New Psychiatric Text by Marmor to be Published—
Homosexual Behavior: A Modern Reappraisal

Dr. Judd Marmor, Franz Alexander Professor of Psychiatry at USC and past president of the APA, has edited and co-authored a new psychiatric text, HOMOSEXUAL BEHAVIOR -- a modern reappraisal (Basic Books, New York, 1/80). Although advance copies have not yet been made available, the publishers have stated that "Dr. Marmor and a group of renowned authorities discuss the advances that have sharpened significantly our understanding of homosexual behavior. Drawing on a broad range of biological and social sciences -- among them history, comparative zoology, genetics, endocrinology, anthropology, law, sociology, psychology, and psychiatry -- they examine such critical issues as the relationship between childhood sexual identity and adult sexual partner preference, the stigma of being labeled homosexual, homosexuality and aging, hormones and their relationship to homosexuality, genetics in homosexual etiology, the emerging gay culture, how and when homosexuals should be 'treated,' and the insights offered by anthropological and cross-cultural approaches. Throughout, it is clear that no unitary cause can explain homosexual object-choice."

"When Sexual Inversion: The Multiple Roots of Homosexuality, edited by Dr. Marmor, was published in 1965, it was widely acclaimed as a landmark in the development of a new appraisal of the homosexual experience. Breaking sharply with classical psychoanalytic views of homosexuality, as well as with many traditional prejudices and stereotypes, the book pioneered in bringing both new theoretical understanding and widespread changes in clinical practice with homosexuals."

Continued on page 8

APA OFFICERS PROTEST DETENTION OF GAY ALIENS BY INS

Strong statements of support for gay civil rights were recently issued by several high-ranking APA officers, in the aftermath of US Immigration and Naturalization Service efforts to detain gay aliens (See GCMAPA Newsletter, Vol. V, 1). "In my opinion," APA President-Elect Donald G. Langsley asserted, "there is no psychiatric justification for such a policy. The official position of the APA since December 15, 1973 has been that homosexuality is not a mental disorder and that homosexuals should not be denied full civil..."

Continued on page 8
On December 15, 1973, despite the impassioned arguments by Drs. Socarides, Bieber, and McDevitt of the ultraconservative psychoanalytic establishment, the Board of Trustees of the APA voted to pass the resolution quoted on the cover of this publication; 13 yes, 2 abstentions, and 2 absent. A subsequent referendum to the membership, initiated by opponents of the resolution, upheld the action of the Board in adopting the resolution.

Since the time of this ethical and politically correct act, the governing hierarchy of the APA has been resolute only in avoiding its obvious responsibility to implement the resolution. It has not launched a public education campaign, it has not offered official buttressing of the position stated in the media, it has not addressed the issue of legislation which incorporated the outmoded view of homosexuality as disease; it did not even within its own organization make any attempt to implement the unassailably just statements made in the resolution. Certain individual members of the APA did make efforts to do so, notably Dr. Kent Robinson, Dr. John Spiegel, and Dr. Judd Marmor. But the organization -- no.

No effort was made to nurture and encourage the timorous Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Caucus when it made its appearance in 1974. As long as it was all but invisible, made no demands, and was a small group comprised mostly of residents, it could in fact be ignored. However, in 1978, when the group had grown and included members who were fully professionally established, when it unashamedly announced its meetings in the official program, when it announced its events in large posters, when its members met in large numbers at wonderfully visible cocktail parties, it could no longer be ignored.

Official objection to the name, used for 5 years, was registered in 1979, because it "implied an official connection with the APA." As I responded to that objection, if the APA really means what was said in the 1973 resolution, it should be proud to have an official connection with the Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Caucus of the APA. However, it was not proud; it was insistent and brought sufficient pressure to bear that the membership of the Caucus voted to "put the 'M' in your name," which so delighted Dr. Stone. Evasiveness and contradictory statements by APA staff created obstacles apparently intended to prevent a Gay Caucus exhibit at the 1979 meeting. The Task Force on Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Issues, created in 1978 by the Council on National Affairs, the members of which were unanimously supportive, is now crippled in its plan to perform a simple, demographic survey of the APA membership, blocked by the demands of the Council on Research and Development that the Task Force submit "its scientific purpose or aims; its methodology; plans for administration; financing; data collection, and analysis as well as any plans for publication dissemination." All of that for a questionnaire which will give gay members of the APA the opportunity to substantiate their existence!

