

Division 44

NEWSLETTER

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Post-Convention, Post-Election

Division Braces for Renewed Attack From Right

As Division 44 members arrived in Washington, D.C. this August to lobby on Capitol Hill as part of the National Association of Lesbian and Gay Psychologist's Empowerment conference or to attend a wide range of gay and lesbian affirmative programs as part of the APA convention, Republicans descended upon Houston for their own national convention. As Donna Minkowitz reported in *The Nation* (October 19, 1992), the Republican platform put the party on record opposing laws that "include sexual preference as a protected minority." Watching clips of the convention on television, it was impossible to avoid being confronted with signs proclaiming "Family rights forever, 'gay' rights never!" Even the cover article, "Gays under fire," of the September 14 issue of *Newsweek* magazine warned of a powerful anti-lesbian and gay attack. What's a psychologist to do?

Although the November elections will have been decided by the time this newsletter arrives, the events of the last few months will have a long lasting impact on members of Division 44. Regardless of the presidential winner, it is clear to many observers that nothing is certain with regards to the advancement of lesbian and gay rights. Oregon's Proposition 9 is a perfect example of how psychology interfaces with public policy. It mandates that all jurisdictions "specifically including the State Department of Higher Education and the public schools, shall assist in setting a standard for Oregon's youth that recognizes homosexuality ... as abnormal, wrong, unnatural and perverse and ... to be discouraged and avoided." How will psychologists in that state, whether in a clinical

or academic setting, practice in a lesbian and gay affirmative manner if the initiative passes? And even if it doesn't pass, Oregon is not an isolated case; similar anti-lesbian and gay measures appeared on the ballot in other states as part of a well organized national effort by affiliates of Pat Robertson's Christian Coalition. What's a psychologist to do?

This "anti-lesbian and gay backlash" is not solely restricted to the realm of national politics. Even the leadership of the APA appears to have shifted towards the right. As Division 44 President, John Gonsiorek writes in his article on page 2, "APA itself has become more conservative clinically, fiscally and politically." As priorities within APA in general, and the APA's Public Policy Office in specific, get reshuffled, there are no guarantees that the needs of the our Division will take precedence. What are we to do?

This post convention, post election issue of the Division 44 Newsletter features a discussion of the role of psychology in public policy. Inside there are articles on the new Public Policy Task Force of Division 44, on the division's efforts to rescind the military's ban on homosexuality, and on the March on Washington, among others. One way everyone in the division can take action is by being certain to designate Division 44 as the recipient of their apportionment votes for APA's Council of Representatives. Division 44 members can urge their colleagues to also assign Division 44 their votes. The Council is an important way by which the needs of the Division are voiced. As the November elections has surely shown us, every vote counts. ▼

From the President

Division Sets New Directions; Requires Greater Membership Participation

by John Gonsiorek, Ph.D., ABPP

The 1992 APA convention was an invigorating one for Division 44. Under the leadership of the 1992 program co-chairs, Joan Rabin and Barbara Slater, a well rounded and high quality program was successfully completed. The 1993 program co-chairs, Bianca Cody-Murphy and Leah

Fygetakis, have begun enthusiastically working on Division 44's offerings in Toronto.

The resolve and clear sense of direction which the division has assumed was for me the most exciting part of the convention. Steven James, our membership committee chair, some months ago polled Division 44 members on their interest in various topics. Over 80 people generously volunteered. About 90 people attended a town meeting held to give input to the executive committee on what committee finalized goals for Division 44 and created task forces for each. These include task forces on: military issues; public policy; accreditation; a standard of care for gay and lesbian clients; and youth and families. I am in the process of appointing chair persons for these; your next newsletter will contain information from each task force.

Much of the impetus for this refocusing stems from the recognition that the world around us has changed. APA itself has become more conservative clinically, fiscally and politically. We can no longer assume that our issues will be understood or taken seriously. In the larger world, there are

increasing attacks upon gay and lesbian citizens, resulting in more being asked of the division. At the same time, the bureaucratic demands of the APA can consume considerable executive committee time if internal priorities are not placed first. The task forces, and the refocusing which inspired them, rest

"APA itself has become more conservative.... We can no longer assume that our issues will be understood or taken seriously"

on an assumption that our energies and personnel are limited. The worthy causes to which we could give attention exceed our resources. We must

therefore choose the tasks we believe we can do well within those limitations. To do otherwise runs the risk of being ineffective at many things, as opposed to being effective at a few.

I believe this refocusing will have other benefits. the task forces will require membership participation like never before in the history of the division. Involving more members gives the executive committee a better reading on the pulse of our organization, and can facilitate a flow of new leadership as members gain administrative experience with APA. Virtually all issues targeted are concerns we share with divisions which have historically been our natural allies: 9, 35, 45, 48 and others. While the particular features of sexism and racism are not exactly the same as homophobia, there is sufficient overlap that our issues converge. As much as possible, in our task forces we will be working cooperatively with these divisions, and hope to create new allegiances with other divisions. At a time when public interest in

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APA Division 44 Society for the Psychological Study of Lesbian and Gay Issues

Executive Committee

President

John Gonsiorek, Ph.D.
400 Groveland Ave., # 1707
Minneapolis, MN 55403

President-Elect

Oliva Espin, Ph.D.
Department of Women's Studies
San Diego State University
San Diego, CA 92182-0437

Past-President

Connie Chan, Ph.D.

Secretary/Treasurer

Esther Rothblum, Ph.D.

Members at Large

Robin Buhke, Ph.D.
Armond Cerbone, Ph.D.
Alex Carballo-Dieguez, Ph.D.

Representatives to

APA Counsel

Leah Fygetakis, Ph.D.
Doug Kimmel, Ph.D.

▼ Committee Chairs

Membership

Steven James, Ph.D.
P.O. Box 270051,
Tampa, FL 34695

Student Affiliates

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

1993 Convention Program

Bianca Cody-Murphy, Ph.D.
Leah Fygetakis, Ph.D.

Task Force on Education and Training

Leah Fygetakis, Ph.D.

Task Force on Ethnic/ Racial Minority Issues

Connie Chan, Ph.D.

▼ APA Liason

Clinton Anderson
750 First Street, NE, Washington,
DC, 20002
(202) 336-6037

▼ Newsletter Editor

Craig Kain
Antioch University
13274 Fiji Way
Marina Del Rey, CA 90292
(310) 578-1080

APA Central Report

National Organizations Meet in Early December; Aim to End Military Ban on Gays and Lesbians

In the following report, Clinton Anderson, Division 44's APA Liaison describes Association events of interest to gay and lesbian psychologists.

Meeting of National Organizations on Ending Military Ban on Gay People. The APA resolved in August 1991 to take a leadership role among national organizations in seeking to change the U.S. Department of Defense policy restricting gays and lesbians from military service. One project toward that goal is a meeting of national professional, scientific, and higher education organizations to be held on December 4 in the Hart Senate Office Building. The purposes of the meeting are to inform the participants about the policy of sexual orientation discrimination in the U.S. Military, to persuade the organizations to become involved in advocating change in the policy, and to plan strategy for an ongoing coalition. At its February 1992 meeting the Council of Representatives provided \$6000 to support the meeting. The proposal for funding the meeting was initiated by Stephen F. Morin, Ph.D., then a member of the Board of Directors.

This meeting is an opportunity to bring together a large group of professional, scientific, and public health groups in a neutral environment. Among the organizations to be invited are the major mental health professional associations – American Nurses Association, American Psychiatric Association, and the National Association of Social Workers. The American Counseling Association, the American Medical Association, and the American Bar Association will also be invited, as well as the American Psychological Society, and many other scientific societies. In addition, higher education associations will be invited as well. Consistent with the educational purpose of the meeting, we have included all organizations that we would ultimately envision participating in efforts to overturn the military ban and monitor its

implementation. These include the members of the Gay and Lesbian Military Freedom Project and members of other coalitions working on collateral or related issues such as the Hate Crimes Statistics Coalition and the National Organizations Responding to AIDS (NORA). We have also included government employee labor unions, religious organizations concerned with military issues, and civil rights groups. The meeting represents the first opportunity to move advocacy around this issue beyond the lesbian and gay community itself and its most immediate core of supporters such as APA. In trying to achieve this last objective APA's role as a scientific and professional organization is very important. In effect, the meeting will be the first meeting of an ongoing coalition, committed to an overturn of the military ban as well as appropriate implementation strategies.

Resolution on Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Youth in Schools. A resolution initiated by the Committee on Lesbian and Gay Concerns and the Committee on Children, Youth and Families was reviewed and revised by the APA continuing committee in their first consolidated meeting September 25 - 27. The resolution will be reviewed by the APA Boards during their consolidated meeting November 6 - 8. If the resolution emerges from the Board's meeting with a consensus that it should be adopted, it will be reviewed by the Board of Directors in December and the Council of Representatives in February.

Sexuality Education Guidelines. The APA is considering endorsement of the Guidelines for Comprehensive Sexuality Education K-12 developed by the Sex Information and Education Council of the United State. The Committees who review the Guidelines have recommended

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"The meeting will be the first meeting of an ongoing coalition committed to an overturn of the military ban...."

