



division

44

# 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

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## SPSLGI CONVENTION PROGRAMMING A SUCCESS

Division 44 and the Public Interest Directorate sponsored a mini-convention during APA's Convention in San Francisco from August 16 through August 20, 1991. The programming, consisting of lectures, symposia, poster sessions, invited addresses, and social hours, covered a wide variety of public policy issues for the '90s vis a vis psychologists working in the area of lesbian and gay issues.

The following is a partial listing of programs organized under specified areas of interest.

**Special Populations:** Several of the programs addressed the emergence of populations with unique needs in the gay and lesbian communities. *Lesbian and Gay Youth and the Schools* was a symposium Chaired by Barbara Slater that explored the difficulties of young people who identify as sexual orientation minorities. *Diversity in Aging* was another symposium dealing with the opposite end of the age spectrum, older people who are lesbian or gay.

**The Family:** A sampling of SPSLGI's programming dealt with the development of alternative family systems in the gay and lesbian communities.

*Lesbians Choosing Children: Perspectives on Research and Service; Lesbian and Gay Psychologists Working with Children and Families: Personal and Professional Issues;* and *the Role of Families in Preventing and Adapting to HIV Infection and AIDS* comprised the presentations offered in this area.

**Homophobia:** The programs dealing with societal biases and discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation covered a wide range of issues. Several programs dealt with discrimination in the work sector. *Recruitment and Selection of Gay and Lesbian Law Enforcement Applicants* and *The Next Frontier: Psychologists as Organizational Consultants Addressing Homophobia in the Workplace* were two symposia dealing with this issue. One of the most poignant and politically charged presentations of the Convention was the symposium: *"Homosexuality is Incompatible with Military Service": Psychological Evaluation of DOD*

*Policy.* This presentation was established as an open forum discussing the rationale for the Department of Defense's prohibition against lesbians and gays serving in the armed services.

The social relevance of the program became all the more focused when APA voted to restrict advertising from the military in its publications if the policy of discrimination was not rescinded. In addition, Randy Shilts, the author of *And the Band Played On*, presented an invited address entitled *Conduct Unbecoming: Politics, Prejudice and Homosexuality in the U.S. Military.*

Other presentations dealt with the more general issue of homophobia: *Heterosexism or Homophobia?: the Power of the Language We Use in Clinical Practice; What's the Problem?: Understanding Discrimination Against Lesbians and Gay Men; Violence Against Lesbians and Gay Men: Challenges for Psychologists in the 1990s;* and *Beyond Stigma: Lesbian and Gay Policy Issues in the 90s* constitute these presentations.

**Professional Issues:** Two invited addresses explored the issues of developing professional expertise in the area of gay and lesbian studies. Laura Brown and Steven Morin offered an informative and thought provoking forum entitled *Future Directions for the Lesbian/Gay Paradigm in Psychology.* Jeffrey Rehm, SPSLGI's Outgoing President, delivered a moving and inspiring talk entitled *From Personal Acceptance and Empowerment to a National Agenda.*

**Identity Development:** A diverse array of presentations dealt with the development of sexual identity. These presentations were: *Bisexuality: Issues of Identity, Behavior, and Politics; Lesbian Sexuality Identity Formation Within a Judeo-Christian Tradition;* and *the Social Construction of Lesbian Identity.*

All in all an educational and thought provoking selection of programming.

On to Washington in 1992 for the 100th anniversary of APA and the next year of the gay 90s!

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by **Connie Chan, Ph.D.**

It was an honor to start my term as President of Division 44 at the Convention in San Francisco. As is an old Chinese custom, let me look to the future by remembering those who brought us to where we are today. So, I would like to thank the many leaders of Division 44, particularly Past Presidents Jeffrey Rehm, Adrienne Smith, outgoing council Representative Oliva Espin, and (past) Secretary-Treasurer Terry Gock for their tireless dedication and work on behalf of the Division. We are a division of over 1000 members, but I hope that we will always remain an accessible, personal division--like a homebase, where members know their officers and feel comfortable getting involved in our work. Please feel free to contact me or any other officers/committee chairs if you are interested in participating in Division 44 activities, have issues for the Division to pursue, or need information we can provide.

I was proud to see so many of us at the Convention in San Francisco. It seemed like there were Division 44 buttons and pink triangles, thanks to ALGP, on nametags everywhere I turned. Congratulations and deep appreciation to the Program Chairs Bart Aoki and Mark Jensen for the high quality and quantity of our Convention program. Planning is already underway for the 100th Convention in Washington, D.C. next August. Barbara Slater and Joan Sabin are Division 44's Program Chairs. Please send them your ideas for programming now, and let them know if you would like to serve on the program committee which evaluates program proposals.

Now a look towards the future. The Division is focusing upon several key issues at this time, including helping APA to take a leadership role in eliminating the discrimination (and exclusion) of lesbians/gay men in military service. In August (as a result of much work by Steve Morin, CLGC, Division 44, Oliva Espin, Rob Mapou, among others), APA Council of Representatives passed a resolution which condemns the military policy that does not allow military ads in APA publications beginning December, 1992 unless the discriminatory regulation is rescinded. And these APA resolutions are not just of interest only to psychologists--this resolution was cited the next

*(continued on page 20, President's)*

## SPSLGI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT CONNIE CHAN, Ph.D. CPCS-Downtown,  
University of Massachusetts, Boston, MA 02125

PRESIDENT ELECT John Gonsiorek, Ph.D. 400  
Groveland, #1707, Minneapolis, MN  
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PAST PRESIDENT/FELLOWS CHAIR/NOMINATIONS  
CHAIR JEFFREY REHM, Ph.D. P.O. Box 8422,  
Orange, CA 92664

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University of Vermont, Burlington, VT  
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KIMMEL, P.O. Box 3, Hancock, ME 04640-0003

CHAIR MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE STEVE JAMES,  
Ph.D., P.O. Box 270051, Tampa, FL 33688

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SLATER, Ph.D., Department of Psychology, Towson  
State University, Towson, MD 21204

CHAIR TF ON EDUCATION AND TRAINING LEAH  
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CHAIR TF ON ETHNIC/RACIAL MINORITY ISSUES  
CONNIE CHAN, Ph.D.,

CO-CHAIRS DIVISION 44 ANNUAL GREG HEREK,  
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Flr., Brooklyn, NY 11217

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Paffrey Rd., Belmont, MA 02178; JIM HICKEY, 61  
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*Individuals interested in serving on  
Division 44's Executive Committee  
can contact:*

*Connie Chan, Ph.D.  
CPCS-Downtown  
University of Massachusetts  
Boston, MA 02125*

# EC Creates Student Representative Position

## **Introducing Division 44's Student Co-Chairs**

**L**isa Frey is in her last year of doctoral training in clinical psychology. A Cajun at heart from Southern Louisiana, she currently resides in the Boston area where she has developed a new love for New England

Jim Hickey is a second year doctoral student in clinical psychology also residing in New England. He is interested in psychotherapy and the treatment of addictions with lesbians and gay men, but he's also quite fond of sports. In that respect he has a budding interest in sports psychology.

Please feel free to contact Jim or Lisa with questions or comments regarding the student division at the following addresses:

*Lisa Frey; 73 Paffrey Rd.; Belmont, MA 02178;  
(617) 489-6364*

*Jim Hickey; 61 Union St.; Watertown, MA 02171;  
(617) 926-3445.*

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## **SPSLGI STUDENTS**

**A**nnouncing a new regular column in the Division 44 Newsletter devoted exclusively to student concerns, questions, comments, etc.

Please call or write to either Jim or Lisa with any questions/comments you may have relevant to lesbian, gay, or bisexual issues. (For example questions regarding graduate programs, internships, career issues, homophobia at school or work, etc.) We'll consult with the appropriate person(s) and print your question and the response in the subsequent Division 44 Newsletter. Names will be withheld upon request to respect confidentiality.

Students are also welcomed and invited to submit brief comments, articles, or information that may be of interest to other students through the student column. Send these in to Lisa or Jim as well. Let us know if you want your name to be withheld.

## **WANTED--WANTED--WANTED!!!**

If you reside in the Washington, D.C. area please give serious consideration to opening up your home to Division 44 students who cannot afford hotel accommodations for the upcoming APA Convention. If you are interested in welcoming students to stay with you during the Convention, please contact Jim or Lisa (SPSLGI's Student Co-Chairs) at the addresses/phone numbers listed above.