And now, after the 10th anniversary of Stonewall, and the approaching 10th anniversary in San Francisco of the first gay activist zap of an APA convention, Dr. Beigel, APA Program Chairman, has decided that it is not possible to plan a special lecture related to the President's theme for the meeting, "To Love and To Work," which specifically relates to our particular variety of love. At the 1979 meeting in Chicago there were thirty special lectures, nine of which specifically related to the President's theme of "The Scientific and Humanistic Future of Psychiatry." Does it not seem reasonable in view of the quoted resolution, that at least one special lecture would deal with homosexual love? Dave Kessler, our program chairman, proposed such a lecture to Dr. Beigel weeks ago, and was told that such lectures were planned several years in advance, and besides, the person who had agreed to present such a lecture "had given one last year." Can we be expected to believe that this is the real reason?

At a time when a specifically anti-Gay bill is being presented to Congress, when a rich, fundamentalist church-supported organization is calling for a million
To the Editor:

I received Volume 5, #1 of the Newsletter of the GCMAAPA. I am delighted that you put the "M" in your name, but I was disappointed at the unnecessary antagonism and the misleading nature of the headline "Psychoanalytic Statute Prevents Legal Entry of Gay Aliens."

As someone who has taught law, psychoanalysis and psychiatry for ten years, I can assure you that there are no "psychoanalytic statutes," nor does anything in the story indicate that the statute is "psychoanalytic." Nor, for that matter, does the Immigration Authority or Justice Department consider it "psychoanalytic." The exclusion of homosexuals is based on the antipathy of Congress, and not on their advocacy of psychoanalytic concepts. I must say that this kind of headline only antagonizes me.

Sincerely yours,

Alan A. Stone, M.D.

(Dr. Stone, President of the American Psychiatric Association, originally wrote this letter as a personal communication to Dr. David Kessler, his former classmate at Yale Medical School. He has agreed to share it with our readers.)

Editor Replies:

In 1950, the DSM recognized "psychopathic personality" as a broad category of mental disorders. This category included "homosexuality." Although the DSM has since been revised, the recent INS detention of gay aliens was based on the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952, which accurately characterized and reflected psychiatric thinking about homosexuality at that time.

Since then, outspoken opponents of the subsequent DSM changes have continued to provide psychiatric "expert testimony" whenever such legislation has been medico-legally challenged, thus impeding judicial review. In addition, recent and major psychoanalytic publications continue to represent the ongoing psychoanalytic viewpoint that homosexuality is, universally, a form of psychopathology. While this viewpoint may not be universally espoused among psychoanalysts, it nevertheless continues to exert a powerful influence on those who would continue to regard, and to deal with, homosexuals as "psychopathic personalities."

—Lawrence Mass

President Replies:

It may be true that the "exclusion of homosexuals is based upon the antipathy of Congress," but the reason for exclusion of homosexuals; i.e., that it is a sickness included under the category of "psychopathic personality," is clearly an expression of the powerful social influence of psychoanalytic theory and its manifestation in public policy.

It is a very narrow and naive view indeed which does not recognize the extraordinary influence psychoanalytic theory, and its translation into the official APA DSM, has had upon our society, and the harm which has been done to homosexuals in that process. So long as those in power in the APA hold to such a view, the APA will fail in its responsibility to take the initiative in repairing the damage done by past errors.

—Frank Rundle

The leadership of the APA has a clear responsibility to take affirmative action to correct the mistakes the organization has made concerning homosexuality. It owes it to its gay membership -- US -- to support and encourage us in our effort to establish ourselves as a visible group, with pride and dignity. It owes it to the public, which has been sold a bill of goods. It owes it to the millions of gay children to prevent their growing up with the weight of the oppression of a sick label crushing them. It owes it to justice, to science, and to the "Scientific and Humanistic Future of Psychiatry."

—Frank Rundle

anti-gay people to march in Washington next April, when certain fundamentalist ministers openly call for the execution of gays, when the admitted murderer of George Moscone and Harvey Milk, with the assistance of the expert testimony of five psychiatrists, is given tacit approval for his act, when gay men are still entrapped and imprisoned, when Anita Bryant succeeds in reversing the official establishment of equal civil rights for gays, when fanatic Dr. Socrarides testifies in court proceedings that lead to the denial of civil rights of gays, WHERE IS THE APA? IT IS IN THE CLOSET.
MASTERS AND JOHNSON ANSWER CRITICS

Masters and Johnson have been widely criticized for conceptual confusion in their new study Homosexuality In Perspective (Little, Brown & Co., 1979). The following is excerpted from an interview with Masters and Johnson, which appeared in PLAYBOY (October, 1979. "a candid conversation about the newest findings in sex research--and what heterosexuals can learn from homosexuals about lovemaking.")

