# Division 44 Newsletter $\Psi$

Society for the Psychological Study of Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Issues

A Division of the American Psychological Association

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Editor: Douglas Kimmel

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# President's Column: Join the Race By Christopher R. Martell

he weekend prior to writing this article I completed my first half-marathon. It was a goal I set for myself at the encouragement of another Division 44 member, mostly because I just turned 50 about six months ago. When I first started running again, I was barely able to make it a few blocks from my house. I remember the thoughts then: that I'd never make it around the little lake near my home—a run of about three miles. Well, roughly two years later I've run over 13 miles with only a little cramping in the last two. This seems an apt metaphor for the fits and starts of progress in LGBT rights in the United States, and even within APA itself.

In 2006 Washington State's Supreme Court ruled that the State's Defense of Marriage Act was constitutional, and that same-sex couples could legally be denied the right to marriage. In 2007 the Washington State Legislature has just passed a statewide domestic partners bill that guarantees partners in same-sex couples some of the rights afforded married couples. While the rights are limited, it is a hopeful sign. A similar Domestic Partner bill was just signed in Oregon. There now are also legal Civil Union or Domestic Partnerships in Vermont,

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Connecticut, New Jersey, Maine, and marriage rights for same-sex couples in Massachusetts. The State of Arizona rejected an anti-gay Marriage Protection Bill and attempts to prevent samesex couples from being foster parents have been defeated in Arkansas. All of these things have happened in a little over two years following the 2004 Presi-



dential election when gay marriage was used as a lightning rod issue to bring out opponents and divide the electorate. In November 2004 I felt similarly about national politics as I felt about ever succeeding in running around the lake. It seemed that fairness was a nearly unobtainable goal. It now seems more hopeful that we are getting closer to a finish in the race for equality for LGBT individuals and their families. There is undoubtedly pain ahead along the way.

Even within APA, Division 44 and CLGBTC have done remarkable work in educating the membership about research on LGBT issues. Each year submissions for Division 44 programming at the APA convention are increasing in number and quality. There was a time when a review of the literature yielded little but clinical vignettes and anecdotes about the lives of LGBT people. Now, while there is still much work to be done, a search of the literature yields quality research on samesex couples, children of same-sex parents, the impact of stigma and victimization on LGBT people, development of sexual orientation in general, and many other topics. Little by little our issues are considered in mainstream psychological literature and not marginalized and represented only in specialty journals or special issues. Yet, we continually hear about "research" used to promote old stereotypes about LGBT people. In the interest of client choice and equality, some, even within APA, argue that we should "treat" people who do not wish to be LGBT. At the same time that insurance companies refuse to pay for therapy supporting "quality of life" issues such as overcoming obstacles to career goals or coping with a bad marriage, a minority of members of our own profession advocate for treatment of something that has not been considered a

(Continued on page 20)

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The *Division 44 Newsletter* is published three times a year (Spring, Summer, and Fall) by the Society for the Psychological Study of Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Issues (SPSLGBI). It is distributed to the complete membership of Division 44, including more than 1,300 members, associates, students and affiliates. Our membership includes both academics and clinicians, all of whom are connected through a common interest in lesbian, gay, and bisexual issues. Submissions are welcome and are particularly appreciated via e-mail.

**DEADLINES** Feb 15 (Spring), May 15 (Summer), Sept 15 (Fall)

ADVERTISING Full Page: \$300 Quarter Page: \$100 Half Page: \$175 Business Card: \$50

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# **DIVISION 44 LISTSERV**

Free member benefit! Get connected!

Take advantage of receiving information about Division 44 as it happens: an interactive e-mail forum that works for you! To subscribe, please send an e-mail message to *listserv@lists.apa.org*. Write nothing in the subject line, but in the body of the message type "subscribe div44" and your name.

Messages sent to *div44@lists.apa.org* will automatically be sent to everyone on the listserv.

**Questions?** Contact Debra Kaysen, *dkaysen* @*comcast.net*. The listserv is intended for communication among Division 44 members. Be aware that the Division 44 listserv is not monitored. Please use it in the professional and respectful manner for which it is intended.

# Division 44 Invited Address by Robert-Jay Green "Antigay Groups: Using Our Professional Expertise to Counter Their Propaganda"



Antigay groups have slowed progress toward LGBT equal rights through their effective disinformation campaigns and political advocacy activities. Many of their oft-repeated assertions are based on pejorative stereotypes that have been refuted by psychological research. This invited address will profile the rise of these antigay groups over the last 30 years and describe the beginnings of a nationwide effort to confront their false claims as well as to proactively educate the American public about the realities of LGBT life.

Psychologists who are experts on LGBT issues can play a central role in these efforts by: (1) Conveying accurate psychological information about LGBT issues to the news media; (2) Contributing to the development of LGBT-affirmative legislation and providing expert testimony at legislative hearings; (3) Serving as

expert witnesses in court cases that set legal precedents on LGBT issues; and (4) Actively consulting with local community organizations (such as schools, churches, workplaces, healthcare settings) about programs/policies that negatively effect or could improve the well-being of LGBT persons.

Although excellent work is being done in all of these areas by very talented individual psychologists around the country and by the APA Public Interest Directorate, a new national strategy for organizing these efforts and learning from one another—as well as including professionals from other disciplines—is being launched now. This invited address is intended to stimulate your imagination about how you can use your existing expertise about LGBT issues to inform public opinion and policies at the local and national levels.

**Robert-Jay Green, PhD**, is Founder and Executive Director of the Rockway Institute for LGBT Research & Public Policy, and Distinguished Professor in the APA-Accredited Clinical Psychology PhD program at the California School of Professional Psychology, now a part of Alliant International University, San Francisco Campus. Among his many publications are the co-edited books, *Lesbians and Gays in Couples and Families*, and *Family Therapy: Major Contributions*. In 1998, he received the award for "Significant Contributions to the Study of Family Diversity" from APA's Division 43 (Family Psychology). He is a Fellow of APA Divisions 44 and 43.

### Building Bridges, Expanding Knowledge and Awareness: Division 44's Co-Sponsored Programming at Convention

It's not too late to plan to attend the APA Convention in San Francisco from August 17 to 20! As our "centerfold" in this newsletter shows, the Division can be proud of its diverse programming at Convention—including a variety of symposia, roundtables, discussions and posters. As in past years, the Division will also host a wide range of social and networking activities, including the Welcome Party and Student Reception in the suite Friday night and Fundraising Dinner on Saturday night.

Of the many highlights on Division 44's program are the four co-sponsored programs with other Divisions. Our program with Division 19 (Military Psychology) has been selected as a Presidential Program. The symposium, "Sexual Orientation and Military Service: Current Evidence and APA Policy," will be held in room 307 of the Moscone Center from 2:00 to 3:50 P.M. on Friday, August 17. Speakers include Robin Buhrke, Aaron Belkin, Bonnie Moradi, Hong Nguyen, and Sharra Greer. The session will be chaired by Albert Lott and the discussant will be Gregory Herek.

A session, "Masculinity, Homophobia, and Sexism," will be jointly sponsored with Divisions 35 and 51 (Men and Masculinity) and will be held in room 301 of the Moscone Center from 8:00 to 9:50 A.M. on Sunday, August 19. Speakers in this program include Kerry Cronan, Jerel Calzo, Monique Ward, Dana Levin, Andrew Smiler, Neil Korobov, and Christopher Kilmartin. The discussant will be Bonnie Moradi.

Division 44 will co-sponsor a session, "Developing and Implementing GLBT-Affirmative Psychoanalytic Curricula," with Division 39 (Psychoanalysis). The program will take place from 9:00 to 10:50 A.M. in room 2014 of the Moscone Center. Judith Glassgold, Scott Pytluk, Shara Sand, and Dennis Debiak will be presenting in this session.

Along with Division 36 (Psychology of Religion), Division 44 will be sponsoring the symposium, "Psychology's Responses to Antireligious, Religion-Derived, and Religion-Based Discrimination." This program will be held on Monday, August 20, from 11:00 to 12:50 P.M. in room 307 of the Moscone Center. With chair Laura Barbanel and discussant Douglas Haldeman, there will be presentations by William Hathaway, John Gonsiorek, and Linda Garnets.

We hope to see you for these and our other events in San Francisco!

-Julie Konik, Program Chair

### ▼

### From the Newsletter 5, 10, 15, and 20 Years Ago

### Summer 2002

President Sari H. Dworkin discussed the new APA convention format and thanked Randy Georgemiller, Kate Kominars, and Doug Haldeman for arranging the program and Rob Mapou and Armand Cerbone for finding the restaurant for the Division Dinner in Chicago.

