



Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists

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Attendees at the September meeting in D.C. included (standing) David Scasta, M.D., Past President; Jack Drescher, M.D., Journal Editor; Jim Slayton, M.D., Treasurer; Dan Hicks, M.D., President; (seated) Philip Bialer, M.D., Vice President; Roy Harker, Office Director; Mary Barber, M.D., Secretary; Guy Glass, M.D., Newsletter Editor



Toronto Hosts the APA in 1998!

Stephen Atkinson, M.D.

Local Arrangements Chair

For many AGLP members it will be a pleasure to discover one of North America's most dynamic cities when the APA meets in Toronto next year. For the rest of you who have already visited us, it will be exciting to return and see how it has changed since you were here, for it certainly has in the 16 years since we hosted the APA last in 1982!

Toronto is Canada's largest city with a metropolitan population of more than 4 million. It is the capital city of the Province of Ontario, and the business and cultural centre of the nation. At only a little older than 150 years, we are a young city, relative to many, though settlers began to arrive here well over 200 years ago, including many United Empire Loyalists after the American Revolution. Over the decades, that influx has been followed by waves of others, so that recently Toronto has been considered by the United Nations to be one of the most cosmopolitan cities in the world. Our various communities have enriched the life of Toronto immeasurably, giving us some of the best ethnic dining on the continent and numerous cultural festivals.

Besides the world-famous CN Tower, the world's tallest free-standing structure, Toronto boasts the Royal Ontario Museum, The Art Gallery of Ontario, The Ontario Science Centre, The Gairdner Museum of Ceramic Art, the Harbourfront cultural complex, and a major zoo. Our downtown core has stayed a dynamic one where people not only work, shop and play, but also live, and parts of it are pulsing around the clock. The beautiful Toronto Islands parklands are easily accessible from the downtown shoreline by a pleasant ferry ride. And our APA meetings will be held mainly at the newly expanded Convention Centre near the heart of the city.

The political atmosphere here is greatly changed from when AGLP was last here in 1982. The year before that, a multi-site bathhouse raid by the police had become a major political and legal hot-potato. This event galvanized the lesbian community like never before, and ripples of that energy continue to fuel a very active community life. The fact that the vast majority of the charges were dropped helped alter the relationship between the police, the provincial government and our community into the more co-operative and peaceful one that it is today.

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

Editor, Guy Glass, M.D.

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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; 67 East 11th Street, Apt. 719, New York, NY 10003. (Phone: (212)982-0328, FAX (212)982-1879, E-mail: GFGMD@aol.com) 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 November 30, 1997.

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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♦ ♦ ♦
Assembly Delegates to the Caucus of Gay,
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James Krajcski, MD and Margery Sved, MD
♦ ♦ ♦

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Editor's Column

Guy Glass, M.D.

It was great to see those of you who came to the September meeting in D.C. This meeting tends to attract a diehard band of AGLP devotees; it's not as glamorous or exciting as the big May meeting, but it's a better introduction to the actual workings of the organization and also an opportunity for some more intimate time with friends and colleagues.

I had to sit down and leaf through old issues of the *Newsletter* recently to figure out how many years I have been doing this now; I really lost track! This issue marks the beginning of my fourth year editing...seems like yesterday that I was first elected in Philadelphia. Since I was just put on the proposed slate for next year, I guess I'll just keep doing this as long as I am wanted. But really, taking on this role automatically plunged me, by nature an introvert, right into the middle of AGLP business, and my life has not been the same since (I mean that in a good way). I have gotten to do some fascinating interviews, communicate with contributors from around the world, and correspond with APA presidential and vice-presidential candidates (I won't tell you which ones cannot put together a sentence) and with other APA officials. I am proud of the positive feedback I have earned, including receiving a citation from David Scasta last May in San Diego, verbal acknowledgements of my work from APA and GLMA, requests to receive the *Newsletter* from Harvard University's library system and from a major gay/lesbian archive in the San Francisco area, and, routinely, since starting to review books on a regular basis, requests from publishers that we review their new titles.



Guy, Lewis and our Maine Coon kitten,
Moonshine

AGLP members have much to be proud of aside from their *Newsletter*. I was amazed recently to learn how many of our members have been contributing in excess of their dues. Please extend your appreciation to the following contributors to the travel fund that enables medical students to attend our meetings (contributions received in 1997 by September 30): Drs. Juan Buono, Debbie Carter, Phillip Cushman, Michael Denson, LeRoy Ecklund, William Espey, Donald Fennell, Richard Friedman, Sal Fusaro, Lee Gerson, Carlos Greaves, Graeme Hanson, Norman Hartstein, William Herz, Daniel Hicks, Robert Holloway, Richard Isay, James Krajcski, Laurence Miller, Joseph Mitchell, Robert Pinney, Richard Pleak, William Reamy, Joan Rubinstein, Frank Rundle, David Scasta, David Seil, Solomon Shapiro, James Slayton, Cynthia Sortwell, Raul Soto-Acosta, Robert Stasko, Terry Stein, Marshall Stiles, Nada Stotland, Donald Thomasson, Joan Webb, and Ronald Winchel.

Another tax-deductible way of helping AGLP, as Dan Hicks notes in his column, is to join as a Sponsoring Member (\$250) or Patron (\$500). Sponsors (again, as of September 30) include Drs. Daniel Hicks, Diana Miller, John O' Donnell, Leonard Rubin, Margery Sved, Mark Townsend. David Scasta, M.D. is currently our only patron, but, trendsetter that he is, I am sure he is but the first of many.

I plan to keep the above lists updated and include them in all future issues of the *Newsletter*; perhaps that will be a further incentive for those who would consider an upgrade in their AGLP membership.

Presidents Column

Dan Hicks, M.D.

We had a very productive fall meeting on Saturday, Sept. 13th with a rather small but dedicated group of people. Plans for our meeting in Toronto are nearing completion, due to the work of Steve Atkinson and his local arrangements committee. Please see details in his column, and make sure you register now for your room; we need to sell out the block so we can save money on our meeting rooms and hospitality suite. These are comped to us by the hotel, but only if you sell out your block of rooms. We had to pay in San Diego because many people did not make reservations early and we lost our block of rooms. Phil Bialer has also planned an exciting Saturday program you won't want to miss.

Our course, "Treatment of Gay Men and Lesbians in Psychiatric Practice" will be held October 23rd and 24th in Washington at the Omni Shoreham. I am very excited about the excellent faculty and the broad range of topics we will cover. Please plan to join us, or tell your friends and colleagues in other mental health disciplines; it is a unique and important educational opportunity, and CME/CEU credits are available. The AGLP has also proposed a symposium at the Annual Meeting with several of the speakers from the course highlighting some of the most important and controversial issues to help educate other psychiatrists, including reparative therapy, gay adolescents, domestic partners, and gay parenting.

