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NEWSLETTER

Society for the Psychological Study
of Lesbian and Gay Issues

Society for the Psychological Study
of Lesbian and Gay Issues
A DIVISION OF THE
AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Vol. 6, No. 3

November, 1990

APA Convention Programming a Success

(The following article was submitted by Carol Becker, Ph.D., Division 44's 1990 Program Chair.)

This year, APA scheduled our twenty-six hours of program time during the first four days of the Convention in the Westin and Marriott hotels. Twenty-nine proposals were accepted: four symposia, three paper sessions consisting of eight papers, one poster session of fourteen presentations, and two conversation hours.

As program chair, I invited one speaker and arranged one invited panel and two symposia. Our invited speaker, Jan Schippers, spoke on *Gay Affirmative Counseling and Psychotherapy in the Netherlands*. The invited panel of Division 44's past presidents was on *Future Directions of Lesbian and Gay Issues in Psychology*. The two invited symposia were on topics suggested by the APA Committee on Lesbian and Gay Concerns: *Social and Ethical Implications of Causal Explanations for Sexual Orientation*, and *Lesbian Mothers: New Models for Parenting and Families*.

Adrienne Smith's Presidential Address, entitled *From Stigma to Paradigm: The Uses of Difference* was delivered as scheduled. However, due to illness, Dr. Smith was not able to be present. Connie Chan read the presentation at Dr. Smith's request.

Linda Garnets and Douglas Kimmel presented a Master Lecture entitled *Lesbian and Gay Dimensions in the Psychological Study of Human Diversity*. This presentation was one of four APA-sponsored Master Lectures at the Convention. (The other three dealt with gender, ethnicity, and race.) Audiotapes were made of the presentation and are available through APA. The lecture will also be published in 1991 by APA in a book titled *Psychological Perspectives in Human Diversity*.

SPSLGI sponsored two conversation hours at Convention: *Legal Aspects of Child Custody in Lesbian and Gay Families*; and *Forging Alliances IV: Lesbians and Gay Men of Color Bridging to Communities*.

This year's convention program included two social hours: *Celebrating Lesbian and Gay Contributions to Psychology* (cosponsored by ALGP and CLGC) and *Forging Alliances* (cosponsored by Divisions 9, 35, 445, CLGC, ALGP, and AWP).

In addition, SPSLGI's conducted three business meetings at Convention: *The Outgoing and InComing Business Meetings* and the *Open Business Meeting* in which members of the EC introduced themselves to audience participants and explained their functions in the division, inviting interested individuals to volunteer for committee work.

Sixteen Divisions of APA cosponsored (without time share) Division 44's convention programs. These Divisions are as follows: 2, 8, 9, 12, 17, 20, 27, 29, 32, 34, 35, 38, 41, 42, 43, 45. Division 44 cosponsored fifteen programs of other APA Divisions.

Division 44's Program Committee for the 1990 Convention in Boston consisted of the following people: Bart Aoki, Bronwyn Anthony, Connie S. Chan, Linda Garnets, Beverly Green, John Gonsiorek, Greg Herek, Edward Morales, James Quinlan, and the Chair of the Committee, Carol Becker.

SPSLGI wishes to thank the committee for the fine job that they did.

On to San Francisco in 1991.

SUBMIT PROGRAMS

Division 44 announces a call for programs for the 1991 APA Convention to be held in San Francisco in August, 1991. Programs focusing on theoretical, research, and clinical aspects of lesbian and gay issues in psychology are appropriate. The deadline for submissions is December 12, 1990. Please send submissions following APA format to:

Bart Aoki Ph.D.
300 Fourth St.
Suite 200
San Francisco, CA 94107

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by Jeffrey Rehm, Ph.D.

My term as president began under sad circumstances with the illness of Adrienne Smith, our past president. She was unable to attend APA in Boston, due to a medical emergency and is presently undergoing treatment. On behalf of all of us I wish her God's speed in her recovery. Also I want to thank all of you for helping the transition go well at the convention. I felt a great deal of support which made my job much easier.

I am looking forward to an exciting and productive year. Plans are already underway for a mini-conference at the San Francisco APA entitled *Beyond Stigma: Homosexuality as a Social Issue*. We will be co-sponsoring it with the Public Interest Directorate of the APA which will give it more clout within the APA and help us with advertising and logistics. This will be under the leadership of our new Program Chairs: Bart Aoki and Mark Jensen. We are moving ahead with our division annual with the first edition forecasted for 1992. The annual is in the capable hands of Beverly Greene and Greg Herek. Our new CE chairs, Sari Dworkin and Fernando Guterrez are planning CE workshops for the coming year. Leah Fygetakis is giving great input into the APA Committee on Accreditation to help assure the study of lesbian and gay issues is included in the training of all psychologists both in academic and internship settings.

Our new membership chairperson, Jeremy Gaies is drafting a new and inviting brochure as well as creating strategies for getting more members. The rest of the executive committee members are constantly adding to and improving their areas of responsibilities as well.

So what can each of us do to further the aims of Division 44? There are many things--let me list a few:

1. Nominate people for our distinguished service awards (see article on page 7 of this newsletter.)
2. Submit programs for the 1991 APA in San Francisco. It is important to present not only in Division 44 but in other divisions as well so that we can educate the rest of APA as to a positive gay and lesbian image.
3. Submit newsletter articles in Division 44 and other division Newsletters to again spread word about gay and lesbian issues throughout the APA.

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SPSLGI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT Jeffrey Rehm, Ph.D., P.O. Box 8422, Orange, CA 92664

PRESIDENT ELECT Connie Chan, CPCS-Downtown, University of Massachusetts, Boston, MA 02125

PAST PRESIDENT Adrienne Smith, Ph.D., 1641 West Irving Park, Chicago, IL 60613

SECRETARY-TREASURER Terry Gock, Ph.D., 2550 W. Main St., Suite 201, Alhambra, CA 91801

REPRESENTATIVE TO APA COUNCIL Oliva Espin, Ph.D., 19 Burroughs St., #2, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

FELLOWS CHAIR/NOMINATIONS CHAIR Laura S. Brown, Ph.D., 4527 First Ave., NE Seattle, WA 98105

CHAIR MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE Jeremy Gaies, Psy.D., P.O. Box 270051, Tampa, FL 33688

CO-CHAIRS PROGRAM COMMITTEE1 Bart Aoki, Ph.D., 300 4th St., Suite 200, San Francisco, CA 94107; Mark Jensen, Ph.D., 1779 Turk St., San Francisco, CA 94115

CHAIR TF ON EDUCATION AND TRAINING Leah Fygetakis, Ph.D., The Counseling Center, King Center, Boston University, 19 Deerfield St., Boston, MA 02215

CHAIR TF ON ETHNIC/RACIAL MINORITY ISSUES Connie Chan, Ph.D.

CO-CHAIRS DIVISION 44 ANNUAL Greg Herek, Ph.D., Dept of Psychology, UC Davis, Davis, CA 95616; Beverly Greene, Ph.D., 26 St. Johns Pl., 3rd Fl., Brooklyn, NY 11217

CO-CHAIRS STUDENT AFFILIATE Michael Keren, 292 Barrow St., #4, Jersey City, NJ 07302; Lisa Frey 9 Grove Rd, Natick, MA, 01760

NEWSLETTER EDITOR Dee Bridgewater, Ph.D., 9033 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 406, Beverly Hills, CA 90211

APA LIAISON Clinton Anderson; APA; 1200 17th ST., NW; Washington, D.C. 20036; (202) 955-7727 or (202) 483-5185

Individuals interested in serving on Division 44's Executive Committee can contact: Jeffrey Rehm, Ph.D.; P.O. Box 8422; Orange, CA 92664; (714) 634-5942

News from Adrienne

(The following article was submitted by Adrienne Smith, Ph.D., Division 44's Past-President, and a long-time role model of an openly lesbian psychologist.)

First, I want to thank all of you who sent warm wishes my way in the form of flowers and cards while I was in the hospital and after. I recovered from the surgery very quickly. BUT, during the surgery the surgeon saw some small liver metastases which have been confirmed by CT scan.

So, the fight against cancer is on. I am currently doing several alternative treatments including a macrobiotic diet. For those of you who have joined me in various restaurants and know my love of food that's some changel But, amazingly, it tastes good, if somewhat limited, and has been very good for my body and energy level.