Becky J. Liddle, Newsletter Editor, announced the Fall Newsletter theme: "Child molestation and homosexuality," reflecting the mis-information following the cases of priests molesting children in their care.

Henry L. Minton announced his new book, *Departing* from Deviance: A History of Homosexual Rights and Emancipatory Science in America, published by the University of Chicago Press.

The Committee on Bisexual Issues and the Transgender Task Force invited attendance at their discussion hours in the Division suite at the APA convention.

The student representatives, Kimberly Balsam and Cisco Sánchez, invited attendance at the mentoring workshop with a panel of LGBT psychologists, a workshop on getting into leadership in Division 44, and the annual student party cosponsored by the APAGS-CLGBTC Committee.

### Summer 1997

President Doug Haldeman pointed out the tradition of Native tribes and non-Native settlers in Washington Territory to hold an annual gathering ritual called a *rendez-vons* for a week of games, contests, socializing, and exchanging information. Our own annual Convention is similar. This year it will include a special remembrance in honor of Dr. Evelyn Hooker.

Barry Chung announced his appointment as Editor of the Division 44 Newsletter. He thanked Phil Levinson for his service as Editor and Ariel Shidlo who was Features Editor. Becky Liddle has agreed to serve as Associate Editor for features articles.

By an overwhelming margin, Division 44 members voted to include Bisexuality in the name and mission of the Division (93%). The change becomes effective immediately and the Newsletter masthead reflected the new name.

The third edition of the Division 44 Annual, *Ethnic and Cultural Diversity Among Lesbians and Gay Men*, edited by Beverly Greene, has been sent to all members, fellows, associates, and affiliates. The fourth annual is scheduled to be mailed in June 1997.

Sari H. Dworkin described her experience in Ivanovo, Russia, teaching students to do therapy, training psychologists and psychiatrists, and seeing both private clients and severely disturbed psychiatric patients.

The Division of Family Psychology (43) Committee on Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Family Issues plans to conduct a survey of graduate programs and internships for training in this area, according to Roy Scrivner, Chair.

### August 1992

The National Association of Lesbian and Gay Psychologists, NALGP, is holding an Empowerment Conference one day before the APA Convention, including presentations by major political organizations and lobbying legislators' Capitol Hill offices.

President Connie Chan thanked Barbara Slater and Joan Rabin for organizing the Division 44 program at the APA Convention in Washington, DC. Division 44 was included in the Public Interest Mini-convention focusing on the intersection of ethnicity and sexual orientation.

Clinton Anderson reported on efforts by the APA Committee on Lesbian and Gay Concerns (CLGC) to disseminate the task force report, "Bias in Psychotherapy with Lesbians and Gay Men." The APA Public Interest Directorate has established an advisory group with regard to the U.S. Department of Defense policy on sexual orientation. A policy statement on lesbian, gay, and bisexual youths has been developed by CLGC and the APA Committee on Children, Youth, and Families.

Betty Berzon will lead a Division 44 pre-convention workshop dealing with the problems of same-sex couple relationships titled "Permanent Partners: Building Gay and Lesbian Relationships that Last."

Robert Mapou reported that CLGC has been dealing with custody issues, violence and youth, conversion therapies, and heterosexist bias in psychotherapy.

### July 1987

Linda Garnets, Division 44 program chair, announced two invited addresses for the APA Convention. David Wertheimer will address strategies for responding to violent forms of prejudice against lesbians and gay men; Lee Chiaramonte will report on a study of lesbians' perceptions of sexual harassment in their work life. Carolyn Payton will chair an invited symposium titled "Teaching on Gay and Lesbian Issues." Adrienne Smith will chair a symposium on "Issues of Lesbians at Mid-Life." Douglas Kimmel's Presidential Address will be "Lesbians and Gays Also Grow Old."

Royce Scrivner, Lawrence A. Kurdek, and Bianca Cody Murphy are leading a Division 44 continuing education workshop titled "Family Therapy: Lesbian and Gay Issues."

Alan K. Malyon reported that the CLGC Task Force to Develop Psychotherapy Guidelines for Lesbians and Gay Men received over 2,000 completed questionnaires from a survey sample of APA members. These are the first data systematically collected on psychotherapy with lesbians and gay men and will be used to develop a set of guidelines.

Gregory M. Herek testified October 9, 1986 before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary's Subcommittee on Criminal Justice on the subject of violence against lesbians and gay men; he spoke on behalf of the American Psychological Association.

# **Convention News**

# Mini-Convention on Psychology, Ethics, and U.S. Military Detention Centers

The Office of Ethics in collaboration with the Divisions of Social Justice is sponsoring a mini-convention titled Ethics and Interrogations: Confronting the Challenge at the 2007 APA Convention in San Francisco. The program will be an exciting and informative selection of panel presentations.

Session 1: What Are Psychologists Doing in U.S. Military Detention Centers?

Chair: Steve Sellman; Friday 8-9:50 A.M., Moscone Center Room 3016

**Session 2: What Does the Research on Interrogations Tell Us?** Division 44 DSJ Liaison, Shara Sand, will be presenting on this panel Chair: Brad Olson; Friday 10–11:50 A.M., Moscone Center Room 3016

Session 3: What is the Evolution of APA Policy on Ethics and Interrogation? Chair: Bernice Lott; Friday 2–3:50 P.M., Moscone Center Room 3014

**Session 4: How do Human Rights and Laws Apply to Detention Centers?** Chair: Neil Altman; Saturday 2–3:50 P.M., Moscone Center Room 3014

Session 5: What are the Impacts of Ethnicity, Language, and Identity on Interrogations? Chair: Rhoda Unger; Sunday 12–1:50 P.M., Moscone Center Room 3014

**Session 6: What are the Effects of Psychological Torture and Abuse?** Chair: Linda Woolf; Sunday 2–3:50 P.M., Moscone Center Room 3014

Town Hall Meeting: Review and Future Directions

Chairs: Doug Haldeman and Olivia Moorehead-Slaughter; Sunday 5-6:50 P.M., Hilton Hotel, Plaza Room A

Session 7: What Ethical Dilemmas do Psychologists Working in Detention Centers Face? Chair: Scott Allen; Monday 10–11:50 A.M., Moscone Center Room 3009

Session 8: What Challenges and Complexities does Providing Treatment to Detainees Entail? Chair: Ibrahim Kira; Monday 12–1:50 P.M., Moscone Center Room 3009

# Student Volunteers Needed For Suite - Reduced Hotel Rates Available

Division 44 is looking for student volunteers to help run the Division suite and its programming. Student volunteers will be eligible for a discounted hotel room to share with other volunteers. The Division has reserved nine rooms from Thursday, August 16, until Tuesday, August 21, at the Courtyard San Francisco Downtown (*www.courtyardsanfrancisco.com*—rated 19th out of all 235 San Francisco hotels by TripAdvisor.com and best buy by *Entrepreneur* magazine). Student volunteers will only be charged \$40 per night to stay in the rooms, and lengths of stay can be shortened upon request. Please e-mail Greg Jones at *Flexigerm4@aol.com* or Karen Greenspan at *karengreenspan@comcast.net* if you would like to have a chance to be a volunteer and be more involved with Division 44.

# Attending the Convention?

When you register for any APA Convention, **please list Division 44 as your "primary division."** Each division is allotted a number of program hours, which is dependent on the number of division members attending the previous year's convention. So, if you attend the San Francisco convention and list Division 44 as primary, we may be allotted more hours for the 2008 convention.

# Annual Fund Raising Dinner Is A Convention Highlight

Put away those beads from last year's New Orleans Convention and start thinking "Golden Gate" ... "City By the Bay" ... and "San Franciscan Nights." As you make your 2007 Convention plans don't forget about the Annual Division 44 Fund Raising Dinner. This is always one of the highlights of the Convention and of the Division's activities. Mark your schedule for 6:30 to 10:00 p.m., on Saturday, August 18, 2007. This is always a most fun time!

This year the dinner will be at the **E & O Trading Company**, a Southeast Asian grille, located at 314 Sutton Street. It is just a block off of Union Square. E & O Trading Company is an accessible facility featuring family style service.

We would like to acknowledge **The Haworth Press, Inc.** for their early "Underwriter" support of our 2007 Dinner. Be sure to thank them when you stop by their booth in the Exhibit area. Thank you also to the E & O Trading Company for its "Underwriter" support.

**Reservations are required for the dinner:** Students \$60 (limited number available); Division 44 members, guests and allies \$75. "Mentors" add an additional \$75 to sponsor a student. Students who wish to attend the dinner as a sponsored student must request one of these "mentee" slots.

