2) the rationale for whether and how to include transgendered psychiatrists and transgender issues in AGLP, including an attempt to understand the relationship between sexual orientation and transgender issues within AGLP.

Concrete ways to address transgender psychiatrists and issues within the bylaws and scope of the organization: there were three main kinds of suggestions.

1. Adopt the proposed amendments to the bylaws. Transgender issues belong to the core goals and objects of the association.
2. Vote against the proposed amendments to the bylaws. We should actively welcome transgendered psychiatrists and those psychiatrists primarily interested in transgender issues into AGLP. Transgender issues should be included in the scope of AGLP at the advocacy level, such as having a Transgender Issues Committee, like there are a Women's Committee and a Members In Training Committee.
3. Vote against the proposed amendments to the bylaws. Goals and objects of the organization should remain focused on sexual orientation, and homosexuality in particular. Membership should continue to be open to all gay, lesbian and bisexual psychiatrists and those interested in any and all matters related to homosexuality. These "related" matters will vary over time and may include gender, sexual behaviors, economics, political/legal issues and other topics we cannot predict today.

The rationale for whether and how to include transgender psychiatrists and transgender issues in AGLP, including an attempt to understand the relationship between sexual orientation and transgender issues within AGLP. These very complicated thoughts are intertwined with each other, but can be categorized into four principle areas: theoretical, political, organizational culture and personal/social needs. What follows is a synopsis of the variety of points of view in each category.

1. Theoretical

- **Gender and Sexual Orientation:** nearly everyone agreed that transgender issues are a subset of a range of gender identity issues, and many believed that there is also a range of sexual orientations. However, there was wide variation in beliefs about how much overlap exists between gender issues and sexual orientation issues; from nearly complete overlap to very little overlap. Generally, those who believed in more overlap supported the amendments, and those who believed in less overlap were not in favor of the amendments.
- **Sexual Minority (or Sex/Gender Discriminated, and other similar terms):** some believe that transgender people are the fourth and absolutely last of the "sexual minorities" (the other three being lesbians, gay men, and bisexuals). Others believe that there are potentially many other "sexual minorities" with connections to sexual orientation, for example those who engage in bondage/discipline or sadism/masochism sexual behaviors, people with intersex states

TRANSGENDERED ISSUES REPORT
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

(genotype, phenotype or both), people who engage in compulsive sexual activities, and sex workers (prostitutes). These latter groups, like the first four, are also often the subject of derision, social and employment discrimination, misunderstanding by society, and violence. Generally, people who believed in only four "sexual minorities" were in favor of accepting the proposed bylaws amendments, and those who believed in a greater number of "sexual minorities" were not in favor of the amendments.

- **Lesbians and Gay Men – a unitary phenomenon?:** there was a range of opinions about whether there is a unitary construct of homosexuality. Are lesbianism and male homosexuality gender-based paradigms of essentially the same thing, or are the two in fact quite different phenomena to begin with? Is the current sexual orientation focus of AGLP in fact one that artificially brings mostly lesbians and mostly gay men together? (Everyone acknowledged that there are very few "out" bisexuals in the organization.) There was some sense that male to female transgendered people are more closely allied with gay men, and adding a transgender focus could be a wedge-driving force between the gay male and lesbian alliance.

- **Question of pathology:** some questioned whether some forms of gender identity disorder actually exist, and some had strong convictions that there is no such thing as gender identity disorder, only gender atypicality in a culturally inflexible and inappropriate two-gender world. There were therefore opinions on transgender issues that paralleled the psychiatric history of homosexuality evolving from pathology based on discrimination and misunderstanding to normal variance of the human state. Those who believed strongly in the parallels between gender identity disorder and the pathologizing of homosexuality were more likely to support the amendments. Those who did not believe in a strong parallel were less likely to support the amendments.

- **The "Trans" in Transgender:** Some believe that the primary goal of most transgendered people (both male to female and female to male) is to make the transformation from their birth gender to the other, and to lead their lives (after the process of transformation) as a full member of the new gender. Those who identify as homosexual in their new gender should be welcomed fully into the fold of AGLP. Others feel that this approach is too rigid and dichotomous, forcing people to choose between two genders instead of being able to live somewhere in the middle of the spectrum.

- **Need for knowledge:** Some felt that precisely because there is still so much to be learned about sexual orientation and gender issues, transgender issues should be added to the goals and objects of the organization.

- **Terminology:** a few members strongly opposed the use of certain words in the proposed amendments, especially the word "lifestyle."

2. Political

- **Numbers:** Everyone agreed that the number of transgender psychiatrists was probably quite small, so it would be infeasible for a stand-alone national organization for transgendered psychiatrists to exist with its own infrastructure even if this were desired. Therefore, it seemed logical and acceptable to nearly everyone that

transgender psychiatrists and transgender issues be included in AGLP, but there was wide variation in how this should be accomplished: from all-inclusive (adopt the proposed amendments), to taking a "lend a helping hand" approach, to tolerance and passive support within the organization.

- **Minority within a minority:** Some drew the analogy that transgender issues are to homosexuality what lesbian issues were to the general feminism movement, or gay black African Americans to the civil rights movement for black African Americans. The analogy is that what is related but too "far out" and therefore a political and social liability is initially excluded with a denial of that relatedness, and then later accepted as the primary movement becomes more established and comfortable with itself. If this is the case, then transgender issues should be brought into the fold now since psychiatrists should be at the forefront and not laggards. The opposite viewpoint was also expressed: if this analogy is the case, it is still too politically risky to accept transgender issues into the fold as we are still fighting basic homophobia, reparative therapy, etc. There were also some who thought that the analogy did not apply.

- **Following the trend:** There was general acknowledgment that many community and advocacy "GLB" groups have already added the "T" whether or not this is reflected in the organization's name. Some felt that this is reason enough for AGLP's inclusion of "T" as well, while others felt strongly that this needed to be debated critically and deliberately, and not just added to our goals and objectives automatically.