Thank you.

## **SPSLGI ARCHIVIST REPORT**

**A**rnold S Kahn, Ph.D. holds the position of Division 44's Archivist. Charged with the task of collecting, cataloguing, and preserving the division's historically important material, Dr. Kahn presented SPSLGI's Executive Committee with an update on the status of the divisional archives at Convention in August.

Some of the long range issues raised by Dr. Kahn in that report included the need to organize the divisional material into an efficient and comprehensive cataloguing system. Also, a permanent space to house the materials with availability to researchers was a proposed goal.

Anyone possessing historically important material pertinent to SPSLGI, e.g. research papers, documents, audio and/or video tapes, photographs, etc. that would be appropriate for inclusion in the Division 44 Archives is invited to contact Dr. Kahn. Also, anyone wishing to work on the tasks of cataloguing and/or establishing a permanent home for the archives can contact Dr. Kahn at:

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

# NOTICES OF NOTE

## Division 44

*Two EC positions need nominees for the 1993-1994 term of office beginning at the APA Convention of 1993. They are President-Elect and Member-at-Large. The President-Elect position needs to be a female and the Member-at-Large, a male. Both terms are for one year and require attendance at the APA Convention and one expense paid midwinter meeting generally held in the Los Angeles area in March.*

Being on the Executive Committee of Division 44 is an exciting and challenging task. I encourage you to nominate yourself or someone else for these positions. Please do so by sending me a letter with a 250 word explanation of why you would like the position and how you are qualified to fulfill the duties therein: *Jeffrey Rehm, Ph.D.; Past President, Division 44; P.O. Box 8422; Orange, CA 92664*

## Awards

*APA's Committee on Scientific Awards requests nominations for its ongoing awards program. Awards are made in three categories: the Distinguished Scientific Contribution Award, the Distinguished Scientific Award for the Applications of Psychology, and the Distinguished Scientific Award for an Early Career Contribution to Psychology. Nominations for all three award categories should be sent to the Science Directorate; APA: 750 First St., N. E.; Washington, D.C. 20002; or, call Ms. Wandersman at (202) 955-7653.*

*APA's Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs is sponsoring an award for an outstanding psychology dissertation in the area of ethnic minority concerns. Applications are welcomed from psychologists who have filed their dissertations between 1989 and 1991. The winner will receive a \$500 cash prize and will present his/her work at the 1992 APA Convention in Washington, D.C. All entries must be postmarked on or before April 1, 1992; and, should be mailed to the Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs at the APA address. For further information, contact the OEM at the APA address.*

*The APA Committee on Women in Psychology (CWP) invites nominations for its eighth annual Leadership Citations. CWP presents up to three citations a year to individuals who are judged to have*

*made outstanding leadership contributions to women in psychology congruent with CWP's goal of ensuring that women achieve equality as members of the psychological community. CWP accepts nominations in two categories: Emerging Leaders and Established Leaders. All nominations must include a brief statement of support for the nominee (500-word maximum), six (6) copies of a current vitae and three reference letters. Nominations materials must be received by April 1, 1992. Mail materials to: CWP Awards; Women's Programs Office; APA; 750 First St., N.E. Washington, D.C. 20002.*

*The Division of Consulting Psychology announces a call for nominations for three awards for excellence in consultation. 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 Awards is given to an APA member, or member-sponsored student, whose work has had a significant positive impact on an organizations and/or has enhanced our knowledge and utilization of the consulting process. The Harry Levinson Award is given to an APA member who has demonstrated exceptional ability to integrate a wide range of psychological theory and concepts and convert that integration into applications by which leaders and managers may create more effective, healthy, and humane organizations. For more information, contact: David C. Munz, Ph.D.; Chair, Division 13 Awards Committee; Department of Psychology; St. Louis University; 221 N. Grand Blvd.; St. Louis, MO 63102 or call (314) 658-2300.*

## Fellowships

*The Amherst College Counseling and Mental Health Service is offering a nine month training program in college psychotherapy, beginning September, 1992. The experience will focus on psychotherapy with undergraduates, but will also include exposure to administrative consultation and group work. The aim of the fellowship is to sharpen one's view of college psychotherapy as a speciality. A graduate degree plus relevant clinical experience is required. The stipend is \$17,550 (health insurance included). The deadline for submissions is February*

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1, 1992. Send resume and statement of interest to:  
*Director, Counseling Center; P.O. Box 2234;  
Amherst College; Amherst, MA 01002.*

## Research Suggestions Sought

*Robert Katz, M.S.*, would like to do some research looking at the experiences of gay and lesbian elders in long-term care settings (nursing homes, etc.). If you have some interest in this area, know of someone else who might be interested in this area, or could offer some advice as to how to recruit subjects for such a study, please contact: *Robert Katz, M.S., 930 E. Seventh St; Apartment 4-G; Brooklyn, NY 11230; or call (718) 434-2338.*

## Call for Papers

*The American Psychological Association/National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (APA/NIOSH) Conference on occupational safety and health titled "Stress in the 90's: A Changing Workforce in a Changing Workplace" is to be held November 20-22, 1992 in Washington D.C. The deadline for receipt of abstract (300-500 words, five copies) is March 30, 1992. For further information or submissions please contact: Sonja M. Preston; APA; 750 First St., N.E.; Washington, D.C. 20002*

*The Diversity Committee (a joint committee of the Colorado Psychological Association and the Denver-Rocky Mountain Association of Black Psychologists) announces a conference entitled, "The Psychological Roots of Prejudice and Moral Exclusion," to be held September 24-26, 1992, in Estes Park, Colorado. Program submission deadline is April 15, 1992. Please contact: Eric Braden, Ph.D.; 6300 S. Syracuse Way, #655; Englewood, CO 80111; or call (303) 220-9092.*

*The Fifth International Interdisciplinary Congress on Women will be held February 22-26, 1993 in San Jose, Costa Rica. A call for papers, workshops, seminars, audiovisual experiences, roundtables, etc. related to women's issues is currently underway. The deadline for abstracts written in either Spanish or English is April 1, 1991. For submissions or additional information, contact: Mirta Gonzalez-Suarez, Cordinadora; V Congreso*

*Internacional e Interdisciplinario de la Mujer; PRIEG-Escuela de Psicología; Universidad de Costa Rica; Apdo. 2060; San Pedro; Costa Rica; America Central.*

## Editorship

*The Publications and Communications Board of the American Psychological Association has opened the nominations for the editorship of the Clinician's Research Digest for the years 1994-1999. George Stricker is the incumbent editor. Candidates must be members of APA and should be available early in 1993 to start developing material for issues published in 1994. Please note that the P & C Board encourages more participation by women and ethnic minority women and men in the publications process and would particularly welcome such nominees. Submit Nominations by February 1, 1992 to the chair of the search committee: Norman Abeles, Ph.D.; Chair, Editor Search Committee; Clinician's Research Digest; Department of Psychology; 129 Psychology Research Building; Michigan State University; East Lansing, MI 48824-1117.*

## CLGC AWARDS

*The Committee on Lesbian and Gay Concerns of the American Psychological Association annually presents one or two Outstanding Achievement Awards to recognize psychologists for significant contributions to the mission of CLGC. Nominees may have made significant contributions to CLGC's mission either through direct CLGC service or independent work. The contributions may be of a scientific, professional, educational, leadership, or political nature.*

*All nominations should include: a brief description of the specific achievements and contributions of the nominee (500 word maximum), a current curriculum vitae, and the names of three individuals who have been asked to send reference letters. The deadline for receipt of nominations is March 1, 1992.*

*Send nominations and supporting materials to CLGC Awards; Public Interest Directorate; American Psychological Association; 1200 17th Street, N.W.; Washington, D.C. 20036.*

## SPSLGI Membership Report

*The following article was submitted by Jeremy S. Gaies, Psy.D., Division 44's Outgoing Membership Chair.*

This has been a busy year for the Membership Committee! Much has been accomplished in this past year, and we look forward to a successful 1991-92 under the guidance of the incoming Membership Chair, Steven James, Ph.D.