I want to emphasize the importance of attending our fall meeting. We not only do much of our planning for the Annual Meeting, we also make important decisions about a variety of important issues for AGLP activity. All committee chairs are supposed to attend or send a representative. We had no one from the women's committee, the minority committee, the analytic committee, HIV, child and adolescent, or membership. The meeting is also open to all members who want to have a voice and become more active. Please make sure you attend this important and vital meeting. Our group was smaller to some extent because so many of our members have been mainstreamed into other APA committees and components that were meeting at the same time.

Another issue which is painfully clear is that 20% of our membership has still not paid their '97 dues - despite repeated notices and reminders. Many of you are prominent in the APA and active in the AGLP. With the opening of our National Office and Roy's active involvement in our work, we are able to broaden our horizons and do much more than before, but not without funding. It is vital that everyone contributes their fair share to make sure we don't go into the red by the end of the year. Also, you may give at the sponsoring level (\$250) or the patron level (\$500) and will be recognized in the *Newsletter*. In addition, we always need donations to the student travel fund.

Important areas that were discussed at the fall meeting include the following: APA's stance on affirmative therapy, recommendations on the gender identity disorder diagnosis, and APA's position and support on lesbian domestic partners. The American Psychological Association's passage of a statement about reparative therapy and informed consent gives us a model to follow which may be more acceptable to passage in the APA Assembly. The Committee on Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Issues has generated an informational paper to present to the Council for consideration to help move this issue along. In addition, Jack Drescher is writing an article for the NY District Branch around the ethics involved in reparative therapy. He and Howard Rubin have also agreed to work with me and anyone else who is interested in helping to propose legislation that could be passed by several different district branches and so have more support in passing the Assembly. The Committee also developed papers to present to the Council regarding a task force on the gender identity issue, and explaining the importance of APA support of domestic partners for mental health of gays and lesbians.

I was able to meet with our newly-appointed Medical Director, Dr. Steven Mirin, after only 4 days in office. He seemed rather overwhelmed by the process of learning his new job. He did not seem well-informed on many of our issues, but he seemed to have an open and affirming attitude about gays and lesbians. He was surprised to hear that Socarides was still battling homosexuality. He stated that Jim Krajewski knew more about getting things done in the APA than he or anyone else did. He was open to the idea of domestic partner benefits for APA staff if it was not cost-prohibitive. It will be interesting to see how accessible and supportive he will continue to be.

We are
able to
broaden
our horizons and do
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out funding

Toronto 1998
Continued from front page

Our AGLP hotel rooms this year will be in The Best Western Primrose Hotel, a modern, high-rise 300 room hotel which will be shared by the APA with us, so it will be on a bus route to the Convention Centre. It is very near the heart of Toronto's gay/lesbian "village," and is also not far from the main subway line; a streetcar line is right outside the door. Taxis in Toronto are plentiful, so the hotel will be easily accessible to all by various means. There is underground parking at the hotel, but the compact nature of Toronto's central core may well make a car unnecessary.

A quick word on currency: There are good reasons for you to use Canadian currency while here. The exchange rates at banks and currency dealers are very favourable in comparison to those given directly by merchants and restaurants, so you will save money. You also can conveniently withdraw Canadian cash from our ATM's, most of which would access most major American banks. The Canadian dollar recently has been worth between 0.72 and 0.74 US dollars, which makes many things here cheap compared to the US. But not everything is cheaper and our taxes are higher generally, so do keep this in mind while here. ALL PRICES QUOTED IN THIS AND SUBSEQUENT ARTICLES ABOUT OUR MEETING WILL BE IN ESTIMATED U.S. DOLLAR AMOUNTS. They may vary from these estimates at the time you're actually paying.



The Best Western Primrose Hotel, in Toronto

The rooms come with 2 double, or 1 queen or king-size bed, are individually climate-controlled, and have TVs with in-room movies. There are a limited number of refrigerators available for in-room use at a daily rental rate of about \$7.50. Our local committee found the rooms comfortable and attractive, and the upper floors allow for wonderful north or south-facing views of the city. All rooms are the same price, about \$95. Rooms must be reserved directly with this hotel at (416)977-8000, and BE SURE TO GIVE OUR GROUP NUMBER 18301 when you make the reservation. There are various ways in which AGLP benefits financially by booking a block of rooms and FILLING it; this year we have 150 rooms, so please consider our hotel first and book early to be sure not to be without a room, as did happen to some of our members last year. This also is a way of supporting AGLP by helping to reduce our costs. THE DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS APRIL 29, 1998.

Our Saturday Pre-Convention, Hospitality Suite and Opening Reception will all be in this hotel. Our Closing Party will be held in a beautiful old Art Deco ballroom that is part of our oldest and largest Hudson's Bay Store, the Canadian merchant company that was founded over 300 years ago! The largest

private collection of Canadian art is housed in a museum adjacent to this ballroom, and will be open for our members to tour as part of the evening's events. But more on that in the next issue!

Pre-convention Symposium and Hospitality Suite Events

Philip Bialer, M.D.

Planning continues for AGLP's educational and hospitality suite events in Toronto. A proposal for what should be a very informative (and provocative) pre-convention symposium was accepted by those attending the fall business meeting. Gabriel Rotello, author of *Sexual Ecology: AIDS and the Destiny of Gay Men* has accepted our offer to be the keynote speaker at the symposium. A panel of discussants is still being formed and more details will appear in the next *Newsletter*.

Time is still wide open in the hospitality suite, but members are encouraged to contact me before the deadline. If you have ideas for discussions, workshops, media presentations, component group meetings, or anything else the suite will serve as a great meeting space. Please submit the name of the event, the chair or point-person, total time required, and preferred dates/time.

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President's Column Continued from page 3

Other important issues decided at the fall meeting: John Gosling is the chair of the Nominating Committee. He is to pick two other people and come up with a slate of candidates (mainly a president-elect) to offer at the Annual Meeting. Due to waning attendance and possibly less need, we decided not to plan a memorial service this year at the meeting, but have a moment of silence at the awards banquet. We also decided to proceed with the new booth design for next year if we can arrange funding, and to include reference in the booth that it is the 20th anniversary of AGLP. It was also suggested that anyone who has archival material, including letters, photos, posters, costumes, devices, etc. about AGLP history should send them to Roy Harker at the National Office so that we can have an archives and possibly draw from this for displays, either in the hospitality suite or in the booth.

REMEMBER:

- 1) PAY YOUR DUES!
- 2) REGISTER FOR THE HOTEL IN TORONTO ASAP!
- 3) ATTEND THE MEETINGS (C) FALL AND SPRING (esp. committee chairs); WE NEED YOUR INSPIRATION!