Membership

Division Membership Passes 1200 Mark

by Steven James, Ph.D.

I was pleased to be able to report at the business meeting in Washington that our membership has passed 1200. That's more than a 10% increase for the year and includes an increase of 31% in student affiliates since March 1992. There are many people who have been dropping off brochures at local colleges and universities, talking to students, informing colleagues, and generally spreading the word about SPSLGI. I thank you all!

While it is exciting to see our numbers grow as they have, it is important to realize that we have just barely attained the numbers needed to have our second Council representative. We could easily lose that edge in the next round of balloting if we don't solidify our gains. Now is the time to increase our efforts. We need more new members and student affiliates. If there is any way you can help, by giving me the address of the appropriate department or office at your local college or by sharing brochures with others in your area, please let me know.

As a result of the information from the recent membership survey and that gleaned from the town meeting in Washington, the Executive Committee has formed task forces to respond to the membership's interests. Those of you who have already identified an area of interest will be notified by the task force coordinators in the coming weeks. Those of you who have not yet found in your schedules to help, don't worry. When you're ready, so are we. If you have any questions about how you can help, feel free to contact me. ▼

Standards of Care Task Force

Abuse by Homophobic Therapists Addressed

by Armand Cerbone, Ph.D.

Last Spring, after the midwinter business meetings, the Division polled the membership to determine priorities for the next few years. First on the list was accreditation and training. A close second on the list was standards of care for lesbians and gays. Seventy percent of respondents indicated their concern for the mishandling and abuse of lesbians and gays by uninformed or homophobic therapists. These concerns were echoed at the APA Convention in Washington in the town meeting and in the Committee on Lesbian and Gay Concerns open forum.

Consequently, in the weeks after the convention, John Gonsiorek, as President of the Division, established a Task Force for Standards of Care and appointed Armand Cerbone as chair. The Task Force will have as its principal responsibilities the development and articulation of appropriate and reasonable standards, the collection of relevant data to support the need for standards, and the creation of a strategy for implementation of those standards.

The issues are complex and sensitive. All standards of care affecting the practice of psychology must be approved by the APA governance (the Council of Representatives). The concern of that larger organization is for all of psychology and not only for the concerns of one minority group. Any standards put forth by any one division must pass rigorous tests to be accepted as standards for the entire profession.

Nonetheless, the issues are clear, compelling and urgent. All of us in the Division are well aware of the harm, both subtle and egregious, that comes to gays and lesbians in therapy as a result of homophobia or heterosexism. Many of us have been victims ourselves of such prejudice. No psychologist can abide the mistreatment of any clients or patients because of their sexual orientation. Division 44 acknowledges the mandate of its membership in committing itself to this effort. In the coming months the Task Force will constitute itself with a small working core group of members and

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Advertisements that discriminate against any group or individual will not be accepted. For current advertising rate sheet please contact the Newsletter Editor.

Submission to the Division 44 Newsletter are welcome. The deadline for the next newsletter is February 26, 1992. For more information about submissions contact:

Craig Kain, Ph.D.
Division 44
Newsletter Editor

Antioch University
Los Angeles
13274 Fiji Way
Marina Del Rey, CA
90292

(310) 578 - 1080
(310) 822-4824 (fax)
Internet:

CKain@aol.com

Student Column

Invitation Sent Out for Student Participation

by Jim Hickey

This student column is the first in two years not written, at least in part, by (now) former Division 44 Student Co-Chair Lisa Frey. I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of all of us to thank Lisa for her energy, ideas, and work for the division as she moves on to complete her degree. Lisa will, of course, remain an active Division 44 member.

With Lisa's two year term as Co-Chair having ended, any student interested in this position should write or call me. The position ideally would be filled by a woman so that both gay and lesbian perspectives can be represented. Division 44 has historically been very supportive of the ideas and involvement of its student membership, so this is a terrific position for anyone wishing to advocate for and represent the concerns of gay, lesbian and bisexual students. The Co-Chair terms run for two years, with the two overlapping to ensure continuity. The time demands are not onerous; the position is flexible enough to allow one to pursue academics, internships, research, etc.

Speaking of the demands of student life, watch for a student survey in the next Division Newsletter. We hope to gather enough data to present an accurate profile of student membership. The survey will also give students an opportunity to give opinions about Division 44 and make suggestions. In order to increase our numbers, this Fall a mailing to graduate psychology programs will be sent to colleges and universities around the country announcing the existence of Division 44 with a specific invitation for students to join. A similar effort was made last year, generating many responses. Several who responded remarked how pleased they were to see our posting, as it lessened feelings of isolation as a gay, lesbian or bisexual student.

Finally, I would like to invite others to participate in this Student Column. If you have ideas for topics, questions about the division, or wish to share an aspect of life as a gay student, please call or drop me a note. We share many issues: the decision whether or not to "come out" at school or field placement; our need for gay and lesbian professional mentors; our concerns about homophobia or just plain ignorance about anything not heterosexual in our curricula and many, many more. With your help, Division 44 can continue to be a source of support, information and community for gay, lesbian and bisexual students. ▼

"We share many issues: the decision whether or not to 'come out' at school or field placement; our need for gay and lesbian professional mentors; our concerns about homophobia or just plain ignorance about anything not heterosexual in our curricula and many, many more."

Congratulations to the winners of the 1992 Division elections!

Oliva Espin, President-Elect

Leah Fygetakis, Council Representative

Alex Carballo-Dieiguez, Representative at Large

and

A special thank you to

Joan Rabin and Barbara Slater
1992 APA Convention Program Chairs

In Memory of

Adrienne Smith

In October of 1973, a terrified young lesbian first-year graduate student in clinical psychology attended the first conference of the Association for Women in Psychology. She had just started her training, and was daily certain that her closet door would be ripped open, and that she would be kicked out of training, and away from the field she loved. But in a moment of boldness, she put up a sign for an open session time, asking for a meeting of "gay women." Then she positioned herself at a strategic distance from the room door to see if anyone would come.

Just as she was about to give up hope, a wonderful older woman (we now know she was a mere thirty-nine!) came walking into the room and said out loud something about how nice it was going to be to have a meeting of lesbians at this conference. The scared graduate student almost plotzed, then breathed a sigh of relief. Here was a grown-up; a lesbian psychologist with a Ph.D., a role model, a lifeline. Maybe she could do this after all.

The scared graduate student was me. The "grown-up" lesbian was Adrienne Smith. While this is my version of the "how Adrienne made it possible for me to feel good as an out lesbian psychologist and brought me into activism" story, it is not an unique tale. Adrienne was that sort of catalyst for many of us; the woman who, by her presence in the world as one of the first openly lesbian psychologists, a warm caring, and persistent presence, helped to transform the face of psychology, and in particular of lesbian and gay psychology.

Adrienne Smith died on August 10 of cancer after many years of a career marked by her warmth, her willingness to work to create new visions, and her unceasing openness to the mentorship of other lesbian and gay and feminist therapists. Although it was not until the last years of her life that she stepped out from behind the scenes, previously tending to nurture and support others to shine, she made a profound impact on the development of our field.

Adrienne was one of the very first psychologists to do a presentation on the topic of feminist therapy in a mainstream psychology setting. This pioneering spirit was characteristic of her; she came out publicly as a lesbian on the David Suskind show in 1973, at a time when few lesbians, and even fewer lesbian psychologists, had the courage and willingness to take such a step. Because of her position as one of the first openly lesbian feminist therapists in psychology, she was a primary role model for many of us in the early 1970s at a time when the current generation of lesbian psychologists were just beginning our training and in desperate need of the sort of calm, professional, dignified, and welcoming figure that Adrienne provided to many of us, including this writer. In 1982, after several years of informal organizing, Adrienne was instrumental in the creation of the Feminist Therapy Institute, an organization for advanced feminist therapists, where she was active in creating two of the group's annual conferences. She was on the first Executive Committee of Division 44 after we were voted into existence in 1984, and served as President of Division 44 in 1989 and 1990, where she took visible leadership towards making the division more actively anti-racist and multiculturally diverse. As Connie Chan commented, it was hard for her to believe when she met Adrienne, after a long phone friendship, that this woman was white, because the quality of her understanding of the concerns of people of color was so clear and from the heart. She served as a catalyst for the creation of the first regional group within Division 44. It was just towards the end of her presidential year, in August 1990, that her cancer was diagnosed. Many of us saw Adrienne for the last time during APA in San Francisco, where her enthusiasm and hopefulness helped everyone to believe that perhaps she could heal and be with us for many more years.