Consider supporting Division 44's **Annual Fund Raising Dinner** by making a donation in addition to your dinner reservation or by making a donation even if you are not able to attend the dinner. Funds raised support important Division 44 initiatives. We have a number of categories for your consideration:

### Donor-\$100 • Sponsor-\$150 • Patron-\$250 • Benefactor-\$500 • Underwriter-\$1,000

Send your check (Payable to SPSLGBI) to confirm your reservation today! Send your reservations and donations to Michael Ranney, c/o OPA, 400 East Town Street, Suite 200, Columbus, OH 43215.

Reservations and credit card payments may also be made on line at:

www.ohpsych.org/Registration/Div44AnnualFundRaisingDinnerReservation.htm If you have questions contact Michael Ranney at mranney@ohpsych.org or 800-783-1983.



Coordinators of 2009 National Multicultural Conference & Summit held a planning retreat in May. *Left to right:* Jeanette Hsu (Division 35), Francisco Sánchez (Division 44), Tania Israel, Lead Coordinator (Division 17), and Lisa Flores (Division 45)

### Announcements

### Christopher Martell Lectures in Sweden

Division 44 President Christopher Martell conducted several workshops and seminars in Sweden in March. He gave an invited keynote address at the Behavior Therapy Association of Sweden in Stockholm on "Cognitive Behavior Therapy with Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Clients." This was the first talk on this topic ever given at the annual behavior therapy conference. He also conducted a halfday workshop on "Integrative Behavioral Couples Therapy with Same-Sex Couples" in the city of Uppsala. Dr. Martell is the second author (with Michael E. Addis) of a workbook for clients on behavioral activation treatment for depression that has recently been translated into Swedish.

### Theme Announced for the 2008 International Counseling Psychology Conference March 6–9, 2008, Chicago, Illinois

"Creating The Future, Counseling Psychologists in a Changing World" is the theme for the 2008 International Counseling Psychology Conference to be held March 6–9 at the Chicago Hilton & Towers in Chicago, IL.

This is the fifth time the counseling psychology profession has hosted its own conference. Unlike previous conferences reflecting a national perspective, this will be the first counseling psychology conference promoting an international



this will be the first counseling psychology conference promoting an international mission.

According to Linda M. Forrest, Ph.D., University of Oregon, conference co-chair, "The conference agenda will include four days of keynote presentations, symposia, roundtable forums, continuing education, and professional training organized to promote interchange, dialogue, and collaboration among counseling psychology practitioners and academicians, mid-career professionals, early career professionals, and students from around the world."

A call for proposals will be issued on or around July 1, 2007. The three primary sponsoring organizations of the event are: The Society of Counseling Psychology, Division 17, of the American Psychology Association (APA); the Council of Counseling Psychology Training Programs (CCPTP); and the Association of Counseling Center Training Agencies (ACCTA). For more information visit *www.internationalcounselingpsychologyconference.org* or e-mail *conferenceplanner@icpc2008.org*.

### Straight Spouse Network: A Collaborative Resource

The Straight Spouse Network (SSN) is a worldwide organization that provides personal, confidential support, and information to straight spouses/partners, current or former, of gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender mates and mixed-orientation couples worldwide. The network was created in 1992 by longtime Division 44 member Amity Pierce Buxton to address the unmet needs of an invisible population affected but largely overlooked by the gay liberation movement. Its mission is reaching out, healing, and building bridges between spouses, within families, and with the larger community

Based on available research figures and recent census figures, as many as two million gay men or lesbians in the United States have ever married. A large number of bisexual and transgender persons could be added, given reliable statistics. Many of the GLBT spouses have come out, some will, and some may never do so. Whenever they disclose, the disclosure confuses and devastates their wives and husbands. In turn, their children are affected by negative attitudes toward GLBT persons and also, for the majority whose parents break up, by the typical, unsettling effects of divorce. No one in the family escapes social stigmatization.

Yet family members, friends, and most professionals do not understand the unique concerns of the straight spouses and often minimize their problems, likening them to typical difficulties of any troubled couple. Without outside acknowledgement or comprehension of the sense of sexual rejection, betrayal, and shattering of belief system that most spouses experience, they retreat to their own closets to cope in isolation—until they find SSN and its peer support system of face-to-face and online contacts and support groups.

Once they discover peers who understand the pain, anger, fear, and grief that overwhelm them, most spouses gain enough confidence to face and accept the reality of their GLBT partners' revealed orientation or gender identity. Only then can they take steps to heal. With continual peer support through SSN, most transform their lives and work through their intense feelings, whether or not they stay married. A number move on to become advocates of GLBT equality.

In addition to supporting spouses and couples, SSN also aims to raise their visibility and increase accessibility to resources for them and to educate the larger community about the mixed-orientation phenomenon. In this latter effort, SSN has built bridges with the professional community through conference presentations and articles that Amity has published in several journals and books. The articles range from effective counseling of spouses and couples to custody issues of children of mixed-orientation parents, and from straight spouse issues and coping stages to post-divorce parenting. She will be presenting the latest chapter on counseling spouses and couples in bisexual-straight or trans/non-trans marriages at the upcoming APA conference.

For further information about SSN and related research articles see www.straightspouse.org.

### Documentary Film: Abomination: Homosexuality and the Ex-Gay Movement



The release of *Abomination: Homosexuality and the Ex-Gay Movement* marks the culmination of a three-year effort by the Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists (AGLP) to counter an increasing amount of misinformation about gay people and homosexuality that is being put forth in the media. This documentary is AGLP's professional response to those who have made it their mission to pathologize homosexuality to religious communities for an increasingly political goal. "Abomination" poignantly illustrates how these so called "therapies" have left devastated individuals and families in their wake.

### Synopsis

Abomination: Homosexuality and the Ex-Gay Movement profiles the journeys of four gay Christians who did everything possible to become heterosexual by following the "treatment" protocols of the so-called ex-gay ministries.

At times heartbreaking, at other times hilarious, the approaches taken by these religious groups range from shock therapy and hypnosis to "gender coaching." Ultimately the "therapy" fails, even for the ministers in charge as they repeatedly scandalize themselves by "relapsing into gayness."

Some of *Abomination*'s subjects spent decades in torment before they ultimately re-defined every aspect of their values, morals, and beliefs to allow themselves to accept a gay and Christian identity. But self-acceptance eluded Mary Lou's daughter, Ana, who committed suicide. Her daughter's death causes a change of heart in this fundamentalist Christian mother who comes to realize that "Jesus Christ himself would not have treated her the way I did."

In the end, we must ask, Is homosexuality an "abomination"? Or is the real "abomination" how gay conservative Christians are summarily rejected by their families, their communities, their churches, and who are told that they have forfeited both the promise of heaven and the love of God?

Abomination is a poignant testimony to the healing power of love on the road to self-acceptance. It is also a film about human rights and the fragility of our liberty in an increasingly fundamentalist America.

**Abomination: Homosexuality and the Ex-Gay Movement** is now commercially available through the AGLP Web site (*www.aglp.org*), Amazon.com, and CustomFlix, the distributor (*www.customflix.com/Store/ShowEStore.jsp?id=226180*). Royalties from the sale of this DVD will help sustain the ongoing goals and mission of AGLP.

About the Film: Director/Producer: Alicia Salzer, MD, *salzermd@earthlink.net*, 917-576-6991; Co-Producer/Camera/ Editor: Anat Salomon; DVD 31 minutes; 26-minute, 46-second version also available; NTSC REGION 0.

AGLP, an organization of 500 psychiatrists, publishes a quarterly newsletter as well as the *Journal of Gay and Lesbian Psy*chotherapy. For more information about AGLP visit *www.aglp.org* or phone 215-222-2800 and request a brochure.

### LGBT Media Training for Psychologists before APA Convention

**GLAAD** (the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation) and the **Rockway Institute** (a national center for LGBT research and public policy) are offering a FREE MEDIA TRAINING on LGBT issues to take place Thursday, August 16, 2:30–5:30 P.M. (the day before the APA Convention). This timing was selected to enable APA members from the East Coast to take flights early that morning and still arrive in time to participate in our media training, and attend the full APA convention.

GLAAD is the LGBT community's major link to the media, serving a watchdog function when LGBT issues are inaccurately reported in the news or in entertainment shows. It has a long history of providing media training to representatives of the LGBT community in preparation for television, radio, and print media interviews. The special training on August 16 will be geared specifically toward preparing psychologists (researchers and practitioners) to convey their expertise about LGBT issues to the public via the media. It will be led by Cindi Creager (GLAAD's Director of National News) and by Robert-Jay Green, Ph.D. (Executive Director of the Rockway Institute and a professor in the clinical psychology Ph.D. program at the California School of Professional Psychology).