Cancer has also led me to speed up some life decisions that I probably would have put off for another ten or so years. I ended my practice as of November 4, 1990. I plan to do some travelling and writing. To this end I will buy a motorhome (an RV), sell my house in Chicago and use the office address (the address that appears in this newsletter and all my APA correspondence) and space there as my Chicago home when I am in town. I may be visiting some of you to park my RV in your driveway but I'll let you know first.

My current plans include interviewing people with cancer around the country for a potential book tentatively titled *Women Living with Cancer*. If you know any women who would fit that category, both lesbian and straight, write me and I may arrange a visit. All this will not begin till after the first of the year.

I would also welcome your ideas, thoughts, or experiences with cancer and, of course, your prayers, good thoughts or whatever. If you write me, however, I will probably not respond since I'm in the midst of so much activity. So know that I'm thinking of you and of all of Division 44 warmly even though I may not say it to you personally.

[Address: Adrienne Smith, Ph.D.; 1641 West Irving Park; Chicago, IL 60613]

ALGP Telephone Tree

Last year at executive committee meetings during the APA Convention in New Orleans, William Bailey, APA's lobbyist in Washington, D.C., asked ALGP and SPSLGI to encourage members to contact their senators and congresspersons regarding two bills of importance to gay and lesbian concerns. One of these had to do with funding for research on sexuality; another with disability benefits affecting persons with AIDS. Because of congressional timetables, action had to be swift and immediate.

At the time neither organization had an effective method to contact their membership that was both fast and cost effective. Consequently, the executive committees of both Division 44 and ALGP resolved to establish a nationwide network that could respond quickly and efficiently to requests for action on any issue of import.

Because ALGP is independent from APA, it enjoys greater flexibility than Division 44 in matters such as these. Hence, both committees determined to organize the phone tree under ALGP's leadership.

The phone tree is a nationwide communication network designed to mobilize immediate action on issues concerning psychology and the lesbian and gay community. It is designed to be used on issues affecting local, regional and national affairs. It lets legislators, the media, and others know that they are being watched and held accountable for their actions.

Just like a real tree, the phone tree is divided into trunks, branches and leaves. The executive committees of both groups constitute the trunks. They would place calls to individuals throughout the country. These persons would then call three or four others who would then call three or four others and so on till all parts of the tree had been contacted. Each caller would advise the phone tree participant of the issue at hand and an action to be taken.

The phone tree is a potent way for individuals interested in gay and lesbian affirmative action to become vitally involved while maintaining their anonymity. The name and telephone numbers of phone tree participants are known only to the executive committees of ALGP and Division 44 and to the phone tree participant responsible for calling the specific individual.

To sign up to be a phone tree participant, contact: *ALGP Phone Tree; c/o Armand Cerbone, Ph.D.; 990 W. Fullerton, Suite 490; Chicago, IL 60614; (312) 248-0292.*

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Conferences

The National Lesbian and Gay Health Foundation is sponsoring its 13th National and 4th International Conference in New Orleans July 24-28, 1991. This annual conference provides an opportunity for health care providers and caregivers to discuss issues of importance to the lesbian and gay community. It also gives mental health professionals of diverse disciplines an opportunity to learn, exchange ideas and contribute to new thinking about the emotional needs and well being of the gay and lesbian community. We hope you will plan to attend and submit a proposal for presentation. For further information contact: *The National Lesbian and Gay Health Foundation, Inc.; P.O. Box 65472; Washinton, D.C. 20035 or call (202)797-3708.*

Research Projects

Lesbian sexual identity formation amongst women with religious backgrounds or experience is the focus of a research project by Jean H. Orost, Ed.D. If you wish to participate in this study send a request for a questionnaire to: *Sterling Psychological Associates; RD 2; Box 760; Johnson, VT 05656.*

Women Living with Cancer is the tentative title of a book currently being researched by Adrienne Smith, Ph.D. Dr. Smith is currently interviewing women, both lesbian and non-lesbian, who have been diagnosed with cancer. If you know of any women who would wish to be interviewed for the project, please contact: *Adrienne Smith, Ph.D.; 1641 West Irving Park; Chicago, IL 60613*

Poland's first AIDS services are being formed under the auspices of the Christian Help Society. The society consists of medical doctors, psychologists, nurses, and volunteers. They are developing a program of education, personnel training, and establishing AIDS facilities. They are interested in receiving help in the form of research materials; education and training models; and financial assistance. If interested contact: *Christian Help Society; 02-008 Warszawa, Koszykowa 82 A; Poland or telephone/fax (2) 659 36 67.*

Award Nominations

APA's Committee on Scientific Awards is seeking award nominations for its ongoing awards program. Awards are made in three categories: the Distinguished Scientific Contribution Award; the Distinguished Scientific Award for Applications of Psychology; and the Distinguished Scientific Award for an Early Career Contribution to Psychology. The deadline for the awards is February 1, 1991. If you have any questions regarding the nominations process and/or wish to submit a nomination, contact: *The Science Directorate; APA; 1200 17th St. N.W.; Washington, D.C. 20036 or call (202) 955-7653.*

The William James Book Award, sponsored by APA's Division of General Psychology, is given for a submitted work, published within the past five years, that best serves to provide an integration of the diverse subfields of psychology. The award carries a price of \$1000. The deadline for nominations is April 15, 1991. For information on the nominating process or to submit a nomination contact: *William James Book Award; Department of Psychology; George Mason University; Fairfax, Virginia 22030 or call (703) 323-2203.*

Awards for excellence in consultation are being sponsored by APA's Division of Consulting Psychology. *The Perry L. Rohrer Award* is given to an APA member whose career achievements reflect outstanding service to organizations, public or private, by helping them respond more effectively to human needs. *The National Psychological Consultants to Management Award* is given to an APA member or student whose work has had a significant positive impact on an organization and/or has enhanced our knowledge and utilization of the consulting process. Each award carries a prize of \$1000. The deadline for nominations is March 29, 1991. For additional information or to submit nominations contact: *Dale R. Fuqua; Oklahoma State University; 116 N. Murray Hall; Stillwater, OK 74078 or phone (405) 744-6040.*

The Raymond D. Fowler Award, sponsored by the American Psychological Association of Graduate Students (APAGS), is given to a psychologist who has

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made an outstanding contribution to the professional development of students. The deadline for the award is December 15, 1991. For more information or to submit nominations contact: *The Education Programs Office; APA; 1200 17th St. N.W.; Washington, D.C. 20036 or call (202) 955-7735.*

The APA Public Interest Awards, sponsored by BSERP and its successor the Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest, are given in three categories: Distinguished Contributions to Psychology in the Public Interest (senior and early career categories), and Distinguished Contributions to Research in Public Policy. The deadline for nominations is March 1, 1991. For further information or to submit nominations contact: *Nancy Forest; Public Interest Directorate of APA; 1200 17th St. N.W.; Washington, D.C. 20036.*

Editorships

APA's Communications Board has opened nominations for the editorship of *Developmental Psychology* for the years 1993-1998. Candidates must be members of APA and should be available to start receiving manuscripts early in 1992. Submit nominations by January 15, 1991 to: *Norman Abeles, Ph.D.; Chair, Search Committee; Department of Psychology; 129 Psychology Research Building; Michigan State University; East Lansing, MI 48824-1117.*

Reference Materials

Violence Against Lesbians and Gay Men: Issues for Research, Practice, and Policy is a special issue of the *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* (Volume 5, #3, Fall 1990). Edited by Gregory M. Herek and Kevin T. Berrill, the journal will include articles on: the conceptualization and documentation of antigay violence; mental health consequences; public policy; and research issues and agendas. To order this volume contact: *The Journal of Interpersonal Violence; c/o SAGE Publications; 2111 W. Hillcrest Dr.; Newbury Park, CA 91320.*

APA's Division 35 Task Force on Reproductive Rights has developed two public information items related to the psychology of reproductive choice.