Adrienne's legacy can also be found in her writings. She wrote on the topics of women and power, of being a Jewish lesbian feminist therapist, and about ethics in feminist therapy. Along with lesbian psychologists Barbara Sang

At the APA Convention in Washington, D.C. in August, Division 44 members, and many others, were saddened by the news of Adrienne Smith's passing. Adrienne, a past-president of the Division, was an inspiration to many of today's leaders in the field of lesbian and gay psychology. On this page, Laura Brown pays tribute to Adrienne. On the following page, Adrienne says good-bye to the members of the Division. This letter was read by outgoing President, Connie Chan at the Division's Business Meeting at the convention.

and Joyce Warshaw, she co-edited the landmark volume *Lesbian at Midlife*, and was working with Barbara and Joyce on a similar project chronicling the lives of lesbian activists at the time of her death. She lived her dying with zest, spending much of her last two years on the road in Bashert, her RV, exploring the world and re-cementing her relationships with those she loved. One of her last loving acts was the making of a farewell video which many of us had the privilege of seeing during convention this year; Adrienne, to the last, let us know how her work in Division 44 had been a sustaining aspect of her life, and helped her in feeling content with her dying. She never stopped contributing to our lives, and to the work of lesbian and gay affirmative, and feminist psychology.

Most importantly, her mark can be found in the lives of many lesbian and gay psychologists; the innumerable women and men who, at a memorial gathering in her honor at the last APA convention, spoke of how she had personally brought each of us into activism, empowered us, and inspired us. She is survived by her life partner, Angela Van Patten, and her long-time partner in work and feminist therapy practice, Ruth Siegel. Contributions in her memory can be made to the Division 44 Alan Malyon and Adrienne Smith Memorial Fund, c/o Robin Buhrke, Duke University, Counseling and Psychological Services, 214 Page, Box 90955, Durham, NC 27708-0955, the Feminist Therapy Institute, c/o Ellen Kaschak, Department of Psychology, SJSU, San Jose, CA 95192, or the Roger Baldwin Foundation, ACLU, 203 N. LaSalle, Room 1405, Chicago, IL 60601. We will miss her enormously.

Laura S. Brown



This is a very special farewell that I want to say to a group of people who have held a very special place in my life. The "worker bees" of Division 44.

As I'm sure you know, I'm dying of cancer, and Connie has had to read my words now twice in a row. So my first thank you is to you, Connie.

By indirection and trickery, a gang of you persuaded me to join the executive council of the newly born division. If I haven't told you already, let me say that I had a ball. Others of you then tricked me into running for president.

In the first case it was by telling me I wouldn't have to do any work. In the second case, everyone assured me I wouldn't win the election. Well, you were wrong; and I won. And I had more fun in that hard-working year and a half than I think I've ever had.

I met wonderful people and made dear friends...supported the whole year and a half by loving arms and caring helpfulness.

Because I worked in Division 44, I feel, as I approach death, that my life is rich and complete, so much more in one lifetime that I feel a sense of completion and reward that I would not trade for another 30 years.

Thank you all for pushing me to be the center of the most exciting movement that I could imagine.

Take my love with you all your life.

*Au revoir,
Adrienne*

Presidential Address

What's Love Got to Do With It? Sexual/ Gender Identities

The talk today is "What's Love Got To Do With It?" And you're probably wondering what that really means. What I'm going to do today is talk about sexuality, and I want to talk about sexuality in the context of looking at sexuality at the crossroads. I want to look at sexuality in this way: Imagine a wheel and the hub is sexuality. I want to look at how the spokes of the wheel defined as race, gender, cultural identity and ethnicity, impinge upon our understanding of sexuality. And I'm going to start by showing you a very short clip from "Tongues Untied" which is a documentary by Marlin Riggs. It's a wonderful documentary about the lives of black gay men.

In the film Riggs addresses the absurdity of the question- "Which is your priority? Are you black or are you gay?" Those of us who are lesbian or gay men of color ask that question a great deal. And, I have to say, in my 1989 study where I first started looking at Asian-American identity development for lesbians and gay men, I was also trying to understand how ethnic minority identity works with lesbian and gay identity: Whether it was parallel; whether they intersect. How does one who has multiple identities, both visible and invisible, how does one reconcile these two aspects?

And in my attempt to understand that, I asked that very question, that absurdity. I asked it in a survey of 35 Asian-American lesbian and gay men. I said: "Which part of your identity, Asian-American or lesbian and gay, do you more strongly identify?" And it was a question designed to force the respondent to choose one aspect of identity over another. And I have to say seven of my respondents refused to choose. Thirty of them did choose; seven refused to choose. They said that Asian-American lesbians and gay men feel most complete when they can be accepted as both being lesbian and Asian-American. And, the quotes I got were: "I identify as being both. I can not separate the two parts of who I am." The second quote I got: "While the Asian-American community supports my Asian identity, the gay community only supports my being a gay man. And as a result, I find it difficult to identify with either." And finally: "The only identification I can feel comfortable with is one which acknowledges both my lesbian and my Asian-American identities."

And three years later I guess my thinking has gone forward a little bit, and I understand now the absurdity of the question. And I understand now that my understanding of the identity development does not require a choice, and I'm trying to still tease out what makes up sexuality. What are the parts that helps us to understand who we are as sexual beings? I think that when I'm talking about what sexuality

means, I'm talking about sexuality as its made up of sexual expression and behavior. I'm talking about not only the sexual identity but also the things that gives us erotic pleasure. The things that give us desire, and, yes, also our feelings of love. How are those things, all those aspects, if they make up sexuality, how are those things shaped by the racial, the gender, the ethnic and the cultural influences and the many cultural values which color us, which help to define us, and with which we struggle to define ourselves. I'm trying to understand how people in general, but specifically lesbians and gay men of color who have multiple, visible and invisible minority status, integrate these identities; how we feel whole, how we feel complete as one person not torn by conflicting allegiances or competing communities and competing desires. But how we come to our understanding of our own sexuality, and how do we come to understanding of our identity overall.

Sexuality and sexual expression, however, do not exist within a vacuum. But they are very much shaped by the experience of our gendered selves as male and as female, by our racial selves and our colored selves as brown, as yellow, as black, as white, and by our own ethnic and cultural selves as Asian-American, as Chinese-American, as Italian, as Jewish-American, as African-American, Latino-American, and as Anglo. And also by our cultural selves which is, I think, what we define in some ways by our social environment; the cultural selves possesses the cultural values of our family and the environment around us. I want to look a little bit, to have you come back with me from the beginning. So how does an adolescent- imagine if you will a person just coming into adolescence and exploring his or her sexuality, who's really beginning to grapple with what being a sexual person means- learn what is appropriate sexual expression and sexual behavior.

How does a person develop a sense of sexuality? I'll use as my example Asian-American adolescents because you have to use what you know best (and this is the group that I have worked with and know best) as an example of how culture, racial, and gender influences help to define an Asian-American's sense of self as a sexual being. First let me make a quick explanation about the use of the term Asian. Asians are a very heterogeneous group. I'm using it as a homogeneous term, but Asians again are very heterogeneous with over thirty separate and distinct ethnic groups, each with their own values, customs, languages, behavior and traditions. And when I'm discussing an Asian or an Asian-American culture, it requires a certain degree of generalization. The generalization is based upon two assumptions. First, upon the Asian cultural values which arise from

This Presidential Address was given by Connie Chan, Ph.D. at the American Psychological Association Convention in Washington, D.C. on August 16, 1992. The address is printed here verbatim and has been edited only to preserve continuity.

commonly shared, broadly based culture best defined as East Asian culture and really inclusive of the ethnic groups of Chinese, Japanese, Korean and Vietnamese. And also number two, upon what I call the common denominator for Asian-Americans, the common experience that Asian-Americans, both native born and immigrants alike, share as individuals of Asian descent in the United States. This shared Asian-American experience is, I think, one of a shared experience of reaction to prejudice and sometimes racism from the majority culture, and it reflects the belief that the majority of non-Asians are unable to distinguish between the Asian sub-group and tend to treat all Asian-Americans in somewhat the same manner without regard to individual or ethnic group difference.

