

division Ψ 44 Newsletter

A Division
of the American
Psychological
Association

Society for the Psychological Study of
Lesbian and Gay Issues

Volume 12, Number 1

April 1996

President's Column

ROBIN BUHRKE

I write this column shortly after returning from the Division 44 Executive Committee Mid-winter Meetings in Washington, DC. In the past six months, the Division has been very busy, as you will see as you read this issue of the newsletter. Thanks to the hard work of our committee and task force chairs and the Executive Committee, our membership has increased, our financial picture is much improved, our seats on the Council of Representatives are secure for another year, and we are advancing our agendas in science, public policy, practice, and education arenas. I am proud of the dedication of the hardworking individuals working on behalf of the Division.

Thus far, the Mid-winter Meetings have been the highpoint of my year as president, in large part because of the work we did around issues of diversity in general, and ethnic minority issues in particular. In addition to the ever-challenging racism workshop provided by Dr. Althea Smith of Visions, Inc., several prominent DC-area psychologists concerned about ethnic minority participation in the Division joined us to talk about how to make the Division more inviting and relevant to ethnic minority psychologists. Changing an organization's climate is not a speedy process and is, in fact, sometimes painfully slow. My hope is that we have taken some important steps in continuing this ongoing process, and while the journey is far from over, it has at least begun. A tangible outcome of the discussions is the creation of a new vision for the Division's Ethnic Minority Committee (EMC), co-chaired by Angela Gillem, Reginald Nettles, and Doug Haldeman. Each Division Task Force and Committee will be asked to name a liaison to the EMC which will facilitate the integration of ethnic minority concerns into all aspects of the Division. We need to make the Division's commitment to ethnic minority issues more visible, more pervasive, and more thorough.

Ethnic minority issues are not the only issue of inclusiveness facing the Division. Considerable dialogue focused on whether or not to be more inclusive in the Division's name and mission either by adding the term "bisexual" or by substituting the term "sexual orientation." Members of the Division are not of one mind on this issue, as was shown by our recent membership survey (see later in this newsletter). We must continue to struggle to understand both sides of this issue in efforts to bridge our differences so we can move

forward collectively. The stakes are too high to the lesbian, gay, and bisexual movement from outside pressure for us to fall prey to internal divisiveness. We will continue our dialogue in the newsletter and at convention, and I urge you to join us in these discussions.

Although in many parts of the country you may still be experiencing the chill of winter, it is not too early to be thinking about convention in August. In conjunction with the APA Public Interest Directorate sponsored mini-convention on lesbian, gay, and bisexual issues, the Division's program co-chairs, Michael Jorge and Karen Jordan, have

done a wonderful job of putting together this year's convention program. The program is jam-packed with panels, papers, conversation hours, symposia, socials, and suite programming. This year's invited addresses will be presented by Mandy Carter, former Human Rights Campaign liaison to the National Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum, and Richard Fung, a Toronto-based video maker and writer whose work focuses on Asian and gay issues in film and video. A pre-convention Continuing Education Workshop entitled "Strategies and media resources for teaching lesbian, gay, and bisexual psychology" will be co-led by Drs. Chris Browning and Craig Kain. Our program hours span Friday, August 9th through Monday, August 12th, and we're

planning a social gathering for Monday evening. More convention details will be available in the next issue of the newsletter. Mark your calendars now for the 1996 convention.

The Division needs you to keep this work and our momentum going. How can you help? Volunteer for a committee or task force: The work of the Division is limited only by the number of hands available to do it. Give a gift membership to a colleague or friend: The Division is only as strong as its membership. Make plans to attend Division 44 events at convention in Toronto. Renew your membership promptly. Return your apportionment ballots designating some, if not all, of your votes for Division 44. And remember that the work we do on behalf of the lesbian, gay, and bisexual movement is not just part of our professions. It's about our lives. It's serious, it's important, and it's groundbreaking. But let's not forget to have a little fun along the way. ▼

The stakes are too high to the lesbian, gay and bisexual movement from outside pressure for us to fall prey to internal divisiveness.