#### Division 44 Newsletter

We are in the process of arranging optional Continuing Education units for some portion of this media training from an APA-Approved CE sponsor. If these units are approved, there would be some charge from the CE sponsor for those who wanted the units. Please register early if you want to guarantee a space in this unique media training geared especially for psychologists. Because there are no Division 44 CE events before the APA convention this year and because this media training should be fun as well as highly informative, we're expecting a strong turnout. For further information about the two organizations offering this media training, please visit their Web sites: *www.GLAAD.org* and *www.RockwayInstitute.org*.

**To Register for This Training:** Go to the following Internet address, and complete the registration form online: *fs8.formsite.com/AlliantUniv/form668031064/index.html.* We will send confirmation of your registration. Please make a note of the time and address of the media training now. The location is easily accessible from the APA convention hotels. **Time:** Thursday, August 16, 2007, 2:30–5:30 P.M.

**Location:** Rockway Institute, California School of Professional Psychology, Alliant International University, 1 Beach Street (directly across from Pier 39), San Francisco, CA 94133-1221; e-mail: *rockway@alliant.edu*; telephone: 415-955-2115.

### **Book and Video Reviews**



Affirmative Psychotherapy with Bisexual Women and Bisexual Men

Ronald C. Fox (Ed.). Harrington Park Press, 2006. 195 pp.

As we move away from the long-standing belief that sexual orientation is dichotomous, it becomes even more important to understand bisexuality. Significant diversity exists among the bisexual population. There is wide variation in how bisexuality is conceptualized and experienced. Bisexual people themselves experience their sexual orientation in a multitude of ways. *Affirmative Psychotherapy with Bisexual Women and Bisexual Men* is written for clinicians and contains chapters that cover a range of issues, including working with bisexual men, bisexual women, bisexual people who are older, people who are bisexual and polyamorous, those who are African-American, and those who identify as transgendered. There is even a chapter on psychotherapy with heterosexual spouses of bisexual men and women. This book is likely to be a valuable resource not only for clinicians but also for anyone who is seeking to better understand the state of research on bisexuality.

The 2001 *Guidelines for Psychotherapy with Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Clients,* published by the APA, strongly urged clinicians to proactively learn about bisexual issues and bisexual community resources in order to provide more sensitive, competent and effective services to bisexual patients. This book provides plenty of accurate information on bisexuality so that clinicians can be better equipped to provide knowledge-based, affirmative mental health services to their patients who identify as bisexual.

Affirmative Psychotherapy with Bisexual Women and Bisexual Men was co-published simultaneously in the Journal of Bisexuality, 6(1/2). This book works well as a stand-alone book in its own right, however, and includes an index. The editor has long been an advocate for the inclusion of bisexuality within Division 44 and wrote the book's introduction.

The chapters are written by mental health professionals, ranging from a Ph.D. candidate in sociology to a community health program manager. This diversity in authorship provides a range of viewpoints and backgrounds. Moreover, many of the chapters are written by clinicians who have personally dealt with the issues that are discussed in their writings. For example, Nick Embaye, author of the chapter on working with transgendered bisexual people, is a person of color, transgender, and bisexual himself. Many of the issues he discusses are issues he has dealt with in his own life. These experiences clearly give him special insight into how to make psychotherapy as affirmative as possible for people like himself.

As one would expect, some authors are better writers than others. An advantage of this type of volume being a collection of articles written by different authors, is that if one does not like a particular author's writing style, one will shortly move on to the next. Many of the chapters effectively use case examples as well as up-to-date research findings to illuminate main points. After reading this book, clinicians will undoubtedly be more aware of current research pertaining to bisexuality and hopefully better able to integrate this information into their understanding and work with bisexual patients.

For therapists working with bisexual patients, many issues may arise that often have their sources in stereotypes about bisexuality. The therapist who is willing to learn about the patient's culture and community by reading this volume will be in a better position to understand and empathize with bisexual patients. This book provides specific guidance and advice for therapists on how to work with this diverse population in a respectful and affirmative way. Therapists will undoubtedly come away with an increased knowledge and comfort level with issues pertinent to patients who fall within the bisexual spectrum.

Reviewed by Sarah L. White, drsarahwhite@yahoo.com



### **The Power of Harmony** (documentary film) Ginny Martin (Producer, Director). 2005. 70 min. *www.thepowerofharmony.com*

The Power of Harmony is a documentary film highlighting the Turtle Creek Chorale, which is a gay men's choir based in Dallas, Texas. Right in the heart of a Bible belt state, these men share the joy in their religion and spirituality with class, generosity, humor, and courage. In the 25 years that the Turtle Creek Chorale has been performing, 140 of their members have been lost to AIDS. Yet nothing seems to stop them; in fact, they feel that those they have lost still remain with them in spirit.

Throughout the film, the viewer is treated to the most heartfelt songs and music with tuxedoclad members performing to the height of professionalism; this is a first class act. This is also a very diverse collection of music. One minute I was close to tears with the power of their songs, and the next, laughing with joy at their campy, outrageous comedy routines. To add to this emotional element, this documentary offers a look into some of the Chorale member's private lives.

In scenes dispersed throughout the film, the viewer is made privy to conversations with a man who has not seen his family in 23 years. He tries to connect in the light of his parent's 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in the hopes that a reunion is possible. Through several conversations that constitute an emotional roller coaster, it is made apparent that his family is still so deeply steeped in a religion that renders them unable to accept the fact that he is gay. With the support of his partner and the Chorale, he is enveloped with love and acceptance. During these scenes the Chorale is singing a song that sends a message that they are not afraid of other's faith in God; they are afraid of what others do in the name of their God.

The viewer also witnesses a couple preparing for the journey to unite with their long-awaited baby through adoption. The Chorale throws them a baby shower, and when they return, the baby is introduced to all with tears of joy. There are many stories of coming out, attempted religious conversions, and failed marriages in trying to be "normal." As a gay woman, in a long-term relationship, I was particularly moved by a couple that has been together for 30 years. One suffers from debilitating diabetes and has just been recovering from losing his legs. His partner is the one who cares for his needs with great devotion and love. The Chorale welcomes him back with joy and dedication—a fact, he says, that has helped in his recovery—in addition to the support and love of the Chorale, his partner and their dogs.

This documentary is a celebration in music, faith, family, community, and acceptance. The Turtle Creek Chorale is not together to support each other in their gayness; it is simply a part of who they are. As gay men who have been shunned and rejected by their families, or fear losing their career, or fear physical violence, they have created a supportive family of acceptance, charity, and community amongst themselves. This film shows that the members of this community have the same needs, wants, and desires as members of any community. The difference is that they share their heart with a same sex partner. So they come together and raise their voices in song that hold strong messages of acceptance; they make fun of the stereotypes as they strive to break the stereotypes, and they celebrate their lives. Put simply, the joy of knowing who you are should never be overshadowed by pain and fear and loss of family.

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### American Psychiatry and Homosexuality: An Oral History

Jack Drescher and Joseph P. Merlino (Eds.). Harrington Park Press, 2007. 277 pp.

The process by which the psychiatrists removed "homosexuality" from the list of mental disorders in their publication DSM-II and replaced it with "ego-dystonic homosexuality" has been documented by Bayer (1981). The story has also been told in a radio program by Alix Spiegel, the granddaughter of John P. Spiegel, one of the players in the process ("This American Life," 2002). Both descriptions capture elements of the struggle within the very conservative psychiatric establishment to change a collective belief that homosexuality was a pathology.

This important anthology of oral histories provides an especially compelling perspective on this dramatic process because they are first-person accounts by key players in this compelling drama. Many were published individually in the *Journal of Lesbian and Gay Psychotherapy* between 2001 and 2006. Several of the contributors have died since their account was published, which underscores the importance of gathering oral history information.

In 1972, Franklin Kameny and Barbara Gittings, gay activists, convinced a practicing psychiatrist to join a symposium at the American Psychiatric Association dressed in a mask, outsized costume, fantastic wig, and voice distorted. This psychiatrist, John Fryer, known as "Dr. H. Anonymous," was the subject of the first chapter of the book. During the symposium he told a compelling story of having been fired for being homosexual. Later he noted that he spotted the man who had fired him sitting in the front row; however, the man had no idea who this anonymous psychiatrist was. The chapter included the text of his remarks to that symposium in 1972, which concluded: "We must use our skills and wisdom to . . . grow to be comfortable with that little piece of humanity called homosexuality" (p. 25).

One of the most compelling aspects of this anthology was a reminder of the consequences of the pathological view of homosexuality. Stuart E. Nichols was a psychiatrist working with the U.S. Special Forces in Germany. His lover had recently moved to Berlin to be near him, and they expected to "live happily ever after" (p. 165). Shortly Nichols was confronted by his superiors for being gay. He was arrested and transported by the army to Munich where he seriously contemplated suicide. Soon he was told that he would be dishonorably discharged and lose his medical license. Eventually, however, he returned to the U.S. and, on the advice of a lawyer, kept a low profile and worked in drug addition—"nobody wanted to work in drug addiction in those days and nobody cared" (p. 167). It is interesting to note not only how many of these pioneers were in long-term same-sex relationships but also how many of them had begun their careers in a heterosexual marriage in order to be "normal."