PLAYBOY: Why are some members of the homosexual community so critical of your study?

JOHNSON: Because the press plucked out only one aspect of our therapy program—the clinical work that dealt with homosexuals who were dissatisfied with being homosexuals and who are motivated to ask for conversion or reversion to heterosexuality—and played it up on the front pages: "Startling results—Masters and Johnson claim amazing success in converting gays to heterosexuality."

I dread the moment when people who are determined to rid the world of anyone who does not conform to their idea of "normal" decide to use this to demand programs of conversion. Among other things, the news media ignored the equally important clinical help that is offered to homosexuals who are dysfunctional in their homosexual relationships and wish therapeutic assistance.

PLAYBOY: But that's the point that some gay critics have made. On one hand, you seem to be offering hope of some kind of "cure" for an abnormal condition, and on the other, you seem to be saying that homosexuality is OK and you offer help in making them become better homosexuals. What is your position?

JOHNSON: Would the critics have us impose the terms under which a person can or cannot obtain help for sexual distress? We are not in the business of determining what is right or wrong in matters of individual choice. Incidentally, it's hardly news that there are homosexuals who do not want to be homosexual, as well as those who are happy with their preference and just want health care assistance that is available, presumably, to everyone. The focus of our clinical work is the same for everyone: the functional well-being of the person, in terms of his or her chosen environment.

PLAYBOY: But haven't you, intentionally or not, given a lot of people the impression that you can cure homosexuality?

MASTERS: We have never treated homosexuality as a disease or defined it to a patient as a handicap. ... Some people insist that homosexual orientation is the result of having a dominant mother or is learned from one's peers in school. I tried to present a selection of case histories in the book that would cast doubt on the notion that preference is genetically determined or that it is the result of any one type of experience or any one influence.

NEWSLETTER OF THE GAY CAUCUS
of Members of the American Psychiatric Association

Editor....................Lawrence Mass, M.D.
Production..................Richard Hannemann

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COMING OUT FOR GAY RIGHTS: Sigmund Freud

These documents establish Freud as a lifelong advocate of gay rights. They should be read and quoted along with his now famous "Letter to an American Mother" of 1935.

1903

Prof. Dr. Freud, whom we visited yesterday afternoon, made approximately the following statement: I cannot comment upon the affair of Prof. Beer in any detail, because I must rely entirely upon newspaper reports and cannot judge whether the statements of the two boys or of the defense attorney is correct. Like many scholars, I advocate the standpoint that the homosexual does not belong before the tribunal of a court of law. I am even of the firm conviction that homosexuals must not be treated as sick people, for a perverse orientation is far from being a sickness. Wouldn't that oblige us to characterize as sick many great thinkers and scholars of all times, whose perverse orientation we know for a fact and whom we admire precisely because of their mental health? Homosexual persons are not sick, but they also do not belong in a court of law! Both here in Austria and to a far greater extent in Germany, a powerful movement is in full swing to eliminate the paragraph of the lawbook which is directed against perverse people. Distinguished scholars have affiliated with the movement, and it will draw in ever larger circles until it moves to final victory. But it's a different matter in a case like that of Prof. Beer, assuming that he is guilty as charged. The defendant in this case molested children under the age of fourteen, and such a person must be convicted by the courts. Conviction would occur on the same grounds if a girl under fourteen had been sexually abused, and the prosecution would bring charges of rape, seduction, or violation. A conviction of two adult persons because of homosexual intercourse is deplorable; a man guilty of abusing boys who have not yet reached the age of consent should be convicted. This is my opinion, and it is probably shared by a large number of my colleagues.

Die Zeit (The Times) (Vienna), Friday, 27 October 1903, p.5.

1921-22

On 1 December 1921, Ernest Jones wrote the following letter to Freud from London:

The Dutch asked me some time ago about the propriety of accepting as a member (in the Psychoanalytic Association) a doctor known to be manifestly homosexual. I advised against it, and now I hear from Van Emden that the man has been convicted and sentenced. Do you think this would be a safe general maxim to act on? On the other hand, there were quite a number of letters expressing concern about Vandenveen's case.