The first item is a one page article suitable for publication in a campus newspaper. The second is a model speech (approximately 20 minutes in duration) which reviews the psychological information on abortion in a timely and interesting manner. These materials are available free of charge. Please send a stamped (two stamps) self-addressed envelope to: *Sandra Haber, Ph.D.; 211 W. 56 St.; Suite 21 H; New York, NY 10019.*

Child Psychologist Network

As members of Division 44 each of you recognizes the special personal and professional issues and problems faced by gay and lesbian psychologists. These problems can often be compounded when one chooses to work primarily with children and families.

Anecdotal data suggest that there are a relatively large number of gay and lesbian child psychologists. Unfortunately, most of them work without a professional support network which specifically addresses their concerns. Kevin O'Connor, a child psychologist, is interested in developing such a network.

To do this he needs to identify professionals who would be willing to become involved in such an endeavor. If you are interested please contact: *Kevin O'Connor, Ph.D.; Director Child/Family Training; California School of Professional Psychology; 1350 M Street; Fresno, CA 93721 or call (209) 486-0432*

Leadership Conference

APA's Committee on Division/APA Relations is pleased to announce the 1991 Division Leadership Conference. The conference will be held in Washington, D.C. from January 19-20.

Dorothy Eichorn will be the keynote speaker. In addition to the executive directors of the APA Directorates, APA President Stanley Graham and Executive Officer Raymond Fowler will be present.

The deadline for registration is December 21, 1990. Division officers who wish to attend can contact Richard Mikesell at APA.

From Stigma to Paradigm: The Uses of Difference

by Adrienne Smith, Ph.D.

(The following is a transcript of the Division 44 Presidential Address that was made at the APA Convention in Boston last August. Due to illness, Dr. Smith was unable to personally deliver the address. Connie S. Chan, Ph.D., read the address for her.)

While I was casting about for the words to tell you what I wanted to say today, I came upon a wonderful quote by Alice Walker. And while I was thinking of the quote and reverberating to it, into my head popped the following phrase: "I will take as my text for today. . ." It was then that I realized that my speech had become a sermon. One of the many advantages of being past 50, of attaining the honored status of crone, is that I now confer on myself the right to preach, to share my vision of how the world could be. So today you will be hearing my laywoman's version of a sermon.

In her book *The Temple of My Familiar* Alice Walker put these words in the mouth of an African man who had been in jail and now was a minister in his home country, the same country that had jailed him. These words, therefore, are my text.

"To the extent that it is possible you must live in the world today as you wish everyone to live in the world to come. That can be your contribution. Otherwise, the world you want will never be formed. Why? Because you are waiting for others to do what you are not doing; and they are waiting for you, and so on. The planet goes from bad to worse."

I know we have not been waiting; you have not been waiting for others to do it. If we had waited, there would be no Division 44, and I would not be standing here preaching. As lesbians and gay men we worked from the very center of our beings, from the center of our own pain of difference, to make a place for ourselves within psychology. Now that our goal is achieved and our home in APA is secure, What Next? I believe we can use our experience of difference our intimate knowledge of ourselves as outsiders to hear--with or third ear, if you will, what it is to be different in this world and to meet other outsiders in a joint effort to create the world to come. In order to do that we must stay centered in ourselves and, no matter the seductions of power,

in our awareness of difference.

Recently all of us had the opportunity to see or hear or read about Nelson Mandela and how he handled questions and interviews during his visit to the U.S. He did not allow others to set his agenda; he knew exactly what he wanted to say and he said it without apology and without battle. he, in fact, acted as if he already lived in the world he was trying to build. He asked no one's permission and bowed to no one. He was totally centered in himself and could not be deflected from that center.

Like Nelson Mandela, Gertrude Stein did not measure herself against anyone else's standards so she could not be made to feel inferior. Listen to her explanation of one experience in England. "Now I. I am a Jew, and I never make any bones about it. So in England I had a wonderful time when I went for the Cambridge lectures because no one expected me to be anything but a Jew and I could say what I pleased, even before I was I." Try saying that sentence and substituting "I am a lesbian" or "I am a gay man" and see how well it fits. We have the same privilege--because we are members of a despised minority--we have nothing to lose. As long as we do not try to measure ourselves by others' definitions and standards we have the freedom to be ourselves. And by taking that freedom we deny others the right to define us. The reverse of that life-giving stance is the demand on us to recognize that all other people have that same freedom. They all define themselves. As we listen from our own outsider position we will hear the humanity of all others and learn about our commonalities.

I have been blessed--by being born a woman and a Jew and by discovering that I am a lesbian. I have also been blessed by having to deal with and survive the particular set of circumstances which made up my own brand of fairly unhappy adolescence. And I have been most blessed by living and learning long enough to recognize that as a blessing.

These are blessings because they made me an outsider. But I could only recognize them as blessings, as gifts, after I joined with others who were similarly blessed. We joined together, first as AGP, later ALGP, and then Division 44, to create a world in which we could be insiders and so that we

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Division 44 Gives Seven Awards at APA Convention

Division 44 proudly gave seven awards at the awards social hour in Boston this past August. Each recipient was truly deserving of the honor. Below is a list of those recipients and a roster of their achievements:

Distinguished Service Award

Christine Browning, Ph.D. Dr. Browning was honored for her work as SPSLGI Membership Chair for five years; her three years of service on the division's EC; her work on the APA Committee on Women; and her devotion to lesbian and gay concerns at the University of California, Irvine.

Kristin A. Hancock, Ph.D. Dr. Hancock was honored for her service as a past SPSLGI president; first Chair of the Task Force on Future Directions; first woman Chair of the Association of Gay Psychologists (she was instrumental in adding Lesbian to the name of the organization as well as to the Committee on Gay Concerns); and for facilitating the removal of "ego-dystonic homosexuality" from the DSM-II-R.

Distinguished Educational Contribution Award

Douglas C. Kimmel, Ph.D. was honored for his contributions in the area of education, both public and private, through numerous publications including work on aging in lesbians and gay men; and his international teaching on the subject.

Distinguished Scientific Contribution Award

John C. Gonsiorek, Ph.D. was honored for his theoretical and empirical contributions to gay and lesbian studies in the areas of: analysis and synthesis of scientific information about sexual orientation; the development of gay and lesbian affirmative psychotherapy; and the application of behavioral science methodologies to HIV infection prevention.

John L. Martin, Ph.D. was honored for his carefully designed and executed research in the area of HIV infection that has led to theoretical and empirical basis for the study of AIDS-related stresses: bereavement, knowledge of infection, and anti-gay violence.

Distinguished Professional Contribution Award

Laura S. Brown, Ph.D. was honored for being at the

forefront of developing ethical principles for gay and lesbian therapists; developing models for practice with lesbian clients; and her leadership in many psychological settings.

Distinguished Professional Contribution Award

Linda Gamets, Ph.D. was honored for her advocacy efforts to improve the status of gay men and lesbians in psychology through original contributions in the areas of writing, presentations, teaching, and organizational consulting.

Division 44 wishes to extend its gratitude to the above roster of individuals for their remarkable work and achievements on the behalf of gay and lesbian psychological research.

In addition to the four service awards listed above, Division 44 has initiated a new awards category: the *Distinguished Student Award*. This award is given to students who have shown the most promise and/or have made distinguished contributions to advance the interests, goals, or purposes of SPSLGI.

The division presents its awards at the first social hour of each APA Convention. *Your input on deserving candidates is vital to assure the awards committee is aware of all viable candidates.* Self-nominations are welcomed. All nominations must be accompanied by a statement justifying the nomination. Nominees will be asked to submit a curriculum vitae and a narrative description of his/her contributions. The deadline for nominations is February 17.

If you have questions or wish to make nominations, contact: *Jeffrey M. Rehm, Ph.D.; P.O. Box 8422; Orange, CA 92664 or phone (714) 634-5942.*

Continuing Ed

Fernando Gutierrez and Sari Dworkin are planning for next year's pre-convention CE program. SPSLGI is again asking members for suggestions. It is extremely helpful if you can suggest presenters (with addresses and phone numbers) as well as ideas.