As of August 12, 1991 the Division's membership status was as follows:

Members--768 (70.7%); Life Members--19 (1.7%); Associates--83 (7.6%); Fellows--16 (1.5%); Organizations--1 (0.1%); Newsletters--9 (0.8%); Affiliates--42 (3.9%); Student Affiliates--149 (13.7%). This constitutes a total division membership of 1087. The Division is maintaining its longstanding status of gender parity with women comprising 531 of members (48.9%) and men 541 (49.8%). (Fifteen members (1.4%) were undesignated.

*Major projects undertaken:* Among this year's projects were a redesign of the Division brochure and membership application (printed in October, 1991), a reorganization of the application processing procedure, initial development of a social hour at the Convention designated for new and prospective division members, the creation of a Membership Committee (assisting the Chair on membership development projects), and preliminary plans for increased student involvement in the Division. If you have any creative ideas for membership development, please let us know!

*Committee members sought:* The Membership Committee is seeking new, enthusiastic members to assist in membership development projects! Especially sought are women and members of racial/ethnic minorities (in an effort to maintain gender and racial ethnic parity, which is an important goal of the division). If you are interested in working with us, please write to:

*Steve James, Ph.D.  
P.O. Box 270051  
Tampa, FL 33688*

## MEMBERSHIP ADDRESS CHANGES

Many newsletters and other mailings have been returned to the membership chair because members have moved and failed to notify the Division.

Notifying us about your new address saves us many dollars in postage and saves you from missing your mailings!

If you have any address changes, please contact us in writing as soon as possible:

*Steven James, Ph.D.  
P.O. Box 270051  
Tampa, FL 33688*

## SPECIAL COMMENDATION

The Membership Committee wishes to acknowledge the special contributions made during the past several years by Mr. Paul Dahmus. Paul serves an essential function for the committee by providing all computer database services.

It is Paul who enters all records of new members, generates all computer-based membership reports, and assists in the overall organization of membership records and numerical data. What makes Paul's contribution special is that he provides all of these services with outstanding professionalism and inspiring enthusiasm. His contribution to the Division as a whole is hard to overestimate. Without his efforts it would be impossible for SPSLGI to fulfill its charge.

The Membership Committee, with the recognition of the Executive Committee, is honored and pleased to bring Paul's efforts to the attention of the entire membership of Division 44.

We thank you, Paul.

# AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION CENTRAL REPORT

*The following article was synthesized from materials submitted by Clinton Anderson and William Bailey, Officers of APA's Public Interest Directorate.*

**Department of Defense Discrimination Policy.** At the APA Convention in San Francisco in August, APA's Council of Representatives passed the following resolution, declaring APA's disagreement with the DoD's policy of discrimination: *U.S. Department of Defense Policy on Sexual Orientation and Advertising in APA Publications--Whereas, the American Psychological Association (APA) deplors discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation; and Whereas, APA will not let its publications, as advertising media, be used by others in support of discriminatory employment practices; Whereas, the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) maintains a policy that homosexual orientation is "incompatible with military service"; and Whereas, the DoD will not knowingly admit bisexual, lesbian or gay individuals to military service, including research and clinical internship programs in psychology; and Whereas, an average of 1,500 men and women are unfairly discharged from military service each year because their sexual orientation becomes known; Therefore, be it resolved that the APA opposes the DoD policy which finds homosexual orientation "incompatible with military service"; and Be it further resolved that APA will not permit its publications, as advertising media, to be used by the DoD after December 31, 1992, unless the DoD policy that homosexual orientation "is incompatible with military service" has been rescinded by that date.* [Adopted by the American Psychological Association Council of Representatives, August 18, 1992.]

Congratulations are due to all of the people within APA and Division 44 who have worked long and hard in the area of research, public dissemination of scientifically valid data, and political lobbying to bring about this landmark decision.

**Federal Civil Rights Legislation.** Work is underway to advance Federal legislation on civil rights discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. Two constituency task groups have been working in tandem; one to build a coalition of groups and the other to explore research and documentation to develop a national campaign to document discrimination through a diary project and through organizations receiving and publishing reports of

cases and incidents. In addition, the coalition has been working to increase support for the civil rights bill that would amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to include sexual orientation and secure hearings on sexual orientation discrimination for the first time before Congress. For more information, contact either William Bailey or Clinton Anderson at APA's Central Office.

If you plan to visit Washington, please let us know. We would like to encourage you to schedule a meeting with your members of Congress during your visit to lobby on civil rights issues and other issues of concern. We would be happy to meet with you and brief you on the issues as well as on the protocol.

**Mental Health Services Demonstration Funding.** Since the beginning of its advocacy work in AIDS, APA has recognized the importance of trying to develop funding sources for AIDS related mental health services. Until the present, no separate funding sources have been available for these programs. It was decided that if separate funding streams were to be developed, the only way to successfully achieve the goal was through establishing a mental health services demonstration activity somewhere in the Public Health Service (PHS).

Throughout the course of last year, PI engaged in an intensive campaign, heavily supported by APA members, to obtain funding for AIDS mental health services demonstration funding that had been authorized by the Congress in 1988 but had never been funded. Despite this effort, no special funding for this program was provided. Direction was provided by the Congress, however, to HHS that mental health services should be addressed under Title II of the Ryan White AIDS Care Act.

A small program, under Title II, allows the administering agency (Health Resources and Services Administration/HRSA) to retain up to ten percent of the total funding for Title II, for a program known as Special Projects of National Significance (SPNS). This program is designed to develop model demonstration projects around the country in areas of AIDS service delivery that are inadequately addressed already. At APA's urging, Congress directed that HRSA, in administering this program, should take into account the large scope of unmet mental health service needs.

Efforts are now underway to insure that funding  
(continued on page 9, APA)

# SPSLGI LONG RANGE PLANNING

The following article was submitted by Armand Cerbone, Chair of Division 44's Committee on Future Directions.

After listening in San Francisco at Convention to Laura Brown's and Steve Morin's address on the future of lesbian and gay psychology that the Division has not formally articulated along range plan to fulfill its charge, I think it is time for the Committee on Future Directions to generate such a plan.

It also occurred to me that it was essentially the future of gay and lesbian psychology that got me involved in ALGP and Division 44. At that time I wanted to see regional groups develop. What was happening on the coasts was not what was happening in the Midwest or South. The Division gave official recognition and support to developing regional caucuses some time ago. The efforts to develop such groups have met with mixed results. Further, such efforts have stalled for reasons I won't go into here. Till now, however, this has been the major focus of the Committee on Future Directions.

In preparation for the Midwinter business meeting of SPSLGI's Executive Committee, I would like you to think about issues that are of importance to the Division during the next five years.

Please send me your thoughts so I can pull them together for our meetings in March. Time will be requested during the EC's meeting to discuss your thinking.

Under each of the following headings, the contributor could focus his/her thoughts under the arenas of: within APA; nationally; and internationally.

The areas of consideration are (among possible others): Division successes since 1985; continuing issues for the Division; issues facing the Division--in the immediate future (1-2 years) and in the long range future (3-5 years).

Armand Cerbone, Ph.D.  
9900 W. Fullerton  
Suite 490A  
Chicago, IL 60614

## 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/affectional 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 1992 Membership Dues or Newsletter subscription of \$30.00/\$20.00 for students (US currency only, please) payable to SPSLGI, and return check along with this application form to:

Steven James, Ph.D.  
P.O. Box 270051  
Tampa, FL 33688



(APA, continued from page 7)

continues to be available for this program and that HRSA can make new awards for mental health demonstration. While the House of Representatives in its FY 1992 appropriations bill has eliminated support for the SPNS program entirely, the Senate at APA's urging has directed HRSA to maintain and expand this activity.

**AIDS Prevention.** In its capacity as the Prevention Task Force Chair within the NORA coalition, APA has taken on the leading role in defending prevention spending and promoting increased attention to prevention needs. APA successfully steered the NORA coalition to adoption of a set of AIDS primary prevention recommendations endorsed by over 60 national groups. These recommendations, calling for an overhaul of the federal primary prevention program await official distribution but are available through the Public Interest Directorate.

These recommendations are designed to address the fact that AIDS prevention has been lost amid the policy debates on testing, immigration, and AIDS services. Indeed, tragically, AIDS is losing its grip on the attention of the public and its lawmakers, setting aside the fact that since 1986 there have been well over 250,000 new AIDS infections in the United States. Yet, in testimony APA presented before the House Budget Committee last year, data from a case study of AIDS prevention programs in Chicago showed that effective prevention interventions can cost as little as \$150-\$200 per person, compared with the \$40,000 to \$70,000 per year for AIDS care.