Van Emden and Vandenveen were well-known Dutch psychoanalysts at the time.

A circular letter from Sigmund Freud and Otto Rank in Vienna, dated 11 December, 1921, replied:

Your query dear Ernest concerning prospective membership of homosexuals has been considered by us and we disagree with you. In effect, we cannot exclude such persons without other sufficient reasons, as we cannot agree with their legal prosecution. We feel that a decision in such cases should depend upon a thorough examination of the other qualities of the candidate.

A month later, a circular letter from Abraham Sachs-Eliington in Berlin, reported:

We have not yet decided about the question of admitting homosexual analysts to our Society, but we have had some thoughts on this matter. First of all, we are against any insult or humilication against anyone. We have had the experience that homosexuals with an overt behaviour pattern can travel only part of the way with us. Since homosexuality appears in many forms as a part of a neurosis we believe that it should be analyzed. Our sad experiences here are Hirschfeld and Bluhm. You cannot imagine what the last one has done towards a misunderstanding of psychanalysis. Every possibility to re-analyze these persons stops at their homosexuality. We agree that we only should accept homosexuals into our membership when they have other qualities in their favour. (Dated 22 January, 1922, ed.)

Freud-Rank replied on 22 January:

We recognize the arguments against the analytic participation of homosexuals as somewhat of a guideline. But we have to warn against making it into a law considering the various types of homosexuality and the different mechanisms of their cause.

1928

"I have always championed the view that Dr. Magnus Hirschfeld's lifelong struggle against the cruel and unjustified interference of legislation in human sexual life deserves universal recognition and support."


The following is a translation of the "Appeal to the Penal Justice Commission Concerning the Repeal of the Law on Homosexuality" that first appeared in the Wiener Arbeiterzeitung on 16 May 1930

1930

One of the most welcome cultural advances now taking place is the bilateral standardization of a reformed penal code in Austria and Germany. It is all the more regrettable, therefore, that this standardization cannot be carried out fully due to the (bilateral commission's) failure to reach agreement on several points.

It is most deplorable that a difference of opinion has arisen concerning the penalization of homosexual relations between consenting adult males. The German penal committee took a stand in favour of repeal (in 1929), but the Austrian committee has now taken the contrary standpoint. A straw vote taken at the most recent conference of the bilateral penal code commission resulted in a vote of 25 to 23, manifesting a strong tendency in favour of repeal. This is an issue which should be dealt with in a different fashion, and it is regrettable that the German commission members were free to vote without being bound to the positions of their respective political parties.

We, the undersigned, direct an urgent appeal to the members of the bilateral commission and to the (Austrian) National Council: for reasons of humanity, justice, and reason, the German standpoint should be adopted.

Homosexuality has been present throughout history and among all peoples. According to scrupulous statistical surveys, as many as ten thousand homosexual men may live in Austria. Their sexual orientation is just as inherent to them as is that of heterosexuals. The state has no valid interest in attempting to motivate heterosexual intercourse or marriage on the part of homosexuals, for this would perforce lead to such perverted living habits. It is quite likely that homosexuality would reappear in one of the ensuing generations. Homosexual intercourse is correspondingly exempt from legal sanction in a number of European countries — France, Italy, Belgium, Spain, Portugal, Romania, the French and Italian cantons of Switzerland — as well as in Brazil, Japan, Turkey, and Russia.

This law represents an extreme violation of human rights, because it denies homosexuals their very sexuality even though the interest of third parties are not encroached upon. The most terrible consequence is blackmail, which the police officially expect as a matter of course and which drives many homosexuals to suicide. Penalization thereby directly aids and abets the felony of blackmail.

A second, extremely grievous consequence lies in the fact that homosexuals who could play a constructive role in society are often rendered antisocial by being stigmatized as criminals, although to their own way of thinking they are entirely, innocent. Sly, devious homosexuals know how to escape conflict with the law, whereas honest and decent homosexuals must navigate a lifelong course among the shoals of state legal sanction, blackmail, neurosis or psychosis, and despair. Without the least personal guilt, homosexuals are drowning in lies.