• • •

American Psychological Association Passes Conversion Therapy Resolution

Douglas C. Haldeman, Ph.D.

By a vote of 101-1, APA's Council of Representatives passed a resolution on sexual orientation conversion therapy, or "reparative" therapy, at its August meeting. The resolution, following this article, addresses the misconceptions about sexual orientation advanced by NARTH and Christian fundamentalist "ex-gay" groups by firmly rejecting the "illness" model of same-sex sexual orientation, and disavowing portrayals of lesbians, gay men and bisexuals as mentally ill due to their sexual orientation. Further, the APA resolution requires that all psychologists who see lesbian, gay, bisexual and questioning individuals in psychotherapy disseminate accurate information about sexual orientation, provide informed consent as to the treatment offered, offer information about alternative treatments, and practice in a non-discriminatory manner which enables the individual to explore issues of sexual orientation in a value-neutral environment.

This resolution represents the strongest statement to date from the Association about the status of sexual orientation, and outlines the ethical basis for a set of psychotherapy guidelines for practitioners working with lesbian, gay and bisexual clients, currently in development. It places the burden of proof squarely on the practitioner who would continue to pathologize same-sex sexual orientation, despite scientific evidence to the contrary. Further, the resolution attempts to educate the public and ultimately work toward a social transformation in which same-sex sexual orientation is seen as a normative variant of the life experience. The resolution also offers protection to lesbian, gay, bisexual or questioning youth who may be brought for conversion therapy treatments by their parents or guardians.

Predictably, the resolution drew immediate criticism from the religious right, which has always been the strongest proponent of homophobic "therapy" programs. Anthony Falzarano, head of Washington D.C.'s "Transformational Ex-gay Ministries," called the resolution a "death sentence" for those wishing to change their sexual orientation. Psychiatrist Charles Socarides, President and co-founder of NARTH, described the resolution as an "attempt to brainwash the public" by denying that homosexuality is a "purple menace that is threatening the proper design of gender distinctions in society." And while the Human Rights Campaign and the National Youth Advocacy Coalition came out in strong support of the APA resolution, the National Lesbian and Gay Task Force was critical that the resolution did not "go far enough." NGLTF Director Kerry Lobel insisted that the practice of conversion therapy is unethical and should be banned outright.

In fact, a resolution attempting to ban conversion therapy altogether was submitted to the APA two years ago, but received little support from the Association. There is no precedent for banning certain types of psychotherapy practice in the absence of compelling scientific evidence that they are harmful to patients. The Association's concern was that banning conversion therapy would set a dangerous precedent for limiting practitioner and client autonomy, as well as put the Association at risk for legal action. The present resolution is the result of two years' intensive collaboration between a variety of groups within APA, and represents the strongest statement on the issue which may be made at this time. The text of the resolution follows, copies of which may be obtained from the APA's Public Interest Directorate, 750 First St., NE, Washington, D.C. 20002-4242.

Resolution on Appropriate Therapeutic Responses To Sexual Orientation

[Adopted by the American Psychological Association Council of Representatives, August 14, 1997.]

Whereas societal ignorance and prejudice about same-gender sexual orientation put some gay, lesbian, bisexual and questioning individuals at risk for presenting for "conversion" treatment due to family or social coercion and/or lack of information (Haldeman, 1994);

Whereas children and youth experience significant pressure to conform with sexual norms, particularly from their peers;

Whereas children and youth often lack adequate legal protection from coercive treatment;

Whereas some mental health professionals advocate treatments of lesbian, gay, and bisexual people based on the premise that homosexuality is a mental disorder (e.g., Socarides et al, 1997);

Whereas the ethics, efficacy, benefits, and potential for harm of therapies that seek to reduce or eliminate same-gender sexual orientation are under extensive debate in the professional literature and the popular media (Davison, 1991; Haldeman, 1994; *Wall Street Journal*, 1997);

Therefore be it resolved that APA affirms the following principles with regard to treatments to alter sexual orientation: that homosexuality is not a mental disorder (American Psychiatric Association, 1973); and

that psychologists "do not knowingly participate in or condone unfair discriminatory practices" (Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct, American Psychological Association, 1992, Principle D, p. 1600); and

that "in their work-related activities, psychologists do not engage in unfair discrimination based on...sexual orientation" (Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct, American Psychological Association, 1992, Standard 1.10, p. 1601); and

that "in their work-related activities, psychologists respect the rights of others to hold values, attitudes, and opinions that differ from their own." (Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct, American Psychological Association, 1992, Standard 1.09; p. 1601); and

that "psychologists...respect the rights of individuals to privacy, confidentiality, self-determination and autonomy" (Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct, American Psychological Association, 1992, Principle D, p. 1599); and that "psychologists are aware of cultural, individual and role differences, including those due to...sexual orientation" and "try to eliminate the effect on their work of biases based on [such] factors." (Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct, American Psychological Association, 1992, Principle D, pp. 1599-1600); and

that "where differences of...sexual orientation ...significantly affect psychologists' work concerning particular individuals or groups, psychologists obtain the training, experience, consultation, or supervision necessary to ensure the competence of their services, or they make appropriate referrals" (Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct, American Psychological Association, 1992, Standard 1.08, p. 1601); and

that "psychologists do not make false or deceptive statements concerning...the scientific or clinical basis for ... their services," (Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct, American Psychological Association, 1992, Standard 3.03(a), p. 1604); and

that "psychologists attempt to identify situations in which particular interventions...may not be applicable ...because of factors such as...sexual orientation" (Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct, American Psychological Association, 1992, Standard 2.04 (c), p. 1603); and

that "psychologists obtain appropriate informed consent to therapy or related procedures" [which] "generally implies that the [client or patient] (1) has the capacity to consent, (2) has been informed of significant information concerning the procedure, (3) has freely and without undue influence expressed con-

sent, and (4) consent has been appropriately documented" (Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct, American Psychological Association, Standard 4.02(a), 1992, p. 1605); and

"when persons are legally incapable of giving informed consent, psychologists obtain informed permission from a legally authorized person, if such substitute consent is permitted by law" (Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct, American Psychological Association, 1992, Standard 4.02(b), p. 1605);

that "psychologists (1) inform those persons who are legally incapable of giving informed consent about the proposed interventions in a manner commensurate with the persons' psychological capacities, (2) seek their assent to those interventions, and (3) consider such persons' preferences and best interests" (Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct, American Psychological Association, 1992, Standard 4.02(c), p. 1605); and

that the American Psychological Association "urges all mental health professionals to take the lead in removing the stigma of mental illness that has long been associated with homosexual orientation" (Conger, 1975, p. 633); and

therefore be it further resolved that the American Psychological Association opposes portrayals of lesbian, gay, and bisexual youth and adults as mentally ill due to their sexual orientation and supports the dissemination of accurate information about sexual orientation, and mental health, and appropriate interventions in order to counteract bias that is based in ignorance or unfounded beliefs about sexual orientation.