In his FY 1992 budget request, the President is proposing to spend less than two percent of the entire Public Health Service budget on AIDS primary prevention activities. Indeed, the only increase in AIDS prevention funding requested by the President and supported by the Congress is the \$8 million provided to ADAMHA.

One of APA's appropriations requests was aimed at restoring the funding cut the President has proposed for the drug abuse outreach demonstration programs, the only AIDS prevention program targeting IV drug users on the street. These research demonstrations have provided some sound data about the effectiveness of primary prevention efforts with IV drug users, the fastest growing at-risk population.

**Sexual Behavior Research.** Another major research-oriented advocacy effort involves PI staff

work to insure that HHS is permitted to and conducts sexual behavior research. For the past four years, APA has advocated that HHS fund and conduct the *Survey of Health and Human Sexual Behavior*. Due to conservative pressures, the survey has remained stalled at the upper reaches of HHS. APA has successfully obtained Senate direction to HHS to conduct this survey work for the past three years, but these directives have been ignored. We have also participated in numerous coalition efforts to try to shake this survey free, including a recent letter from a dozen scientific and public health groups to the Secretary.

Recently, the issue has heated up again when the Secretary announced his decision to cancel a peer-reviewed grant that would fund the *American Teenage Study of Sexual Behavior*. This action is without precedent in the annals of political involvement in the federal scientific funding process; never before has a grant that was already awarded been rescinded.

The publicity surrounding the *Teen Study* prompted Rep. Dannemeyer to offer an amendment to the NIH Reauthorization Bill (H.R. 2507) to prohibit the PHS from funding any sexual behavior research. This amendment would have had an alarming impact on an entire area of research. APA mounted a massive campaign to defeat the amendment and substitute another innocuous provision in its stead. The substitute language was crafted by Rep. Henry Waxman and it was Waxman who led the counter offensive on the House floor.

After an extensive grass roots campaign, APA was able to take credit for a very stirring floor debate in which most of the speakers supporting sexual behavior research, including several Republicans were recruited by APA. The Dannemeyer provision failed and the Waxman provision was adopted by a vote of 283 to 137.

APA expects a similar amendment to be offered during Senate consideration of either the FY 1992 Labor-HHS Appropriations Bill (H.R. 2702) or the NIH Reauthorization (S.1523). PI staff encourage all APA members to contact their Senators in opposition to any such amendment.

If you have questions/comments about these issues are wish to raise other issues of importance, contact:

*Clinton Anderson*

APA

750 First St., N.E.

Washington, D.C. 20002

## BISEXUALITY: THE DEBATE

by Sari H. Dworkin

Many issues relevant to the gay and lesbian community were debated at last year's national Convention of APA in San Francisco. One issue which stimulated heated discussion was bisexuality. On Sunday, August 18th I chaired a panel on *Bisexuality: Issues of Identity, Behavior and Politics* and presented a paper, *Identifying as Lesbian vs. Bisexual: The Dilemma for Women* as part of that panel discussion. From the moment of submitting the proposal we experienced a dilemma. Bisexuality is not an index term. Almost all of the presenters chose gay and lesbian issues for one of the index terms describing their papers. Our panel stimulated a great deal of interest in this area and a discussion was continued after the presentation in the ALGP suite.

I believe that this discussion must continue. Therefore, I am asking people to debate this issue within the newsletters of ALGP and Division 44.

I am a bisexual lesbian who has always affirmed my lesbian side as much as and even more than my heterosexual side. My involvement in the struggle for gay and lesbian rights and gay and lesbian psychology is known to many of you through my writings and activism in ALGP and Division 44. Now I must also struggle for the rights of bisexual people so that I can be affirmed as a whole person. /First I would like to see both ALGP and Division 44 affirm that bisexuality does indeed exist. Many bisexual lesbians came out as lesbians first and then later affirmed their bisexual identity (Golden, 1987) which questions the prevalent belief

that bisexuality is a transitional stage from heterosexuality to homosexuality. Second I would like to see both ALGP and Division 44 acknowledge that bisexuals are discriminated against because of their gay/lesbian identification and therefore are very tied into the struggle for gay/lesbian rights. Third, I would like to see both ALGP and Division 44 acknowledge that bisexuality is a critical dimension for the investigation of sexual orientation. Bisexuality must be considered when examining the essentialist and constructionist views of sexual identity. According to Ross (1987) our current binary system of classification of sexual orientation (heterosexual or homosexual) does not account for homosexual behavior across cultures. A binary system ascribes critical importance to the selection of partner by gender and bisexuality calls this into question. Bisexuality must be investigated along with heterosexuality and homosexuality if we are ever to understand sexual orientation (Dworkin, in press). Therefore bisexuality fits in with one of the purposes of Division 44, "to advance the contribution of psychological research in understanding lesbian and gay issues."

I'm sure that it is obvious that I would like to see bisexuality added to the name, goals, and purposes of ALGP and Division 44. I am only one voice and more voices need to be heard. I would like to quote from a letter I received from Joe Norton: "If one calls oneself 'bisexual', it clearly denotes acceptance of a gay/lesbian side. Coming out late, as I did (50), I

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### ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, PRIMARY PREVENTION:

Tenure track position, starting September 1, 1992. **Required:** doctorate, commitment to undergraduate and graduate teaching, research, and consultation in the primary prevention of mental and/or physical disorders. **Desirable:** a. Teaching expertise in additional areas of psychology; b. Demonstrable interest/expertise in community psychology; c. Ability to supervise students in APA accredited clinical program. **Application Materials:** Full CV, three letters of recommendation, reprints and preprints of representative publications, and an outline of future research intentions to *Chair, Search Committee (Prevention), Department of Psychology, Dewey Hall, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 05405 by 10 February.* We are committed to increasing the diversity of our faculty and welcome applications from women, people from underrepresented ethnic, racial and cultural groups, and from people with disabilities. The University of Vermont is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

## BOOK REVIEW

by Oliva Espin, Ph.D.

**Sang, Barbara; Warsaw, Joyce; & Smith, Adrienne J. (Eds.) (1991). *Lesbians at midlife: the creative transition*. San Francisco, CA: Spinsters Books.**

This is a book full of love. Love for others, yes. But, above all, love for ourselves and our lives. This is, in itself, a major achievement for any group of women, let alone for middle-aged women, and even more so for a group of middle-aged lesbians. It is a book about celebration of lives that have grown, flourished and developed in beautiful and creative ways against all odds.

This book focuses on an experience seldom discussed because lesbians are seldom seen as middle-aged women and middle-aged women are seldom seen as worthy of attention.

The chapters in this book, individually and collectively, show us that middle-aged lesbians are alive, creative, and powerful. They show us that in spite of losses and changes, the mid-life years are characterized by an overall sense of stability and well-being that contradicts the stereotype of the depressed menopausal woman. For the women who wrote the pages of this book and the women they write about continue to be creative, and they express themselves with clarity and strength regardless of negative experiences and, sometimes, painful losses.

At mid-life, youth may have been lost, but so have the insecurities, conflicts of identity, and other factors contributing to self-doubt and instability. Old age has not yet settled in, and although health problems may interfere with full enjoyment of life for some women, most of them feel at the peak of their abilities, their strength, their power, and their creativity. For most of the authors in the book (and I would venture to say, for most lesbians) mid-life does not feel so much as decline but as fully coming into their own. Losses and changes are there, but by now life has become "known territory," and there is a profound sense of one's own ability to survive that is a more powerful

rewards of relationships; some authors deal with middle-aged daughters' responsibilities to aging parents, with issues related to having children or not having them. Yet others deal with the intense feelings created by our aging bodies, and sexuality in mid-life. A deeply touching chapter by Joan Nestle and an evocative and amusing chapter by JoAnne Loulan remind us that although no longer young, we are still full of life and zest. A chapter by Gentry and Seifert on the Crone invites us to celebrate the aging process and the wisdom and power that come with it. Many chapters remind us that mid-life is both the same and different across racial, ethnic, cultural, and class lines.