Homosexuals have the same civil duties to fulfill as everyone else. In the name of justice, we demand that legislators grant them the same civil rights by repealing the law in question. If homosexuals are guaranteed a life of human dignity, they will reciprocate by leading responsible and dignified lives.
"Court Testimony" is Among Proposed Discussion Topics for '80 Convention

A panel discussion of the issues and controversies surrounding psychiatric "expert testimony" in court cases involving "homosexuality" has been proposed for scheduling at the 1980 APA convention in San Francisco. "Ethical Issues in Psychiatric Evaluation, Certification, and Court Testimony Involving Homosexuality" will focus on the Gish, Immigration and Missouri Gay Student Union cases, to be presented by Drs. Richard C. Pillard and James C. Krameski. These discussions will be part of Panel I, "Homosexuality and the DSM-III: Where Do We Go Now?" The co-chairpersons are Drs. David R. Kessler and Nanette K. Gartrell.

At this panel, presentations will also be made by Drs. Richard Green ("Is There Scientific Justification for the Diagnosis of 'Ego-Dystonic Homosexuality'?"), David Kessler ("What Can The Healthy Homosexual Teach Us"?), and Norman J. Levy ("Relationship Styles of Middle-Aged Male Homosexuals: Guidelines for Therapy"). Two additional panels are tentatively scheduled. "Fear of Homosexuality" Origins, Effects and Cures will be co-chaired by Drs. Jaina Perry and Emery Hetrick. Subjects here include "Fear of Homosexuality: An Historical Survey of Church, State and Psychiatry" (Dr. James P. Lowry), "The Rhetoric of Homophobia" (A. Damien Martin, Ed. D.), "Current Psychiatric Attitudes Towards Homosexuality" (Dr. Charles Hitchcock), "Origins and Consequences of Homophobia in Gays and Non-Gays" (Dr. David Kessler), and "Treating Gay Self-Hate" (Dr. Jaime Smith).

Panel II, "Gay Psychiatrists Come Out: Clinical and Personal Issues", will be co-chaired by Drs. Jean Munzer and Stuart E. Nichols, Jr. Presenters will include Drs. James Paulsen, David Kessler, James Krameski and Nanette Gartrell.

ANTIGAY LAW INTRODUCED IN CONGRESS

U.S. Representative Larry McDonald (D-Georgia) has introduced into the House of Representatives a measure that would put Congress on record as opposing gay rights. McDonald is supported by Christian Voice, a fundamentalist religious group with a mailing list reputed to top 100,000. McDonald's move is designed to counter growing support for a federal gay civil rights bill, H.R. 2074, which now has 46 cosponsors.

The Antigay Bill

Whereas homosexual individuals have over the last several years pressed their conduct and behavior strikingly before the eyes of the public in an attempt to gain legitimacy, acceptance and recognition under law, the need has arisen for this great legal body, the Congress of the United States, to finally address this class and their conduct.

A man's own abomination against God may well be at times a matter solely between his maker and himself in the pursuit of eternal salvation. It also can be stated that no man should ever hold malice towards another.

Nevertheless, it is unequivocally clear that consensual sodomy and other homosexual acts should never be accepted as legitimate in this Republic, nor should the class of individuals who advocate such conduct gain special consideration or protected status under law.

The idealism of this Republic that is embodied in its codes, protected under its laws, emulated by its institutions would be clearly debased by the acceptance of such action.

The time has come, America, to turn our hearts back to God and away from the secular humanism that has led us to this day in our history. Let us have this turning finally take place with this issue and let it begin here and now.

Be it, therefore, resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate Concurring) it is the sense of the Congress of the United States that homosexual acts and the class of individuals who advocate such conduct shall never receive special consideration or a protected status under law.
Psychiatric 'Defence' in the Dan White Trial: Thomas Szasz

Commenting in the New York Times and several other major publications, outspoken critic of American psychiatry, Dr. Thomas Szasz, offered predictably strong opinions about the "expert testimony" in the trial of Dan White, confessed assassin of S.F. Mayor George Moscone and S.F. City Supervisor, Harvey Milk. In a cover story for INQUIRY magazine, "Psychiatry Versus the Gays: How Dan White Got Away With Murder and How American Psychiatry Helped Him Do It" (August, '79), Dr. Szasz likened the trial to the notorious "Dreyfus Affair" at the turn of the century in France. "Dreyfus became the symbol of what happens to an innocent individual when anti-Semitic hatred in the community, unacknowledged but powerful, is allowed to masquerade as justice. White should become a symbol of what happens to a guilty individual when anti-homosexual hatred, unacknowledged but powerful, is allowed to masquerade as justice."