Please send your ideas to: *Sari Dworkin; Department of Counseling and Special Education; California State University-Fresno; Fresno, CA 93740-0003 or call (209)-278-2172.*

APA ENTERS THE GAY NINETIES

The American Psychological Association will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 1992. Division 44 is currently planning its Centennial Programming to coordinate with the year long activities culminating in APA's Convention in Washington, D.C. Parties interested in participating in programs celebrating 100 years of psychologists working in gay and lesbian studies; assessing the past treatment of homosexuality by the profession of psychology and ways to be more affirmative in this treatment; and setting agendas for the next 100 years of gay and lesbian psychological studies are encouraged to get in touch with SPSLGI's Centennial Committee. Interested parties can contact:

Dee Bridgewater, Ph.d.
 9033 Wilshire Blvd.
 Suite 406
 Beverly Hills, CA 90211
 (213) 392-1504

APA Mini-Conference

We are excited to announce that we will be co-sponsoring a mini-conference with the Public Interest Directorate at APA 1991. The conference is entitled *Beyond Stigma: Homosexuality as a Social Issue*.

Already several other divisions have offered programs to be part of the conference. For example, Division 19 (Military Psychology) will co-sponsor a program on the effects of discrimination in the military. Division 38 (Health Psychology) suggested sponsoring an invited address by Randy Shilts, author of *And the Band Played On*.

When thinking of submitting programs for the 1991 Convention, please keep the mini-conference in mind and see if you can tie your program to the theme. Ideas or comments are welcomed.

Please write to:

Bart Aoki, Ph.D.
 300 Fourth St.
 Suite 200
 San Francisco, CA 94107

Membership in Division 44

All social scientists with interests in applying psychological knowledge to the study of lesbian and gay issues are warmly welcomed as members, irrespective of personal sexual/affective orientation. New members are elected formally once a year in early Fall. However they are placed on the mailing list immediately if qualified for membership and if dues are paid. The five classes of membership in the division at this time are Fellows, Members, Associates, Affiliates and Student Affiliates. Affiliate members of the division are either students or non-students. Affiliates can hold membership in the APA or be non-members. Names of Affiliate members are not published in the APA Register and are kept strictly confidential.

Membership Application: SPSLGI - APA Division 44

Name _____ Date _____
 Mailing Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
 Office Phone (____) _____ Home Phone (____) _____
 Education/Highest Degree _____ Date _____ Institution _____
 Major Field of Study _____
 Professional Affiliation _____
 Present Position (Title) _____

APA Membership Status: (Circle One) Fellow Member Associate Student None

Application for Division 44 Membership as (Circle One) Fellow Member Associate Affiliate Student Affiliate Newsletter Only
 Please make check for 1989 Membership Dues or Newsletter subscription of \$20.00/\$10.00 for students (US currency only, please) payable to SPSLGI, and return check along with this application form to:

Jeremy S. Gaies, Psy.D.
 P.O. Box 270051
 Tampa, FL 33688

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4. Consider volunteering for APA boards and committees to have our voices heard throughout the decision-making bodies of APA.

5. Call your local Board of Education and find out how to participate in evaluating textbooks to make sure they are not homophobic.

6. Consider coming out in our professional lives to whatever extent we can with the hope that if we all did so, homophobia and stereotypes of lesbians and gay men would be reduced.

Even if we can't formally come out in our professional setting, we can consider getting involved in Affirmative Action committees to promote gay and lesbian equal rights. We can also speak up every time we hear homophobic statements.

7. Our mini-conference in San Francisco could be considered our launching of a campaign for a lesbian and gay civil rights bill in Congress by the year 2000. We all need to contact our senators and congresspersons either in person or by letters to promote our interests.

Let's all get involved and do our part to make 1990-91 a meaningful and constructive year for Division 44. If I can be of any assistance please give me a call at (714) 634-5942 or write me a letter at the address listed on page two of this newsletter. Here's to a great year.

DIVISION 44 FELLOWS

The status of Fellow in the American Psychological Association is awarded to those individuals who have made unusual and outstanding contributions to the science or practice of psychology. SPSLGI awards this status for extraordinary contributions in the field of lesbian and gay issues, and are proud of the growing list of individuals who have attained this honor. Nominees for Fellow status must be at least five years post-doctorate, and must be a member of SPSLGI to be considered for Fellow status.

Additionally, members of the Division who are already Fellows can apply for *old fellow* status in Division 44. Fellows need not be persons who are visible in Division activities, although conspicuous organizational contributions may also be considered in evaluating applications. To receive application materials, please write to: *Laura Brown, Fellows Chair; 4527 First Ave NE; Seattle WA 98105 or call or fax her at (206) 633-2405.*

Midwinter Meeting Update

The idea and mechanism of having a Division 44/ALGP midwinter meeting was discussed at length at APA in Boston. Both the Executive Committee of Division 44 and the Steering Committee of ALGP have decided that ALGP will be the primary organizer of the conference. It was also decided that the conference will take place in 1992 in order to give the organizers an adequate time to prepare an excellent program.

SPSLGI wishes to thank all who offered suggestions and who volunteered to help. All of the completed questionnaires which had appeared in the previous newsletter have been passed on to the ALGP organizing committee. If you wish to work with the committee or have any suggestions regarding the 1992 midwinter meeting, contact: *Jeffrey Rehm; P.O. Box 8422; Orange, CA 92664.*

SPSLGI ELECTION INFO

Two divisional offices were open for election this year; a male slot for Member-at-Large, and a female slot for President-Elect. *Armand Cerbone* won the election for Member-at-Large. The winner for the post of President Elect was *Connie Chan*. They were both installed in their offices at SPSLGI's out-going executive committee meeting at Convention in Boston last August.

SPSLGI wishes to extend its congratulations to these two fine electees. We wish them a happy and productive time in office.

Division 44 is now canvassing members for its next elections. This election we have three slots open: a male slot for President-Elect; a female slot for Member-at-Large; and a spot for a person of either gender for Secretary-treasurer.

The winners of this election will take office at the out-going Executive Committee meeting in August, 1991, and will serve for three-year terms.

To nominate a colleague (please ascertain their willingness to serve) or yourself, contact our Nominations Chair:

*Laura Brown;
4527 First Ave NE;
Seattle, WA 98105
phone/fax (206) 633-2405.*

SPSLGI Membership Report

First, let me introduce myself. My name is Jeremy Gaies, and as of the 1990 APA Convention in August, I have been the Chair of Division 44's Membership Committee. My predecessor, Christine Browning, did an outstanding job in building the membership in both size and diversity. My goal now is to carry on her success in expanding and developing our ranks.

Second, let me introduce two other individuals important to the Membership Committee: James Quinlan in Chicago and Patrick O'Hearn in Los Angeles will be working together with me on many of the ongoing and special projects of the Committee.

Third, I want to update you on our numbers. As of August 6, 1990, Division 44 was comprised of 1013 members across all categories, with 75% of those being full members, life members, or fellows. This number reflects significant growth over last year's membership, and in the coming year we hope to extend that growth further still.

If you have any ideas regarding membership development, or any questions that I can answer, please feel free to contact me:

Jeremy S. Gaies, Psy.D.
P.O. Box 270051
Tampa, FL 33688
(813) 974-4430

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING GUIDELINES

Advertising Policy: The publication of any advertisement in the Division 44 Newsletter is not an endorsement of the advertiser or of the products or services advertised. Division 44 reserves the right unilaterally to reject, omit, or cancel advertising for any reason. Advertisements that unfairly discriminate against any group or individual will not be accepted.

Advertising Rates: (For camera-ready copy)

1/8 page	\$35.00 per issue
1/4 page	\$75.00 per issue
1/2 page	\$150.00 per issue
Whole page	\$300.00 per issue

Enclosures: \$300 per issue plus any additional postage incurred by the Division to mail the enclosure.

If you have advertisements you feel would be appropriate to the Newsletter's readership of mental health professionals interested in lesbian and gay issues, mail submissions to:

Dee Bridgewater, Ph.D.
9033 Wilshire Blvd.
Suite 406
Beverly Hills, CA 90211
(213) 392-1504

SPSLGI PUBLISHES ANNUAL

The Society for the Psychological Study of Gay and Lesbian Issues of the American Psychological Association announces a call for papers for its new annual publication: *Contemporary Perspectives on Lesbian and Gay Psychology: Theory, Research and Clinical Applications*.