With these considerations in mind, the research literature does provide some foundation in looking at or understanding the concepts of sexuality for Asian-Americans. Alice Tsui, in her article, pointed out that an open discussion about sexuality among Asians is unusual to begin with, as sexuality is a very sensitive subject. Even among one's closest friends, a discussion about sexuality is considered to be awkward and highly embarrassing at best, and at worst, strictly taboo. This extreme discomfort with open and direct discussion about sexuality is sometimes misconstrued by non-Asians as asexuality. Other times it can be thought to be representative of an extreme repression of sexual interest on the part of Asians. Both of these perceptions, however common, are incorrect, and I think they are real myths that need to be exploded. Most Asian cultures are neither asexual nor extremely repressed in their views of sexuality. There's a long history of Japanese and Chinese erotica, both in literature and in art, as well as documentation of private expressions of sexuality and sexual interests in personal journals and personal letters. However, the distinction that's important to make here is what is presented publicly is very different from what is presented in private. The distinction between the public and the private self is really the very important concept in Asian cultures. The public self is that which conforms to gendered and familial role explanations. The public self behaves in a manner which follows social norms, which seeks to avoid actions which would bring shame not only upon one's self but also upon one's family and one's community. And thus sexuality would rarely be expressed in the context to one's public self. Sexuality is only expressed within the private self. The private self is never seen by anyone other than one's most intimate relationships. In some cases a person may choose to never reveal a private self to anyone. The dichotomous nature of the public and private self is

much more distinct than in western cultures where I think there is far more fluidity and movement between the two. The relevance of this public/private self split within Asian culture is that there is not only very little public expression of sexuality, but that the private expressions of sexuality may take on very different forms for Asians than would be the norm in Western culture. One example of this would be in sexual and erotic behavior which may be expressed privately and in far more indirect ways. Many such behaviors might be misperceived or misunderstood as non-sexual in nature by westerners who are unaccustomed to such subtle nuances, and these would include a change in the register of voices of two people having a conversation, minimum physical contact such as the brush of a hand against the other person, a glance, language patterns which might reflect affection or subtle passion but can not be picked up by the casual observer. These are all subtle indirect expressions of sexuality that may be nondiscernable to many people and to many casual observers. And casual observers are not only non-Asians, but casual observers are young Asian-American children and adolescents who may never see any obvious sexual behavior or sexual expression from their parents and other adults. This lack of modeling for sexual and erotic behavior may leave Asian-American adolescents searching for ways to understand and express their sexual feelings by observing non-Asian peers, watching mainstream American movies and TV shows and seeking out sexually explicit pictures and stories in magazines. But these restrictions upon the public and open sexuality should not be mistaken as a denial of one's sexuality by Asians. On the contrary, sexuality really is conceived and is understood as a very normal part of life and a very integral part of existence, though given little attention. And I think the metaphor is like we give our normal breathing process very little attention, it's always there. One's sexuality is always there, and individual sexuality is expected in some way to stay healthy, and any clinical dysfunction is often seen as an individual's personal responsibility and a source of great shame.

Asian-American teenagers begin to understand how external factors affect their ability to meet two differing expectations—Asian and American cultural and peer expectations. The understanding helps the teenagers to recognize that there is not necessarily anything wrong with them individually or that their personal needs are not inappropriate, but that they can be caught in an intersection where varying expectations of their sexual behavior clash. It is when they do achieve this kind of recognition or this understanding of the conflicting messages that they

What's Love Got to Do With It?

are able to learn to make informed choices and to anticipate the kinds of reactions they might have to the expressions of sexuality that they are able to choose. One such choice might be to engage in homosexual or bisexual activity, and I think what I'm going to say here is a little bit controversial—so pay attention. Given the traditional Asian cultural restrictions against open or public sexuality, to identify one's self as being lesbian, gay or bisexual would make a private expression of sexuality into a public expression. Thus, the expression of homosexuality or bisexuality may exist within private expression or there might even be private identification with a certain sexual identity, but there would be no public expression and no public identification. Identifying as lesbian, bisexual or gay would be out of character, not only out of character but not allowed within traditional Asian cultural values.

Since the expression and public identification of sexuality is so restricted within Asian culture, identification actually of any sexual identity whether heterosexual, homosexual, bisexual or asexual, may be unacceptable in traditional Asian culture which allows only a private expression. There's a common perception, I think, that there are proportionately fewer Asian and fewer Asian-American openly lesbian, bisexual, and gay individuals than in the non-Asian population. I think some of us had to question that ourselves. And one explanation we gave to that was we thought, well, there is so much homophobia within the Asian culture, and this is why Asian-American lesbians and gay and bisexual people were not coming out, not being more open. But there is another explanation which would be based upon the concept that the expression of sexuality should be private and, hence, any identification of sexual orientation would change that expression to a public one. Thus, it can be argued that an individual who comes out as openly lesbian, gay or bisexual with an Asian-American ethnic identity as well would have to have a greater identification with American or western culture influences since Asian cultural values would cause you to keep your sexuality a private matter. My 1989 study of lesbian and gay Asian-Americans in some way supports this concept. When I asked them to choose if they identified more strongly with either the lesbian, gay, or Asian-American community, of the respondents who did make a choice, most tended to identify more closely with the lesbian and gay community rather than the Asian-American community. And although they said they felt marginalized and somewhat stereotyped within the lesbian and gay community, they also reported feeling more invisible and invalidated for being gay in the Asian-American community. But what's at work here, I think, is the cultural influence of understanding that anyone who is going to identify as being Asian-American and lesbian and gay is probably becoming much more westernized and American in culture.

Ironically, however, the restrictions upon open expression of sexuality may actually create less of a dichotomization of heterosexual versus homosexual behavior, as well as less of a rigidly defined sexual orientation/identity with Asian cultures. And that's also a controversial and important point. What I'm saying is, if, given these restrictions upon open expression of sexuality, the restrictions might actually be helpful. They might actually create less of a need to dichotomize whether you are a heterosexual or a homosexual or identify those behaviors, and your sexual orientation/identity within the private expression, within Asian culture, might allow you to have more fluidity. With the importance of the concept of private sexuality, there could be more allowance for greater

fluctuation and greater fluidity within a sexual behavior continuum. And, thus, there is less of a necessity for any definition or declaration of sexual orientation or sexual identity. Now the impact of this fluidity identity on Asian-American teenager's development of sexuality and sexual identity is unclear. Asian-American adolescents, regardless of their gender, tend to report that their parents never directly addressed the issue of homosexuality or bisexuality with them. However, the teenagers (as with all of us) are exposed to both positive and negative images of openly lesbian, gay and bisexual people in American society. And again as we know most of those images are of the hegemonic, white mainstream culture. But, even so, even with that, given this far greater awareness, it's possible that Asian-American teenagers may experience a relatively greater flexibility in their private expressions of sexuality than do adolescents who come from the mainstream culture. These Asian-Americans still have the restrictions upon their public expressions of sexuality, but their private exploration may be allowed greater fluidity. I think few Asian-American individuals would openly come out as lesbian or gay but may in their private expressions of sexuality engage in sexual behavior with might well be called homosexual or bisexual behavior. And there's a tradition of that kind of fluidity of expression in Chinese and Japanese culture where, individuals, primarily men, because of the sexism involved, are allowed to have more open expression of sexual desire and to, not only have open expression but also act upon their sexual desire. I think there's always been a tradition of men being able to have different kinds of sexual liaisons and having both sex with men and with women and never ever identifying that as either homosexual behavior or as using the term gay as an identity. I think that the sexual behavior and the expression is much more open in that situation and within women, the women's community in China and Japan there has also been a tradition that as men are out doing whatever they have been doing, women seek out other women for both emotional and physical intimacy. And I think that it is important at this point for me to say that the sexual expression may not be what we in the United States consider traditional sex, perhaps it's not genital sex but it's a physical intimacy involving erotic desire and other types of sexual contact that I would certainly consider to be sexual expression and sexual and physical intimacy. So I think that there is probably a greater chance for sort of a fluid type of sexual expression than what we in the United States would call sex.

If you look at the definition of sexual activity within the private self, homosexual activity may carry equal weight in comparison to heterosexual activity. After all, it is sexual behavior which must be expressed privately whether it is heterosexual or homosexual behavior. It is sexual behavior that is the point. And ironically homosexual behavior because of this may be perceived as not carrying nearly as strong a stigma as within western culture in the private exploration of sexuality. This concept of fluidity of sexual behavior does not necessarily mean that Asian cultures are less homophobic or that homosexuality is any more tolerated in Asian communities. To the contrary, because I think that any public expression or definition or identification of homosexuality is still considered to be very taboo. However, I must go back to the point that private expressions of sexual behavior whether heterosexual or homosexual or bisexual in nature may be more acceptable as long as it remains private, undefined and unidentified publicly. It is within the realm of the private self and the private exploration that the

Sexual/ Gender Identities

fluidity of sexuality can exist.

In my clinical work and in my research I found that Asian-American lesbians and gay men in talking about their experiences with their families and their cultural background have reported that their parents frequently have as much difficulty with acknowledging that their daughters or sons are sexually active in any way as with acknowledging that they are lesbian and gay. For some families of Asian-American lesbian and gay men the issue of engaging in homosexual behavior is sometimes avoided and never discussed while the parents really spend all their energy and all their time focusing upon the public taboo of any public expressions of sexuality. And they spend most of their energy in condemning the fact that you are sexually active as an unmarried man or woman and that you are expressing your sexual desire in such an open way as outside of the context of marriage or outside of the context of the culture as well.

A case illustration in one study I did in this 1992 study clarifies this point. Sachiko, 32, is an Asian-American or Japanese-American lesbian who came out to her family shortly after becoming sexually active. Refusing to accept or even discuss her identity as a lesbian, her parents were extremely upset that she was having sex in any way and declared that she would never be fit to be married or to be a real part of her family again because she had sex as a single person. No matter how she tried to explain her sexuality or orientation or identity as a lesbian to her parents, they refused to acknowledge that Sachiko was anything but a sexually active single woman. By affirming her own identity, Sachiko was perceived by her parents as having willingly brought considerable shame upon her family. The family asked her not disclosed her lesbian identity to anyone else and to keep that matter private. Sachiko however, refused to remain closeted and as a result became extremely estranged from her family. But this is an example of how Asian-American daughters and sons are frequently struggling to have their parents understand not only that they are lesbians or gay men but they are sexual beings at all. I think that is probably the first hurdle towards being sexual beings.