Editor's Note

PHIL LEVINSON

Spring is here, and we begin a new volume of the Division 44 Newsletter. The Mid-Winter Executive Committee meeting in Washington, DC was highly productive, as certain major themes of significance to the membership were highlighted. There was a substantial focus on increasing diversity within the membership of Division 44, important steps toward consolidating efforts in addressing lesbian, gay and bisexual issues across disciplines and organizations were made, and the question of inclusion of "bisexual" in the name and mission of Division 44 continues to be under ongoing discussion.

The Division 44 Newsletter remains the primary vehicle for communication of your ideas to the membership concerning matters of importance to you. Your input is important, and we welcome submissions which can inform the membership of your points of view on issues of relevance to Division 44. Please do not hesitate to call, write, Email or Fax if you have questions or wish to publish communications, announcements or articles in the Division 44 Newsletter.

The deadline for submissions to the July issue of the newsletter will be May 15. Please send communications to me at:

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I look forward to hearing from you.

Advertise in the Division 44 Newsletter

Division 44 has nearly 1,000 Members and Associates and approximately 600 Students and Affiliates. Our membership includes both academics and clinicians, all of whom are connected through a common interest in lesbian, gay and bisexual issues.

The Division 44 Newsletter is published three times per year, and reaches the complete membership. Advertising rates are extremely economical:

Full Page:	\$225	Quarter Page:	\$75
Half Page:	\$125	Business Card:	\$45

Deadlines are printed in the Newsletter, one issue in advance, and submissions via e-mail are particularly appreciated. Please call, write, fax or e-mail with any question to my addresses listed above.

– Phil Levinson, Division 44 Newsletter Editor

APA Division 44

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Committee on Lesbian and Gay Concerns 1995 Annual Report

CLINTON ANDERSON

Members of the Committee in 1995 were Robin A. Buhrke, Ph.D., Chair, John D. Robinson, Ed.D., Christine Browning, Ph.D., Douglas C. Haldeman, Ph.D., Susan D. Cochran, Ph.D., Steven E. James, Ph.D.,

New members joining CLGC in 1996 are Carolyn Payton, Ed.D., and Fernando Gutierrez, Ed.D.

The 1995 CLGC Outstanding Achievement Award winners were Patricia Hawkins, Ph.D., and Anthony R. D'Augelli, Ph.D.

At the Spring meeting, the Committee examined its priorities and assigned members to take the lead on issues before the Committee. The report which follows reflects these priorities.

Division 44/CLGC Joint Task Force on Professional Guidelines on Psychotherapy with Lesbians and Gay Men

A draft of the proposed guidelines was presented to the Committee during the Spring meeting. Feedback was provided and work on the supporting background paper continues. The Joint Task Force presented a well-attended workshop at the 1995 APA Annual Convention. More than 120 participated in the experientially-based program in which case vignettes were distributed to attendees who were asked to link the material to the themes being used for guideline development. Themes on numerous dimensions were rated by the participants. These data will be used in the ongoing project of theme revision and background paper development. It is projected that the background paper will be ready for the Committee's review at the September, 1996 meeting.

Lesbian and Gay Parenting

The Committee, in collaboration with the Committee for Women in Psychology and the Committee on Children, Youth and Families (CYF), has produced a publication entitled *Lesbian and Gay Parenting: A resource for Psychologists* which became available in January, 1996.

Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Youths in Schools

The Committee provided guidance on a plan to develop and disseminate an information resource for school psychologists on lesbian, gay, and bisexual youths in schools. External funding is being sought for the project under the oversight of CLGC, CYF, and the National Association of School Psychologists.

Selected Bibliography of Lesbian and Gay Concerns in Psychology: An Affirmative Perspective

Work on updating the Bibliography continued. Feedback on the 1990 bibliography was gathered and analyzed. Topic areas to be included and experts in each domain were identified. Experts will be contacted for recommendations for pertinent references. It is projected that the Bibliography will be completed and ready for distribution at the 1996 Mini-Convention on Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Issues in Psychology.