The interview with Robert L. Spitzer was noteworthy because of the impact that his first contact with overtly (but not openly) gay psychiatrists had, as he began to conceptualize ways to resolve this hot potato he had been handed by the American Psychiatric Association. He also discussed his controversial later research on sexual orientation.

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### ARTICLES

# Attitudes Towards Bisexual Women and Men: Predictors in Lesbian and Gay Populations

Julia Tomassilli<sup>1</sup>

The study of sexual prejudice has focused primarily on the attitudes of heterosexuals towards sexual minorities, predominately homosexuals. Bisexuals have generally been left out of psychological research on sexual minorities and attitudes toward them, or researchers have combined bisexuals into a single group with homosexuals, disregarding any possible differences between the groups.

Bi-negativity is sexual prejudice in the form of negative attitudes held toward bisexuals by people of any sexual orientation. Considerable anecdotal literature details bisexuals' experiences of bi-negativity from heterosexuals as well as from lesbians and gay men (Bisexual Anthology Collective, 1995; Hutchins & Ka'ahumanu, 1991; Israel & Mohr, 2004; Ochs, 1996; Off Pink Collective, 1996; Rust, 2002; Tucker, Highleyman, & Kaplan, 1995). Only a small number of empirical studies have examined attitudes towards bisexuals (Eliason, 1997, 2001; Mohr & Rochlen, 1999; Herek, 2002; Mulick & Wright, 2002; Rust, 1995; Steffens & Wagner, 2004) with only a few of these examining attitudes towards bisexuals among lesbians and gay men (Mohr & Rochlen; Mulick & Wright, 2002; Rust, 1995).

<sup>1</sup>This study was supported in part by a grant from the APA Division 44's Bisexual Foundation Scholarship Award. Correspondence concerning this article should be addressed to Julia Tomassilli, Department of Social/Personality Psychology, Graduate Center, City University of New York, New York, NY 10016. E-mail: *jtomassilli@gc.cuny.edu*  In this study, the attitudes of lesbians and gay men towards bisexual women and men were examined. Gender of the target bisexual, participant gender, age, heterosexual interaction, previous bisexual identity, and gay/lesbian identity were hypothesized predictors of participants' attitudes.

*Participants:* Participants were 455 lesbians and gay men (221 and 234, respectively) with a mean age of 37.14 (SD = 11.88) ranging from 18 to 73 years. Participants were primarily White (n = 322, 71%) and highly educated, with 190 (42%) having education beyond a Bachelor's Degree.

*Procedures:* Participants completed an online survey. Demographic information collected included: age, sex/gender, sexual orientation, race/ethnicity, income, and education level. The heterosexual interaction measure was adapted from Phinney's (1992) Other-Group Orientation subscale of the Multigroup Ethnic Identity Measure. Previous bisexual identity was measured using two yes/no questions. Based on these questions participants were put into one of three categories: never identified as bisexual, previous transitional bisexual identity, and previous non-transitional bisexual identity. Gay/lesbian identity was measured using Luhtanen and Crocker's (1992) Identity subscale of the Collective Self-Esteem Scale. Attitudes towards bisexual women and men were measured using the using Mohr and Rochlen's (1999) Attitudes Regarding Bisexuals Scale, Female and Male forms (ARBS-F, ARBS-M); these two 12 item forms are identical except for the target bisexual's gender (female for the ARBS-F, male for the ARBS-M).

*Results:* Participants were generally positive about bisexual women and men (M = 4.11 and 3.95 respectively). To examine the hypothesized main and interaction effects of participant and target gender, a repeated measures factorial ANOVA was run controlling for order of scale form presentation. There was no main effect for participant gender, but target gender had a significant main effect, F(1,427) = 64.12, p < .001, eta = .36; participants had more positive attitudes towards female than male bisexuals. There was also a significant interaction between participant and target gender, F(1,427) = 11.17, p = .001, eta = .16; participants rated bisexuals of the same gender less positively than participants of the other gender.

Using hierarchical linear regression controlling for participant sex and order of form presentation, age was not a significant predictor of attitudes towards female or male bisexuals. To test the hypothesis that heterosexual interaction was positively correlated with attitudes towards bisexuals, I used hierarchical linear regression controlling for participant gender and order of form presentation. Participants who indicated more interaction with heterosexuals had significantly more positive attitudes towards female, F(3,421) = 4.36, p = .005 and male bisexuals, F(3,423) = 4.55, p = .004.

A multivariate factorial ANOVA was run to test the hypothesis that all 3 categories of previous bisexual identity were significantly different from one another. Participants who never identified as bisexual were hypothesized to hold the most negative attitudes towards female and male bisexuals, while participants who previously identified as nontransitional bisexuals were hypothesized to hold the most positive attitudes. Previous bisexual identity predicted both the ARBS-F, F(2,417) = 7.59, p = .001, *eta* = .19, and ARBS-M, F(2,417) = 5.08, p = .007, eta = .16. Post-hoc test revealed participants who had never identified as bisexual were less positive towards female bisexuals than participants who had identified as bisexual; however, transitional and nontransitional previous bisexuals were not different from each other. Participants who had never identified as bisexual were less positive towards male bisexuals than those who had identified as a non-transitional bisexual; those who had used bisexuality as a transitional identity were not different from either of the other two (all significant at p < .01).

To test the hypothesis that gay/lesbian identity was negatively correlated with attitudes towards bisexuals, it was entered into a hierarchical linear regression controlling for participant gender and form presentation order. Gay/lesbian identity was a significant predictor of participants' scores on the ARBS-F, F(3,416) = 7.63, p < .001, and the ARBS-M, F(3,418) = 10.20, p < .001; participants who had higher gay/ lesbian identity scores had more positive attitudes towards both female and male bisexuals.

*Discussion:* These findings are heartening as both lesbians and gay men held positive attitudes towards bisexuality. In fact, all of the mean ARBS scores in this study were higher than those in Mohr and Rochlen's (1999) study. A good deal has happened with regard to societal acceptance of bisexuality over the nearly 10 years since Mohr and Rochlen collected their data. People may actually feel more positive towards bisexuals or the increased attention bisexual activists have gained may be resulting in more socially desirable responses. While participants' gender did not directly affect attitudes, this study demonstrates that the gender of the target bisexual plays an important role in attitudes. Therefore research on bisexuals needs to differentiate between female and male bisexuals. Further, this study indicates that previous and current sexual identities play important roles in attitudes towards other sexual identities. With recent research suggesting that sexuality is actually quite fluid throughout the lifespan (Diamond, 2003, 2005), these findings suggest interesting possibilities for future research on identity and sexual prejudice.

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# Addressing Same-Sex Domestic Violence in Colleges and Universities: GLBTQ Student Perspectives

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Domestic violence continues to be a growing concern in our society. Although prevention and intervention initiatives have been implemented to address this issue, many fail to address same-sex domestic violence (SSDV) and focus mainly on heterosexual domestic violence. According to the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs (2000), domestic violence occurs at the same rate in both heterosexual and same-sex relationships. Moreover, similar to heterosexual relationships, the cycle of violence in same-sex relationships becomes increasingly intense and severe over time, thus suggesting a strong need for victims of SSDV to receive equal treatment and resources from domestic violence service providers (such as law enforcement and domestic violence shelters) (Potoczniak, Murot, Potoczniak, & Crosbie-Burnett, 2003).

Demographically, young women ages 16-24 experience the highest rate of domestic violence (U.S. Department of Justice, 2003). Although future research will benefit from the empirical investigation of SSDV prevalence among GLBTQ young adults, anecdotal data indicates that the higher incidence of domestic violence in this cohort is also found in victims of SSDV. Furthermore, many GLBTQ students attending college are exploring or discovering their sexuality, coming out, and engaging in a same-sex relationship (Evans & D'Augelli, 1996). Therefore, SSDV prevention and intervention initiatives are likely to be particularly beneficial for GLBTQ college and university students.