All of us, when we think about our sexuality face many restrictions and we face a lot of expectations about what is considered private and public acceptable sexual behavior. Those norms change from city to city, place to place depending upon the social mores and values. Asian cultural influence places a far greater demand than does the American culture to restrict your open expression of sexuality. Mainstream American culture does, however, give its own pressures; it exerts pressure to be more individualistic, to be more openly sexual, to be more expressive. Yet at the same time, concurrently, American culture places, I think, a far greater emphasis upon the dichotomy of having to choose either a homosexual or a heterosexual orientation and to choose to engage in either homosexual or heterosexual behaviors. Ironically, the private expression of sexuality in Asian cultures may allow for greater movement between a continuum of sexual expression.

Asian-American teenagers make sense of these many messages and they develop their own sense of themselves as sexual beings in individual ways, usually finding some unique balance between Asian and American cultural influences. And as with any identity development or any identity, sexual identity development and sexual identity is an ever changing fluid concept overall which allows us to integrate different aspects of our cultures over our life span. So for Asian-American adolescents, the pressure of parental

approval and the pressure of cultural influences looms largest and plays the most important and biggest role in determining their expressions of sexuality as teenagers. But as they grow into adults, they are able to choose and hopefully able to develop their own sense of sexual identity within a bicultural and sometimes bilingual environment.

I want to look a little bit at what I consider the impact of racism upon sexuality or the expression of sexuality for Asian-Americans. I'm taking some of this from an article written by Richard Fung, an Asian-American film producer. It's an article that has a wonderful title: It's called "Looking For My Penis: The Eroticized Asian in Gay Video Porn." And he makes the point that, as an Asian gay man, he is always looking for his penis in gay video porn because most of the depiction or most of the roles for Asians in gay video porn shows Asians as being very passive and not playing the active role. And so he says he is still looking for his penis in the porn. But he talks about how the media depiction of sexuality for women and men are different and about some of the dichotomization and how some of the racism plays into the sexuality. And this is a quote from Richard Fung's article. He says: "East Asian women figure differently from men both in reality and representation in the movies." In the documentary "Lotus Blossom's Don't Bleed", Rene Tagimo, who is an Asian-American film director and producer, points out that in Hollywood films there are two basic types, "The Lotus Blossom Baby" also known as the china doll, the geisha girl or the shy Polynesian beauty. And then there is the dragon lady, the Fu Man Chu's various female relations. Dutiful creatures that they are, Asian women are often assigned the task of expandability in a situation of illicit love. Noticeably lacking is the portrayal of love relationships between Asian women and Asian men, particularly of lead characters. And then Richard Fung continues because of their supposed passivity and sexual compliance, Asian women have been fetishized in dominant representation and there is a large and growing body of literature written by Asian women on the oppressiveness of these images. Asian men, however, have been consigned to one of two categories—the egghead/wimp, or in what may be analogous to the lotus blossom/dragon lady dichotomy, the kung fu master/ninja/samurai. The Asian man is sometimes dangerous, sometimes friendly, but almost always characterized by desexualized Zen asceticism. So whereas as Fenon tells us "the Negro is eclipsed, he is turned into a penis, he is a penis," the Asian man, is defined by a striking absence "down there." If Asian men have no sexuality, how can we have homosexuality? Fung goes on to say that as recent as the early 1980's, he remembers having to prove what he called his queer credentials before being admitted with other Asian men into a Toronto gay club. In "Tongues Untied," there is a scene where black men talk about having to produce three forms of ID to get into a club, while white men can get in, you know, with one or no ID.

Richard Fung makes a differentiation though. He says in "Tongues Untied" they make the point that it is racism, that not allowing the black men to go in or giving them a harder time. Richard Fung makes the point that for Asian men he does not think that it is a question of a color barrier or of racism per se. He says, rather, "my friends and I felt that the doorman was genuinely unsure about our sexual orientation." So that is the distinction there, where it is not so much that you are not allowed because we don't want you, but because you're Asian, you are not allowed because we don't think you can be gay. And certainly, I think, in my

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OUTlook

News & Notices

By & For Division 44 Members

GMHC Produces Video on Coming-Out, Homophobia & Safer Sex
Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC), the largest AIDS service organization in the United States, has produced a lesbian and gay positive video for teens and young adults entitled *It Is What It Is*. The video is designed for classroom use and is composed of three twenty minute segments addressing sexual identity and coming out, homophobia, and a frank presentation of safer sex education. The section on identity explores the sense of isolation young people feel when they acknowledge their sexuality, and identifies the ways the AIDS epidemic has complicated this experience for lesbian and gay teens. The video is designed for a high-school and college audience and features teen actors some of whom identify as gay and some of whom identify as HIV positive. A discussion guide for instructors is included which suggests lesson plans. The cost of the video and guide is \$50. Orders should be sent to: Education-Marketing, GMHC, 129 West 20th Street, New York, NY 10011.

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***GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies* Seeks Submissions**

A new forum for work in the interdisciplinary field of lesbian and gay studies premieres June, 1993. *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies* proposes to "illuminate the complex interplay among sexual and social meaning, individual and collective practices, private fantasies

and public institutions, erotics and politics." *GLQ* is edited by Carolyn Dinshaw of the University of California Berkeley, and David Halperin of Massachusetts Institute of Technology. *GLQ* seeks scholarly contributions in all areas of lesbian and gay studies in particular, new research into the experiences of those who have been marginalized by race, ethnicity, social class or sexual practice. To reserve a free sample copy of *GLQ* when available, or to obtain guidelines for contributors, contact Philip Rappaport, Gordon and Breach Publishers, P.O. Box 786 Cooper Station, New York, NY 10276.



Psychoanalysts Break Through Silence By Examining Homophobia

The September 1992 issue of *American Imago*, the official publication of the Association for Applied Psychoanalysis, breaks new ground by exploring and challenging prevailing ways of thinking and analyzing AIDS and homophobia in the psychoanalytic community. Essays in the special issue examine the reasons and conditions under which homophobia receives almost no explicit coverage in the psychoanalytic press. Except for occasional clinical reports on the treatment of HIV-infected people, the professional psychoanalytic journals have maintained what seems like an active silence regarding the significances of HIV/AIDS and homosexualities/homophobia.

Book review

Pot of Golden Information Lies At End of Rainbow Book

*Counseling Gay Men & Lesbians:
Journey to the End of the Rainbow*
Edited by Sari Dworkin and Fernando J.
Gutiérrez

American Counseling Association: Alexandria, VA

Reviewed by Jeff Rehm, Ph.D.

Sari Dworkin and Fernando Gutierrez's edited book *Counseling Gay Men and Lesbians: Journey to the End of the Rainbow* is both informative and provocative, expanding our awareness of areas of gay and lesbian affirmative psychotherapy previously unexplored. As Laura Brown states in her forward, we have moved beyond just being supportive in the coming out process and can now delve into nuances of lesbian and gay issues.

I was impressed with the breadth of chapters in the book. From developmental issues to marriage and family counseling, from survivors of violence to counseling techniques for diverse populations, the book covers a wide expanse of topics vital to counseling lesbians and gays. I was especially impressed with the articles which dealt with diverse populations. Perhaps I am only reflecting my own insulated experience, but my private practice caseload consists of mainly white, middle-class gay men whose backgrounds are not very different from my own. I guess I am following the traditional course of therapists who see the people they are most comfortable with, that is, people like themselves. Unfortunately, this tendency excludes many. In reading *Counseling Gay Men and Lesbians: Journey to the End of the Rainbow*, I realized I am ignorant of the issues of many lesbian and gay people I don't treat; there is a whole world that I am blind to. The chapters also scream-out to me to get involved in changing the lack of visibility many minority people have in our community. As the editors of the book point out, homophobia even prevented African-American therapists and researchers from submitting chapters to the book because of fear of repercussions in their precarious situations in both the gay and African-American

communities. We have a great deal of work to do individually and collectively if we are to include all of our brothers and sisters into our professional lives.

I was glad to see the chapter "Challenges Facing Gay and Lesbian Families" by Jane Ariel and Sarah Stearns. It emphasized the changing face of lesbian and gay life today which includes many permutations of families with children in gay and lesbian households. It was refreshing and hopeful to think of a day when our community can be woven into the fabric of an American community which includes all varieties of families.

I was heartened to see articles on how to empower the counseling professional to work with gay and lesbian issues as well as ethical considerations when doing so. It is only when we empower ourselves in a responsible way, that we will be able to address the issues covered so well in this book.

As I read *Counseling Gay Men and Lesbians*, I was struck with several difficulties. First, there appeared to be some large gaps between the chapters. In the Developmental Issues section of the book there were large areas of development unexplored between adolescence and old age. This may be because of a paucity of research or work in these areas or because what is there was just not included. If the book reflects a lack of such knowledge perhaps it is an indication for us to take the initiative and do the work.