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Homosexuality Still an Illness in China

Wan Yan Hai, M.D.

The American Psychiatric Association declassified homosexuality as a mental illness in 1973, and the American Psychological Association has issued a similar statement. The World Health Organization declassified homosexuality as a mental disorder, and the Japanese Psychiatric Association followed suit in response to efforts of psychiatrists and of the Japanese gay community. Yet in China, the Chinese Psychiatric Association still classifies homosexuality as a mental disorder; In their recent classification published in 1994 (see CCMD-2-R, Chinese Psychiatric Association of the Chinese Medical Association, Dongnan University Press, 1995, p. 3 and p. 110) they state that contrary to international classification they still consider homosexuality an illness. The Chinese Psychiatric Association is now in the process of revising the classification in time for the year 2000. Since then, Chinese gay activists and scholars with a new understanding of homosexuality have been working to remove it from the list.

Anyone who is interested in working on this issue, please contact me (visiting at the Feminist Research Center at the University of Southern California where I am studying the changing attitudes of the two APA's towards gay and lesbian issues):

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Following is part of our proposal:

The most recent task of AIZHI Action Project is to declassify or demedicalize homosexuality from aversive psychological treatment or electroshock treatment. In China, homosexuality is still being labeled as abnormal or a mental disorder by the Chinese Psychiatric Association. We have organized a survey about basic attitudes of the members of the new Chinese Classification of Mental Disorders (CCMD-3), published three issues of a newsletter which introduced the policies of the American Psychiatric Association and some articles on gay affirmative psychology and psychoanalysis, organized seminars on demedicalizing homosexuality in China, and many face-to-face or phone discussions with the experts in mental health. The Chinese Psychiatric Association has set up a task force to establish the new classification. We are working with the task force to change the attitude of the Association.

Another major task is to work with other social and political groups concerning human rights in China to fight against police persecution and social discrimination against gay men, lesbians, bisexuals, transgendered people, HIV-positive people and sex work participants.

To change the attitudes of the Chinese Psychiatric Association, we want to fulfill the following objectives:

- 1) To review the change in the attitudes of American psychiatrists and psychologists and to edit books about gay affirmative psychology.
- 2) To conduct qualitative evaluation of the knowledge, attitudes and practice of psychiatrists and psychologists in China about homosexuality and psychotherapy with lesbians.
- 3) To help psychiatrists and psychologists in China to realize that their attitudes and practices with regard to homosexuality are important components of attitudes toward homosexuality in Chinese society as a whole.
- 4) To encourage more psychiatrists and psychologists in China to adopt the statements and policies of ICD-10 and DSM-4, The American Psychiatric Association and the American Psychological Association with regard to homosexuality.
- 5) To encourage the Chinese CCMD-3 Task Force and the Chinese Psychiatric Association to adopt ICD-10 and DSM-4, to delete homosexuality from the classification of mental disorders, such that it is considered a normal behavior.

BOOK REVIEW

A NATURAL HISTORY OF HOMOSEXUALITY

Mondimore, Francis Mark, M.D.

Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, 1996

Stephen McCutcheon, Ph.D. and Robert Williams, D.O.

We know three good reasons to buy a copy of this book and read it: to start with, it's just plain fascinating to read. A friend of mine recently asked if I wanted to hear some gossip. Like most of us, I find what other people do to be endlessly interesting, and gave her permission. It was only then she forewarned me that I was the topic of her story. Well, run-of-the-mill gossip might be interesting, but tales in which we're a featured player are downright compelling. *A Natural History* is a compelling read in the same fashion. Here's a story about us as a people, written with intelligence and a broad perspective, appropriate as an introduction to those who know nothing of gay and lesbian history, or as an excellent conceptual overview of homosexuality in a historical context. Even those who are well-schooled in gay and lesbian history will appreciate the clarity of Dr. Mondimore's narrative, and learn from the perspectives he offers. As he points out early in *A Natural History*, homosexuality is a modern concept which can only be understood by combining the perspectives of many disciplines, including the biological, behavioral and social sciences, in telling the tale of our history. He accomplishes this task as well as any other gay/lesbian history text currently on the shelves. While all of these books have their merits, especially Neil Miller's *Out of the Past* and Eric Marcus' *Making History*, Dr. Mondimore's work is especially articulate in describing how long-simmering social and cultural forces "created" our history. He tells how these underlying forces eventually came together in modern Western culture to define same-sex attachments as "different," how these same forces demonized "differentness," and how medicine, and then the psychological sciences, attempted to define this differentness as illness in need of treatment, rather than as a moral fall in need of redemption. Reading *A Natural History* provides a sense of the historical forces which have led to the oppression of gay and lesbian people, and which find expression in our churches, in our laws, and very importantly, in our sciences.

It's this last point about history and the mechanisms of oppression which leads us to mention good reasons #2 and #3. The African American community has led the way in showing that a minority people must write their own history and learn their own story as a means of defining themselves. To live without history, or to learn one's history only as it is written by the majority culture, is to live an identity defined by someone else. If straight culture is the only voice to tell the story of gay history, then we are doomed to see ourselves as they see us. As gay men and women, we own it to ourselves to read our own history as a means of reaffirming ourselves as good and whole people; as gay and lesbian practitioners, we owe it to our patients to read our own history and thereby come to better understand how patient lives are shaped by forces that add to their unhappiness. The telling of a history is itself a force that can be used for liberation or control: patients reconstruct themselves for the better just in the telling of their personal histories - it is an experience of gaining control over what happened to them. In a similar vein, learning our history as a community of gay people is a means of gaining control over what has happened to us, and more important, is a means of loosening the control imposed by the "majority" culture's definition of us. Maybe it's not true that you are what you eat - but you sure are what you believe about yourself.

We recommend you read this book for a third reason. As gay and lesbian psychiatrists and psychologists, we are members of a scientific community. This science of behavior is a foremost expression of our culture's attempt to understand and control the "problem" of homosexuality. It's only natural that people want an explanation when something is "different;" explanations help us make sense of the unexpected and unpredictable. And in these days of TV talk shows where viewers are fascinated by the immense varieties of human experience on daily display, it's only natural that people want to better understand "how these things happen." With increasing frequency, we are asked as scientists to provide the larger society with the explanations that were once provided by the church and by the law. In turn, these explanations inform the cultural debate over issues that will determine whether or not we will be fully

Reading *A Natural History* provides a sense of the historical forces which have led to the oppression of gay and lesbian people, and which find expression in our churches, in our laws, and very importantly, in our sciences.

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included in this society: employment rights, marriage, adoption, inheritance, military service. Scientific explanations will inform the debate over the most fundamental cultural question: do we have the right to love?