In fact, this is one of the greatest achievements of this book; that variability among women is presented all through the chapters in a matter of fact and conscious way, without a separate section on "minority women." The editors of the book made a conscious decision to integrate all experiences in the book, and in fact, do it successfully. Thus, when Angela Bowen writes about her children, she does it as any mother would, even though hers is the perspective of an African-American mother. And when Lauren Crux or Adalaide Morris write about disability, those of us who are able-bodied can resonate with their experiences of loss. When Adrienne Smith writes about her life, her Jewishness is central to her perspective. Spirituality takes ethno-cultural shapes in the writing of Leota Lone Dog, and yet she is not just talking about Native American Spirituality.

The chapters on "our future" contain very concrete advice with specific steps for planning for retirement, death, and loss of health. The step-by-step analysis of finances presented in Hayes's chapter is the most helpful I have seen in any book specifically addressed to lesbians.

I could continue giving specifics about each and every chapter in this book, but rather than doing that, I would like to finish my review by encouraging the readers to give themselves a treat by buying the book and delving into it by themselves.

It will be worth it, believe me.

## COMMITTEE OF LESBIAN AND

## GAY CONCERNS REPORT

*The following article consists of a report presented to SPSLGI's EC at Convention in August, 1991 by Robert L. Mapou, Division 44's Liaison to the Committee of Lesbian and Gay Concerns (CLGC).*

### Fall 1990 Meeting

**Congressional Visits.** Members of and liaisons to CLGC spent the first morning of the meeting visiting legislative aides on Capitol Hill, most meetings were held in offices of representatives from their home districts. Topics targeted for discussion with aides included the lesbian and gay civil rights bill, exclusion of lesbians and gay men from the military, similar discrimination in security clearances, prioritizing women's health issues for research funding, the need for funding for AIDS education programming, and the Dannemeyer amendment to prohibit gay men from being Big Brothers. All of us were well received, and it was felt to be a morning well spent.

**Meeting with James Jones of the Public Interest Directorate.** There was discussion of the resistance of the APA board to pursue a ban on military advertising. Steve Morin said that he would take up the issue at the next board retreat. James noted that the search was still on for his replacement. Finally, he discussed BAPPI, its structure and how there would be minimal impact on the function of CLGC. **Guidelines for Non-Heterosexist Language in Publications.** It was recommended that the words *homosexuality*, *lesbianism*, and *bisexuality* be avoided as descriptors to the extent possible. It was recommended that *gender* be used instead of sex when referring to people and that one should refer to the *other gender* rather than the *opposite gender*. Guidelines will be included in future editions of the APA publication manual, and it is hoped that they will be published in a special issue of "American Psychologist" on gay/lesbian issues, to be edited by Esther Rothblum and Steve Morin.

**Lesbian Child Custody Issues.** Work is continuing on a brochure for expert testimony in lesbian custody cases. It was suggested that a model brief for custody issues should include additional psychological references, since it was noted that most were from the psychiatric literature. **Psychotherapy Bias and Conversion Therapy.** Comments are being awaited on the Task Force Report on Bias in Psychotherapy with Gay Men and

**Lesbians.** Possibilities for distribution were discussed. A policy statement on conversion therapy is being developed. It was noted that it would be important to define if and when such therapy is ethical.

**Other Issues.** Liaison is being established with similar caucuses in the National Education Association. Barbara Slater is the contact person. Future priorities for CLGC were established. See me for details. APA is pursuing spouse-equivalent health benefits for employees. APA is also examining pre-existing clauses with regard to HIV.

### Spring 1991 Meeting

**Orientation for New Members.** The first half-day of the meeting was spent in an orientation session for new members. Liaisons were also allowed to attend. The purposes and goals of CLGC were discussed, and past projects were reviewed as were current issues of importance. Clinton Anderson also discussed his role with CLGC, Division 44, ALGP, and APA.

**Military Issue.** There was apparently some misunderstandings on each side following the Fall meeting. Pat DeLeon on the APA Board supported making an exception for military advertising. The Division 19 Executive Committee voted to oppose the DoD policy excluding lesbians and gay men from the military, but also voted to request an exception for military advertising in APA publications. Division 19 also planned to poll its membership on opposition to the DoD policy. At the January meeting, the Board tabled the issue because advertising requests had been received and no exception had been formally requested. Chief psychologists in the military had stated that a ban would hurt recruitment, especially for internship slots. It was anticipated that the issue would come up again at the June APA Board meeting. It was suggested that CLGC be prepared for a possible mail ballot on the issue prior to the June meeting. It was suggested that CLGC might support an exception for advertising, but a disclaimer would be included in the ads. It was decided to draft a memo to the Board, expressing CLGC's concern about the issue, emphasizing ongoing dialogue among involved parties, and requesting that no action be taken without consulting all parties involved. Plans were made for further discussion at the August, APA

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Convention.

**Meeting with Don Routh from the Committee on Children, Youth, and Families.** A productive and positive meeting was held with Don Routh. Issues of common concern to be addressed included education about gay and lesbian issues, parenting and family issues, and problems of abuse, runaways, and homeless youth. Ways proposed to address issues included collaborative workshops, symposia, articles, and some type of joint project. Barbara Slater will work with CYF on these issues.

**HIV Issues.** There was discussion on the proposed guidelines on application of duty to warn to HIV infected individuals. It was agreed that a party at risk should only be notified under very specific circumstances: there must be an identified party at risk who can be contacted, and the client must have refused to disclose his/her HIV status to that party. Suggestions were made for changes in wording. It was recommended that one's colleagues be consulted prior to warning a third party of possible exposure to HIV. It was agreed that serological testing must not be used as evidence of neuropsychological impairment in early HIV infection, given the current state of knowledge.

**Priority Areas for CLGC.** Most of the last day of the meeting was spent discussing priority areas. These included the following: addressing issues of importance to children, youth, and families, in collaboration with other groups; continuing to address the military issue; addressing a variety of issues related to lesbian health; exploring issues related to gay fathers; providing materials on lesbian and gay issues to other organizations, especially state psychological associations; dealing with ethnic/minority issues relevant to lesbians and gay men. Many of these priorities had been identified in brainstorming during the October meeting. It was also noted that it would be desirable to have new CLGC members with expertise in one or more of the following areas: gay/lesbian youth, military, research, APA experience, ethnic/minority issues. It was suggested that a non-gay/lesbian member be considered, given the pending completion of Len Saxe's term.

Please contact Dr. Mapou at the following phone number if you would like more details about the workings of CLGC and/or if you have issues which you would like brought up at upcoming CLGC meetings:

*Robert L. Mapou, Ph.D.*  
(202) 576-1345

## NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING GUIDELINES

Division 44's Executive Committee has established the following advertising policy and advertising rates for the divisional Newsletter.

**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.

Classified ads (positions offered/wanted; re-location of offices; publication announcements, etc.) will be calculated according to the listed rate structure.

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 or call (213) 392-1504.*

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have always acknowledged that 'technically' I am bisexual, even though currently I have sex only with men. My main reason for urging a change in name is to make up for the many cruelties imposed in the past. Not to assuage collective guilt, but to acknowledge the realities in life. Bisexuals have fought many a battle for gay/lesbian rights, and we should recognize that."

What do you think? Please write in and express your views on this issue: *Sari Sworkin, Ph.D.; California State University/Fresno; Department of Counseling and Special Ed.; 5310 N. Campus Drive; Fresno, CA 93740-0003.*

### References

Dworkin, S.H. (In press). Some ethical considera-

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## FROM PERSONAL ACCEPTANCE & EMPOWERMENT TO A NATIONAL AGENDA

by Jeffrey Rehm, Ph.D.

*The following article is a transcript of the Presidential Address delivered by Jeffrey Rehm, Ph.D., at the APA Convention in San Francisco on August 18, 1991. The title of the address is: From Personal Acceptance and Empowerment to a National Agenda.*

Seventeen years ago, I was standing in line at a Western Psychological Association meeting in Anaheim, California and someone came up to me with a flyer announcing a meeting of gay psychologists that afternoon. This intrigued me as well as terrified me and I quickly folded up the flyer and put it in my briefcase. All day I kept thinking about this meeting and how it would affect my job at a conservative Orange County hospital a few miles away, and how it would feel in terms of my ambivalent relationship with my ex-wife and son, and what people would think about me if they saw me there. It really made me quite nervous. The appointed hour came and I found myself at the doorway to this meeting unable to walk into the room. I paced back and forth and kept wondering who would see me. I looked around nervously to see the expressions on people's faces and who the other people were who were going into the room. Finally, after about twenty minutes, I said to myself "This is ridiculous" and I literally pulled myself into the room. Once there, I was fine and, in fact, the first person I saw was someone I knew and I quickly became at ease. This was a meeting of the Association of Gay Psychologists which later was to become the Association of Lesbian and Gay Psychologists. A group of those people eventually worked together to create Division 44, the Society for the Psychological Study of Lesbian and Gay Issues.