Inclusion of "Bisexual" in Committee Name and Mission

CLGC proposed a revision to include the term "Bisexual" in its name and association rule. The Committee recommended to BAPPI that the Committee change its name to Committee on Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Concerns, and change its mission accordingly. BAPPI approved the recommendation and will pass it along to the Board of Directors. It is projected that the changes will be approved at the February meeting of Council.

Sexual Orientation Conversion Therapy

During the August convention, several members of Council introduced a resolution on sexual orientation conversion therapy as new business. The resolution was crafted by several members in consultation with CLGC, and was referred to the committees and boards in governance. At its fall meeting, the Committee received feedback from other committees and legal council. The Committee recommended to BAPPI that the proposed amendment be modified in order to avoid restraint of trade concerns, and to focus on areas where there is demonstrated research support. The Committee recommended that BAPPI form a subcommittee with CLGC membership to gather feedback from Boards and Committees to work out more suitable language. It is projected that the subcommittee will have a draft of the revised resolution for review at the spring consolidated meetings.

APA Accreditation Guidelines, Site Visitors, and Site Visitor Training

During the Spring, 1995 meeting, CLGC reviewed the Guidelines and Principles for Accreditation of Programs in Professional Psychology, and decided that clarification was needed in Footnote 4. It is CLGC's understanding that

Continued to page 4

Footnote 4 does not intend to provide a religious exemption to compliance with the diversity policy for the accreditation process. However, from the concerns expressed to CLGC by others, it is clear that Footnote 4 continues to be extremely confusing, and is subject to a wide range of interpretations. This is an extremely important issue which needs immediate attention, and the Committee called for BAPPI to take the lead in clarifying the concerns raised by Footnote 4.

International Lesbian and Gay Concerns

The Committee approved a statement of purpose, goals, and objectives for APA activities on international lesbian and gay concerns which reflect recommendations from both CLGC and CIRP. APA's purposes in international activities related to lesbian and gay concerns is to support efforts in other countries, in international organizations, and in multinational organizations to 1) encourage mental health professionals to take the lead in eliminating the stigma of mental illness that has long been associated with same-sex sexual orientation and 2) affirm and protect the human rights - civil, political, economic, social, cultural - of sexual orientation minorities around the world. Goals include 1) the elimination of the mental illness conception

of homosexuality from national and multinational psychological and other mental health professional organizations, and 2) the encouragement of examination, consideration, and inclusion of the human rights of sexual orientation minorities within United Nations human rights conventions. Objectives include 1) the adoption by national and multinational psychological and other mental health organizations of policy statements rejecting the mental illness conception of homosexuality, and 2) the development of a credible international, interdisciplinary report on sexual orientation.

Science and Research

The Committee continued discussions of efforts in the area of science and research, including the development of a statement of purpose, goals and objectives, and plans for their implementation. Potential goals include 1) maximizing the use of the APA Annual Convention, 2) increasing the flow of information on science to the CLGC agenda, 3) encouraging the inclusion of sexual orientation questions in general population research, and 4) maintaining and extending contacts with staff at governmental agencies. ▼

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

STEVE JAMES

It is a pleasure to report that the Division's finances are in good shape. We ended 1995 under budget (\$37,900 was spent on a budget of \$41,300). This savings compensates for the FY94 shortfall. We saw a ten percent increase in dues revenues for FY95. Committee and Task Force Co-chairs are to be commended for making our first year under an annual budget a successful experience. As a result of our budgetary successes, we were able to increase our budget for this year to \$44,700.