The coeditors invite potential authors to begin developing papers to be considered for inclusion in future volumes. Volume 2 (1993) will be devoted to papers on the impact of AIDS on the gay male and lesbian community. Volume 3 (1994) will be a general volume. Volume 4 (1995) will be devoted to papers on lesbian and gay male adolescents, families, and couples. Volume 5 (1996) will be devoted to papers on racial, ethnic, and cultural diversity within the lesbian and gay male community. (Volume one's deadline is passed.)

Instructions to contributors: Style as detailed in the APA Publication Manual, 3d. Edition should be used. Division 44 Editorial Policy and APA Standards for the use of nonsexist language should also be followed. Authors of research articles will be required to submit a statement demonstrating that APA ethical standards were upheld in the conduct of the research. Human subject samples must be representative of the populations to which results are to be generalized. When samples are not representative, limitations on the generalizability of results must be noted explicitly in the body of the paper and the abstract, and should be reflected in the title of the paper.

Manuscripts accompanied by a 200 word abstract should be submitted in duplicate to the coeditors: *Beverly Greene, Ph.D.*; 26 St. Johns Place; Brooklyn, NY 11217; (201) 456-6833
Gregory Herek, Ph.D.; Dept. of Psychology; University of California; Davis, CA 95616; (916) 757-3240

(Stigma to Paradigm, continued from page six)
could make changes in the world of psychology that was oppressing us.

Being outsiders is a gift. It is a gift that is too easy to forget when we begin to acquire some of the perks of the insider. Division 44 is now old enough and established enough that, if we do not maintain constant awareness of our history and our outsider status, we could become part of the establishment of psychology and participate in ignoring or oppressing others who are now the outsider to our insider. It is a classic sequence--yesterday's outsiders who were battling to break down the barriers to their entrance into the halls of power can often be seen fighting to protect those same halls against the next "invaders".

Or yesterday's outsiders are so grateful for being accepted in the inner circle that they uncritically accept the values of the establishment. Recently a politically active white gay man who was a delegate to a national political convention returned home and, with his face glowing, said "It was wonderful. They treated me just like one of the boys." Perhaps it is easier for white men to be seduced into fooling themselves that, except for this one little teeny difference, they are the same as the ruling power elite. Perhaps it is easier for white women also. We are, after all, the "right" color. I doubt if either men of color or women of color are so easily fooled. Can we resist the seduction of acceptance and remember we are outsiders, even if we are in the seats of power?

If we succumb to such temptations we lose the most vital piece of our identity; our difference, and, with it, we lose the ability and integrity to work in concert with others whose differences cannot be so quickly forgotten.

Another danger, another way to destroy the gift of the outsider, is for us not to know when and where we can stop fighting. I remember my embarrassed awareness after I finished reading one of May Sarton's novels years ago when I recognized that I was tensed to fight against a literary mistreatment of lesbianism which I did not find in the book. The lesbian couple in the book was treated with the same respect, no less but also no more than other relationships. I was looking for a fight and there was none.

How many of us get stuck in battle positions? Of course, we still have many battles to fight. But how often do we become defensive or attacking because that's the only stance we really know or feel

comfortable with? So we are caught between the two extremes of activists--either we become part of the establishment after we have won the fight which made us activists in the first place, or we don't know how to stop fighting, even where it's no longer necessary. Our task, as a division and as individuals, is to find the middle ground and to use our present position as respectable members of the psychology establishment to extend our outsider consciousness and activism beyond our own houses.

If we stop at making our lives better as lesbians and gay men, at influencing psychology so that lesbians and gay men receive equal treatment as students, as psychologists and as clients, at achieving the goals of the gay and lesbian rights movement--Yes, we will have done a great deal. But we would have failed as human beings who have received the blessings of outsider status and the gift of difference. We would have cared for ourselves alone and ignored the rest of the world. Does that make us any different from all of the special interest groups that have excluded us?

But how do we do this? It sounds like a formidable task. I suspect it sounds formidable because we see it as a "job to be done" rather than what it truly is, a way of being. *We do it by being ourselves.* We do it by recognizing our commonality with others and working together within those commonalities. Judy Grahn, in her book, *Really Reading Gertrude Stein*, explains that commonality means as follows: "Commonality means standing exactly where you are, and noticing what part of you overlaps with others who are standing exactly where they are."

She continues, "Commonality differs from universality by having infinite numbers of changeable centers, where universal by definition and by usage, has only one. When universality is the principle, we search in another's work for that portion we can identify with--and dismiss the remainder as not relevant [because not 'ours']. When commonality is the principle, we search for what overlaps with ourselves, then learn what we can from the remainder and leave it alone with respect as a whole that belongs to, that is, is centered in, someone else, not 'us'.

Grahn goes on to say, "Commonality is more complex than equality because it has a subjective and a collective meaning in addition to the leveling action of equality. Equality of the whole field says that each element equally matters and is centered in itself. Commonality says that each element in the

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field equally matters and is centered in itself and in addition is in continual overlapping relation to every other element.

"What do we have in common' means how are we related subjectively and objectively, whereas 'how are we equal' means how are we seen as similar by outside eyes."

What do we have in common with, how are we related to each other? To people of other ethnic groups? Of other ages? Of other genders? Of other abilities? Not how are we equal but what is our overlapping relation? As gay men and lesbians we have in common the fight of difference, the experience of outsidership. We know in our own lives, in our own guts, the pain of exclusion, the fear of verbal or physical attack, the rage of invisibility. We also know the joy of comradeship, the excitement of multifaceted awareness, the anguish of choosing among competing loyalties, the erosion of self-hatred and the sheer delight of recalibrated self-love.

These knowings we share with every other group that has been stigmatized as "not good enough". Our experiences are not the same but we can use our self-knowledge, our being centered exactly where we are, to enable us to listen to exactly where our differently stigmatized sisters and brothers are.

Gays and lesbians are part of all other groups. We are in every country, in every class level, in every age group, in every ability group, in every profession and job classification, living on the streets and in the corporate boardrooms. Lesbians and gays are the only oppressed group that was born to and raised by our oppressors. We know their ways well. We know their ways so well that we are in the best of all possible positions to effect changes in these ways. We can infiltrate. Because we look like, talk like and usually act like the group members we can influence and connect the groups.

We are ripe for an inter-ethnic and international movement that will seek not only what is good for lesbians and gay men but that will also ask how can we, as persecuted members of our own ethnic/racial groups, use our knowledge of ourselves as outsiders to promote communication. We will connect first with other lesbians and gay men within our own group, then with our gay and lesbian counterparts in other groups and, from that base of commonality promote greater understanding and working together of all group members--heterosexual, bisexual, celibate as well as lesbian and gay male.

Let's listen to each other. We can learn many ways of viewing the world and with these new perspectives, added to the creativity of living our lives as lesbians and gay men, we can turn the world upside down or rather we can open it into many directions, not just up or down. Let's use our common awareness of being one down (at least) as a beginning ground upon which to stand as we open ourselves up to the experiences of other groups.

Or we can continue to do what the established power structure wants us to do, we can stay in our own little group, we can stay at each others throats, we can claim our national boundaries, we can praise our group over all others, we can, in sum, spend our precious life energy fighting amongst ourselves. And who gains by that? You know the answer--the power elite does. We can each cower in our own corners or we can use our commonality to infiltrate across national, ethnic, language, age, ability and all other boundaries.

Being an outsider forced me to learn to maneuver in many different worlds and prevented me from becoming stuck in a single viewpoint. As Laura Brown pointed out, all lesbians and gays are bicultural and frequently multicultural. In fact everyone is multicultural except those few isolated peoples who have not had contact with groups other than their own and except for the so-called dominant group; in this country, white, middle-class, temporarily able-bodied, heterosexual males between the ages of 25 and 55. These males are also isolated from contact with groups other than their own since they do not perceive that these groups have anything of value to offer them. They see them only as deviant. These males are deficient--they are unable to perceive multiculturally. They are locked into a rigid, tunnel vision of the world. Unfortunately for the rest of us who have broader and deeper vision, they are usually the ones who own the guns. Owning the guns--or the bows and arrows or the lances or the planes or the missiles or the bombs--owning these instruments of force has given a small group of people the might--which they translate into right--to dictate to the vast majority of the rest of us what is the correct way of thinking and being and what are the not correct ways. It is time--it is past time--that the majority--us--use our ability to see many realities to work with the many realities.