Today I am speaking to you as President of that group. It is only 500 miles or so between Anaheim and San Francisco, but it has been a longer road, it seems from my first strivings to reconcile my sexuality with my professional life to where I am today. I thought for my address I would talk about that struggle, as well as the struggle of Division 44 to get where we are today. If we understand the motivations and underpinnings of our struggle we can reinfuse ourselves with the kind of dedication it takes for us to move towards our goals.

As I was preparing for this speech, I thought a lot about the development of the Division and my own development as a gay male therapist. I read a number of books which had to do with the struggle for power and individuality. I also spoke to one of the founders of the Division. The one common theme I found was the power of the individual to make a difference. That is what I want to talk about today. I want to emphasize that individually we can create a climate for change and that collectively we can achieve that change whether it's on a community, division, or national level.

As I mentioned, in researching this talk, I decided to consult with someone I consider one of the great leaders of our group, so to speak. I wanted to get some wisdom from him to glean some perspective on the process of where we came from and to get a glimpse of where we are going. I want to acknowledge him here. His name is Marty Rochlin and for many reasons he is a great role model for me. In talking with him, he shared with me that he had had many of the same feelings I described earlier. As the first openly gay male therapist in Los Angeles, you can imagine the trepidation he must have felt in becoming open in a community which really wasn't quite ready to be open, how he must have felt to not only walk into a room, but into a community that still considered homosexuality an illness. It was he and people like him who broke the barriers for us and became our role models, showing us how to have integrity as gay professionals and gay individuals, then combining the two into an integrated whole. Back in 1979, Marty wrote a chapter included in a book edited by Betty Berzon, another pioneer in the gay and lesbian professional movement. The chapter was entitled *Becoming a Gay Professional*. It is more than coincidence that Marty opened the chapter by quoting Randy Shilts, who will be speaking to us tomorrow. He quotes Shilts as saying "A new breed. . .the gay professional whose labor is as much of conscience as it is of career." And indeed it is. Marty's point then--and it is as meaningful today--was that self disclosure or coming out is the key to both personal integrity and social progress for gay people. He wrote "The sharper pangs of risking the uphill road of coming out have the power to move toward a more

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wholesome atmosphere in which to grow stronger and happier, as well as more productive and successful. Happiness brings success more often than success brings happiness." He goes on to write that in addition to the benefits for the individual, the socio-political importance of all gay self disclosure needs emphasis, particularly the coming out of gay professionals. Prejudice can be defined as "Being down on something you're not up on," according to Marty. Homophobia, perhaps the most pernicious of social prejudices, thrives on the ignorance, myths and stereotypes perpetuated by gays' general invisibility. A poll taken at the time of this chapter determined that those people who were personally acquainted with gay people, were more likely to support gay rights than those who didn't think they knew a homosexual. Marty suggests that if ten percent of the population is gay or lesbian, that means that there are about 25 million lesbian and gay people and fifty million parents of these lesbians and gays. If we add siblings, grandparents, offspring, aunts, uncles, cousins, friends, and colleagues, it becomes difficult to imagine how gay oppression could long endure if we all came out. Many people obviously feel they can't do that and for good reasons. They need our help, and we need to help each other. My point today is that one of the greatest strengths we have as a Division is the collective power we can derive from our individual coming out to whatever degree possible. Then, as out gay professionals, our status in society individually and collectively gives us the power, as well as the responsibility, to inspire and assist in the leadership of gay and lesbian liberation. I strongly believe that power begins with each one of us coming out to whatever degree we can, taking stands on our issues and thereby achieving power for ourselves.

I have come to know that in the discussions preliminary to the formation of Division 44, not everyone was in favor of forming a division. Some believed that we would become too isolated, apolitical and that it would be better to raise our issues in the other divisions we belonged to.

Others felt, however, that in addition to bringing up lesbian or gay issues in other divisions, it was important that gays and lesbians have a division of their own, a place where they could feel comfortable and stand up proudly without the fear of discrimination whether overt or covert. The later view came to be the dominant one and so the push for

Division 44 began. It seems to me that the point at which the division was born was not necessarily when APA granted us division status but when the members of this group stood up and said, "We are going to have a division which will represent lesbian and gay psychologists in a professional responsible organization. It was when individuals took action that power for change began.

A story was related about a panel which took place early in the seventies at an APA Convention. The panel members were talking about homosexuality but not one was a lesbian or gay person. Someone in the audience asked "How can you talk about gay and lesbian issues when none of you are gay or lesbian?" A panel member answered, "Well, we don't even know an openly gay or lesbian psychologist and if we did, we wouldn't want to embarrass that person or put him or her in jeopardy." And the person from the audience stood up and said, "I'm an openly gay psychologist--call on me!" It is that kind of courage, it is that kind of standing up for oneself, that is the backbone of Division 44. We are here, we want to be recognized, we want to be a resource for our unique knowledge, for our scientific acumen, for our dedication to the acknowledgement of human differences and sameness, and we are willing to put ourselves on the line to accomplish those goals. And so Division 44 was formally established in 1985 as a result of the collective efforts of individuals. Again we see that the power of individuals can make a difference.

Let me share a little of what I have gone through because I feel that I empowered myself in the process of coming out. I feel that it's important for each of us to get in touch with the part of us that was willing to stand up and to allow our real selves to come forward. I often try to recall that feeling and I think we all need to remind ourselves of those feelings which are often lost in the politics, the everyday workings of the Division and our struggles in our professional roles whatever they are. Just think. . .if each of us would get in touch with those feelings how powerful we would be collectively.

As long as I can remember, I was attracted to men. But as long as I can remember, I felt it was a taboo, that I was sick and there was something terribly wrong with me for having those feelings. When I grew up in the 40's and 50's, homosexuality was an

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illness as defined by psychiatrists, it was illegal as far as the law was concerned, and it was immoral as far as the world's religions. There were no role models that I knew of who I could look to and hear, "Yes, I am President of the United States and I'm gay and I'm OK. I'm a baseball player and I'm fine and I'm gay. I'm an actor. I'm a teacher. I'm a soldier. I'm a psychologist." No role models. The only role models I saw were stereotyped gay people who were portrayed in movies as depressed and depraved and better off dead than leading their miserable lives. I was afraid to tell anyone for fear of being ridiculed or rejected. I kept my secret to myself, further alienating and demoralizing myself. I don't think I would ever have committed suicide but I thought about it often. It would have been the only way out of an impossible dilemma, of being accepted in the world at the same time. Finally, I went to a therapist at the urging of a roommate with whom I confided and found the experience horrible. The person neither listened nor appeared to care about what I had to say. Upon sharing the dilemma with my roommate he said, "All you really need is a good woman," which I desperately wanted to believe. Coming from a nice Jewish home, there was really no place in the script for gay couplehood. So about a year later I met a woman with whom I fell in love and despite some nagging doubts, which I split off from myself and didn't acknowledge, I married only to realize that those doubts didn't go away as I prayed they would. Within a year I had my first homosexual experience which terrified me and for which I felt extremely guilty. I shared the knowledge with my wife and from there we went to therapy together. That began the long process of coming out and of acknowledging to myself and to her that I really was gay. That was a very painful time for me in that I was losing the dream of having a family and being accepted by my family of origin and my community. I felt as if I were being cast out into an unfriendly world. And yet there was a certain excitement in me, a certain sense of myself that I never felt before. I was finally allowing myself to be me--and whatever I did in that context felt wonderful. Despite the pain of divorce, and a child who cried every time I left, despite my parents' disapproval, and in spite of my fear of being kicked out of my homophobic work place, I was elated because of the fact that I was finally standing up for myself. Coming to terms with myself gave me the power and courage to get involved, to work for ALGP,

and then for Division 44. It was that standing up for myself that made it all worthwhile. It has allowed me to stand in front of you and acknowledge my homosexuality. Thank God that there is a Division 44. Not thank God actually. Thank us for creating a space for us to be who we are. Thank us for creating gay synagogues and churches where we can be us and good Christians or Catholics or Mormons or Jews. Thank us for creating environments where we can be ourselves, where we are accepted. Thank us for becoming good role models for others who are just beginning the struggle of coming out and discovering who they are so at least they can say, "Here are psychologists who are gay and they are OK."