A Natural History is a sobering reminder to those of us who believe in the righteousness of science. The history of our own discipline clearly demonstrates how deeply science is embedded in cultural beliefs - in some sense, "science" can only discover what a culture is ready to find, and as scientists, we can observe only what our culture has prepared us to see. It's true that great scientists are not restrained by these limits - they see far beyond the cultural horizon. But most of our science is not great, and much of our science only serves to reassure us of things we already believe. As practitioners in the behavioral sciences, and as consumers of scientific knowledge of homosexuality, we owe it to ourselves to read *A Natural History* if only to remind us of how our discipline is both the cinder in the eye of a homophobic culture, and equally, is a voice and a reflection of that same culture.

Stephen McCutcheon, Ph.D., is a clinical psychologist at the Seattle VA Medical Center and Assistant Clinical Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Washington. Robert Williams, D.O., practices psychiatry at Group Health Hospital and Highline Psychiatric Hospital, both in Seattle.

GROWING UP IN A LESBIAN FAMILY: EFFECTS ON CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Fiona Tasker and Susan Golombok

Guilford Press, New York 1997

Margie Sved, M.D.

In preparation for my presentation, "Child Custody: Gay and Lesbian Parenting," at last May's APA Annual Meeting, I did an extensive literature review on lesbian and gay parenting issues. I wish I had been able to include this book in that presentation. This book is the detailed report of a unique and valuable piece of research, describing the experiences of now young adults who had grown up in lesbian mother families.

Golombok earlier had published an article in 1983 that described a group of children living in 1976 with lesbian mothers or single heterosexual mothers, most of whom had been previously divorced. (1) This was primarily an anecdotal article, describing interviews with the mothers, and showed no differences in presence of psychiatric disorders between the two groups of children. Like many articles written in the 1980's, little attention was paid to whether the lesbian mother had a partner living with her at the time.

This current book is a follow-up almost twenty years later with the children themselves, now young adults. They were able to include follow-up with 25 out of 39 children from the lesbian mother families, and 21 out of 39 children from single heterosexual mother families. The group was large enough to produce statistically significant findings. Information is provided from detailed interviews, organized by topics such as relationships within the family, what the children knew about their mothers' relationships, relationships between the children and the mothers' partners, their attitudes toward their family, what they told their friends, teasing and prejudice from peers, attitudes towards lesbian/gay and women's rights, their own intimate relationships and sexual orientation, and measures of psychological adjustment. The authors include numerous tables and excerpts from the interviews.

Although this book provides access to an important research project, with important findings, it is very difficult to read. This was too much like reading a thesis, with tables that were impossible to decipher, statistical analyses intruding in the middle of significant sentences, percentages of everything, and co-variables compared to co-variables. Trying to find the significant findings while reading through dry data was very time-consuming.

However, the last chapter, "Conclusions," is an excellent summary of the research, and what can and can't be concluded. To summarize, "Indeed, the findings from the present study show that young people brought up by a lesbian mother do well in adulthood and have good relationships with their family, friends, and partners...negative out-

This book is the detailed report of a unique and valuable piece of research

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AGLP Business Meeting Minutes

September 13, 1997

Marriott Hotel, Washington, D.C.

Members Present: Drs. Kenn Ashley, Steve Atkinson, Mary Barber, Philip Bialer, Jack Drescher, John Fryer, Guy Glass, John Gosling, Dan Hicks, Rick Imirowicz, Petros Levounis, Dennis Lin, Frank Rundle, David Scasta, James Slayton.

Staff Present: Roy Harker.

President Dan Hicks welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

A. Report on Toronto 1998 Annual Meeting:

1. Local Arrangements Committee, Steve Atkinson:

Steve reported that the hotel is set and will be the Best Western Primrose. Rate will be \$95 US per night, and 150 rooms have been reserved for AGLP. Since it is a designated APA hotel, shuttle bus service will be available for the convention.

The opening reception in the hotel has a budget of \$8030, and is being planned.

The closing party will be in Hudson Bay Co, an art deco department store, accessible to downtown Toronto. The Thompson Art Gallery, which is connected to the store, could be added to dinner for \$2/per person more. If included, the gallery would be open to all AGLP guests for the evening. The Council voted for the deluxe buffet including the art gallery, which will come to \$65 US per person. There was discussion about whether to make cash bars a policy at AGLP events, given the possibility of members in recovery and given cost issues. The Council elected to make the closing dinner a cash bar event, but not to set any policy regarding this. There was further discussion about how high to set ticket prices for the event. Roy reminded the Council that the closing reception is a fund-raising event. It was decided to add 10-15% to the final cost of the event and make that the ticket price; thus, not to make a huge profit. Several Council members suggested that AGLP seek educational grants for the event as well, and any grant obtained as fund-raising above and beyond ticket revenues. Word from Janssen about repeat funding is pending. Council agreed to continue the policy of differential ticket prices for members/non-members, which was a good recruitment tool last year.

The memorial service was discussed. Many Council members felt that the service had seemed less relevant in the past few years, and had had low attendance. After discussing options, including having no service, the Council voted to have a moment of silence at the awards banquet in lieu of a separate memorial service.

Dan, who will lead the Washington local arrangements committee for 1999, said he is considering a hotel in Thomas Circle, an up-and-coming area of D.C. accessible to most downtown attractions.

2. Saturday Programming, Hospitality Suite: Phil Bialer

Phil presented his proposal for the preconvention symposium, with Gabriel Rotello as keynote speaker. The topic will be Sexual Behavior, Substance Abuse, and the Continuing AIDS Epidemic. GR's recent book *Sexual Ecology* explores the party culture and HIV, and GR presented in Atlanta at a G/L health conference and was well-received. Council members wondered, would this topic exclude women? Steve reminded members that lesbians are getting HIV too, and suggested the symposium should include a lesbian panelist. With this in mind, the Council unanimously accepted Phil's symposium proposal. Phil's budget comes to \$1000 for Gabriel Rotello's expenses, and he will look at getting funding to offset this. Everyone was urged to come forward with ideas for panelists, and also for speakers for the rest of the AGLP program.

3. Awards: David Scasta

David noted there are two awards to be given, the James Paulsen award for an AGLP member, and the Distinguished Service award for someone outside the organization. Possible candidates for both awards were suggested and discussed. One possibility discussed for the Distinguished Service award was kd lang, especially appropriate because she is Canadian.

At this point in the meeting Margery Sved dropped by to give some news. She has been appointed to help choose a recipient for the APA "Profile of Courage" award, to be given to an APA member, and would like suggestions.

David was then presented with a crystal pyramid for the years of service he has given to AGLP.