The second difficulty I had with the book was the varying quality of the chapters. Some appeared to be well thought out and written while others were less so. Perhaps some better selecting or editing could have resolved this issue.

In conclusion, with few reservations, I enjoyed reading *Counseling Gay Men and Lesbians: Journey to the End of the Rainbow*. It was helpful and informative and spanned many areas of interest to those in the field. It also is an inspiration to do more work to fill in the gaps and also to try to incorporate more of what we have learned into our own private practices.

"As Laura Brown states in her forward, we have moved beyond just being supportive in the coming out process and can now delve into nuances of lesbian and gay issues."

Interested in reviewing a book for the Division 44 Newsletter or in having your book reviewed? Contact Craig D. Kain, Newsletter Editor.

Jeff Rehm, Ph.D. is a Past-President of Division 44. He has a private practice in Laguna Beach, CA.

PSYCHOLOGY IN THE PUBLIC FORUM

THIS ISSUE OF THE DIVISION 44 NEWSLETTER MARKS THE ADDITION OF A NEW ITEM TO THE NEWSLETTER'S REGULAR CONTENTS — A "FEATURE". BEGINNING WITH THIS NOVEMBER ISSUE, EACH NEWSLETTER WILL HIGHLIGHT A TOPIC OF INTEREST TO DIVISION MEMBERS. THE FEATURE WILL INCLUDE ARTICLES, PAPERS, BIBLIOGRAPHIES, AND OTHER ECLECTIC MATERIALS ALL ORGANIZED AROUND A CENTRAL THEME. PROMPTED BY THE RECENT NATIONAL ELECTIONS AND THE FORMATION OF THE DIVISION'S NEW PUBLIC POLICY TASK FORCE, THIS ISSUE'S FEATURE EXAMINES THE INTERPLAY OF PSYCHOLOGY AND PUBLIC POLICY.

Public Policy Task Force Created: Focuses on March, Military & Members

Given the growing recognition of the important contributions gay and lesbian psychologists can make to the advancement of lesbian and gay affirmative public policy, the Division 44 Executive Committee, at its August business meeting, voted to create a Public Policy Task Force. Division 44 has had a long-standing history of concern for lesbian and gay public policy issues. The formation of this formal task force, co-chaired by Robin Buhrke and Craig Kain, continues this tradition.

The mission of the task force is to address public policy issues of concern to lesbian, gay and bisexual psychologists as well as the lesbian, gay and bisexual community at large in the areas of mental health and social and behavioral science. To this end, the task force has decided to begin by focusing on three major issues: the 1993 March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Rights and Liberation, the military ban on lesbian and gay service in the armed forces, and training members to become more involved with issues of public policy. The task force is also developing a telephone tree of members interested in issues of public policy. The phone tree will serve as an "urgent action" network linking members by phone, fax and e-mail and allowing a coordinated immediate response from

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Lesbian and Gay Psychologists Make Plans to March on Washington

"The 1993 March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation is our chance to take the step beyond: to reinvigorate our seasoned leaders, to teach our youth how to lead, to empower those in the closet to emerge with pride, to demonstrate the failure of all three branches of the federal government, to honor the hard work that we've all done, to remember those who stood with us five years ago and who won't next year, to celebrate our victories, and to love openly and freely. And most important, it is a chance to prepare for the battles of tomorrow, the battles that will lead to freedom." — Derek Charles Livingston, Scout, Nadine Smith, and Bily Hileman, National Co-Chairs, March on Washington.

Plans are currently underway for the 1993 March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual rights and liberation. The march itself is slated for Sunday, April 25 although activities are being scheduled in the days prior to and after the march. Many of the activities will be of great interest to Division 44 members. The march is one way in which psychologists can help break the barrier of gay and lesbian invisibility.

The first March on Washington occurred five years ago, in October 1987 and was the largest civil rights demonstration in history. Those who attended, returned to their homes empowered, ready to make this country a better place for lesbians, gays and bisexuals. Yet, as the National Co-chairs of the 1993 march write, "even with all of the advances, too little has

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Division Meets with Military Leaders to Discuss Gay and Lesbian Service Ban

One issue of particular interest to the membership of Division 44 has been the policy of sexual orientation discrimination in the U.S. Military. The American Psychological Association resolved in August 1991 to "take a leadership role among national organizations in seeking to change" the U.S. Department of Defense policy that homosexual orientation "is incompatible with military service." Division 44 has been active in urging the APA to adopt this stance. A special committee within the division devoted to issues of the military has existed for some time. As of the September, 1992, the committee is part of the Division's Public Policy Task Force. At this year's APA Convention a meeting was held between Division 44 representatives and those of Division 19 (Military Psychology). The following article is a first person account of the meeting by one of the division's members in attendance, Robb Mapau. His description of the meeting illustrates the importance of the Division's commitment to address matters of public policy. It also suggests ways in which Division 44 members may be called upon to offer their expertise and assistance in the near future.

A (large) group of Division 44 representatives met with a (small) group of Division 19 representatives on Saturday at this year's APA Convention in Washington, DC. Also present was Clinton Anderson, from APA's Central Office. Division 19 representatives began by stating their

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Letting Them Know What's on Your Mind: Writing an Effective Constituent Letter

Why should you become more politically aware and more politically involved? Because decisions made each and every day by Congress have an impact on psychology and the way in which psychologists do their work. Remember that your elected officials routinely make decisions about the conduct, funding, and nature of scientific research. The men and women making these decisions are, with precious few exceptions, not scientists. These men and women must, therefore, rely upon the expressed views of their constituents, the information of experts, and their own opinions, to make important decisions. As a psychologist, as a scientist, and as a citizen, you have a right — and a responsibility — to inform those choices.

Conclusion to *Advancing the Science: A Psychologist's Guide to Advocacy*

Writing a constituent letter is an effective way in which Division 44 members can become involved with important issues of public policy. The advantages of letter writing are clear: a letter requires a minimal amount of time to write; letters can be written in the privacy of one's home or office; letters can have an important influence on legislators. The following guidelines are reprinted by permission from the American Psychological

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Resources

The following is a short list of materials that may be helpful to Division 44 members with an interest in public policy issues.

A Selected Bibliography of Lesbian and Gay Concerns in Psychology: An Affirmative Perspective. Available from the Committee on Lesbian and Gay Concerns, APA, 750 First Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20002-4242.

Advancing the Science: A Psychologist's Guide to Advocacy. Available from the APA's Public Policy Office, 750 First Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20002-4242.

American Psychological Association Policy Statements on Lesbian and Gay Issues. Available from the Committee on Lesbian and Gay Concerns, APA, 750 First Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20002-4242.

Briefing on the Federal Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights Bill. Available from the Human Rights Campaign Fund, 1012 14th Street, N.W., Suite 607, Washington, D.C. 20005.

Excluding Persons of Homosexual Orientation from U.S. Military Service: Response to An Inquiry from the General Accounting Office. Available from the APA, 750 First Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20002-4242.

Fact Sheet on Violence Against Lesbians and Gay Men. Available from the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Policy Institute, 1734 Fourteenth Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20009-4309.

Health Issues. An introduction to the health concerns of many lesbians available from the National Organization for Women, 1000 16th Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036-5705.

On Behalf of Psychology: The Annual Report of the APA Public Policy Office. Available from the Public Policy Office, APA, 750 First Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20002-4242.

The Final Report of the Task Force on Bias in Psychotherapy with Lesbians and Gay Men. Available for \$10 from the APA's Governance Programs Office, Public Interest Directorate, 750 First Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20002-4242.

The National Lesbian Health Care Survey. Available from the National Lesbian and Gay Health Foundation, P.O. Box 65472, Washington, D.C. 20035.



Public Policy Task Force Formed

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division members when such action is called for.

The task force is currently examining ways in which the expertise of Division 44 members may be used to advance gay and lesbian psychology in the public forum. Task force co-chair Robin Buhrke stated, "It's become increasingly clear that there is a tremendous overlap between psychology and public policy. Psychologists can have a major impact on the social change process." The task force's efforts will not only include drawing together a list of resource people from within the division to serve as experts on various issues, but to actively provide members who have had little prior experience with matters of public policy with the training needed to work in this realm. According to co-chair Craig Kain, "there are many people out there, members of the religious right and other conservative groups who are billing themselves as experts on our lives. What we need now are *real* experts. Real psychologists with real experience with gays and lesbians. This is not a political issue, per se, but an issue of the psychological survival of our gay and lesbian clients, colleagues, friends and loved-ones." The structure of the task force is designed to be as inclusive as possible; in addition to a small working group, the task force plans to create many consultive groups, banks of experts available to other APA divisions, the media, etc. For further information about the telephone tree, contact Armand Cerbone (312-248-0292). To become involved with Public Policy Task Force activities, contact Robin Buhrke (919-660-1000) or Craig Kain (310-578-1080). ▼

Psychologists March

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changed." The 1993 march holds particular importance given the new faces on Capitol Hill; it is estimated that at least 25% of the seats in Congress will be new. It is also predicted that the Federal Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights Bill, which was first introduced in 1975, will be reintroduced.