Several years ago I took a trip to Israel for a Bar Mitzvah. On the way home I stopped in Prague because I wanted to see the remnants of the Jewish community there and experience the aftermath of the Holocaust in which Jews, political dissidents, gypsies and homosexuals were persecuted and murdered. I was vaguely familiar with what had happened the spring before I had arrived in what was referred to as a revolution. I remember how I felt when I arrived in Prague after a nine hour train ride from Budapest. I was tired and disgruntled. I had gotten to the train station and couldn't find a taxi cab. I couldn't speak the language and I wasn't sure of my hotel reservations. But when we arrived at Wenceslaus Square, my mood changed. It changed because this was a square in which people stood up for themselves, where a student burned himself alive to protest the invasion of the Russian army, where people were mowed down just for saying, "This is our country", where eventually the people stood up and said, "No more", where the country went on strike starting with the students and then the factory workers, professors, and teachers, who all said, "We will no longer tolerate your invasion", where the Communist President announced the resignation of the entire cabinet and where eventually Václav Havel stood on the balcony of the National Gallery and pronounced his Presidency and the freedom of the Czech people. I was so touched by the palpable level of human dignity that I began to cry. There were red flags everywhere representing the Solidarity movement. There were candles burning alongside pictures of the people who were martyrs of the Revolution who were slaughtered by the Russian army. People were laying flowers around the pictures and one of the most impressive

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sights was a Russian tank that had been captured. It was turned on its side and written on it in bold letters for everyone to see was, "The Russians will never be here again", and people were climbing on it and playing on it, taking pictures in front of it, standing and admiring the sight. It was a symbol of a nation standing up for itself and not allowing anyone to take away its dignity, its pride, its heritage, its independence and selfhood. Immediately I wasn't tired anymore. I was exhilarated because even though I wasn't Czech and my issues were not the same, I felt at one with the people of Czechoslovakia because it made me remember my power as an individual, how I could stand up for myself and how important that is.

Because of that trip and in preparation for this address, I began reading the works of Václav Havel and have been extremely impressed. Our struggle for acceptance and basic rights is not unique and I think Havel can give us some pointers. Václav Havel was a playwright who talked and wrote about human dignity. He enjoyed writing about the contrast between the absurdity and beauty of life, and of the dignity of the human spirit and its need to be free. He was imprisoned and nearly died in prison because of his beliefs. As you are all aware, he is now the President of Czechoslovakia. Havel wrote a book called *Disturbing the Peace* which discusses disturbing the status quo, not allowing others to dictate ones freedoms and ones human dignity. His most recent book is called *Open Letters: Selected Writings 1965-1990*. In it there is a letter which he wrote to a shipbuilders' union in October of 1967 when the union became discouraged with the course of their struggle against the repressive Communist regime. His letter became known as *The Power of the Powerless* and inspired the union and the rest of the Czech people to persist in their frustrating attempt to change the system. It is almost 100 pages long and is one of the most impressive writings I have ever read. It's hard to do it justice, but essentially it emphasizes the power of the individual in making change in society.

Havel states that the post-totalitarian system of government creates an ideology for the people which creates an illusion that the system is in harmony with the human order and that of the universe. If the population accepts and carries out the rituals of that ideology, they become players in that game and perpetuate the system. However, if individuals break the rules of the game, the game is disrupted,

the illusion becomes broken, and the lies of the system exposed. Havel encourages people to refuse to live the lie and instead live within the truth, and therefore become powerful. Even if the action is a small one, like writing a letter or standing up for ones belief in a conversation, the system is exposed and becomes powerless. It is like saying that the emperor has no clothes and exposing the truth. It is Havel's view that this type of power ultimately is stronger than the institutionalized and quantifiable power of governments or regimes. It can't be measured by numbers of voters or soldiers but by the strength of potential. He suggests, for example, that writers who have been expelled from Russia, were expelled not because of any real concrete strength they had but because of the power they potentially had by standing up and speaking the truth. Eventually the power of that truth breaks through the institutionalized power and change occurs. He maintains that all change in the system comes from the bottom not the top. What I mean to say is that power and change begins with the individual, not government. So once again we see the power of the individual--in this instance to change a nation.

What does all this have to do with Division 44? I think a great deal. First, it seems clear that as with the individual, or a group such as Division 44, and even a nation, power begins with the individual. Second, even though we don't live in a post-totalitarian regime such as Havel's, we live in a society which tries to suppress homosexuality. Laws prohibiting sodomy are still on the books in at least 17 states and sodomy is prohibited only between people of the same sex in six others. Anti-gay violence has increased dramatically in the last few years and only after a large expenditure of time, energy, and will are these crimes counted as hate crimes. Homosexuality is still considered incompatible with the military. Let me say here how Oliva Espin, Steve Morin, and Catherine Acuff demonstrated the power of standing up on the floor of Council and helping to pass the proposal for APA to take a stand against that discrimination. Thank you and the many others for this success. Many communities across the country are refusing to pass antidiscrimination measures for gays or lesbians, or eliminating existing discrimination measures. Movies and books still depict homosexuals as depraved and sick.

In order to fight the repressive system, according

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to Havel, we each need to take actions often as we feel the need. Whether it is to counter a "fag" or "lesbian" joke, or homophobic remarks, or to proactively write a pro-gay article or do lesbian/gay affirmative research, whether we use our power to decide which articles or books to publish or not to publish, which ideas to promote or not, we need to act. We must not merely speculate that our actions will lead somewhere, but act in accordance with our conscience and try to speak the truth and reveal that the emperor has no clothes.

What else can we do individually? We can respond every time we see a book, article, journal or movie which is homophobic by writing and exposing it. During the past year I received numerous letters alerting me to homophobic books, articles, psychological tests and editorials by other psychologists. These were all responded to and confronted. We each need to do this in our own communities. Let's all keep writing just as many of you did in response to the recent psychotherapy book club selection entitled *Reparative Therapy of Male Homosexuality: A New Clinical Approach*. I have heard of numerous letters to the editor as well as to the author of this homophobic book. We all need to be monitors of the public trust--not only in the common media such as books or movies but in scientific journals and articles as well. In addition, we can volunteer our services at the meetings where text books for the public schools are being scrutinized for suitability. We can screen for homophobic content. These meetings are open to the public and held at regular intervals.

We can encourage research by reward, public acknowledgement, or both, which investigates how people's prejudicial views can be changed, and we can conduct or promote research on topics reflecting positive aspects of lesbian and gay life such as childrearing in gay and lesbian households and satisfying couplehood in lesbians and gay men. We can provide consultations to other divisions or groups who are struggling with prejudice or discrimination on how to reduce it. We can offer workshops or lectures in our home communities.

We can write our elected officials and encourage them to make laws and repeal others to ensure equality. We can become part of the power structure rather than passive players in it.

In our places of work, we can introduce minority rights issues when possible. For example, I was on the affirmative action council of my hospital. When

the schedule of events was discussed including Martin Luther King Day celebrations or those of Cinco de Mayo or Veteran's Day, I said, "How about gay and lesbian awareness day?" After many strange looks, questions, and discussion, eventually we had a gay and lesbian awareness day. Let's all create lesbian and gay awareness days wherever we are.

If we work in a hospital or clinic setting where there are interns or volunteers, we can give lectures on stereotyping as well as gender and sexual role issues in the field of psychology. We can thereby sensitize the interns or volunteers who are our future psychologists about how prejudice plays into even our diagnoses of patients and our very understanding of other human beings. For example, a good teaching tool to use is a tape in which Laura Brown and others discuss the diagnostic criteria for Late Luteal Phase Dysphoric Disorder and Self Defeating Personality Disorder, both of which were under consideration for inclusion in DSM-III-R, the standard manual for psychiatric diagnosis. Laura and the other members of the panel showed how these diagnoses were linked directly to the politics of maintaining the status quo and putting women in their place and stigmatizing them.