4. Booth

Roy and Dan noted that no one from the Membership Committee was present at the meeting. Dan reported he would like to do a 20th anniversary booth with some history of AGLP on display. Options were considered, including whether actual memorabilia should be displayed or whether photos and posters should be made, and whether to have the display at the booth or in the hospitality suite. Limitation to doing reproduction would be cost, while actual memorabilia would carry security risk. Other limitation is time, and many members felt that display would most likely not be ready by May, especially since no one has yet taken a leadership role in preparing it. Anyone who does have memorabilia for inclusion in a history display is invited to send it to Roy.

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Jack suggested that someone write an article for the Journal of Gay and Lesbian Psychotherapy about the history of AGLP, then reprints could be displayed at the booth.

John G said that people staffing the booth need clear instructions on how to deal with people wanting to join AGLP. Roy said that staffers can take cash or checks and hand them off to him at the end of the shift.

David noted APA is coming out with a new statement on g/l issues, and thought that should be on display at the booth, along with the journal and recent/relevant g/l articles from other journals. He asked whether Haworth would subsidize reprints.

The new booth design has been approved for this year, and \$1500-1800 will be needed to fund it. The Membership Committee needs to decide how to raise the funds. The design will include panels that can be removed or interchanged, so that a 20th anniversary panel could be included for this year.

Steve asked about AGLP pins for members, and Roy said he will get them and/or stickers made.

At this point in the meeting, Dan appointed Frank to the historical records task force. John G was appointed to the psychoanalytic task force. Rick was appointed to the early career psychiatrist task force. Thus a quorum was reached and Dan could appoint a head of the Nominating Committee for next year's officers.

Dan then appointed John Gosling to chair the Nominating Committee. John will select two more members for the committee before the May meeting. On the slate, Guy will continue as editor. The president-elect position will be open. Jim and Mary will have to decide whether to continue as treasurer and secretary.

B. Report on Course

The course, "The treatment of lesbians and gay men in psychiatric practice," will be given at the fall APA meeting (Psych Services Institute) October 23 and 24 in Washington, D.C. An outline of the course was passed out and admired by the Council.

Lilly and Janssen have been asked for funds, and we're waiting to hear from both. Jack offered suggestions for faculty for next year in L.A. If the course gets funded, AGLP will provide housing/transportation for faculty.

The Council then broke for lunch.

C. Caucus of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Psychiatrists and Committee on Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Issues reports were then made by Drs. Margery Sved and Howard Rubin:

Margie reported on several issues: AGLP member Jim Krajewski, M.D. is among those applying to be Psychiatric News editor, and calls to members of the selection committee would be appreciated. The APA Strategic Planning Committee has made its report, and invites comments from AGLP. Margie expressed disappointment at the low number of women present at this meeting, and was informed of many female Council members who were unable to attend.

Howard noted that three informational reports are being worked on for APA:

1. Reparative Therapy -- What it is, why we feel its practice is unethical; includes reports from Amer Psychol Assoc, Assoc of SW's.
2. Same-Sex Marriage -- Explains why this is a mental health issue, in terms of promoting healthy families, reducing legal and other external stressors imposed on gay families.
3. GID -- Recommends: a. task force be formed using existing components, b. documentation of possible misuses of this dx be gathered and sent to APA ethics committee, c. clear distinction should be made between GID and homosexuality in DSM, d. GID of childhood and adulthood should be clearly separated in DSM.

Report acknowledges CGLBP are not experts on this issue, that's why the task force is needed.

Howard also reported that a workshop on "new issues" in LGB treatment will be presented by the Committee, and the Committee also wants to do a symposium in honor of the 25th anniversary of the removal of homosexuality from the DSM. It may, however, be too late to get the symposium in this May's program.

Howard noted the Committee had discussed Herb Sacks' upcoming trip and presentation to psychiatrists in China. In China, the DSM and ICD are not used, and they consider homosexuality a mental illness. The Committee is exploring whether this issue could be raised during Sacks' trip.

D. AGLP Board reports:

1. Dan Hicks, President:

Dan reported he was able to meet early with APA's new Medical Director, Dr. Mirin, who seemed responsive to our issues. He made Dr. Mirin aware of the reparative therapy issue. Dan also raised the issue of APA staffers getting domestic partner benefits. Dr. Mirin asked for more background information on this, especially on costs.

Dan also raised the issue of expediting an amicus brief for a pertinent case and getting funds together -- this recently was a problem for a psychiatrist working in the S. Bottoms case.

Philip Bialer, Vice President made his presentation earlier. Mary Barber, Secretary, had no news to report.

2. Jim Slayton, Treasurer:

The treasurer's report was submitted and accepted by the Council. Jim noted that the majority of AGLP revenue comes from membership dues (72%) and fund-raising (17%). Currently, the med student travel fund is in the red, and contributions would be welcomed.

There is also over \$10,000 in outstanding dues. Ways of getting members whose dues are overdue to send in dues were discussed. It was mentioned that GLMA has circulated lists of people at board meetings and had board members call those they knew. David said that the AGLP Membership Committee has done that sort of thing and it hasn't been fruitful. It was also suggested that we need to look at people who drop out of AGLP, and why. Some people may not realize that even if not in APA, one can join AGLP as associate member.

Jim suggested that AGLP needs a fund-raising plan for the future. Council wondered should dues be raised; this was last done 2 years ago. After discussion it was decided that another dues increase could be counterproductive because of resulting dropouts. GLMA has gone to 2/3 funding from other revenue sources (such as pharmaceutical grants) and 1/3 membership dues. Drug funding issue for AGLP was revisited. Jim would like names and numbers of contacts to explore this.

Dan asked that sponsoring memberships and patrons be published in the *Newsletter*, also student travel fund donors. Steve suggested charging membership to Saturday conference for non-members; however, not many non-members go, also it would be hard to tell who is a member. Roy suggested instead that the Membership Committee needs a booth at the Saturday conference to encourage membership signups.

3. Guy Glass, *Newsletter* Editor:

Guy reminded everyone of the following deadlines: For inclusion in the November issue, deadline is 9-30-97. For inclusion in the January issue, deadline is 11-30-97.

Dec and Feb newsletters were changed to Nov and Jan because of the APA election schedule change.

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4. Jack Drescher, Journal Editor:

Jack reported that they were constituting the editorial board, which will be interdisciplinary, with clinical and nonclinical members. The Journal will include intersex/transgender issues as well as GLB issues. Haworth will do publicity to APA members for the Journal. He reminded all present that when people are asked to participate as AGLP speakers, they should be encouraged to think of turning their presentations into papers for the Journal.

Jack also suggested that a writers workshops could be done on the AGLP schedule to encourage young members to write down their ideas.

5. Roy Harker, National Office Director:

Roy announced that the National Office address will change in July 1998. Council members congratulated Roy on the purchase of his new home.

E. AGLP Committee reports:

Women - no representative was present. Dan stressed that members who can't make a meeting should send a representative, or give report to someone who will attend the meeting.