3. Organizational Culture

- **Inclusive v. exclusive goals and objects:** One common theme was the question of how inclusive versus exclusive an organization AGLP should be in terms of goals and objects, though nearly everyone agreed that membership itself should be inclusive. Everyone agreed there is no requirement nor expectation of homosexuality or bisexuality for membership; many acknowledged that there are a number of known heterosexuals including past and present APA leaders who hold AGLP memberships as a political statement of support for lesbian and gay psychiatrists and issues. Those who favor inclusivity recall the historically inclusive nature of AGLP, including that in more recent years there have been outreach efforts especially to women and ethnic minority psychiatrists. Those who favor exclusivity generally felt that boundaries serve an important purpose for defining any group or organization, and that homosexuality and psychiatry are the core purpose of the organization (regardless of gender). Some who were in favor of drawing these lines felt strongly that AGLP would no longer meet their needs if the goals and objectives expanded beyond sexual orientation to transgender issues.

- **Effect on lesbian presence?** A lesbian presence in leadership, general membership, and AGLP activism has often been a challenge for the organization, and some had the sense that expanding the goals and objects to transgender psychiatrists and issues might increase that challenge. Some suggest that it may be very difficult for male AGLP members to understand just how precariously balanced the relationship between lesbians and gay men is, and for them to realize how transgender issues might upset the balance.



Highlights



David Scasta, M.D., recipient of the 2000 Janssen Award for Distinguished Service to AGLP, with partner Robert Keiper



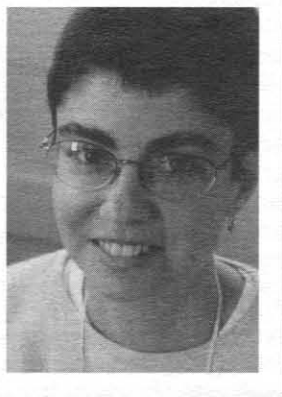
Dan Karasic, M.D., AGLP's new Vice-President



Drs. Richard Hire (with partner L.B. Williams) and Chris Sekaer pictured at the closing dinner



Chicago Water Tower



Mary Barber, M.D., traded her responsibilities as Vice-president for those of President-Elect

AGLP EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, May 13, 2000

Allerton Crowne Plaza Hotel, Chicago, Illinois

Members Present: Drs. Phil Bialer, Howard Rubin, Richard Hire, Mary Barber, Cheryl Chase, John Gosling, Ubaldo Leli, Dan Hicks. Staff: Roy Harker

President Phil Bialer opened the meeting at 8:30am and welcomed members, many who had traveled all night because of inclement weather.

Announcements:

Phil and Roy went over the staffing of the AGLP booth and asked members to be sure all the time slots were filled. If the booth is not fully staffed we run the risk of being denied a booth next year. Phil discussed the importance of our membership drive this year in terms of the finances of the organization and discussed ways to maximize our membership with Cheryl and John, who co-chair the Membership Committee. John discussed their effort to encourage members to join at higher levels of membership in order to support the activities of AGLP. Phil also discussed the need to sell more closing dinner tickets, with the goal of selling 150 tickets. John said tickets would be sold at the opening reception at the same time new members were being signed up.

Treasurer and Budget Report:

Howard Rubin presented last year's budget and the new proposed budget for May 2000. He included a 3% cost of living increase for the new budget for general expenses. The budget for next year's annual meeting expense was kept flat because New Orleans should be a less expensive city than Chicago for those expenses. He noted one issue in the new budget is the necessity to include a new line item of \$6000. for the Journal which has not been in the budget before. The Journal is now being published regularly which necessitates this item. The Board discusses various ways of raising more money to pay for the cost of the Journal. The editor, Jack Drescher, has been trying to raise funds from the pharmaceutical industry.

The issue of hiring a development person to help with fund raising for AGLP was raised again after being discussed at the Fall Meeting in Washington. The idea of obtaining a grant to hire such a person was again discussed. Roy noted we needed to develop a job description. Roy said he knew of some organizations and resources to help with such a grant. Phil appointed a committee of himself, Roy, Howard Rubin and Dan Hicks to get the process started of applying for a grant, develop a job description and work on filling this new position. There was further discussion about the importance of centralizing the fund raising function, but also of the need for individuals to continue their efforts on the local level for now.

Roy reported that Jack Drescher had proposed the possibility of raising membership dues to help cover the costs of the Journal. A discussion followed about raising dues. Roy noted that a raise in dues would not affect this year's budget, as it would take effect in January of 2001. He noted the Executive Board can make a recommendation to the Executive Council to raise dues. Asking members to make contributions to support the Journal was discussed, as was the possibility of selling advertisements in the Journal.

Phil asked about the small endowment of AGLP and how it is invested. He also asked Howard about how the expenses for the annual meeting were running. Howard and Roy said we were probably about 10% or about \$4000 over budget because Chicago was much more expensive than Washington, especially labor expenses in setting up the AGLP booth, and that we also had the cost of reprinting the booth's posters to include new information such as our web site address. Both felt New Orleans would be less expensive.

Phil again discussed the dues increase and it was decided by the Board to recommend a 10% dues increase rather than a higher increase to help cover the cost of the Journal and cost of living increase in the budget. This will be proposed tomorrow for the Council to consider and vote on.

Report from Director: Roy Harker

Roy reported that the national office was running well. When asked, he said he felt his current number of hours was adequate, but that might change if he gets more involved in the fundraising and development of AGLP. He said the web site was busy and that many mem-

bers joined via the web site. He was asked if we could have an area on the web site for confidential communication, but he said this created security problems and that people could use email for that. He said there were several complaints about all the list serve emails during the last APA election and that many members had asked to be taken off the list. This was discussed along with the issue on what is appropriate and relevant to send out on the web site. Phil said he would work on guideline and parameters for web site use. Mary read the guidelines on utilization of the web site for Community Psychiatry, as an example.

Hospitality Suite Issues:

Mary Barber Mary reported the schedule for hospitality suite was packed and included three films, a media training session, a session with the Human Rights Campaign, a parenting group, and a session on coming out, among many others. She reported the symposium was all set up and thanked Rick Hire for getting the grant from Pfizer to help pay the expenses. Roy said he thought we should try to buy a computer for presentations since the cost of renting one cost nearly as much as buying one and this would be an appropriate request for an educational grant.

Proposed Bylaws changes:

Phil noted that the proposal by Wynelle Snow last year to change the bylaws to include transgender persons was tabled last year and had to be considered this year. Lowell Tong headed a task force and did a lot of work and will report to the organization tomorrow. Phil noted that while this proposal generated strong feelings at last year's meeting, few were forthcoming with their comments when these were requested through the Newsletter and other efforts. However Lowell was able to talk to many members who had expressed their interest and has included these in his report. Phil noted that he thought the discussion about this issue had been a valuable educational process for the membership. Article VI, Section 2: "No investment of Association funds may be in other than bank account." Phil noted that we need to change the wording of this bylaw since we now have the endowment fund invested in mutual funds and money market funds. Phil asked the Secretary to circulate a petition and gather ten signatures of members to propose a change in the bylaws to be presented for a vote to the Business Meeting on Monday. The petition reads, "Investment of Association funds in investments other than bank and insured money market funds must be approved by the Executive Board."