Despite a recent increase in the recognition of SSDV and the advocacy for more competent mental health services regarding GLBTQ issues, few programs have focused on the unique opportunity college and university faculty, staff, or administrators have to educate their campus community about SSDV. We feel that this is unfortunate since it would only involve integrating SSDV awareness and prevention initiatives into their institutions' current domestic violence efforts. We also believe that there are several distinct reasons why GLBTQ students would benefit from university-based SSDV services. First, GLBTQ students would know that their institution acknowledges the occurrence of domestic violence in same-sex relationships, implicitly recognizing the existence of the GLBTQ community and affirming an integral part of the students' identity. Second, GLBTQ students would have access to service providers and resources on campus that address the unique aspects of SSDV and barriers to victims seeking assistance (e.g., the fear of "outing" themselves or their partners, combating gender-based theories of domestic violence, and concerns about harassment). Finally, GLBTQ students would feel comfort and support in knowing that their university actively challenges and confronts institutional heterosexism in its service delivery to students.

Therefore, the present study was designed to examine GLBTQ students' perceptions of their university's efforts and role in addressing SSDV. While researchers have surveyed key service providers about SSDV related issues (e.g., law enforcement, mental health professionals), minimal research has been conducted with colleges or universities with regard to their SSDV efforts, and to our knowledge no research has concentrated on investigating the perspectives of GLBTQ students towards university-based SSDV initiatives. Thus, the aim of our study was to examine the views of GLBTQ students on three themes: (a) perception of their university's current SSDV efforts, (b) interest in university-based SSDV efforts or services, and (c) perspectives on what their university can do to increase awareness about SSDV on campus.

### Participants and Procedure.

Participants were sixty seven undergraduate and graduate students (45 females and 22 males) who were recruited through the university's all student listerv to participate in an online survey about same-sex relationships and SSDV. The sample was 82% White or Caucasian; 13% Latino/a; 8% Asian; and 4% African American (Note: the percentage of this characteristic totals more than 100% since participants were allowed to check all that apply). Participants' identified sexual orientation was: 51% homosexual, 40% bisexual, and 9% questioning. Ages ranged from 18 to 57 (M = 23 and SD = 7.6) and participants' class status was: 22% freshman, 21% junior, 20% sophomore, 19% graduate students, and 18% senior.

The participants responded to three university-based questions (one qualitative and two quantitative) that were part of a larger 55 question online survey. The two quantitative questions asked participants to rate their level of agreement with the statements provided (i.e., "The university provides enough services for victims or survivors of SSDV and the university should support efforts or services aimed to address SSDV") on a 6-point Likert scale from 1 (strongly disagree) to 6 (strongly agree). The qualitative question asked participants to: "State what can be done to increase awareness about same-sex domestic violence on campus?"

### Results.

Quantitative analyses revealed that only 17% of participants agreed or strongly agreed that their university provides enough services for survivors or victims of SSDV, while an overwhelming 92% agreed or strongly agreed their university should support efforts or services aimed to address SSDV. In

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response to the question of what their university can do to increase awareness about SSDV on campus, several themes emerged. These themes were: presentations or events, trainings and resources, and inclusive discussions.

### Presentations or Events.

Students believed that their university should offer more presentations or events to raise awareness of SSDV. One lesbian student reflected on her experience with SSDV, stating:

I think that it should be required for all freshmen to have this topic covered in a seminar class or freshman experience or something.... I think that it is a big deal on campus and needs to be addressed to all students. During my undergraduate time at MSU (Montclair State University) I was a victim of same sex domestic violence, but I never reported it because I was afraid of being "outed" and just afraid in general. I only wish now that I had said something or called the police after it happened.

Another student stated the following:

As a gay man myself I would enjoy presentations educating me on the issues regarding domestic violence that my community faces. Possibly by providing round table discussions on a large scale that are offered to the campus community as well as bringing in guest speakers who have been in abusive relationships and are willing to speak on the topic.

One student also highlighted the unique opportunity faculty have to disseminate awareness information about SSDV, saying that:

Having professors have discussions in class can help students become aware of it because students have to be there.

*Trainings and Resources.* Students also expressed a need to train and supply on campus service providers with information and resources about SSDV. For example:

- Police responding with respect and without assumptions when anyone reports any kind of abuse regardless of orientation.
- Have RAs [resident assistants] and health staff be educated on how to proceed when they are faced with an (same sex) abuse case.
- Include pamphlet(s) at the Wellness Center and the Drop-In Center.

*Inclusive Discussions*. Students also thought that there should be more inclusive discussions about domestic violence on campus, where both heterosexual and same-sex domestic violence are mentioned.

• Bring the topic of same sex domestic violence to be seen not as same sex but just domestic violence. There should be no separation of the two

topics. I know in people's minds there are and something should be done to change that image.

- Treat it equally with heterosexual domestic violence . . . don't specify what the genders in the relationship have to be.
- When having discussions, meetings, etc. or passing out literature about domestic violence, make sure that same sex domestic violence is adequately mentioned as well.

### Discussion.

In conclusion, colleges and universities can play a vital role in addressing SSDV by increasing awareness about SSDV on campus, advocating for inclusive services of GLBTQ student victims, and preventing future violence in same-sex relationships through the education of its campus community. The findings of our study indicate that although a vast majority of GLBTQ students perceive university-based SSDV efforts as worthwhile, few feel that their university is currently providing adequate services for victims or survivors of SSDV. By increasing awareness and preparing on campus service providers to be more sensitive to the additional barriers facing victims of SSDV, GLBTQ students who are victims of SSDV will be more likely to seek help within their campus community and receive adequate services.

The GLBTQ students in our study identified several future directions for colleges and universities hoping to increase awareness about SSDV on their campus community, and we are committed to advocating for the implementation of these university-based SSDV initiatives. In the summer of 2007, we plan to collaborate with MSU's Center for Non-Violence and Prevention Programs to develop a SSDV training program for campus police to be piloted in the fall of 2007 and brochures containing information and resources specific to SSDV, which will be distributed to all on-campus service providers. Moreover, we are presently making efforts to ensure that particular attention is paid to SSDV with regard to our institution's present domestic violence workshops, which are offered in freshmen orientations, resident assistant trainings, classes, and residence halls.

It is our hope that this article encourages those of you who are in academic settings to examine critically your institutions' current domestic violence efforts, and challenge those efforts if they are heterosexist or exclusive of SSDV. SSDV still remains a largely invisible or overlooked topic within our society, and education about this issue is desperately needed at the college or university level in order for SSDV to be seen as a social problem deserving of campus resources and attention. Through stressing the importance of inclusive domestic violence discussions and services that adequately address both heterosexual and SSDV, we can increase our institutions' level of awareness about this issue and hopefully change the social context in which SSDV exists for GLBTQ students.

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# **First-Person History**

### Douglas C. Kimmel<sup>1</sup>

Ron Schwizer and I had a church wedding in August 1969 in Boulder, Colorado (*Division 44 Newsletter, 22*[1], 22). The minister had been active in the Civil Rights Movement and offered to perform a ceremony for me when I came out to him as a member of the Presbyterian student group on campus

at the University of Colorado in 1964. In so many ways Ron and I have lived a charmed life, meeting significant role models who were openly gay or allies, finding ways to be open and successful in our careers, and living in a time when things were "achangin'." At our wedding, one member of the congregation sang the song "The Impossible Dream" as he played a guitar. We have been privileged to live through an eventful time, including the 1969 first lunar landing, which coincided with gay men and lesbians breaking away and exploring new freedoms.



Doug and Ron in 1973 (Photo by Emery Hetrick)

My first involvement with LGBT psychology was at the 1973 American Psychological Association (APA) convention in Montreal. I was in my third year post-Ph.D., working toward tenure; while not public about my sexual orientation, Ron and I had lived together for four years and we had many gay friends.

I noticed a program on homosexuality at the convention, sponsored by the Division of Humanistic Psychology. The chair announced an organizing meeting of the Association of Gay Psychologists (AGP). Apparently Steve Morin, Marty Rogers, and others had begun talking about organizing such a

<sup>1</sup> Editor's Note: This is the first article in a series of first-person accounts to be published in the *Newsletter* as a project of the Division 44 Task Force on Aging. Correspondence concerning this article should be addressed to *dougkimmel@tamarackplace.com*.

group earlier in the year at the annual California Psychological Association meeting and had reserved a room and time as a "non-affiliated group" during the APA annual meeting. I can still visually recall the group sitting in a semicircle talking about how to organize and what "demands" we were going

> to present at the "Open Meeting" that APA held in those days where members could present issues to the Board of Directors.

In those days "demands" were popular, as we had all recently experienced the sit-ins and antiwar protests that closed universities and filled the campus with demonstrators making various demands on the administration, especially in student revolutions of 1967-1969. We had also become aware "gay power" of the marches beginning on the first anniversary of the Stonewall Inn incident in New York City in 1969.

Another tactic that had been found to be effective was to dress and act outrageously in order to disrupt a meeting or conference to gain attention to our cause; at the time, this was called a "zap."

At this first AGP meeting we planned a zap of the session on behavior therapy. Jessie Miller, a bearded young man, was to put on a dress and lead a group of AGP members to break up a session related to the use of aversive conditioning to change a homosexual's sexual object choice.