Med Students: Dennis Lin -- Dennis has sent e-mails throughout AMSA's LGBTPM list to inform people about AGLP; he asked for applications and brochures for the AMSA convention.

Jim suggested that med student members could talk up meetings and AGLP talks to other students, and could look into cheaper local places to stay for conventions.

Residents: Petros Levounis -- Petros noted from the treasurer's report that there are 95 resident members. He expressed surprise at how few show at meetings. Barriers to attendance were discussed by Council, including lack of ability to take time off, and no funding given by residency programs. Jack reminded Petros that there is a residents column in Psychiatric News, and they are always looking for articles. An article on AGLP could provide needed publicity. The APA MIT Trustee is in charge of the column and would be the person to contact. AGLP also has a web site, and David suggested we put the address in the running ad for AGLP appearing in Psychiatric News. The Council suggested that the APA residents newsletter could use an article about AGLP as well. Kenn pointed out that the APA newsletter would not reach non-APA members. To access non-APA members, the Residents Committee could write a welcoming letter to training directors and chief residents at programs around the country.

Early Career Psychiatrists - Dr. Laura Perri will be a rep, but was unable to attend. Rick Imiowicz will also be a rep.

Minority Members -- no reps were present.

Psychoanalysis -- Jack Drescher reported that he is hearing that American analysts are trying to bring gay-friendliness to Europe, and lots of movement is occurring despite some resistance.

Child -- no reps present

HIV-affected members-- Petros, representing Dr. John O'Donnell, reported no news.

Membership -- no reps present.

Dan again reminded everyone, if you can't come to the meeting, you need to send an alternate!

F. Active AGLP issues

1. Reparative Therapy, Jack Drescher:

Jack passed out the recent statement written by the Amer Psychological Assoc. As compromise between members with disparate views, an "informed consent" clause was put in. That is, rather than an outright condemnation of reparative therapy, the

statement asserts that reparative therapy should only be done with the patient's informed consent.

Jack has written an ethical position paper on reparative therapy. He recommends that APA begin studying the issue, perhaps via the psychotherapy research committee, or in a special task force with members from various committees. APA would have to decide whether to make a compromise statement such as American Psychological's, or whether to consider outright condemnation of reparative therapy. Jack stressed the need for local activity; for example, if NY DB writes a position paper, other local branches could sign on. Then there would be more momentum for national action.

The Council brought up the need to know how many gay members are in the APA Assembly, so that we can begin getting support for an APA Reparative Tx Statement.

It was pointed out that neither AGLP nor GLMA has made an official statement about reparative tx. Many (especially straight) people are under the false assumption that this is a resolved issue, that research has already debunked it as a legitimate treatment, and that it is no longer practiced. Dan said that AGLP usually doesn't publish statements, but would consider doing so if the Council wanted that and thought it would be helpful. An AGLP task force could be assembled to do that -- Dan called for interested members.

Council members said we need to get the word out about the Amer Psych Assoc statement in order to push forward an Amer Psych Assoc statement. Someone could write a Psychiatric News article, for example.

2. G/L Parenting, John Gosling:

John reported that the GL Bar Association has asked for people who could be expert witnesses for parenting cases, and he has been gathering data about gay parents and their ability to parent, to be used as training material so that AGLP members could become expert witnesses. Sources mentioned by John and other Council members include Dr. Diana Miller, April Martin, Margery Sved, and Martha Kirkpatrick, all of whom are researchers on this topic and/or have compiled bibliographies. He has also pulled some references from the Internet.

Another related topic is how to work in psychiatric practice with LGB parents -- what their specific issues are. The dp/marriage issue is part of this too, and the Council will await being able to see the informational paper done by CLGBP. It is not yet official APA material, and is thus not available to be read and disseminated.

3. Web Site, Roy Harker:

Roy reported that the site is not interactive yet, but will be soon. As it is now, surfers can print out a membership form from the site and mail it in.

4. Educational Issues

Council brought up ongoing issues of resident isolation and lack of teaching about LGB issues. Jim asked whether there has been training on this at training director meeting, members thought there had but it had not been well attended. Kenn suggested that if questions about LGB treatment were put on the PRITE, programs would be forced to teach about the issues. Jim wanted to know about getting more IMG's involved in AGLP. Dr. Ubaldo Leli was interested in this in the past, but no one has taken the lead this year.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Barber, M.D.

Secretary, AGLP

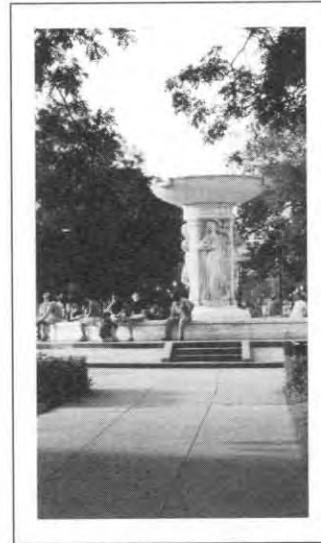


SNAPSHOTS

from the
Washington Business
Meeting



Drs. Rick Imirowicz, Phil Bialer and John O'Donnell enjoy themselves at Dan Hicks' dinner party



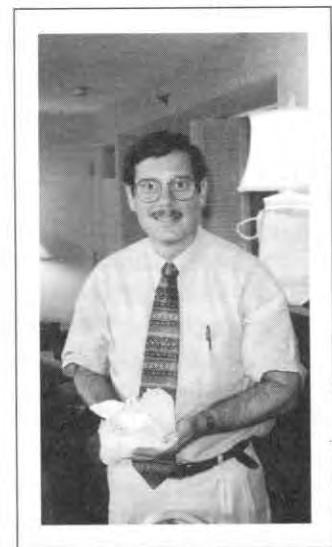
Dupont Circle is the center of gay and lesbian life in Washington, D.C.



Dennis Lin, our Med Student Rep, is pictured here with Dr. Howard Rubin



Our new Secretary is Mary Barber, M.D.



David Scasta, M.D. received a well-deserved honor for his years of service to AGLP

ANNOUNCEMENTS . . .