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40am.

AGLP EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Sunday, May 14, 2000

Allerton Crowne Plaza Hotel, Chicago, Illinois

Members Present: Drs. Phil Bialer, David Spiggle, Cheryl Chase, Richard Hire, David Scasta, Greg Hannahs, Dan Hicks, Bill Gilmer, Kenn Ashley, Howard Rubin, Jack Drescher, Mary Barber, Ubaldo Leli, Lowell Tong, Bob Pinney, Marshall Stiles, Rick Imirowicz, John Gosling, Mark Townsend, Paul Lynch. Staff: Roy Harker.

President Phil Bialer called the meeting to order at 8:35am. Members introduced themselves. Last year's minutes were reviewed and approved.

Psychoanalysis: Ubaldo Leli, Paul Lynch

Ubaldo reported on a survey of the AGLP membership on their attitudes toward psychoanalysis. He reported a 10% response rate. The survey reported on members' interest in psychoanalysis, whether they felt positive or negative toward psychoanalysis and whether they used psychoanalytic theory in their work. Ubaldo and Paul will publish the result in the Newsletter. Ubaldo also reported he and Paul will be holding a session in the Hospitality Suite titled "Shame in the Therapeutic Relationship." Ubaldo will also be giving a paper at another time in the Hospitality Suite on "The Experience of Being an Openly Gay Psychoanalytic Candidate." Phil thanked Ubaldo for his report.

Announcements

Phil noted that there still some openings in staffing the AGLP booth. Phil reported there were 80 tickets sold for the awards dinner, and that we need to sell remaining tickets by

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

noon on Monday. Bill Gilmer gave advice on transportation to the convention center. He also brought up the possibility of having the closing party earlier in the week at future meetings, since some members leave the annual meeting early.

Treasurer's Report and Budget: Howard Rubin, Treasurer

Howard presented the proposed budget for 2000. He is proposing a 3% cost of living increase over last year. He noted a new line item for the Journal of \$6000, and that we need to raise money to cover this expense. Phil noted there were three issues about the budget he wanted to address. One was that we needed to vote on the budget for the year 2000. Another was that we need to find some money to hire a part time development director and that he had appointed a subcommittee to work on how to implement this. The subcommittee will be Phil, Howard, Roy and Dan. The third issue is a recommendation from the executive board to raise our dues for full members and associate members by 10%, or about \$15. We haven't had a dues increase for three years. The increase would be to help defray the cost of the Journal and cost of living increase in the budget. This won't solve all of our budget problems. We'll still have to increase fundraising. Jack noted that we will actually be having two volumes of the Journal come out this year, the 1999 volume as well as the volume for 2000. Jack said we could defer payment to the publisher if we had to. The possibility was raised of using a portion of the endowment to cover the costs publishing one issue of the Journal. A further discussion was held about methods of further fund raising. Lowell brought up the idea of not sending the Journal to those members who did not want to receive it. Jack said a long-term goal is to have the Journal pay for itself. Jack urged members to try to get institutions they are associate with to subscribe to the Journal, which will also greatly help us financially. He hopes that it comes out regularly, and it is subscribed to by more institutions, that would generate more income. It was also suggested if members would contribute \$20 to support the Journal that would cover most of the cost for the coming year. A motion was made to increase the dues by 10% for next year. The motion was seconded. The Board voted unanimously to pass the dues increase.

Others suggested we also include in the newsletter a flyer to urge members to make a special contribution to support the Journal, and perhaps also approach more affluent members about making a special contribution of support for the Journal. Jack also suggested that the Board members urge other members to join a higher dues category. He noted the special reception being given for those giving more to AGLP that is being held this year, and that perhaps the party could be mentioned in the Newsletter as a way of promoting members to join at the higher category levels. Roy said we should have a line item in the budget for the pre-awards dinner party. Phil said Howard should go ahead and add an extra \$6000 to the budget for this year to cover the cost of the additional issue this year. The dues increase will be reflected in the 2001 budget.

Report from Director: Roy Harker

Roy reports that the web site on line referral is working. He says most of the referrals are occurring online which has greatly reduced the numbers of voice calls in the office. Only about half of our members with email addresses have signed up for the referral service and we need to push others to do so because some parts of the country are not covered, especially in the Midwest and Southeast. Jack said the referral service is useful in promoting new membership, especially with younger psychiatrists. Bob Pinney noted he gets a lot of requests for therapy referral in Houston and will try to recruit those psychiatrists he refers to join AGLP. Non MD's can also join the organization, which could help them build their practices through our referral service, and also help cover parts of the country where we need therapists to refer to.

Roy reported that office expenses have not changed. We need to upgrade the laptop computer. It's now five years old. We also need a LCD projector for PowerPoint presentations. Atypical fee for renting this for a one-time use is \$550. A unit can be purchased to \$2500. David Scasta suggested we try to get an educational grant from a drug company to cover this purchase.

Phil thanked Roy for the excellent job he's doing running the national office. Jack Drescher noted that Roy has taken over some of the administrative duties of the Journal, which has been greatly appreciated.

Newsletter Editor: Guy Glass

Guy will not arrive at the meeting until tomorrow. Marshall Stiles brought up the issue of announcing members' deaths in the Newsletter. The most recent death was announced by

email. Roy said he would look into starting an obituary column for the Newsletter, and setting up a procedure for getting permission from the family.

Phil noted that the most recent Newsletter was a little late in coming out, as it was mailed the third week of April. Roy says we need all the input by February but that is not always practical as arrangements for the annual meeting may not be finalized. Roy said the safest deadline is to have everything in three weeks before you want the Newsletter in people's hands. Next year the annual meeting is in early May so a deadline of mid March would be appropriate. Bill Gilmer noted that it's the responsibility of all the people working on the annual meeting to get information to Guy early. But he noted that if its too early then the information will risk being sketchy.