The planned improvements in our accounting procedures has been completed. This allows us to more accurately follow the expenditures of each Committee and Task Force across each of their activities. This year promises a strong period of growth in the Division, and because of the hard work of the Task Force and Committee Co-chairs, I have every expectation that we will fulfill that promise.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. ▼

Committee and Task Force Reports

Membership Committee

JAMES S. FITZGERALD, *Membership Chair*

KEN SWARTZ, *Student Member*

Trial, Half-Price Memberships to Begin March 1, 1996

During the last two years, the Division has had over 600 inquiries, i.e., individuals considering whether to join and participate in the Division. However, less than 10 to 15% of these inquiries result in a completed application for memberships. While we can only speculate as to the reasons why people fail to follow through with membership applications, the Executive Committee has decided to offer a trial membership to Fellows, Members, Associates, and Affiliates for the first year. Anyone who joins the Division after March 1, 1996, will pay 50% of the current dues. That is, with current dues at \$30 US per year, any new member will pay only \$15 US the first year. This will give them a year to "sample" the Division. You might consider giving a friend a gift membership at these prices! Students are not included in this program since their dues are only \$10 US.

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Student-Affiliate Perks!

In consultation with the student representatives to the Executive Committee, Anne Crawford and Craig Waldo, the Division has decided to offer three "deals" to our student members. First, when a current student of the Division graduates with their doctorate, the Division would like to give them a graduation gift of one year free membership. This offer applies to any student-affiliate who has been a member of the Division for at least one year prior to graduation. Of course, you must notify me of your graduation and I will upgrade you to member or affiliate, your choice, and ensure that you will obtain all benefits of full membership.

Second, starting with the Fall, 1996 dues paying cycle (October), students will be offered the opportunity to be listed in a student directory that will include contact information and research interest. No one will be listed in the directory without their express permission to be so listed. Of course the dues statement will have a check-off box for inclusion and will require your signature because we cannot guarantee exclusive distribution. The directory is in direct response to numerous student complaints of feeling "disconnected" from the Division. At this time, we intend to distribute the directory to students for actual costs, which are not anticipated to be more than \$2 or \$3 US.

Third, during the same dues cycle, students will, for the first time, be able to purchase the Annual for \$10 US. Many of you know that once per year, in the Fall, the Division publishes an Annual edited by Beverly Greene and Gregory Herek. The Annual has been provided as part of membership to every category of membership except students. Simply put, it has been a matter of costs, and in order to keep student dues as low as possible, they could not be provided the Annual.

Yes, I know! Students did receive the first Annual we published two years ago. But, we made a mistake and sent all mailing labels to Sage Publications. We corrected that error this year and it has caused a great deal of confusion. Now that the pendulum has swung to both sides, we have a mechanism in place which we hope will please everyone.

It was always intended that the Division make provisions for the students to obtain the Annual for a reduced price. Sage Publications sells the volumes for \$21.95 US. However, beginning with the 1996 dues statement, students can purchase the Annual for \$10 US should they wish to do so.

Membership Survey

The results of the survey will be detailed in a separate report. However, there are several issues which I would like to discuss. First, there were some significant proofing problems that seemed to fool no one. It helps to deal with an intelligent and well-educated population. You corrected the errors and went on to satisfactorily complete the survey.

Of the 1600 surveys enclosed with the newsletters, we had

256 responses, a return rate of 16%. We would have liked a broader sampling of membership opinion, but certainly value the opinions of those members who responded in a timely manner. Many members sent additional comments or letters which were shared with the Executive Committee. Thank you for taking the time to let us know how we can improve the Division.

There were 95 of you who volunteered for various Division activities. We really appreciate your interest and energy, and trust that we will be able to call upon you within the year. One complaint in the past has been that someone would volunteer and never hear from the Division. Please "take the bull by the horns" and contact the person responsible for the area in which you would like to volunteer. They should be listed in this newsletter. Some committees, like Youth and Family, already have a surplus of volunteers, so you will likely not be contacted if you wanted to work with them. Don't hesitate to suggest a new area.

State of the Membership

The following table details the membership categories and the number of members in each category.

Membership Type	Number of Records
Affiliate	97
Associate	74
Fellow	16
Member	927
Newsletter	23
Organization	5
Student-Affiliate	586
Grand Total:	1728

In December of 1994, total membership was 1639, suggesting that we had a total gain of 89 new members within the last year. With our new 50% off trial memberships and several student perks, I hope that we will witness a substantial increase in membership over the next couple of years.