We also listed our demands, including that APA remove the label of "mental illness" from those individuals who were homosexual, that it set up a Task Force to deal with the oppression of lesbians and gay members, and a number of other actions. These were presented at the APA Open Meeting by Steve Morin, who at that time was a professor at a California state university.

Another clear memory is of the 1975 Chicago APA convention: The AGP group was feeling much more empowered since APA had appointed the Task Force, the American Psychiatric Association had removed "homosexuality" from the DSM-III in December 1973, and Sergeant Matlovich had been discharged from the U.S. Army for being homosexual and had attracted so much attention that he made the cover of Time Magazine. My flash-bulb memory image is of me, my partner, Ron Schwizer, and Mark Freedman, one of the brightest lights of AGP as an openly gay psychologist who had published an affirmative book on homosexuality and psychology in 1971. We were in a hotel room drafting a letter to the editor. Only after we mailed it did I realize my father read all the letters to the editor of Time Magazine; although I was out to my family, he would not be happy. Nonetheless, I had received tenure from City College, CUNY, so I was safe.

A third significant memory of AGP is of the 1977 APA meeting in San Francisco when I was chair and the group was now large enough to fill an entire circle in a mediumsized room. Shortly after the meeting started, a tall older woman walked in and sat down across from me in the circle. I whispered to the person next to me, "Is that Evelyn Hooker?" It was! When I introduced her, she spoke of her terrific excitement at seeing so many gay and lesbian psychologists gathered openly at the APA meeting. She thought she would never live to see that day! This began a long relationship with her that I have described elsewhere (Kimmel & Garnets, 2000).

In 1980, APA created the Committee on Gay Concerns based on the one of the recommendations of the Task Force on the Status of Lesbian and Gay Male Psychologists that had resulted from our "demands" in 1973. I was elected to the Committee in 1981 and we soon began to confront the AIDS crisis; we pressured APA to appoint a liaison to our committee from the Public Policy Office. During one meeting in 1983 we went to Capital Hill to meet with our state's Congressional legislators. I recall a meeting with Senator George Mitchell, then representing my state of Maine and later Majority Leader. We talked for about half an hour about the various concerns of the day, including the lack of attention to AIDS.

Division 44 was founded in 1984 and Steve Morin was elected interim president until we became an official part of APA at the 1985 APA Convention when the Council of Representatives met. He asked me to be program chair for our first program; I served a second year when Kris Hancock was president. The next year, 1986–1987, I was elected President and Linda Garnets was the program chair. Later I would ask Linda to co-chair the APA Master Lecture I was invited to give on issues related to sexual orientation (Garnets & Kimmel, 1991).

Wayne Placek died in 1992. He had been one of the participants in Evelyn Hooker's classic study comparing a matched group of homosexual and heterosexual men that showed there was no difference in mental health, and that the two groups could not be distinguished from each other based solely on tests popular at that time. He left a legacy to Evelyn to continue research on homosexuality. Evelyn appointed a committee to determine how the funds should be used. I was an informal advisor to that committee and helped set up the Placek Award Program at the American Psychological Foundation.

In my professional life, gay issues have also been significant. My first book on adulthood and aging (1974) included a case example of an openly gay man in a long-term relationship. My primary research was on older gay men (1977, 1978, 1979). I was a co-founder in 1977 of SAGE in New York City (now Senior Advocacy for GLBT Elders) and had a part-time private practice in New York City affiliated with the Homosexual Community Counseling Center from 1974 to 1981. I resumed the private practice and retired from City College in 1998 to live full-time in rural coastal Maine. Ron is now an administrator at a private high school in Bangor, Maine, where he is openly gay.

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### Malyon-Smith Fund

### Have you contributed this year to the Malyon-Smith Fund for LGBT Dissertation Research Support?

Send checks made out to SPSLGBI to:

Treasurer: A. Chris Downs, Ph.D., 1300 Dexter Ave. N. Ste. 300, Seattle, WA 98109-3542 Phone: 206-282-7300 Fax: 866-240-7514 E-mail: *DCACFP@casey.org* 

### **APA President-Elect Candidate Statements**

There are five nominees for APA President-Elect. Each candidate was invited to submit a response to two questions: (1) What do you see as the important role(s) APA can or should be playing in improving the lives or mental health of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people? (2) Please describe or list any professional activities in which you have participated that are related to improving the lives or mental health and well being of LGBT people.

### **James H. Bray** (www.bcm.tmc.edu/familymed/jbray)

APA should continue to support policies, research, programs, and educational standards that support the equal rights and mental and physical health of LGBT people. APA has approved standards for LGBT psychotherapy. We need to make sure that they are applied in policy documents, such as evidenced based practice, to ensure that LGBT's psychological needs are addressed.

I have been a consistent and strong supporter of LGBT issues throughout my work in APA. As president of the Division of Family Psychology (43), we established the Lesbian and Gay Family Issues Committee. Later as a board member, through a bequest from Dr. Royce Scrivner's estate, we created a research award on gay and lesbian family issues. I also supported the allocation of Division 43 funds for PFLAG activities. As the first chair of the APA Rural Health Committee, LGBT issues were included in the mission statement of the new committee. Currently, I am working with community leaders to create a center for homeless LGBT youth in Houston, Texas. Our plans are to provide shelter, psychological and medical care at this center. LGBT adolescents need a safe and secure place to help them re-unite with their families or become successful independent adults.

### **Carol D. Goodheart** (CarolGoodheartForAPAPresident.com)

APA has several essential roles and can be a powerful ally. We must:

- Disseminate widely our scientific knowledge and information about affirmative psychotherapies to advance public awareness and health.
- Offer a welcoming climate to LGBT employees and members.
- Continue to develop gay-affirmative policies and influence public perceptions via such mechanisms as amicus briefs, the Task Force on Appropriate Therapeutic Responses to Sexual Orientation, and the choice of meeting sites that consider state laws affecting LGBT people.
- Ensure that psychology education accurately presents the science of sexual orientation and principles of affirmative professional services.
- Defend the scientific study of sexual orientation from political interference.

I have served on the APA Board of Directors for six years, plus six years on the Council of Representatives previously. In these leadership positions, I have supported the public interest issues of vital importance to the LGBT community and voted affirmatively on every related action item, including: law suits, the Resolution on Gay Marriage and Parental Rights, changing the Consolidated Meetings site, and the formation of the new APA task force to review recent science on therapeutic responses to sexual orientation. I have a decades-long history of steadfast gay-affirmative practice and scholarship.

### Margaret B. Heldring

APA is a watchdog for national, state, and local policies that discriminate against LGBT people. APA should provide ongoing public education about the negative health impacts of discrimination, promote research that establishes the lack of any evidence to rationalize discrimination, and the presence of evidence that proves that the removal of discrimination improves the lives of LGBT people and their families. Finally, training as a psychologist should include regular "check points" to acquire self-awareness and skills in culture, diversity, nondiscriminatory behavior, and advocacy for civil rights.

Currently, I chair the APA Board for the Application of Psychology in the Public Interest (BAPPI). We strive to work closely with BAPPI committees, one of which is the Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns. I proposed the theme for BAPPI presentations at APA this summer: the health and mental health impacts of social injustice. As a U.S. Senate staffer, I wrote speeches that decried discrimination of all kinds, including sexual orientation. I have written national speeches and prepared testimony for legislative hearings in order to support the civil and human rights of the LGBT community.

As the largest psychological organization in the world, APA has the responsibility and opportunity to educate the public, providers, and public-policy makers regarding issues surrounding enhancing the quality of life of all LGBT people. Recognizing that the world needs that continual education, APA must reinforce our policy that homosexuality is not a mental illness. APA must use psychology's scientific excellence and strong commitment to equality to continue reinforcing our policy statements about LGBT people and adoption, same sex marriage, policies against hate crime and discrimination in employment and schools, and the mental health issues surrounding HIV/AIDS.

I had the honor to work with Catherine Acuff and members of the Task Force on "Guidelines for Psychotherapy with LGB Clients" helping draft the final version that passed APA Council in 2000. Catherine arranged for me to speak to Council on behalf of the Guidelines. The Guidelines have had great impact on our educational system and curricula and thus availability of quality services to LGBT people. When I was President of the Illinois Psychological Association, Dr. Cerbone asked if I would support a new Section on LGBT issues. Of course, I did; IPA did; and the Section has added much to the Association and the well being of LGBT members and citizens of Illinois. I believe both of these were key turning points in moving LGBT healthcare and advocacy forward.