Dave Scasta suggested having the AGLP schedule online, before the Newsletter comes out. The time and cost of the local city guide was also discussed and it was noted that it is a good promotional tool for membership. These issues will be discussed further at the September meeting.

Journal Editor: Jack Drescher

Jack gave an update on the Journal and a preview of upcoming volumes. He said the Journal will be coming out regularly with two volumes this year to make up for last year. Phil thanked Jack for doing an excellent job.

Nominating Committee Report: David Scasta

David reported that the nominating committee is making the following recommendations: President - Mary Barber Vice President - Dan Karasic Secretary - Richard Hire Treasurer - Howard Rubin Newsletter Editor - Guy Glass. Guy, who has been Editor for several years, is willing to serve one more year but we need to start a search for a new Newsletter Editor.

Further nominations can come from the floor at the business meeting, including self-nominations. The vote will be on Tuesday. David notes that the nomination committee needs to be formed from members of the Council (or Board of Directors) which include the executive committee (the officers and the newsletter editor) and the different committees and any task force members. Phil asks for volunteers for the new nominating committee. Those agreeing to serve are Dan Hicks, Jack Drescher, Cheryl Chessick, and Lowell Tong.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Local Arrangements 2002 Philadelphia: David Scasta/Roy Harker

Roy and David report they have chosen a hotel, the Doubletree, which is a good location, and are working on other arrangements.

Membership Committee: John Gosling and Cheryl Chessick

John and Cheryl asked for help at the opening party to sign up new members. They will give a membership report at the business meeting.

Women: Chris Sekaer

Mary announced that Chris could not attend the meeting this year. She reported that only nine women attended the women's dinner, and that we need further discussion about how to recruit more women members and involvement.

Minority Outreach: Ken Campos

Kenn Ashley reported that there will be a reception tonight for minority members.

International: Gene Nakajima, Kenn Ashley

Kenn spoke about recruiting more international members. Roy said we should consider increasing dues for international members as they are low. Kenn spoke about the WPA meetings in Paris (July 2000) and Prague (October 2000) and the plans for several AGLP members to attend. Gene has information about the meeting. Howard said that at the next WPA meeting in Japan in 2002, members are working on getting a gay section established. Phil said we may need a new chair for Minority Outreach and if the chair is male need to also have a female co-chair.

HIV: Marshall Stiles

Marshall announced there would be a meeting for those affected by HIV and that it would occur in a private room rather than in the hospitality suite to protect confidentiality.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12**

Members in Training: David Spiggle

David announced there would be a luncheon for MIT on Monday.

Med Students: Greg Hannahs

Phil said the council needs to come up with suggestions on how to get new medical student members.

LAGCAPA: Rob Pinney

Rob announced the networking party for LAGCAP on Monday and reported on LAGCAP activities for the year.

Bylaws Changes: Ad-hoc Committee on bylaws changes: Lowell Tong

Lowell spoke about the work of his task force on addressing the proposed bylaws changes which came out of last year's meeting, which generated heated discussion. Lowell will print up his report for the business meeting on Monday night. He said that several people were willing to discuss the issue of adding transgender persons to the bylaws, that twelve or more members have lengthy and deeply thoughtful responses. He will give his full report at the business meeting and it will be published in the Newsletter as well. Phil noted we will need to vote on the motion as it was tabled last year.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10am.

AGLP ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Monday, May 15, 2000

Allerton Crowne Plaza Hotel, Chicago, Illinois

Phil Bialer opened the meeting at 5:45pm and welcomed members. He thanked the local arrangements committee for all their work and success. Bill Gilmer, chair of the committee thanked the members of the committee for their many hours of hard work. Members of the committee included Bill Gilmer, John Blackburn, Michael Denson, Benita Flack, Scott Gordon, Lisa Rone, and Sydney Wright.

The minutes of last year's business meeting were reviewed and approved.

Announcements:

Phil announced there are still 28 tickets available for the Awards dinner. He also announced there were a couple of openings for the final two days at the AGLP booth. Phil spoke about the importance of the booth in educating the APA membership and guests. He reminded us that the booth must be fully staffed to enable us to continue to have a booth at future meetings.

Bylaws Changes:

Lowell Tong headed the Task Force to study the proposed bylaws changes made at last year's meeting. Lowell distributed a written report "AGLP Fact Finding Report - Transgender Issues: Proposed Amendments to AGLP Bylaws." Lowell went over the report's findings in the meeting and said he enjoyed talking to members about this issue. Many acknowledged how difficult this issue is for them and many appreciated being able to speak off the record to Lowell and to discuss their opinions confidentially. A discussion followed Lowell's presentation. Margie noted that members of PFLAG assumed they could look to us as experts regarding transsexual issues and the importance of educating ourselves. Mary said that other organizations in which she's involved look to us for guidance. Margie said that with adolescents transgender issues are very important. Another member said that for younger people who are coming out now these issues are very important, and that we need to look at the fear of the unknown. Dan K. said how much he appreciated Lowell's efforts and said from his perspective as an activist in San Francisco, many of the most effective activists are transgender people, and hoped we can keep an open mind. He said a study in SF, transsexuals identified as gay or bisexual, but also showed some fluidity with their sexual orientation.

A discussion ensued about voting on the bylaws changes. A motion was made to postpone a vote until tomorrow and this motion was seconded and passed. It was decided to postpone the vote until the next day to give members an opportunity to study the task force study. David said that we could not change the proposal because the person who originated the proposal is not here this year. Marshall said another option would be to vote to on the intent of the proposal for organization to be inclusive of transgender people and then to work on a bylaws change at a later meeting.

Nomination Committee Report: David Scasta

David announced the committee's nominations as follows:

President - Mary Barber

Vice President - Dan Karasic

Secretary - Richard Hire

Treasurer - Howard Rubin

Newsletter Editor - Guy Glass

Phil opened the floor for additional nominations. There were no further nominations but the floor remained open for nomination until we vote at tomorrow's meeting.

Treasurer's Report and Budget: Howard Rubin

Howard went over the proposed new budget for 2000. He noted there is a new line item for the Journal for \$12000 because two volumes will be coming out this year instead of the usual one. He noted the budget included a 3% cost of living increase for general expenses. He announced that we are raising dues by 10%, or \$15 for general membership to help fund the increase in the budget. The dues increase was passed by the Board yesterday and will go into effect January 2001. Howard spoke about the need to increase fund raising, and of plans to hire a part time development person to help centralize and help in fund raising. Dues increase will be for full and associate members. We are also considering raising dues for international members. Several members commented on the high quality of the Journal and felt paying higher dues was justified.