The world we are working to change is based on who has the guns--or the muscle--to exercise

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power over others. A world in which power differences rule sets the standards of right and wrong, of good and bad, based on who has the power. By such a definition those with the power are good and those without are bad. Furthermore, questioning this definition automatically removes you from the group of those who are good to the group of the bad ones. Even the white men who fit all the criteria to be members of the ruling elite--when it becomes known they are gay are expelled from power. Look at Howard Brown. Look at Barney Frank. Let's look at them. Both of these men came out in response to a combination of pressure and pride and, by coming out, both of these men confounded the stereotypical assumptions that one could not be gay and effective in a power position. And they are not alone. Increasingly, well known people in all fields are coming out--Martina, Adrienne Rich, James Baldwin and Audre Lorde to name a few. More and more of them--and us-- are proudly visible. While I believe that being out is a major requirement for the world to come, I am not suggesting the current practice of outing which I think is a misguided attempt to use force to counter force. As Audre Lorde said, "The master's tools will never dismantle the master's house."

The world to come, the one we are working to create, is a world without power differences. There will, of course, be many kinds of differences but none of them will set one person above another. Recently one of our allies, Roger Wilkins, in defending the right to be "uppity", that is to define themselves, described Jesse Jackson and Marian Wright Edelman, as "Walking advertisements for the values that conservative white Americans incessantly urge on blacks". He then went on to illustrate these values by saying, "Both are devoted parents who transmit family values, within the context of a stable marriage, to their children." This is an ally? He may not have known, consciously, how heterosexist that remark was so we need to educate him. We need to let him and all our allies know that the values of conservative white Americans are not necessarily something to be adopted without question and that "devoted parents" and "stable marriage" cannot be used as synonyms for caring, stable people.

But before we do that, how many of us have ever made a derogatory remark about someone or some group not our own? How many of us have used "christian" as a synonym for "good person"? How

many of us have said "that's mighty white of him" to mean that was a good thing he did? How many of us have used the term "goyish kopf" to indicate someone not as quick witted as ourself? How many of us have said "I jewed him down" to mean I bargained? How many of us have used a term to describe someone who was not a member of our own group? You probably all know the meaning of the word "goy" to designate a non-Jew. Did you know that the Armenians have a similar term, "odar", to designate a non-Armenian? And how many other groups see the world as divided into "us" and "them"?

Aren't these terms the result of persecution and oppression? Can we identify ourselves with pride without disidentifying with others who we see as threatening? Do we need to feel better than to feel as good as? Think of the people you feel the most hatred for. Aren't these the same people you are most frightened of? And perhaps with good reason. Perhaps these people have attacked and persecuted you or your group. But how will continuing hatred protect us? How will hatred disarm our enemies? If we return other's savagery with our vengeance we become them, not just for a time but forever. We live in a power society but if we try to fight it using power, that is, the master's tools, we will either be overpowered or learn to live by power ourselves. Let's use our own tools, the tools of difference, of outsidersness, of commonality.

By using the gift of difference, by using our ability to function in several worlds at once, we can subvert the power structure not by a frontal attack but through infiltrating and ultimately changing the existing system.

Are the power differences in heterosexual couples and in nuclear families destructive? Just look at the incest and wife abuse statistics. We can teach these couples and families how to make relations based on equal power. Any of you who have achieved it know how difficult such a relation is and how continual is the struggle to maintain equality and selfhood. But you also know how rewarding it is. Because our relationships are between two people of the same gender they are paradigmatic of relationships of equal power. We can teach that, by example, by writing, by offering courses, by, in fact, being role models for healthy adult relationships as Barbara Love suggested 15 years ago. And we can take this knowledge and apply it to our own painful struggles to hear and see people who are different from ourselves.

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Those of us born with white skin can stop apologizing for it--it is, after all, nothing but an accident of birth and nothing to either brag about or apologize for. We can use the entries into the dominant culture that our white skin privilege has bought us to open doors through which all of us can enter.

Those of us whose skin color has placed us in target groups since birth can use the skills and abilities that survival in this culture has taught us. Those of us who are older and those who are younger can join to temper energy with experience and timidity with boldness. Those of us who are differently-abled can alert us to the unquestioned assumptions that our everyday physical environment makes. And each of us, in every group in which we live, can remind the world that gender roles are not fixed and immutable, that typically "masculine" traits and typically "feminine" traits can coexist in a variety of mixes.

Imagine the strength of a movement made up of all the commonalities, of all the learning we can each bring to it. Imagine all of us outsiders joining together, using our differences to form one great planet in which differences will be honored and power to dominate will no longer determine the worth of a person.

If the human mind can imagine it, human determination and work can create it. As is written in the Talmud, "You are not expected to complete the work in your lifetime. Neither must you refuse to do your unique part."

SPSLGI ARCHIVIST NAMED

Arnold S. Kahn, Ph.D., has been named to the position of Division 44's Archivist. He has been charged with the collection, cataloguing, and preservation of historically important material relating to Division 44. Dr. Kahn is currently preparing a listing of the archival records for the 1991 Convention in San Francisco.

If you have any material, e.g. research papers, documents, audio or video tapes, photographs, etc. that you feel would be appropriate for inclusion in the Division 44 Archives, please contact Dr. Kahn at the address listed below:

*Arnold Kahn, Ph.D.
Department of Psychology
James Madison University
Harrisonburg, VA 22807*

LIVING ENDOWMENT

Division 44 has established a Living Endowment Program to support the work of the division. Individuals are encouraged to include donations to Division 44 in the writing of their wills, thus creating a living endowment to the organization.

Monies donated from this Living Endowment would be invested in no or very low risk interest-bearing money market accounts. Only the interests received from these accounts would be used by the division as untargetted donations to defray the operating costs of Division 44. Thus, the Living Endowment would be held in perpetuity.

Contributors to the fund in 1990 included J. Ray Ferguson and Terry S. Gock. Division 44 wishes to thank them for their generosity.

For further information, please contact:

*Jeffrey Rehm, Ph.D.
P.O. Box 8422
Orange, CA 92664*

CLGC Publications Available

The Committee on Lesbian and Gay Concerns (CLGC), a continuing committee of APA's Board of Social and Ethical Responsibility for Psychology, is charged with representing the concerns of gay male and lesbian psychologists and gay male and lesbian consumers of psychology. CLGC has generated *A Selected Bibliography of Lesbian and Gay Concerns in Psychology: An Affirmative Perspective 1990*.

For further information on: this publication, other CLGC publications, and the committee itself contact: *CLGC, American Psychological Association; 1200 17th St., NW; Washington, D.C. 20036*.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

The Division 44 Newsletter was created to keep division members informed on issues of importance to psychologists working in the area of lesbian and gay studies. The newsletter publishes updates on the work of the division's executive committee; notices of relevant conferences; announcements of award competitions and recipients; abstracts of recent, pertinent research; book reviews; etc.

Deadlines are: February 1; July 1; and October 1. For further information and submissions contact: *Dee Bridgewater; 9033 Wilshire Blvd; Suite 406; Beverly Hills, CA 90212; (213) 392-1504*.

AIDS ROUNDTABLE AT CONVENTION 1990

(The following article is a reprint of "Convention 1990: AIDS Roundtable Discussion", an article that appeared in the October, 1990 edition of APA's Psychology & AIDS Exchange Newsletter.)

Among the AIDS-related programming for the 1990 APA Convention was a Roundtable Discussion for AIDS Network members and others interested in AIDS issues. The program was designed to give participants an update on AIDS programming and important AIDS issues in APA, to receive members' ideas and suggestions about APA activities related to AIDS, and to provide a forum for information exchange among members of the AIDS Resource Network.

Discussion leaders made brief presentations and invited comments and questions by the audience:

Steve Morin, former Chair of the Task Force on Psychology and AIDS and current member of the Board of Directors, outlined the history of AIDS program and policy development in APA and commented on AIDS-related issues that the Association currently is addressing. He also announced that the Council of Representatives has approved and funded a 6-member Ad Hoc Committee on Psychology and AIDS to be appointed this fall.

Jacquelyn Gentry, Director of the APA Office on AIDS, reported on the current APA activities related to AIDS, including the development of the AIDS Resource Network and the "Psychology and AIDS Exchange."