In addition to the march and other "traditional" activities like a mass wedding of gay and lesbian couples, the National Lesbian and Gay Task Force (NGLTF) is planning lobbying days before and after the march. The lobbying will include constituent visits to home-district elected officials. Plans are also being made for appointments centered around key issues (e.g. lesbian health) where constituents will meet with the staff of members of Congress who sit on committees of interest to gays and lesbians. In addition, a similar set of meetings is planned for members of federal agencies.

The Public Policy Task Force of Division 44 has been involved with early plans for the march lobbying. Given the great success of the National Association of Lesbian and Gay Psychologists' Empowerment Conference lobby day prior to the APA Convention in August, the Division 44 Public Policy Task Force is planning to hold its own

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Meeting with Military Makes Feelings Mutual

(Continued from page 14)

opposition to the military's policy banning lesbians and gay men from service and their support of efforts to rescind the ban. They agreed that we should all work towards rescinding the ban. That said, however, they asked that we drop the ban on military advertising, since they felt that it served no useful purpose towards the stated goal of changing military policy. Representatives reiterated concern that the ban would only hurt the military psychology programs and would have no impact on top brass at the military. Despite this somewhat shaky start, productive conversation ensued. Representatives from Division 44 indicated that we were unwilling to back off from the ban and felt that it was an important part of the effort in sending a message to the military about how we felt about the policy. Clinton Anderson, in turn, reported on efforts to plan a meeting among mental health organizations this Fall, to address the issue on a wider and more integrated basis. Among other goals of the meeting would be obtaining support for similar advertising bans by other organizations who had not already taken a similar stand.

With discussion, it was revealed by Division 19 representatives that the advertising ban had, in fact, had little or no impact on recruiting. The Navy has continued to advertise in APA publications, adding a disclaimer regarding gay and lesbian service members at the bottom of the ad. In contrast, the Army has refused to include the disclaimer, and so has not advertised. All three services, however, reported that they have been able to fill all of their slots through other advertising channels. In fact, this has been the first time that some of the services have been able to fill all of their slots in several years. Thus, it was proposed that, in reality, the ban made no difference to recruitment efforts, and had not truly hurt military psychology programs. Reluctantly, Division 19 representatives agreed, and all present agreed to table any further discussion of the advertising issue.

Subsequently, we discussed what might occur, should the military policy be rescinded. Division 19 representatives reviewed some of the problems which have occurred with the integration of women into the service. In particular, it was noted that living quarters in combat situations are co-ed. Hence, many of the same problems which have been used as arguments against integrating gay men and lesbians into the military apply to the current situation. The integration of women into the service has not been without considerable difficulty (witness the recent Tailhook scandal), and occurred with little or no planning head (e.g., providing adequate training in sexual harassment issues). It was acknowledged that the integration of lesbians and gay men into the military was new territory that would best be achieved through careful planning, even prior to lifting of the ban on service. All present agreed that Division 44 representatives could provide advise and expertise needed to facilitate integration, and felt that this would be a very productive area for collaboration among the groups.

A final issue discussed was one of accreditation. Division 19 members were concerned that the next step taken by Division 44 might be to challenge accreditation of military internship programs due to discrimination against lesbians and gay men. While Division 44 representatives gave no promises about not taking such steps, in the interest of maintaining positive working relationships, it was decided not to press strongly on this issue at the present time.

In summary, all came away from the meeting with good feelings and a sense of working together towards similar goals. The willingness of Division 19 members to drop discussion of the advertising ban was felt to be a major step on their part. While there are probably Division 19 members who would not agree with this stand, this appears one issue that can be laid to rest. In its place, we look forward to collaborative work on figuring out how best to integrate openly gay men and lesbians into the military. This may occur sooner than we expect, especially in light of Bill Clinton's current standings in the polls and his commitment to this issue.

Writing Your Elected Official: "Elements of Style"

(Continued from page 15)

Association Public Policy Office's, *Advancing the Science: A Psychologist's Guide to Advocacy*.

- When addressing correspondence, this is the proper style:

The Honorable Jane Smith
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20525

Dear Representative Smith:

The Honorable John Jones
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Jones:

- Be direct. State the subject of your letter clearly, keep it brief and address only one issue in each letter.
- Be informative. State your own views, support them with your expert knowledge, and cite the bill number of relevant legislation, if appropriate. Your personally written letter is more highly regarded than pre-printed materials or postcards.
- Be constructive. Rely on the facts and avoid emotional arguments, threats of political influence, or demands.
- Be political. Explain the hometown relevance of this issue. Use your institution's stationary, if authorized.
- Be discriminate. Write only on the issues that are very important to you, and avoid the risk of diluting your effectiveness.
- Be inquiring. Ask for the legislator's view on the subject and how she or he intends to vote on relevant legislation. Expect a reply, even if it's only a form letter.
- Be available. Offer additional information if needed and make sure your legislator know how to reach you.
- Be appreciate. Remember to say "thanks" when it is deserved. Follow the issue after you write and send a letter of thanks if your legislator votes your way.

If you need to provide additional information to a legislator, contact Clinton Anderson or Bill Bailey at the APA office in Washington. If you decide to write your elected officials, please send a copy of your letter to Clinton Anderson, Bill Bailey (send one copy to each at APA, 750 First Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20002-4242) and Craig Kain (Division 44 Public Policy Task Force, Co-Chair). Please keep them posted on any response you may (will!) get. ▼

March on Washington

(continued from previous page)

psychologists briefing. The briefing, a "Lobbying 101," will provide first-time "lobbyists" with the information and tools they need to effectively express the concerns of lesbian and gay mental health professionals. Division 44 members who already have been involved in lobbying efforts will find the briefing an excellent way to bring themselves up to date with the current status of lesbian and gay related legislation.

In addition to the lobbying briefing, the Public Policy Task Force is planning other march related activities. The Task Force will organize a central meeting area for the day of the march so that Gay and Lesbian Psychologist can march together under a single banner. Other plans are being made for some type of social event for Division 44 members and friends visiting Washington for the march weekend.

For more information about the March contact the national office for the March on Washington, 1012 14th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20005. For more information about Division 44 related activities contact Robin Buhrke (919-660-1000) or Craig Kain (310-578-1080). ▼

ANNOUNCEMENT

Division 44 is considering having its accounting done by the APA Accounting Service. APA offers free accounting to all divisions, and this would ease the burden on the treasurer (particularly as APA prepares the annual IRS report). Division 44 would continue to receive interest income and to control the division's finances. APA would also invest our income as we wish. If you have any questions or concerns about this, please write Esther Rothblum (Div. 44 Secretary/Treasurer), John Dewey Hall, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 05405 by December 1, 1992.

What's Love Got to Do With It?

(Continued from page 11)

experience and in the experience of Asian lesbians, that has also been an issue where we have been places where people say you know this is for lesbians. We look at them like, who do you think we are? But I think that's the point in how different racial groups and different aspects of racism affect sexuality and sexual identity.

Finally in talking about the effects of race upon sexuality and understanding in some ways a different dichotomization in the paper pornography and the doubleness of sex for women, Joanna Russ writes "sex is ecstatic, autonomous and lovely for women. Sex is violent, dangerous and unpleasant for women. I don't mean a dichotomy that is two kinds of women or even two kinds of sex, but rather a continuum in which no-one's experience is wholly positive or negative." And Richard Fung writes in response to this, "Gay Asian men are men and therefore not normally victims of the rape, incest or other sexual harassment" to which Joanna Russ is referring. However, there is a kind of doubleness of ambivalence in the way that Asian men experience contemporary North American gay communities. The ghetto or the mainstream gay movement can be a place of freedom and great sexual identity and excitement. But it is also a site of racial, of cultural and sexual alienation, sometimes far more pronounced than that in heterosexual society. He says "for me, sex is source of pleasure, but also a sight of humiliation and great pain, frequently released from the social constraints against expressing overt racism in public or in the light of day. The intimacy of sex can provide my non-Asian partner an opening for letting me know my

"The ghetto or the mainstream gay movement can be a place of freedom and great sexual identity and excitement. But it is also a site of racial, of cultural and sexual alienation sometimes far more pronounced than that in heterosexual society."

place, sometimes literally, as when after we come he turns over and asks where am I from?" Though this is a common enough question in our post colonial urban environment in these countries, when asked of Asians it often reveals two agendas. First the assumption that Asians are newly arrived immigrants and secondly a fascination with difference and sameness, although we Asians all supposedly look alike, there

are specific characteristics and stereotypes associated with each particular ethnic group. And the inability to tell us apart underlies the inscrutability that is attributed to Asians rather than the inability of the other culture to tell us apart. He says most gay Asian men I know have similar experiences and I would say that is probably true for not just gay Asian men but I think Asian women I know too.