Gene Nakajima, M.D. notifies us that the abstract deadline for the next World Congress of Psychiatry, to be held in Hamburg, Germany in August 1999, is March 1, 1998. He is hoping to submit several symposia and workshops, and urges AGLP members to contribute. Members of the Bundes Arbeits Gemeinschaft Schwule in Gesundheitswesen (BASG), the German gay healthcare group, will be coordinating local activities. Social meetings, and perhaps a trip to Berlin following the conference are being organized. Please contact Gene for information at 1740 Butler Ave., #301, Los Angeles, CA 90025, phone (310) 312-0120, fax (310) 268-7811, e-mail GNakajim@medicine.medsch.ucla.edu. For more information about the conference and to get a brochure, please contact XI World Congress of Psychiatry; CPO Hanser Service; office Hamburg; Postfach 1221; D-22882 Barsbuettel Germany. phone 49-49-670-882-0, fax 49-40 670-3283, e-mail cpo@wpo-hamburg.de, <http://www.wpa-hamburg.de>

Academic HIV psychiatrist position available at the University of Toronto. Both established investigators and fellows with academic potential will be considered. This is open to both Canadian and non-Canadian investigators. Please contact Mark Halman, M.D. FRCP(C), Director, HIV Psychiatry Program, The Wellesley Hospital, Jones Building 334, 160 Wellesley Street East, Toronto, Ontario M4Y 1J3, Canada. phone (416) 926-7605, fax (416) 926-4999.

The 23rd Annual Association for Women in Psychology Conference is to be held at the Baltimore Hilton and Towers from March 5-8, 1998, and is sponsored by the University of Baltimore. For information about the conference, contact Lynn H. Collins, Division of Applied Psychology and Quantitative Methods, University of Baltimore, 1420 North Charles St., Baltimore, MD, 21201. phone (410) 837-5283, e-mail Lcollins@ubmail.ubalt.edu

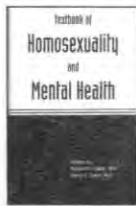
The Department of Psychiatry of the School of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco seeks four psychiatrists to serve as clinician-teachers at San Francisco General Hospital. The positions are at the Clinical Instructor or Assistant Clinical Professor level and are available on July 1, 1998. The positions include Unit Chief Attending Psychiatrist in the HIV and Gay/Lesbian Issues Inpatient Unit, Medical Director of the Multi-diagnosis Detox Unit, Medical Director of the Psych-social Medicine Clinic, and Attending Psychiatrist to provide rotational coverage for inpatient units and other services. Candidates must be board-certified or eligible and have California license. Applications must be received by January 20, 1998. Please send letter of interest specifying which position(s) you are interested in, CV, and names, addresses and telephone numbers of three references to Mark Leary, M.D., Search Committee Chair, c/o Susan Brekhus, Dept. of Psychiatry - Room 7M36, San Francisco General Hospital, 1001 Potrero Avenue, S.F., CA 94110.

The University of Arizona Extended University in cooperation with the University of Arizona Department of Communication present a conference on Successful Relating in Couples, in Families, between Friends and at Work, in Tucson, March 18-21, 1998. One of the areas that is not currently well represented in the conference is the gay/lesbian relationship and/or issues concerning sexual orientation in work/friends/family. If you are interested in putting together a dialog panel or workshop for the conference, or in attending, contact Successful Relating 98 Conference, Department of Communication, The University of Arizona, P.O. Box 210025, Tucson, AZ 85721-0025, phone (520) 621-7080, fax (520) 621-5504, e-mail relating98@arizona.edu, webpage=relating98.arizona.edu

**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; multicultural identities and communities; professional education; and medical care. A variety of special issues, such as sexuality, substance abuse, violence, suicide, and HIV/AIDS are discussed. Also included are several unique chapters that cover material not readily available elsewhere, among them transsexuals, 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

The Bear Book

Edited by Les Wright, PhD
Haworth Press



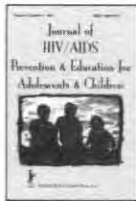
The Bear Book brings together an impressive range of bear viewpoints to explore this unique social and cultural phenomenon. On the personal level, you learn what beardom means to different people in their daily lives, and on a broader level, its cultural implications for not only the gay community, but also society as a whole. The Bear Book is the first compilation of sociological and cultural analytical investigations of the contemporary gay bear phenomenon.

AGLPB0016-1997/284 pages/ISBN 0-7890-0091-1/hardcover/\$39.95

AGLPB0016-S-1997/284 pages/ISBN 1-56023-890-9-X/softcover/\$24.95

Violence in Gay and Lesbian Domestic Partnerships

Edited by Claire M. Renzetti and Charles Harvey Miley
Haworth Press



Violence in Gay and Lesbian Domestic Partnerships provides a thorough look at same-sex domestic violence, addressing the major theoretical and treatment issues for both its victims and perpetrators. Its contents raise awareness among readers of the problem of same-sex domestic violence and emphasize the need for special services for both victims and perpetrators.

AGLPB0017-S-1996/121 pages/ISBN 1-56023-074-4/softcover/\$12.95

Two Spirit People AMERICAN INDIAN LESBIAN WOMEN AND GAY MEN

Edited by Lester B. Brown, PhD
Haworth Press

Two Spirit People is the first-ever look at social science research exploration into the lives of American Indian lesbian women and gay men. The Editor brings together chapters that emphasize American Indian spirituality, present new perspectives, and provide readers with a beginning understanding of the place of lesbian, gay, and bisexual Indians within American Indian culture.

AGLPB0015-1997/116 pages/ISBN 1-56023-089-4/softcover/\$12.95

Journal of HIV/AIDS Prevention & Education for Adolescents & Children VOLUME 1, NUMBER 1

Edited by Julio Morales, PhD and Marcia Bok, PhD
Haworth Press

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Journal of Gay and Lesbian Psychotherapy

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 3 1995

David Scasta, M.D., Editor

The Haworth Medical Press

The Journal of Gay and Lesbian Psychotherapy is the official journal of the Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists (AGLP). Offered free of charge to Full and Associate members of the AGLP, the Journal is available in limited quantities to the general public. It is offered in direct opposition to Joseph's Nicolosi's book, Reparative Therapy of Male Homosexuality, whose underlying assumption that homosexuality is something to be cured or "repaired" was found repugnant by the Psychotherapy Book Club.

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Book Review
 Continued from previous page

comes should not be assumed on the basis of a mother's sexual orientation." (p.155) For most people, rather than struggling through the detail of this book, I recommend reading the excellent review, "Lesbians as Parents," by Martha Kirkpatrick in the *Textbook of Homosexuality and Mental Health* (2), and then the first and last chapters of this book, the Introduction and Conclusions (pages 1-14, 145-156). This book, by following the children of lesbian mothers into adulthood, adds much important information to the literature currently available about lesbian mother families.

Footnotes:

(1) Golombok, S., Spencer, A & Rutter, M, "Children in lesbian and single-parent households: Psychosexual and psychiatric appraisal," *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, 24: 551-572, 1983

(2) Kirkpatrick, Martha, "Lesbians as Parents," in *Textbook of Homosexuality and Mental Health*, Cabaj, RP and Stein, TS, editors, American Psychiatric Press, Inc., Washington, DC, 1996.

Margie Sved, M.D. is a past president of the Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists, and currently serves as an Assembly Delegate for the Caucus of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Psychiatrists.