At this point the AGLP meeting was adjourned and the Caucus Meeting was opened for business. A motion was made for Phil to be appointed President of the Caucus. The motion passed.

Caucus Report: Margie Sved and Jack Drescher - MUR Board of Trustee Reps

Margie announced she is enjoying her job, and that Jack is the new deputy rep. Margie announced that her email address has changed and her new email address is margery.sved@ncmail.net. Margie reported on the reparative therapy report, which he said is an excellent report, and thanked Jack for his work on that report. Margie reported that the draft for HIV Practice Guidelines was passed and everyone thanked Marshall Forstein for that. Margie urged everyone in AGLP to join the Caucus and that can be done by filling out the form in the Newsletter and sending it in to the APA. She also announced that there is a GLB list serve available through the APA office of Minority Affairs. Margie says she uses it to communicate with the GLB Caucus and urges members to access it through the APA web site. Margie says APA President Harding would like to appoint us to committees so let people know what you are interested in working on. Margie will be chair of MUR Committee next year and will be sitting on the Executive Committee. Jack spoke about the reparative therapy statement and that the APA will speak out actively when groups speak out against homosexuals through the public affairs office which has been very supportive of us. He says the new statement calls on ethical practitioners to refrain from these kind of treatments (so called reparative therapy) and puts these practitioners on alert that they could be brought up on charges of ethical misconduct.

Margie announced that we need nominations for Caucus representatives. The new tenure begins after May 2001. Jack, because of other obligations would like to encourage others to run for deputy representative, and this will be Margie's last term if she is re-elected. All the caucuses have term limits. Those nominated were Margie Sved, Julie Schulman, Richard Hire, and David Scasta. All nominations were seconded.

Phil then closed the meeting of the Caucus, and opened the AGLP meeting.

Phil announced we would vote on the bylaws changes pertaining to investment of AGLP

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funds. Article VI, Section 2 of the bylaws states that "No investment of Association funds may be in other than bank accounts". The secretary has gathered ten signatures on a petition to change this section of the bylaws. The petition reads, "Investment of Association funds in investments other than bank and insured money market funds must be approved by the Executive Board." Phil said this change will be voted on tomorrow.

Phil adjourned the meeting at 7pm.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, May 16, 2000

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Chicago, Illinois

Members Present: Drs. Phil Bialer, Richard Hire, Howard Rubin, Mary Barber, Guy Glass.
Staff: Roy Harker.

Meeting was called to order at 5:15pm by Phil Bialer.

Howard Rubin presented the amended budget for FY 2001, reflecting a 10% dues increase, a 3% cost of living increase (except for convention expenses which remain the same as the preceding year), and a new line item for \$9000 for the Journal (\$3000 of the \$12000 has already been paid). The total budget is \$102,200, the first time it has been over \$100,000. Anticipated increase in fundraising is also reflected in the budget. Roy will look into raising dues for international members to meet the costs of mailing out of the country. Phil will head the new subcommittee to get a grant to help in hiring a development person for fund raising. Roy will consider putting in extra time to work on a grant for development person. The executive committee approved the budget. The meeting was adjourned at 5:25pm.

AGLP BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, May 16, 2000

Allerton Crowne Plaza Hotel, Chicago, Illinois

President Phil Bialer called the meeting to order at 5:40pm.

Local Arrangements 2001 New Orleans: Mark Townsend

Mark reported that Milton Anderson, Nancy Halsett and Micheal Higgins are working with him on the committee. So far they are lacking medical students and people of color. He reported there is a jazz festival taking place at the same time as the APA meeting so most of the hotels are booked. He is looking at two hotels. One is the Holiday Inn French Quarter where he can reserve 100 rooms. The other is Chateau Lamoine, a historic hotel in the French Quarter. The meeting rooms for AGLP are there. It has a private courtyard. It has a meeting room and two hospitality suites. We would be taking over all of the hotel. The convention center is about five blocks from the hotel. The closing dinner site has not been nailed down. The next issue of Newsletter in August will hopefully have hotel information.

Local Arrangements 2002 Philadelphia: David Scasta/Roy Harker

Roy and David report they have reserved the Doubletree Hotel just two blocks from the convention center. They have reserved the top floor of the Wannamaker Hotel for the opening and closing parties, which should be an excellent site. They have also been working on various activities such as a horse and carriage ride through Society Hill. Dan Karasic asked about picking a hotel for the San Francisco meeting. He is looking at a Holiday Inn and two boutique hotels closer to the convention center. Phil said it is important to have one hotel with meeting space, and it is also important to be mindful of cost. He will have more information at the fall meeting on September 9. Phil asked Dan to try to find a chairman of the local arrangement committee. Howard and Dan will investigate hotels. Phil thanks all those working on the local arrangement committees.

Bylaws changes

The proposal to change Article VI, Section 2 of the bylaws to read, "Investment of Association funds in investments other than bank and insured money market funds must be

approved by the Executive Board." was passed.

The proposal to change the bylaws submitted last year was discussed and the task force report by Lowell Tong was distributed to members. Several people objected to some of the terminology in the proposal, even though they felt we should move toward more inclusiveness of transsexuals in AGLP. A motion was made and seconded to pass the proposed bylaws change. The motion was defeated with 2 voting in favor, 16 opposed, and 2 abstentions. A motion was made to charge the executive committee to further study this issue and to find language that would be inclusive of transsexuals in AGLP. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Phil will appoint a task force to make recommendations to the board.

Newsletter Editor: Guy Glass

The deadline for the next issue is July 15. Guy would like members to contact him for articles and book reviews they would like to submit. He would like Jack to publish the amended reparative therapy statement of the APA. Mary suggested it be posted on the AGLP web site as well.

Journal Editor: Jack Drescher

Jack reported that two issues of the Journal have been mailed this year and that Volumes 3 and 4 will be published this year. There will be issues coming out with guest editors on substance abuse, gay parenting, reparative therapy and HIV issues. If anyone is interested in contributing to the Journal, please contact Jack. Any articles based on clinical practice with lesbian and gay patients are welcome. The editors of the Journal are willing to work with authors to develop articles. Jack said there will be articles in the Journal, by senior people who have changed their mind about homosexuality being pathological, including Joyce McDougall and Otto Kernberg. Anyone interested in writing book reviews should contact Richard Hire who is one of the book review editors. He can obtain copies of books for review. Jack also urged members to try to get institutions with which they are affiliated to subscribe to the Journal. He also recommended the new GAP monograph on Anti-Homosexual bias in Psychiatry, published by the Analytic Press, and edited by AGLP member Bert Schaffner. Phil thanked Jack for doing an excellent job.