John Anderson, Director of the APA AIDS Community Training Program, described how APA has trained more than 1500 service providers and helped to forge local coalitions of AIDS service agencies over the past 2-1/2 years of an NIMH-supported training project.

Bill Bailey, AIDS Policy Officer for APA, noted the importance of APA's participation in National Organizations Responding to AIDS (NORA), a coalition of advocacy groups, tracing their contributions to the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Act, and other legislative developments.

Thomas Coates, a research scientist from the University of California at San Francisco, reviewed projections of how the AIDS epidemic is likely to develop over the next decade and what the implications are for behavioral and social science research.

Members were frustrated that AIDS was not an index term for the Convention program, but were gratified to learn that it will be next year.

Participants were discouraged by the paucity of psychologists who are actively engaged in AIDS work. They sense a general awareness of and support for AIDS as a community concern, but feel that there is little movement toward genuine professional involvement in AIDS-related research, education, services, or policy matters.

Many have found that local counseling services before and after HIV testing are minimal, and that there is a great need for good curricula and training programs to prepare counselors who can sensitively respond to and educate persons who come for testing.

Clinicians have witnessed among psychologists an ostrich-like resistance to instruction/counseling their clients on AIDS, safe sex, and risk reduction.

Many persons seem to resist involvement with AIDS services because they feel that the plight of persons with AIDS is hopeless and that professional interventions won't "make a difference."

Participants in the APA AIDS Community Training Conferences, however, have reported a significant move toward hopefulness and a feeling that they can be effective in enhancing the lives of persons with AIDS.

Many feel that AIDS education requirements should be built into standards and evaluative criteria for licensure, accreditation, and other professional control mechanisms should be developed. ACT-type conferences would be useful for college teachers who could develop AIDS-related courses. Peer education and peer counseling on AIDS would be a sensible approach to young adult populations in school.

Public statements that the greatest risk for HIV infection rests among inner-city people of color are pernicious, for too often they contribute to disregard of risk among the large population of people who don't fit those categories. It is essential that sound information about risk for HIV infection be taken personally and seriously by all segments of the population in every part of the country.

More research is needed on behavior change and how social norms change to support behaviors that prevent the spread of infection. Further, the effectiveness of early intervention for HIV disease calls for research on secondary prevention techniques that will encourage people who are infected to get prompt medical services.

Youth Suicide Report

(The following article is reprinted from the August, 1990 edition of the Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists Newsletter)

In June, Dr. Melvin Sabshin, Medical Director of the American Psychiatric Association sent a response to Secretary Louis Sullivan, MD, of Health and Human Services regarding the omission of recommendations responding to the studies on the incidence of suicide among gay and lesbian youth and the need for targeting gays and lesbians as an important high risk population. Congressmen Dannemeyer and Dorman of the Health and Human Services Youth Task Force put pressure on Secretary Sullivan to omit recommendations and actions involving gay and lesbian youth.

The letter from Dr. Sabshin states, "While certain members of Congress have asked you to eliminate or disavow the sections dealing with suicide and gay and lesbian youth, we would remind you that the Report itself states scientific data and research support that the problem of suicide attempts and successful suicides in gay and lesbian youth is two to three times greater than in the general youth population; this important information needs to be shared with all people concerned with youth suicide. As noted above, the American Psychiatric Association long ago studied research and data concerning homosexuality and clearly concluded that homosexuality was not a mental illness."

The letter goes on to state that, "It is essential to appreciate that the American family has undergone tremendous changes in the last several decades, due to economic and social changes. Initiatives to assist gay male and lesbian youth will in no way undermine the institution of the family. Meeting the mental health needs of a segment of our society strengthens our whole society."

The letter continues, stating that they have included a copy of the American Psychiatric Association's Task Force Report on Changing Family Patterns which discusses the changes in the family which have occurred in the last decades in our country.

Finally, the letter asks for the Secretary to reflect on "how to provide critical leadership to medical and scientific concerns without regard to politically inspired controversy."

ALGP CALL FOR CONVENTION PROGRAMS

The Association of Lesbian and Gay Psychologists is seeking program proposals for its suite program at APA in San Francisco. All proposals of relevance to lesbian and gay mental health will be considered. Presenters do not need to be psychologists or members of APA.

Please indicate your preference for a one hour or two hour presentation. The deadline for submissions is February 15, 1991 Send three copies of a one page description of your presentation and a brief vitae to: *Jane Levin; 3636 Pleasant Ave. South; Minneapolis, MN 55409; (612) 641-1009*

AGPA FORMS GAY/LESBIAN SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

The American Group Psychotherapy Association (AGPA) is a national organization for group psychotherapists and group psychotherapy. In June, 1990, the Executive Committee of AGPA unanimously approved a proposal submitted by Joel Frost, Ph.D., a Boston psychologist, to establish a gay, lesbian, and bisexual special interest group in the organization. Formally titled the "Special Interest Group on Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Issues", AGPA's newest special interest group will have a meeting table at the Special Interest Group Luncheon at the AGPA Annual Conference in February, 1991 in San Antonio, Texas.

The fledgling group now has 20 members and is looking to expand its membership. Dr. Frost is also a member of AGPA's Liaison Committee and is working to establish greater ties with his organization and Division 44 and APA in general.

If you are interested in joining AGPA's Special Interest Group on Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Issues contact:

*Joel Frost, Ph.D.
520 Commonwealth Ave.
Suite 214
Boston, Massachusetts 02215
(617) 266-1616*

RIGHTS OF GAY AND LESBIAN PARENTS

The following article was prepared by Clinton Anderson of APA's Office of Social and Ethical Responsibility. It covers APA's activities vis a vis the parental rights of lesbian and gay parents from 1976 to 1990.

It has been APA's policy since 1975 to work to remove the stigma associated with homosexuality and to support legal protections against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. This policy has been implemented in four amicus briefs at the Federal appellate level.

APA Policy on Child Custody or Placement. At its September 1976 meeting, the Council adopted a policy specifically on sexual orientation as a factor in parental rights: "The . . .sexual orientation of natural, or prospective adoptive or foster parents should not be the sole or primary variable considered in custody or placement cases."

Activities Aimed toward Changing Law: Amicus Brief. In September, 1985, the Committee on Lesbian and Gay Concerns (CLGC) requested that the Board of Director's ad hoc Committee on Legal Issues (COLI) "study potential legal action or support in the form of an amicus brief relating to discrimination against gays and lesbians in child custody, adoption, and foster parenting cases." (Minutes, CLGC, September 27-28, 1985, p. 8)

In April, 1986, COLI agreed that development of a background paper should be a high priority. (Minutes, COLI, April 4-5, 1986, p. 5)

In April, 1987, APA received an offer from the ACLU to draft an amicus brief for submission to state appellate courts on behalf of the APA in custody cases involving gay and lesbian parents. The offer was accepted by APA upon the recommendation of the legal affairs officer. The first draft was received by APA in 1989 and reviewed favorably by members of CWP, CLGC, Division 41, Division 44, and staff in the Practice and Public Interest Directorates. The final draft was received July 9, 1990. It was reviewed by COLI in October 1990.

APA entry in any particular case is decided case by case. The decision is made on the basis of a complex set of considerations. However, APA encourages groups of individual psychologists and psychological associations to make use of our briefs, including the model brief we have recently received, to enter cases themselves that APA may not enter.

Activities Aimed toward Improving Expert Psychological Testimony. APA has taken a series of actions regarding this issue.

1. APA published an article in the June, 1989 issue of *American Psychologist*: Falk, P. (1989). Lesbian mothers: Psychosocial assumptions in family law. *American Psychologist*, 44, (6), 941-947.

2. Staff in the Office of Social and Ethical Responsibility received more requests for assistance in child custody cases than any other type of request. These requests come from parents, lawyers, and psychologists. To respond a resource packet has been developed and information and referral is provided.

3. Division 44 has sponsored two programs at the 1990 Convention in Boston: a symposium *Lesbian Mothers: New Models for Parenting and Families*; and a conversation hour *Legal Aspects of Child Custody in Lesbian and Gay Families*.

4. Participants at the two meetings were invited to assist in developing a resource roster of psychologists qualified to and interested in providing expert testimony in custody cases involving lesbian or gay parents.