Finally, I want to kind of look at my first question which is "what has love got to do with it?" I brought you along in talking about sexuality and looking at it from a racial and a gender and cultural perspective, but I haven't talked much about what love has to do with it. And I think the question is an interesting one because my understanding of what love has to do with it is that love is that emotion and that sort of both emotional and intellectual tie into what is erotic. That we may have physical sensations and physical excitement and physical responses to different things, but when you add that emotional component that is when you have some of the makings of love. And love is something I think that comes to you in different forms. And it can come to you in the form of a man and in the form of a woman and it can come to you in the form of a child. It could come to you sometimes in the form of other passions, but love is that intangible which helps us to not only be human, but to make that connection between our sexuality and that physical and emotional intimacy and bringing that together. And that's the answer I would give now, but ask me again in another couple years. I hope to do some more thinking and writing around the aspect of how sexuality is affected by gender, by race and by ethnicity. And I haven't really even looked at class and there are certainly other issues to help focus in on it. I think that we are at a new stage in understanding sexuality. I think that as gay men and lesbian psychologists, that we have a role to play that is very different than the way that the understanding of sexuality has been brought forth up to now. We can have a more diverse understanding and expression of sexuality in all its forms. And I encourage you all as psychologists to not only look at sexuality in the dichotomization and in the forms of bisexual, homosexual, heterosexual and perhaps asexual expression, but look at it in the context of race. Look at it in the context of ethnicity. Look at it in the context of gender and in the context of cultural values because those are very important issues.

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1992 Division 44 Awards

On Friday, August 14th, as part of the "Celebration" social hour at the APA Convention in Washington, the following Division 44 Awards were presented:

Distinguished Student Contribution Award

Pamela A. Brand

Ms. Brand's received this award for her innovative research on domestic violence in lesbian couples, and on eating disorders, gender and sexual orientation. Ms. Brand has been responsible for the inclusion of lesbian and gay perspectives in a variety of course curricula. She also has been a great leader and mentor to other graduate and undergraduate students.

Distinguished Student Contribution Award

David K. Flaks

Mr. Flaks' received this award for his research in support of lesbian families. Mr. Flaks' educational contributions have worked towards the reduction of homophobia within psychology. Mr. Flaks is also responsible for an integration of psychology, law, and public policy in the area of lesbian families.

Distinguished Scientific Contribution Award

Frederick W. Bozett, R.N., D.N.S.

Dr. Bozett received this award due to his extensive research contributions in the area of gay fathers and their children. Dr. Bozett is author of numerous publications on lesbian and gay families and has made long standing educational contributions in these areas and fatherhood in general.

Distinguished Professional Contribution Award

Sari Dworkin, Ph.D.

Dr. Dworkin received this award for her contributions made through her extensive publications on lesbian and gay affirmative counseling. In addition, Dr. Dworkin was recognized for her leadership on lesbian and gay affirmative perspectives in a variety of professional organizations. Dr. Dworkin has also been a great leader in the movement to include issues of bisexuality within lesbian and gay affirmative perspectives.

Distinguished Contributions to Ethnic Minority Issues Award

Beverly Greene, Ph.D.

Dr. Greene received this award for her work in the development of lesbian affirmative theoretical perspectives in clinical applications with African-American women. Dr. Greene has extensive educational and publishing activities in this area. In her award citation, it was noted that Dr. Greene has courageously persevered in these activities, at personal and professional cost to herself, despite ongoing racism and homophobia within the professional psychology communities.

Distinguished Educational Contribution Award

Jeannine Gramick, SSND

Sister Jeanine received this award for her work developing organizations to minister to the needs of lesbian and gay Christians. Sister Jeanine's work includes the publishing of educational materials on lesbian and gay affirmative Christianity. Sister Jeanine has courageously pursued her educational and ministerial activities despite ongoing opposition from church hierarchies. She was recognized as a model of extraordinary integrity to both lesbian and gay, and Christian communities.

Distinguished Professional Contribution Award

James Harrison, Ph.D.

Dr. Harrison received this award for his development and production of educational videotapes on lesbian and gay affirmative psychology. These include the valuable historical document *Changing Our Minds: The Story of Dr. Evelyn Hooker*. Dr. Harrison was also recognized for his service as "visual historian for the first generation of lesbian and gay psychologists."

Standards Of Care Task Force

Continued from page 4

a larger body of advisors. Both the core groups and advisory group will maintain gender and ethnic parity and will include students. Many have already declared their interest in the task force and several have volunteered their energies. Over the next few months, the Task Force will identify objectives and activities that will need the sustained involvement of many individuals.

If you are interested in the work of the Standards of Care Task Force, please contact Armand Cerbone at (312) 248-0292. ▼

President's Column

Continued from page 2

issues are unpopular, it is important to make certain that the public interest pie is not diminished within APA, as it has been in the larger society. The executive committee is committed to resist the divide and conquer strategy of making the pie smaller and then getting public interest constituencies to squabble over a smaller pie.

As members, you have been generous and thoughtful over the years in your contributions to Division 44. The executive committee hopes we have assembled a package of task forces which will engage your passions, values and intellect. We invite your participation and look forward to working with you. ▼

APA Central Report

Continued from page 3

endorsement and the APA Boards will review the endorsement request during the November meetings. To obtain a copy of the Guidelines, contact SIECUS, 130 West 42nd Street, Suite 2500, New York, NY 10036.

Psychological Services Project. In March 1991, the Committee on Lesbian and Gay Concerns (CLGC) adopted the recommendation that CLGC consider the feasibility of proposing practice guidelines for adoption by APA. The CLGC Task Force on Bias in Psychotherapy with Lesbians and Gay Men made the recommendation in its Final Report. The model suggested by the Task Force was the Guidelines for psychological practice with ethnic and culturally diverse populations.

In considering the feasibility of practice guidelines, CLGC has taken into account that the Board of Professional Affairs (BPA) has supported the development of appropriate practice guidelines and has indicated that practice with lesbian and gay clients is a special competency. Furthermore, the themes and cases of bias in psychotherapy presented in the Final Report of the Task Force on Bias in Psychotherapy with Lesbians and Gay Men are available as a starting point for the guidelines.

Based on these considerations, CLGC has decided to develop guidelines and pursue their adoption by APA. CLGC members Catherine Acuff, Ph.D. and Terry S. Gock, Ph.D. are taking the lead for CLGC on the guidelines project. The Committee strongly believes that the support and guidance of both BPA and the Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest are necessary any to the effort. ▼

APA Council of Representatives Apportionment

Votes of Members and "Invisible Friends" Crucial

Last year the division was able to gain a second seat to the council. Will we be able to keep it?

Your vote counts! As a member of the American Psychological Association, you will receive a ballot from the election committee of the APA for the selection of council members on APA's Council of Representatives. Last year, because of the votes of the division's members and the votes of many invisible "friends" of the division, Division 44 was able to gain a second seat to the Council. That seat is not stable. The division received just a few tenths over the required two percent of the vote needed for the second seat. The seat can be taken away from us if we do not come up with the required votes again this year.

A division is granted one representative for each percentage point of the total vote it receives. For example, if Division 44 were to receive five percent of the total vote, we would have five representative to the council. Voting members of APA can designate all of their apportionment votes to one division in APA or divide their votes among various divisions.

At the division's open business meeting in Washington, the division's invisible "friends" were thanked and acknowledged. That the apportionment voting is done in one's own home or office has allowed many people who might not be able to support the division in public to do so in private. The difficulty for the division is that we have no idea who these people are or how to contact them. We can only assume "our" friends are "your" friends. It is important that everyone urge their colleagues in APA to share their votes with Division 44.

Division 44's strong presence on the APA Council cannot be emphasized enough. Each apportionment vote for the division is a concrete statement of support for Division 44 and its work. With the division's second council representative secured by only a small margin, the apportionment of your votes and the votes of your colleagues is crucial.

Become a Member

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. Members of the American Psychological Association may join as Members or Associate Members of SPSLGI. Affiliate membership is open to professionals in related field, or to individual members of the APA who would prefer that their affiliation with SPSLGI be held in confidence. Undergraduate or graduate students may become student affiliates in the same way. The list of affiliate members is the property of SPSLGI and these memberships are confidential. If you have further questions about membership in Division 44, or would like to know how to become active in SPSLGI, please feel free to contact our membership chair, Steven James, Ph.D.

Membership Application - SPSLGI- APA Division 44

Name _____ Date _____
Mailing Address _____
City _____ State _____
Zip _____ Business Phone _____ Home Phone _____
Highest Degree _____ Major Field of Study _____ Degree Date _____
Institution _____
Professional Position _____ Gender _____ Ethnicity _____
Applying for Division 44 Membership as:
Member _____ Associate _____ Affiliate _____ Student Affiliate _____

Student Affiliates, retired persons, and those with low incomes may pay reduced dues of \$10 (US Funds)

Please send this form and dues for the current year (\$30 US Funds) to the SPSLGI Membership Chair: Steven James, Ph.D., PO. Box 270051, Tampa, FL 33688

Please make check out to SPSLGI