On college campuses we can work to guarantee equality in housing for lesbian and gay students. We can also bring up the need for gay and lesbian studies. If there is no gay and lesbian faculty/staff network as there is on my campus, we can work to create one. Through such an organization we can press for student housing for gay and lesbian students and for the space for lesbian and gay faculty to present classes, not just in women's studies programs or human services. Let's each make it a goal to help create a Department of Gay and Lesbian Studies on every college or university campus.

If we are teachers in any capacity, we can encourage our students to write papers and/or do research on lesbian or gay subjects. By encouraging and promoting this, we are enhancing the entire field of gay and lesbian studies.

I'm sure that many of you are doing these and many more activities which are advancing our goals. The bottom line is that we can become role models in whatever setting we are in to promote and encourage the understanding of what gay and lesbian psychology is. In this way we can dispel the myths and stereotypes and slowly the cumulative effect of this work can break through the surface and create change.

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I just spoke of what we could do individually. What can we do collectively, as a division? It seems to me that the Division can be the forum for our collective power to meet, discuss, decide policy and provide each other and the world with the scientific basis for affirmative lesbian and gay psychology.

We are clinicians, researchers, consultants, teachers, writers--in each area the Division can provide support. For clinicians, Division 44 can continue to provide a nurturing atmosphere which promotes and reinforces gay affirmative psychotherapy. We can sponsor studies such as the excellent work of Kris Hancock who sampled therapists on their treatment attitudes and strategies about lesbian and gay clients. From this we can learn for example that a lot of education and training still needs to be offered to therapists in understanding gays and lesbians. The Division can also be a safe haven for those clinicians who choose to come out.

In terms of research, the Division is also a place where psychologists can present their lesbian and gay affirmative research. We have made guidelines for accurate reporting of sampling, assuring accurate interpretation of ethnic minority, gender, or sexual orientation studies. Our unique literature can also be submitted for our annual which is to have its first edition published in 1992 under the competent supervision of Greg Herek and Beverly Greene. Our reserachers can also supply important data for APA to use in amicus briefs and other initiatives for lobbying Congress on issues such as AIDS or abortion.

In terms of networking, the Division can be a place where that can happen. People can reinforce and encourage each other and communicate in a loving and accepting environment.

Through its Executive Committee, Division 44 can speak out on our concerns such as we are presently doing on discrimination against lesbians and gays in the military.

On the divisional level we can also work to broaden our base of support by aligning ourselves with many different groups with the same or similar issues. I must say that we have done a good job with this as evidenced by the number of co-sponsors and co-presenters on this Convention program. We need to foster and nurture these alliances. We can thank Bart Aoki and Mark Jensen for the fine job they did as program co-chairs in moving this effort forward.

The Division can also work to encourage more

ethnic and racial minority membership and find ways of addressing our individual and collective needs. And we can challenge the frontiers of our field by asking ourselves, "Should we expand our scope to include bisexuality in the Society for the Psychological Study of Gay and Lesbian Issues? Or, should we endorse outing as a legitimate way of promoting our cause?"

We, as a Division, have accomplished a great deal towards achieving our goals. We should be proud of our work. The fact that we are co-sponsoring this mini-Convention with the Public Interest Directorate of APA attests to how far we have come. In fact, the title of the conference, "Beyond Stigma: Homosexuality as a Social Issue," also is a statement of our movement from a defensive to a proactive body.

I am proud to be President of this group and it has been an honor to serve during the past year. The level of dedication and commitment I have felt has inspired and moved me. We are making history--we are not letting it make us.

I came across the following quote in my reading: "The real test of a man is not how he plays the role he has invented for himself, but how well he plays the role that destiny assigned to him."

Destiny has placed all of us at a crucial point--the point at which we will go forward to overcome the homophobia and prejudice rampant in society today or succumb to the hopelessness and frustration of it all. I believe we can and will, individually and collectively, reach back to our strivings to be ourselves and use that power to move forward.

Thank you for allowing me to be your President and spokesperson. It has been an incredible honor and privilege which I shall never forget.

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*(Bisexuality, continued from page 13)*

tions when counseling gay, lesbian, and bisexual clients. In S.H. Dworkin & F. J. Gutierrez (Eds.). *Counseling gay men and lesbians: Journey to the end of the rainbow.. Alexandria, Va: AACD Press.*

Golden, C. (1987). Diversity and variability in women's sexual identities. In Boston Lesbian Psychologies Collective (Eds.). *Lesbian Psychologies* (pp. 19-34). Urbana and Chicago: Univeristy of Illinois.

Ross, M.W. (1987). A theory of normal homosexuality. In L. Diamant (ed.). *Male and female homosexuality* (pp. 237-259). New York: Hemisphere.

## SPSLGI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

### SPSLGI ELECTION RESULTS

At Convention in August, it was announced that the following individuals won the corresponding posts in the governance of Division 44:

*President-Elect: John Gonsiorek*

*Secretary-Treasurer: Esther Rothblum*

*Member-at-Large: Robin Buhrke*

*Representative to APA Council: Douglas Kimmel*

Members of the Executive Committee wish to congratulate these individuals and to thank them in advance for the dedication and hard work they will offer to the functioning of the Division.

### DIVISION 44 FELLOWS

SPSLGI added a total of nine fellows in 1991. The Division's four *new* fellows are: *Susan Cochran; Linda Gamets; Gregory Herek; and, Esther Rothblum*. The Division's five *old* fellows (fellows new to Division 44 who were already fellows of another division) are: *Jacquelyn Gentry; Donald Msher; Carolyn Robertson Payton; Kenneth Pope; and, Suzanna Rose*.

The Executive Committee wishes to congratulate these distinguished colleagues on the acknowledgement of their achievements in the psychological study of lesbian and gay issues.

Members of Division 44 who have made "unusual and outstanding contributions" to science, practice, or leadership in lesbian and gay issues in psychology are encouraged to apply for the status of Fellow of APA through Division 44.

Fellow applicants must be five years post-doctorate. However, our experience with APA's Membership Committee, which makes the final recommendations from materials submitted by divisions, is that it may be best to wait a few years past the minimum before applying.

Additionally, members of the Division who are already Fellows of APA, and interested in becoming Fellows of Division 44, are encouraged to consider submitting their names for consideration.

The process of completing a Fellows application, particularly for initial consideration, can be lengthy, so you are encouraged to indicate your interest early, as completed applications will be due by March 1, 1992. To obtain information about applying for Fellow status in the Division, write to or call: *Jeffrey Rehm, Ph.D.; P.O. Box 8422; Orange, CA 92664*.

### SPSLGI DOUBLES COUNCIL REPRESENTATION

Due to a continuous lobbying campaign among its membership, Division 44 has added a second Council Representative. Now, SPSLGI will have two voices in Council representing the concerns and viewpoints of psychologists interested in the scientific investigation of gay and lesbian issues.

Congratulations to Douglas Kimmel our incoming Representative. Also, congratulations to all those who voted for Division 44.

It paid off.

### Newsletter Submissions

Interested parties are invited to submit copy to Division 44's Newsletter. Newsletter deadlines are: June 1; October 1; and February 1 of each year. For information and submissions contact: *Dee Bridgewater, Ph.D.; 9033 Wilshire Blvd.; Suite 406; Beverly Hills, CA 90211; (213) 392-1504*.

*(President's, continued from page 2)*  
day in a *San Francisco Chronicle* editorial calling for an end to the DoD's policy. In October, APA Public Interest Officer Clint Anderson drafted a joint position statement opposing the discrimination against lesbians and gay men in military service and calling for the Department of Defense (through a letter to Secretary of Defense Cheney) to review its policy. This statement was agreed to by the CEO's of APA, the American Psychiatric Association, NASW, and the American Nurses Association, representing a willingness to form a coalition to oppose the DoD's policy.

As part of Division 44's commitment to racial and ethnic minority issues, the Division's Executive Committee will participate in a Racism Awareness Workshop at this year's mid-winter meeting in March, 1992. As a Division, we strive for gender and racial/ethnic minority representation and an understanding of racial diversity issues in our leadership and in our activities. As a woman of color, I would like to personally encourage other members of color to become active in the Division leadership--you can contact me directly if interested.