GLB Committee Report: Leslie Goranssen

Leslie emailed her report to the meeting. The committee has been working on a gay marriage position statement. Progress is being made but the work has been frustrating dealing with the APA Council on this issue.

Report from the AIDS Commission: Marshall Forstein

Marshall reported on the many structural changes that have occurred in the Commission this past year that will allow the Commission to go after funding outside the APA structure, and continue to focus on education, training, and research. Raising money for the work of the Commission continues to be a big challenge but hopefully the new structure will give more financial stability. The Commission is working on a neuropsychiatric curriculum for AIDS. The Commission has had very successful programs at the APA meetings. The APA staff has been very helpful to the Commission's work and have been cited as the most effective staff within the APA. The new Practice Guidelines will finally set a standard for a minimal level of care for HIV patients. Marshall spoke about his involvement in international psychiatric meeting and other activities and about the continuing devastation world wide of the epidemic which he says we have yet to experience the full impact. Phil thanked Marshall for the tremendous amount of work he and the Commission have been doing and what they have been able to accomplish so far. Dan Hicks spoke about the gay marriage question and how important it is to get statement approved at the district branch level as we did with the reparative therapy statement. He cited the example of the Colorado district branch adopting a position on gay marriage. Jack agreed and said we now have six district branches with Committees on Gay and Lesbian Issues, and need to get more committees going in those branches that don't have them.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership: John Gosling, Cheryl Chessick

Jon thanked Roy for his help with the committee, especially with the web site, and booth. Jon thinks it's important to acknowledge those members who contribute at higher levels and thinks the VIP reception this year will help. He plans to contact residency-training

AGLP MEETING MINUTES
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

directors about AGLP and will be calling new members to establish contact and will ask others to help with this work. Membership numbers are down around 5% from last year. We have about 600 members.

Women: Chris Sekaer

Chris did not come this year. The number of women attending this year was lower than in past years. We did not publicize the women's dinner this year as we have in the past. Next year we will email women about the dinner. About 45% members have email.

Minority Outreach -

Kenn Ashley announced there was a Monday party. Participation has been increasing. The Tuesday session in the Hospitality Suite was not well attended. Next year we will try to create a more interesting program to draw more people. Nicholas Dumont is working on getting more Hispanic psychiatrists to join AGLP and be involved.

HIV Committee -

Marshall Stiles in the new head of the committee and reported that seven members met to discuss pertinent issues and that it was a successful meeting. Next year he plans to invite spouses and partners and will again have private meeting place. Marshall encourages those affected by HIV to contact him.

International Committee - Gene Nakajima, Kenn Ashley

Gene reported there was a large attendance of AGLP members at the Hamburg meeting. Resolutions to depathologize homosexuality which we sponsored at the WPA did not get voted on but will be considered at the next full WPA meeting in 2002 in Japan. We need to contact our international colleagues and let them know about this issue and enlist their support in getting it passed. Gene spoke about the meeting in Japan, noting it is not as gay friendly a country. If members are interested in participating in the WPA meeting in Japan they should contact Gene for more information and to share ideas. There are other international meetings, in July in Germany and in 2001 in Madrid. Let Gene know if you are interested in attending.

LAGCAPA - Rob Pinney

Rob announced the LAGCAP reception tonight. He suggested that if we know of people considering child fellowships to urge them to contact LAGCAP members. The LAGCAP winter meeting has been cancelled, as it was no longer felt necessary to hold a meeting separate from the Academy so LAGCAP planning will take place at the Academy meeting. The Child Academy did not support the APA brief in the Boy Scout case and we are investigating why.

Psychoanalysis - Paul Lynch and Ubaldo Leli

Ubaldo reported that the committee is active and interested in integrating more into the organization and will be presenting speakers who will share both positive and negative experiences with psychoanalysis. He reported on the programs in Hospitality Suite on Shame the Psychotherapeutic relationship, and on the Experience of being an Openly Gay Psychoanalytic Candidate, and also reported on the survey of the membership about its attitudes toward psychoanalysis, the results of which will be published in the Newsletter.

ECP -Rick Imirowicz

Rick reported that the brunch on Sunday was well attended. Guy asked that we have an article on ECP for the Newsletter.

MIT - David Spiggle

David reported that the brunch was well attended but there were not many women. He would like to work on getting more women involved.

Elections

Phil announced the slate of nominations and that nominations were still open. There were no further nominations and Dan moved that nominations be closed which was seconded and unanimously approved. The slate of officers was unanimously approved by voice vote as follows:

President - Mary Barber

Vice President - Dan Karasic

Secretary - Richard Hire

Treasurer - Howard Rubin

Newsletter Editor - Guy Glass

Report from Board of Trustees -

Julie Schulman reported on the Board of Trustees and her tenure as MIT trustee. Keith Young also a member of AGLP is the new MIT trustee.

Report for the Director - Roy Harker

Roy thanked Bill Gilmer and the rest of the local arrangements committee in Chicago for doing an excellent job and for being so organized. He said he will be getting more involved in fund raising in the coming year. He reported that having the web page and online referrals have really helped with the workload in the office. He again mentioned that there are some areas of the country, such as Arizona and South Carolina where we need people to refer to. Phil thanked Roy for the great job he is doing in running the national office.

There was no new business from the floor.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Hire
Secretary

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BOOK REVIEW

HOMOSEXUALITY AND THE MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONS: THE IMPACT OF BIAS
 The Committee on Human Sexuality, Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry
 The Analytic Press, 2000

Reviewed by Mary Barber, M.D.

The Group for Advancement of Psychiatry (GAP) is known for its progressive ideas and well thought-out publications. This volume, put out by the Committee on Human Sexuality, is no exception. The Committee, whose members are listed below, has published a concise and informative volume on antihomosexual bias (AHB).