5. CLGC and the Committee on Women in Psychology expect to have completed by the end of 1990 a publication to assist psychologists preparing to give expert testimony in child custody cases involving lesbian mothers. The publication will include a comprehensive bibliography with abstracts of the relevant literature and a discussion of the nature of expert testimony in this area.

6. Using the publication as the groundwork, the Committees plan to develop a Continuing Education program for the 1991 Convention.

For more information on any of the activities described, or to provide suggestions regarding APA's activities vis a vis lesbian and gay parents' rights contact:

Clinton Anderson
Office of Social and Ethical Responsibility
APA
1200 17th St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 955-7727

RESPONSE TO MISINFORMATION IN THE *WORLD NEWS*

At the last APA Convention in Boston, an article that appeared in *The World Journal*, a national Chinese-language daily newspaper (*World Journal*, p. 52, July 31, 1990), was brought to the attention of Division 44's Executive Committee. The article was entitled: *Chinese Immigrants and Parents of Chinese Students WATCH OUT FOR GAYS ON CAMPUS*.

The article contained stories of two, late adolescent, Chinese males who reportedly turned gay after being exposed to the environment of America's more permissive culture. The article states (translated from the original Chinese):

After learning the "tragic" facts, the parents of the two Chinese students both went to psychiatric sessions. According to psychologists, young students are likely to have sexual fantasies in their age range. They would have curiosity toward people of both the same and opposite sex. If during this period, the child does not receive proper guidance, he or she is likely to develop "perverse sexual desires", and often times becomes a homosexual

According to John Cheng's (one of the reported adolescents) brother, he hopes that through love and education, John may "jump out of the homosexual community." He hopes that all parents would spend more time with their kids. Otherwise it may be too late to rescue them from any deviant problems.

Many Chinese parents feel that the American schools would automatically take good care of their kids. Yet the American way of education is different from that of Taiwan, it may bring psychological changes to their kids. So if the kids are not well looked after, similar problems (turning gay) may repeat itself.

John's mother blames herself for not taking good care of John, which resulted in John becoming gay. She urges all Chinese parents to take moral lessons from her son.

Division 44's Executive Committee felt that a letter needed to be sent to the editor of the *World Journal* addressing the misinformation contained in the article. The following is a copy of the letter: Dear Editor. An article in the July 31, 1990 edition of your newspaper on homosexuality (page 52) has recently come to our attention. We are writing to express our grave concern about the pervasive misinformation, errors, and distortions contained in that article.

As you know, the American Psychological Association (APA) is the national organization of psychologists with over 70,000 members. Division 44 and 45 are the respective units within APA dedicated to the scientific study and understanding of gay/lesbian issues and ethnic minority issues. The Asian American Psychological Association is the national organization of Asian American psychologists which promotes the scientific understanding of psychological issues with respect to the Asian Pacific communities. The Association of Lesbian and Gay Psychologists is a national organization which, as one of its purposes, serves as a consulting resource on psychological issues of relevance to lesbian and gay persons.

The statements in the above-mentioned article suggest that homosexuality is a result of the "bad" influence of others, that it could be changed by the "love and education" provided by family members, and that it is somehow the product of the mainstream (American) social and educational system. Such beliefs are all simply outdated, wrong, and inconsistent with our current understanding of human behaviors. While we empathize with the shock, pain, and hurt of the parents mentioned in the article when they found out that their children did not conform with their sexual orientation expectations, perpetuating the myths and misinformation contained in this article would only serve to prolong their sufferings by giving them false hope as well as maintain their family disharmony.

Since the mid-1970's, both the psychological and the psychiatric professions have officially not considered homosexuality per se as a mental disorder or psychological abnormality requiring change or treatment. The fact is that homosexuality exists in all cultures and spans all ethnicities, including in the Chinese culture (past and present, local and overseas). The scientific evidence now clearly indicates that a person's sexual

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(Homophobia, continued from page eighteen)
orientation is determined through very complex biosocial processes at a very young age and is not a result of "undersirable" influences as implied in this article. Moreover, treatment attempts to change one's sexual orientation are quite futile and encouragement to seek such "change therapy" only serve to further the emotional distress already experienced by the gay/lesbian persons and their families.

Given the national circulation of your newspaper, we strongly urge you to correct the misinformation and print articles with accurate and current knowledge on homosexuality to help your readers better understand and be informed in this area. Our organizations have the appropriate resources and are happy to share them with you. We suggest that you contact Dr. Terry S. Gock, a Chinese-American psychologist in your area who is a member of both of our APA Divisions and respective organizations as well as the Associate Director of the Asian Pacific Family Center in Rosemead, California. He can be your liaison in terms of accessing such information. (Dr. Gock's phone number was included.)

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

The letter was then signed by: Jeffrey Rehm, Ph.D., President of Division 44; Dalmas A. Taylor, Ph.D., Interim President of Division 45; David S. Goh, Ph.D., President of the Asian American Psychological Association; and Catherine Acuff, Ph.D., Chair of the Steering Committee of the Association of Lesbian and Gay Psychologists.

If you come across any examples of media misinformation vis a vis lesbians and gay men, both within and outside of the psychological profession, please contact the Division 44 Executive Committee so that an appropriate response can be made. It is through such detailed efforts that we can help educate people about misconceptions regarding lesbians and gay men.

Please send your media watch concerns to:

*Jeffrey Rehm, Ph.D.
P.O. Box 8422
Orange, CA 92664*

AIDS INFO UPDATE

The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) will hold a National Conference on Drug Abuse Research and Practice--An Alliance for the 21st Century, January 12-15, 1991, Grand Hyatt Hotel, Washington, D.C. The conference theme is to build and strengthen the alliance between drug abuse researchers and practitioners. The conference will showcase NIDA's research and state-of-the-art findings as they relate to drug abuse treatment, prevention, workplace, and AIDS programs.

For more information, contact: Conference Management Department, CSR, Incorp.; 1400 Eye St., NW; Suite 600; Washington, D.C. 20005; (202) 842-7600.

Gay Men's Health Crisis Fellowship Programs. The goals of GMHC's Fellowship Program from January 1991 to March 1991 and March 1991 to May 1991 are to develop leadership and management skills; provide instruction in the design of program goals, policies, and procedures; and provide GMHC the opportunity to learn from the experiences of other community organizations.

Fellowships will be awarded for a 12-week period. Interns will receive a thorough overview of GMHC by direct participation in client services, education, volunteer programs, policy and advocacy, communications, development, and finance and administration. Intern receives a stipend of \$2000.

For more information contact: Lew Katoff, Ph.D.; Director, Fellowship Program; GHMC; 129 W. 20th St.; New York, NY 10011; (212) 337-3603.

APA's AIDS-related materials. The following is a list of some of the materials available from APA's Office on AIDS: 1. *AIDS: Abstracts of the Psychological and Behavioral Literature, 1983-1989*, limited supply of single copies available free. 2. *Psychology and AIDS [Special Issue]. American Psychologist, 43(11), November 1988.* \$18.00 nonmembers, \$14.00 members (includes shipping and handling). Make checks payable to APA and send to: APA Office on AIDS; 1200 17th St., NW; Washington, D.C. 20036.

AIDS Resource Network. The AIDS Resource Network is an APA-sponsored group of mental health professionals. If you or a colleague are interested in joining the Network or wish to have a search of the Network database, contact: *Amy Harden; APA Office on AIDS; 1200 17th St. NW; Washintong, D.C. 20036; (202) 955-7731.*

VOTE FOR DIVISION 44

As a Member of APA, you recently received your apportionment ballot from the Election Committee of APA for the selection of council members on APA's Council of Representatives. Voting members can designate all of their votes to one division in APA or divide their votes among various divisions.

A division is granted one representative for each percentage point of the total vote it receives, e.g. five percent of the total vote would designate five representatives. In the past, Division 44 has been a few tenths short of receiving two percent of the vote. Thus, Division 44 has been designated one council representative.

Hopefully in this apportionment balloting, Division 44 will reach the two percent mark and receive a second representative. Voting members are urged to cast their apportionment ballots for Division 44 and to urge their colleagues to do the same. Your vote is a concrete statement of support for Division 44 to APA's governance.

In the confidential privacy of the vote you can help Division 44 double its voice in the Council of Representatives.

Let your voice be heard!

VOTE FOR DIVISION 44