Task Force on Bisexual Issues in Psychology

RON FOX AND SARI DWORKIN, *Co-chairs*

We have submitted two programming proposals for this year's APA Convention in Toronto. The first is a symposium featuring papers on current bisexuality research: *Bisexual Women in the Lesbian Community* (Sari Dworkin, California State University Fresno), *Sexual Identity and Behavior Among Black and White Bisexual Men* (Joseph Stokes, University of Illinois at Chicago), and *Bisexuality Research in Canada* (Ted Meyers & Dan Allman, University of Toronto). The second is a general discussion hour in the Division 44 Hospitality Suite that again offers members the opportunity to gather and talk.

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Task Force: *continued*

The Task Force has been very appreciative of the support that the Executive Committee and the Division's Task Forces and Committees have given us. In addition to developing convention programming, we have been able to keep members informed about our work through the Division newsletter, and to make available a resource list on bisexuality and bisexual counseling issues.

We would like to call your attention to the report in this issue of the newsletter on the recent Membership Survey, which was designed to give an indication of members' opinions on Division related issues. One item asked about including bisexual issues along with lesbian and gay issues in the name and mission of the Division. Another asked about broadening the scope of the Division by substituting "Sexual Orientation" for "Lesbian and Gay" in the name of the Division.

The Task Force was encouraged to see substantial support for the Division moving further in this direction, about twice the support indicated in the 1992 survey for "increasing bisexuals' participation in membership and governance." The question of how to best acknowledge and affirm diversity in the Division is indeed one that the Executive Committee has been seriously considering for some time. The Task Force feels that more formal inclusion would be a very constructive response to the sentiments of a growing number of members. At the same time, it is clear that there is a broad range of views on this issue among the membership and that many members responding to the survey do have questions about taking the more formal step of including bisexual issues in the name and mission statement of the Division.

We concur with the Executive Committee that Division 44 needs to maintain further discussion among members by inviting expression of the variety of views that we hold on this issue. Several avenues are available in addition to contacting the Task Force. We invite you to attend the Division 44 sponsored Symposium on Current Research on Bisexuality, and to participate in the Bisexual Issues Discussion Hour at this year's APA Convention in Toronto. You can communicate with the Executive Committee through our President, Robin Buhrike or Secretary/Treasurer, Steve James. You can post a message on the Division 44 internet mailing list, or send a letter to the Division 44 Newsletter Editor, Phil Levinson. We encourage you to continue the dialogue by communicating with us and letting your views be known.

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Youth and Family Task Force Report

STEVE JAMES AND KAREN JORDAN, *Co-chairs*

The Task Force coordinated the submission of two symposia proposals for the 1996 APA convention. One symposium proposal, *The Impact of Gender Concepts on Queer Families*, includes presentations by Division Members Katherine Arnup, Scott Hershberger, Gary Hollander, and Steve James. The second symposium proposal, *Schools and Communities Respond to the Needs of Sexual Minority Youth*, includes presentations by three Division 44 student members. The Task Force has committed itself to submitting at least one symposium proposal for each convention, and to including student presenters.

Co-chair, Dr. Karen Jordan has volunteered to oversee the creation of drafts of information papers, similar to the APA's brochure "Answers to Your Questions About Sexual Orientation and Homosexuality," which will address issues relevant to queer youth and families. The first of these drafts will come from the presenters of the two symposia. Anyone interested in assisting in this project should contact Karen at DePaul University in Illinois.

The Task Force is co-sponsoring a Lesbian and Gay Family Film Festival with the Division 43 Committee on Lesbian and Gay Family Issues, at the 1996 convention. Be sure to watch for the films in the convention program.

Student Column

CRAIG WALDO

How can students be involved with Division 44?

As a student representative for the Division, I am often asked how students can be more involved in Division 44 activities. In addition to being a student affiliate and coming to the Annual APA Convention, there are a few ways in which students can engage in Division 44 events. Some of these methods were discussed at the January 26-28 mid-Winter Meeting in Washington, DC which I attended on behalf of Division 44 students.