The first chapter, on "dimensions" of AHB, is a theoretical and historical chapter on the underpinnings of AHB, from cultural norms, to psychological mechanisms of internalized homophobia, to religious and moral beliefs. The authors discuss AHB in children, noting that the vast majority of research has focused on boys who are teased for being "sissies," rather than the children who do the teasing and bullying. The authors somewhat underplay antigay bullying directed toward, stating that since masculinity is more valued in our society, tomboyish behavior by girls is relatively more tolerated than is cross-gender behavior by boys. I would agree with this, except to add that a tomboy's behavior is no longer tolerated when she crosses certain lines, such as outperforming boys in math, science, or sports. Importantly, the point is made that antigay teasing and bullying by children affects all children, whether they grow up gay or straight, in that it rigidly enforces gender roles.

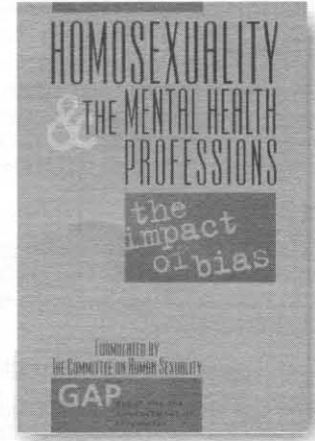
The rest of the book is clinically oriented, with chapters on AHB in clinical treatment, AHB in supervision and training, legal issues, and HIV. These chapters are enormously useful for their clinical vignettes, taken as composites of real events experienced by gay and lesbian patients, therapists, residents, and analytic trainees. Each vignette illustrates points about anti-homosexual bias, and each is followed by a discussion. The vignettes were clearly carefully chosen, as they are not redundant, nor are they unusual events – they are easily recognizable occurrences from therapy and training. It is especially instructive that the authors include instances of antihomosexual bias in gay or lesbian therapists, and include instances of collusion in the internalized homophobia of patients by therapists, both gay and straight. Often, countertransference errors of omission, of failing to inquire about aspects of a patient's life due to discomfort, or by failing to challenge a patient's homophobic assumptions, are the most insidious and difficult-to-recognize errors.

The chapters on legal issues and HIV show some of the concrete impact on people's lives as a result of AHB outside of the therapy setting. These include lack of partner benefits, inability to serve openly in the military and the lack of confidentiality with mental health providers in the military, and in the case of HIV, discrimination and poor treatment by some providers. Clearly these are issues which carry enormous implications for the mental health of our patients.

In conclusion, I can highly recommend this book, and hope it will be widely used as a teaching tool by psychotherapy supervisors.

The GAP Committee on Human Sexuality:

- Bertram H. Schaffner, M.D., Chair
- Paul L. Adams, M.D.
- Jennifer I. Downey, M.D.



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 health of our
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CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE

THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WHO HAVE JOINED AT THE SPONSOR AND PATRON LEVEL, AND TO THOSE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF AGLP WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE STUDENT TRAVEL FUND FOR 2000.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS . . .

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BOOK REVIEW: THE IMPACT OF BIAS
 CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

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 Joan A. Lang, M.D.
 Joseph P Merlino, M.D.
 Harris Peck, M.D. (deceased)
 Richard A. Friedman, M.D., Consultant
 Pauline Quirion, Consultant
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 Martha Bird, M.D., Fellow
 John Burton, M.D., Fellow
 Justin Richardson, M.D., Fellow
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CONTRIBUTORS



COPP Position Statement on Therapies Focused on Attempts to Change Sexual Orientation (Reparative or Conversion Therapies)

Approved by the Board of Trustees March 2000
 Approved by the Assembly May 2000

In December of 1998, the Board of Trustees issued a position statement that the American Psychiatric Association opposes any psychiatric treatment, such as reparative or conversion therapy, which is based upon the assumption that homosexuality per se is a mental disorder or based upon the a priori assumption that a patient should change his/her sexual homosexual orientation (Appendix 1). In doing so, the APA joined many other professional organizations that either oppose or are critical of reparative therapies, including the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Medical Association, the American Psychological Association, the American Counseling Association and the National Association of Social Workers (1).

The following Position Statement by COPP expands and elaborates upon the statement issued by the Board of Trustees in order to further address public and professional concerns about therapies designed to change a patient's sexual orientation or sexual identity.

In the past, defining homosexuality as an illness buttressed society's moral opprobrium of same-sex relationships (2). In the current social climate, claiming homosexuality is a mental disorder, comparable to kleptomania for example, stems from efforts to discredit the growing social acceptance of homosexuality as a normal variant of human sexuality. Consequently, the issue of changing sexual orientation has become highly politicized in what are increasingly being referred to as the culture wars. The integration of gays and lesbians into the mainstream of American society is opposed by those who fear that such an integration is morally wrong and harmful to the social fabric. The political and moral debates surrounding this issue have obscured the scientific data by calling into question the motives and even the character of individuals on both sides of the issue. This document attempts to shed some light on this heated issue.

The validity, efficacy and ethics of clinical attempts to change an individual's sexual orientation have been challenged (3,4,5,6). To date, there are no scientifically rigorous outcome studies to determine either the actual efficacy or harm of reparative treatments. There is sparse scientific data about selection criteria, risks versus benefits of the treatment, and long-term outcomes of reparative therapies. The literature consists of anecdotal reports of individuals who have claimed to change, people who claim that attempts to change were harmful to them, and others who claimed to have changed and then later recanted those claims (7,8,9).

With little data about patients, it is possible to evaluate the theories which rationalize the conduct of reparative or conversion therapies. Firstly, they are at odds with the scientific position of the American Psychiatric Association which has maintained, since 1973, that homosexuality per se, is not a mental disorder. The theories of reparative therapists define homosexuality as either a developmental arrest, a severe form of psychopathology, or some combination of both (10-15). In recent years, noted practitioners of reparative ther-

apy have openly integrated older psychoanalytic theories that pathologize homosexuality with traditional religious beliefs condemning homosexuality (16,17,18). The earliest scientific criticisms of the early theories and religious beliefs informing reparative or conversion therapies came primarily from sexology researchers (19-27). Later, criticisms emerged from psychoanalytic sources as well (28-39). There has also been an increasing body of religious thought arguing against traditional, biblical interpretations that condemn homosexuality and which underlie religious types of reparative therapy (40-46).