In keeping with the central analogy to Dreyfus, Dr. Szasz’s observations were presented with stylistic panache, as a kind of "J'Accuse!" "As Emile Zola then accused the French generals of having perverted the legal order in 'l'affaire Dreyfus,' so I accuse organized American psychiatry of perverting the legal order in the White affair."

"Long before Dreyfus' days," Dr. Szasz concluded, "the homosexual was already one of psychiatry's favorite scapegoats. American psychiatry's true feeling about homosexuals showed in all its ugliness once more in the trial of Dan White. Let us hope that the White affair will arouse the sense of justice in the gay community and in the hearts of all those who sympathize with such victimization; and that the result will be the long overdue expulsions of the psychiatric liars from the courtroom -- whether they come to pervert justice by imprisoning the innocent or by exculpating the guilty."

Reprints of this article, courtesy of the editors, are available on request by writing to INQUIRY, 1700 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, California 94111.
New Psychiatric Text by Marmor to be Published

Continued from page 1

The publishers conclude that "Attitudes toward homosexuality have undergone a dramatic change in recent years as the homosexual has assumed a new role in society. This comprehensive review of what is presently known about homosexual experience thus fills a real need and is sure to have a major influence on those attitudes in years to come."

That Dr. Marmor's new book "fills a real need" calls attention to the fact that no similar psychiatric text, incorporating recent research findings and changing sociocultural perspectives, is presently available. A psychoanalytic text, Homosexuality (Charles Socarides), was published just last year and may still be available as publishers' overstock in some of the larger wholesale book stores in some of the larger East Coast cities. But Dr. Socarides' book does not mention, let alone discuss or incorporate, many of the important contemporary findings and perspectives of other academic disciplines. (In other words, the contributions of such researchers as Hooker, Bell, Weinberg, E.O. Wilson, Masters and Johnson, to name only a few, are of negligible relevance). Although Dr. Marmor's previous book, Sexual Inversion, is listed in Socarides' bibliography, Marmor's work is not otherwise mentioned, let alone discussed or incorporated. Rigidity and senescence of perspective, however, may prove less concerning than Homosexuality's empiricism. Results, for example, are accounted for as follows: 1) "A definitive breakdown and analysis of the therapeutic results is currently being written" (p. 406), and 2) "A Ten Year Follow-Up Interview With A Successfully Treated Patient" (p. 497). This is a transcription of a taped interview with one of the "cures".

"Homosexuality has sold poorly," publisher Jason Aronson himself recently suggested, "perhaps corresponding to Socarides' receding influence within Psychiatry, even within Psychoanalysis."

Dr. Marmor's "modern reappraisal" of homosexuality began asserting itself long ago, when such singularity of opinion demanded a singular kind of moral courage. Many are awaiting his new text with an anxious mixture of optimism, appreciation, respect and starvation.

Homosexual Behavior is scheduled for public distribution in January 1980, by Basic Books (10 East 53 Street, New York, NY 10022). The price is $22.50. At present, the publishers do not plan a paperback edition.

APA OFFICERS PROTEST INS ACTION

Continued from page 1

rights. Furthermore, the term "psychopathic personality" was abandoned many years ago as an official diagnostic category. This type of discrimination on the basis of sexual preference is strongly to be deplored as scientifically and socially inappropriate."

David Kessler, President of BAPHR and President-Elect of GCMAPA, acknowledged that he also received valuable consultation and written statements from APA President Alan Stone, Medical Director Melvin Sabshin, former APA presidents Judd Marmor and John Spiegel, APA Legal Counsel Joel Klein, and from officers of the Northern California Psychiatric Association. According to Kessler, Stone and Klein suggested the possibility of designating an "expert witness" who could provide testimony in these cases. On August 2, psychiatrist Julius B. Richmond, Assistant Secretary for Health and Surgeon General, issued a memorandum, officially revising the PHS policy regarding the physical and mental examination of aliens pursuant to Title 8, Section 1224 of the US code. According to this revision, homosexuality per se will no longer be considered a "mental disease or defect."