### Frankie Y. Wong (www.wong4apa.org)

Since Hooker's early findings, APA has made great strides in improving the lives of LGBT people. Using empirical research APA should continue to: (1) advocate for health parity (including physical, mental, and spiritual health) for LGBT people; and (2) launch a public education campaign to foster an informed awareness of the reality of LGBT lives among the general public.

For the past two decades, I have worked toward improving the lives of LGBT people, particularly those of us of color, by serving on a variety of APA and national LGBT entities, including but not limited to:

- Steering Committee, Association of Lesbian and Gay Psychologists (ALGP)
- Chair, Committee on Lesbian and Gay Concerns, APA Division 45 (Ethnic Minority Issues)
- Co-Chair, Science Committee, Division 44
- Member, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Treatment Substance Workgroup, CSAT/ SAMHSA/DHHS
- Member, Maylon-Smith Scholarship Committee, Division 44
- Member, Healthy People 2010 GLBT Companion Editorial Working Committee, HRSA/DHHS
- Member, Planning Committee, Workshop on Increasing the Efficacy of HIV Prevention Efforts for MSM, OAR/NIH and CDC
- Member-at-Large, Executive Committee, Division 44
- Board of Directors, Gay and Lesbian Medical Association
- Member, LBGT of Color Sampling Methodology Meeting, Tobacco Related Disease Research Program, University of California

### Come Celebrate, Greet, and Meet Division 44 Members at the San Francisco Convention!

Friday Night: Opening Party 8–11 P.M., Friday, August 17, Marriott Hotel Division 44 Suite

### Saturday Night: Division Dinner

6:30-10 P.M., Saturday, August 18, E & O Trading Company, 314 Sutton Street

### Sunday Afternoon: Division Events

2–6 P.M., Sunday, August 19, Marriott Golden Gate Salon A 1-2

# **Committee Reports**

### Treasurer's Report, Division 44

As of March 2007, the Division's assets totaled \$81,572.97 and our 2006 income to date was \$26,905.47. Year-to-date dues income as of March 31, 2007 was \$25,831. Our checking account balance was \$27,626.04 and our money market fund balance was \$50,446.93, giving us an operating cash balance of \$78,072.97 (this total does not include the Malyon-Smith accounts).

The Malyon-Smith fund is held in two accounts. Our mutual fund with Black Rock was valued at \$28,203.42. Our initial investment in 1998 was \$20,000 which represents an overall gain in value of \$8,203.42. The remainder of the fund, held in cash and short-term investments, was valued at \$11,456.45 as of March 31, 2007. Thus our current quasi-endowment total is \$39,659.87 (\$28,203.42 + \$11,456.45).

Our operating budget for 2007 is substantially above previous years. For comparison, the operating budget in 2006 was \$39,310. However, the 2007 National Multicultural Summit produced record attendance and revenues and the division anticipates receiving approximately \$15,000 for the summit. Consequently, at the 2007 Midwinter Executive Committee meeting, the leadership established an operating budget for 2007 at \$55,045, with an anticipated total of \$59,000 in revenues for the year.

Also at the Midwinter Executive Committee meeting, the leadership charged the Secretary –Treasurer with creating a Division 44 Finance Committee. This committee's charge is to examine and periodically review the budget, financial forecasts, anticipated funding streams, and make recommendations to the full EC for changes to the management or operation of the Division's finances. The Secretary-Treasurer chairs and convenes this committee. The three presidents (past, current, elect) are required to serve on the committee. Other members of Division 44 with interest and expertise on financial matters are also welcome.

The current composition of the Finance Committee includes Chris Downs (Chair of the Committee and Secretary-Treasurer), Charlotte Patterson (Past President), Christopher Martell (President), Ruth Fassinger (President-Elect), Steven James (President Emeritus), Randy Georgemiller (Member-at-Large), and Michael Ranney (Chair, Fundraising Dinner).

-Respectfully submitted, Chris Downs, Secretary-Treasurer

### Science Committee News

The Division 44 Science Committee will be sponsoring its annual open house at the APA Convention in the Division hospitality suite in the Marriott Hotel (Saturday at 8:00 AM). The main purpose of this informal meeting is for research-oriented graduate students and professionals to meet one another and share interests. Also, we will be inviting a couple of professionals to speak about applying for grant funding. Please come and commune with fellow researchers while nursing your morning coffee!

Most of our efforts recently have been focused on creating a database of Division members who do or supervise LGBTrelated research. Our hope is that the directory will serve a variety of functions, including: (a) showcasing the considerable research expertise among Division 44 members, (b) facilitating research collaborations, and (c) facilitating advising and mentoring relationships. Over 120 researchers have already signed up, and we hope to have a directory posted on the Division Web site sometime this year.

Interested in joining the directory? All that is required is completion of our brief online survey (5-10 minutes), provided you have completed your graduate studies and any of the following are true for you:

- You are presently, or have previously, conducted LGBT-related research;
- You are interested in including students in your research program;
- You might be willing to mentor or consult with students or professionals pursuing LGBT-related research interests.

To examine or complete the survey, go to *www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=443492757431*. Note that you will be given an opportunity to choose whether or not to have your information listed online. Please consider being a part of what we think will be a valuable resource for those interested in LGBT research.

As always, we welcome feedback and participation from members of the Division 44 community.

-Jonathan Mohr, Chair, jmohr@gmu.edu

### Committee on Racial and Ethnic Diversity: Annual APA Meeting—August 18, 2007

Do you believe in a world where there is "no hierarchy of oppressions?" Do you identify as a "multiple minority?" Are you interested in learning more about "intersections" between sexual orientation and race among your students, clients, research participants, and colleagues? Then consider joining Division 44's Committee on Racial and Ethnic Diversity. This committee seeks to explore ways Division 44 can better serve professionals, educators, researchers, and students in this area. To learn more about how you can get involved with CoRED, join us for the annual CoRED meeting at the APA Convention on Saturday, August 18, 2007 from 10:00 to 10:50 am in the Division Hospitality Suite at the Marriott Hotel. For more information, please contact Kirstyn Chun, Psy.D. at *kchun@csulb.edu* or Michele K. Lewis, Ph.D. at *kaylewis65@aol.com*.

### (Continued from page 1)

mental disorder since the 1970s. They do so with complete disregard of the literature on the negative impact of social stigma and pressure to conform. They hold out a so-called ideal of providing choice for clients while ignoring the fact that so many LGBT people who are unhappy with their sexual orientation or gender identity are so because they are following someone else's agenda for them or because they've believed the lie that LGBT people can never be happy. However, at this same time, the exemplary Guidelines for Psychotherapy with Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Clients are soon to go through a first revision. This is an important step. This document will meet APA's rigorous criteria for practice guidelines-including those criteria pertaining to the quality of literature included to support the guidelines-and will continue to set a standard for guidelines in the association. In addition, APA has created a task force to consider how to work affirmatively with individuals who are unhappy about their sexual orientation in a fashion that respects the dignity and individuality of each individual without falling prey to stereotypes and outmoded notions of change. We have made it around the lake. However, we are still in the race and there is much to be done.

This Division is privileged to have some of the most energetic, intelligent, sincere, and caring individuals in APA. There is always room on our committees for others to join, or for members to suggest new committees to work on issues that the current leaders may not yet have considered. As I wrote in my last column, there will be a long process in making decisions about increasing the diversity of the Division, and ultimately changing the name of the Division to include all sexual minorities and exclude none. Guidelines, name changes, joint efforts with other divisions who have been or are becoming allies, all require the engagement of members.

When I headed out for that half-marathon, I worried that I would not run as fast as others, that I would be just some middle-aged guy barely grunting my way through. Some of you may doubt how you could fit into the Division leadership with similar thoughts, comparing yourselves to the way you imagine former leaders to be. As I listened to the padding of everyone's feet in the run and realized that being a part of the group was actually allowing me to run at a pace that I'd not thought possible. I realized that I, too, was a true half-marathon runner like everyone else. As is often the case, what we believe we cannot do as individuals comparing ourselves to the accomplishments of others, we can, indeed do, when we work in conjunction with others. So, join us in our Division's work and our run to improve the lives of LGBT psychologists, scientists, and clients, and insure that the advice of sound psychological science and practice continues to guide the field. It is easy to find the contacts for committee chairs through the Web site, and I encourage all of our members to volunteer for committees, and nominate themselves or colleagues for positions on the Division 44 Executive Committee as well as other Boards and Committees of APA.

### Flash! — 2007 Division 44 Election Results

President-elect: Randy J. Georgemiller Member-at-Large: Arlene Noriega Council Representatives: Sari H. Dworkin and Terry S. Gock

I would like to congratulate our new officers and look forward to seeing everyone at the incoming Executive Committee Meeting. I also want to thank everyone who ran for an office. We had wonderful choices of highly qualified people.

-Christopher Martell