Recommendations:

1. COPP affirms the APA's 1973 position that homosexuality per se is not a diagnosable mental disorder. Recent publicized efforts to repathologize homosexuality and claiming that it can be cured are guided not by rigorous scientific or psychiatric research, but by religious and political forces opposed to the full civil rights to gay men and lesbians. COPP recommends that the APA respond quickly and appropriately as a scientific organization when claims that homosexuality is a curable illness are made by political or religious groups.
2. As a general principle, a therapist should not determine the goal of treatment either coercively or through subtle influence. Psychotherapeutic modalities to convert or repair homosexuality are based on developmental theories whose scientific validity is questionable. Furthermore, anecdotal reports of "cures" are counterbalanced by anecdotal claims of psychological harm. In the last four decades, reparative therapists have not produced any rigorous scientific research to substantiate their claims of cure. Until there is such research available, COPP recommends that ethical practitioners refrain from attempts to change individuals' sexual orientation, keeping in mind the medical dictum First, do no harm.
3. The reparative therapy literature uses theories that make it difficult to formulate scientific selection criteria for their treatment modality. This literature not only ignores the impact of social stigma in motivating efforts to cure homosexuality, it is a literature that actively stigmatizes homosexuality as well. Reparative therapy literature also tends to overstate the treatments accomplishments while neglecting any potential risks to patients. COPP recommends that the APA should encourage and support research in the NIMH and the academic research community to further determine reparative therapy's risks versus its benefits.

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APA Position Statement on Psychiatric Treatment and Sexual Orientation December 11, 1998

The Board of Trustees of the American Psychiatric Association (APA) removed homosexuality from the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) in 1973 after reviewing evidence that it was not a mental disorder. In 1987 ego-dystonic homosexuality was not included in the revised third edition of DSM (DSM-III-R) after a similar review.

APA does not currently have a formal position statement on treatments that attempt to change a person's sexual orientation, also known as "reparative therapy" or "conversion therapy." In 1997 APA produced a fact sheet on homosexual and bisexual issues, which states that "there is no published scientific evidence supporting the efficacy of "reparative therapy" as a treatment to change one's sexual orientation."

TRANSGENDERED ISSUES REPORT
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

- **Collective development:** Some felt that it is premature for transgender issues to be brought into the core of AGLP; some individuals and the organization are not ready to accept this change. To accept the amendments now could become very divisive to the current membership.

- **Fear of the unknown?** There was the question of whether individual or collective fear of the unknown (or at least not well known) is an important factor to acknowledge, since some people's discomfort with the notion of transgender people and issues may come from unfamiliarity, lack of knowledge or lack of exposure. Some who oppose the amendments report that they are well acquainted with transgendered people and transgender issues personally and professionally, and their position is not based on lack of knowledge or fear.

4. Personal and Social Needs

- **Closeness:** Some members are very close, professionally or personally, to transgendered people and these members find it discriminatory and offensive not to change the goals and objects to include transgender people and issues.

- **Bonding amongst like people:** Some members value the social, exclusively defined "subset" affinity groups within AGLP most highly of all member benefits (for example, opportunities for bonding exclusively amongst HIV positive gay men or exclusively amongst lesbians during certain events). These important social opportunities can be disrupted significantly when they are joined by someone who is not a member of that affinity group. Adding the transgender spectrum to AGLP increases this possibility and defeats the purpose of AGLP membership for some.

Final Comments: Nearly all members I communicated with during this task of gathering and organizing opinions acknowledged how difficult this topic is and how important it is that we have this discussion. Nearly all conveyed appreciation for the seriousness that AGLP leadership is taking on deliberating the proposed amendments.

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COPP POSITION STATEMENT
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

The potential risks of "reparative therapy" are great and include depression, anxiety, and self-destructive behavior, since therapist alignment with societal prejudices against homosexuality may reinforce self-hatred already experienced by the patient. Many patients who have undergone "reparative therapy" relate that they were inaccurately told that homosexuals are lonely, unhappy individuals who never achieve acceptance or satisfaction. The possibility that the person might achieve happiness and satisfying interpersonal relationships as a gay man or lesbian are not presented, nor are alternative approaches to dealing with the effects of societal stigmatization discussed. APA recognizes that in the course of ongoing psychiatric treatment, there may be appropriate clinical indications for attempting to change sexual behaviors.

Several major professional organizations, including the American Psychological Association, the National Association of Social Workers, and the American Academy of Pediatrics, have made statements against "reparative therapy" because of concerns for the harm caused to patients. The American Psychiatric Association has already taken clear stands against discrimination, prejudice, and unethical treatment on a variety of issues, including discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

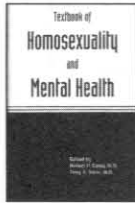
Therefore, APA opposes any psychiatric treatment, such as "reparative" or "conversion" therapy, that is based on the assumption that homosexuality per se is a mental disorder or is based on the a priori assumption that the patient should change his/her sexual homosexual

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TEXTBOOKS AVAILABLE FROM AGLP

Textbook of Homosexuality and Mental Health

Edited by Robert P. Cabaj, M.D., and Terry S. Stein, M.D.
American Psychiatric Press



Textbook of Homosexuality and Mental Health brings together in one volume the entire range of material and variety of perspectives concerning homosexuality and mental health. With more than 50 chapters written by leaders in the field, this book is the most complete review of the topics of homosexuality and mental health and treatment of gay men, lesbians, bisexuals, and transsexuals to date.

Starting from the belief that homosexuality is a normal variation of human sexuality and not a mental illness, this revolutionary book presents current information on homosexuality from a mental health and medical perspective. Sections focus on demographic, cultural, genetic, biological, and psychological perspectives; development throughout the life cycle; relationships and families; psychotherapy; multi-cultural identities and communities; professional education; and medical care. A variety of special issues, such as sexuality, substance abuse, violence, suicide, religion, and HIV/AIDS are discussed. Also included are several unique chapters that cover material not readily available elsewhere, among them transsexuality, minority gay, lesbian, or bisexual people, the impact of the sexual orientation of the therapist, latency development in prehomosexual boys, and clinical issues specific to psychotherapy with gay, lesbian, and bisexual patients.

AGLPB001-1996/1016 pages/ISBN 0-88048-716-X/hardcover/\$89.95

Hope & Mortality Psychodynamic Approaches to AIDS and HIV

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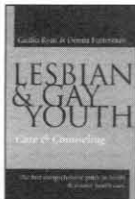


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Analytic Press

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Jack Drescher, M.D., Editor
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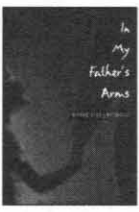
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Walter A. DeMilly, III
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