Unfortunately, the INS controversy is by no means resolved. Commenting on the case for THE ADVOCATE (Oct. 4, '79), attorney Don Knutson observed that although gay aliens will probably be allowed to enter the US without harassment for the time being, "the issue of excludability" will be technically "deferred until Congressional authority has been provided by statute."
CALIFORNIA

C. Harold Wollack, a member of BAPHR, has been voted President-elect of the Santa Clara County Psychiatric Society...David Kessler has been nominated for the office of Vice-President, and Jim Krajewski for Counsel, of the Northern California Psychiatric Society.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Frank Rundle, representing GCMAPA, joined several members of the National Gay Health Coalition (chaired by Dr. Walter Lear) on October 15, in a meeting with Dr. Jewel Janis, Special Assistant to Surgeon General Julius Richmond. Concerns were expressed regarding public health policies and funding, relative to the gay population. Dr. Janis indicated that there were some areas in which the PHS might be approachable: 1) Co-sponsorship of a national conference on gay health issues, and 2) Formation of an advisory group of experts, which would aid in peer review of grant applications. Rundle described Janis' attitude as "cautiously tolerant but pessimistic."

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

GCMAPA secretary, Dr. Emery Hetrick, participated in a special seminar sponsored by the National Association of Gay Alcoholism Professionals. The seminar was designed to provide an introduction to gay/lesbian lifestyles and the use of alcohol in these populations.

NEW YORK

In response to a letter requesting advice about homosexuality, Ann Landers, in her syndicated column, suggested that such requests should be addressed to the APA. Responding to a small avalanche of letters, Dr. Henry Work, Medical Director of the APA, asked Jim Paulsen, Chairperson of the APA Task Force on Gay Lesbian and Bisexual Issues, to review these letters and make recommendations for APA responses.

The Task Force, with the assistance of Gay Psychiatrists of New York (President-Dr. Stuart Nichols), is working on several possible approaches: 1) a specially prepared and officially endorsed APA brochure for persons troubled by their homosexuality, or

RESIDENT'S VIEW

by Dr. Harvey Sokolsky

'Coming Out' in Training

It was really much easier than I had anticipated. Indeed, anticipation and whatever that means in terms of one's own defensive operations against revealing our true selves, is the least of our conflicts over 'coming out.'

I chose the hospital over several others primarily because my acceptance into the program came after forthright discussions of my homosexuality during interviews. It seemed a contradiction to be entering a profession devoted to helping others in their struggles with identity in an environment where I would have to agonize over mine.

During my first year in the program, each staff member struggled with his own conflicts as he struggled to relate to my acknowledged homosexuality. For some, the struggle was harder than for others. I recall attending a party for the first year residents. I was the first to arrive. The host, an attending, was obviously tense and uncomfortable in my presence. He was obviously relieved when others began to arrive.

The tension continued for at least six months. But slowly, he began to relax as he got to know me better. Today, he relates warmly to me, a change that has been most gratifying to observe. This process has been repeated with virtually every staff member, some requiring more time than others.

Overall, 'coming out' has had a positive effect on my work. To have revealed my true self with the respect and acceptance of my colleagues seems to have reversed all sorts of work inhibitions for me. I'm now forming a therapy group for homosexuals, the first in our hospital. My supervisor, in fact the entire staff, has been supportive, even enthusiastic. I've recently been asked to relate my experiences at a forthcoming psychiatric grand rounds.

for their families and friends.. 2) a referral network to specially qualified (and non-homophobic) psychiatrists for those electing therapy and 3) a network of carefully screened (for homophobic biases) psychiatrists who would respond by telephone or letter, to requests for information.
GCMA PA IN MARCH ON WASHINGTON

Caucus members were among the 100,000 men and women who marched together in Washington on October 14 to call for "an end to all social, economic, judicial and legal oppression" of homosexual persons. In all, more than 120 political, religious, ethnic and community associations were represented.

The National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, organized by coalitions from all fifty states, focused on five specific demands: 1) Repeal all anti-lesbian/gay laws; 2) Pass a comprehensive lesbian/gay rights bill in Congress; 3) issue a presidential executive order banning discrimination based on sexual orientation in the Federal Government, the military and federally-contracted private employment; 4) End discrimination in lesbian mother and gay father custody cases; 5) Protect lesbian and gay youth from any laws which are used to discriminate against, oppress and/or harrass them in their homes, schools, jobs or social environments.

At best, the march was characterized by some major news media (The New York Times, NBC-TV) with professional neutrality, albeit as an event of minor public interest and significance, worthy of little advance coverage and virtually no editorial analysis. At less than best, the march was not characterized at all (Time, Newsweek).