Joining a Division 44 Committee or Task Force

Currently, there are several students serving on various committees and task forces, but there is room for more. For example, one student has been active on the Youth and Families Task Force by helping to organize presentations at the APA Convention. I have served on the Science Task Force and Anne Crawford, the other Division 44 student representative, has been a member of the Policies and Procedures Task Force. On that task force, one project that Anne has been pursuing is the formation of a Student Committee. This committee would be chaired by the two student representatives (one woman and one man) and all

students who are involved with Division 44 projects would report their activities to them. If there are committees or task forces which interest you, contact the chair and ask how you can be involved. We hope that some students do choose to become active on a committee or task force because it can be a great experience. In addition, such activity may help you decide if you would be interested in becoming a Division 44 student representative in the future.

Helping in the Division 44 Suite at APA Conventions

A tradition of students staying in the Division 44 Hospitality Suite at the Annual APA Convention has been started. Each year, we ask that students volunteer a minimal amount of time at Convention to staff the suite for conversation hours, book sales and parties. In return, the students are offered a convenient place to stay at a reduced rate, and an opportunity to network with other students. In addition, a continental breakfast is usually included with the cost of the room. Last year in New York, the rate was considerably higher than in the past because of the expense of the Waldorf Astoria in Manhattan. At the mid-winter meeting, however, the Division's Executive Committee agreed to make every effort to substantially reduce the cost this year in Toronto, and in future years as well. Therefore, we have every reason to expect that the cost will be low this year. I am in the process of negotiating this price with Convention Program Co-chair, Karen Jordan (a former Division 44 student representative). If you are interested in staying in the Division 44 Suite this year in Toronto, please contact me via Email (cwaldo@s.psych.uiuc.edu) or telephone (217-244-8349). I can give you more information and reserve a place for you in the suite.

Thank you!

Lastly, I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped with the Division 44 Suite at last year's convention. These students devoted their time and energy to making the Suite activities a success: Anne Crawford, Nick DiCarlo, Brian Litzenberger, Francine MacInnis, Jon Maher, Jessica Morris, BJ Rye, Joe Stuckey, and Jon Veltri. Some other students also helped, but I was unable to contact them and get permission to print their names.

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Positions Available

The John F. Kennedy University Graduate School of Professional Psychology Psy.D. Program invites applications for three anticipated full-time faculty positions for September, 1996. Applicants must have a Ph.D. or Psy.D. from an accredited university, with preference given to graduates of APA-approved programs in clinical psychology. California license or eligibility for licensure is preferred. Faculty will serve collectively in the development and implementation of this new Psy.D. program. Candidates should be prepared to teach and supervise in core competency areas (theory, assessment, multicultural issues, research and doctoral project development), and be committed to both diversity as a core value and to the Scholar-practitioner model of Psy.D. preparation. Preference will be given for specializations in assessment, statistics/research training, child and adolescent development, and psychodynamic approaches, all of which should substantively incorporate multicultural, gender and diversity content. Ongoing professional development and activity in the areas of scholarship, community/professional service, as well as direct clinical practice will be expected of all faculty. Review of applications will begin March 1, 1996 and continue until the positions are filled. Applicants should submit a letter of interest indicating teaching, research, and clinical background, curriculum vitae, sample reprints, and three letters of recommendation to:

Wendy Stock, Ph.D.
Chair, Psy.D. Search Committee
Graduate School of Professional Psychology
John F. Kennedy University
370 Camino Pablo
Orinda, California 94563

John F. Kennedy University is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We are especially interested in receiving applications from members of all groups that are underrepresented in higher education.

What's Sex Got to Do with It?:

A Critical Examination of Lesbian Bed Death

SUZANNE IASENZA

What is this thing called "lesbian bed death?" It's a condition that lesbian comics joke about, and one that both heterosexual and lesbian clinicians discuss. It's a condition whose existence is supposedly proven through carefully conducted empirical studies. And, most importantly, it's a condition that many lesbian women fear developing or report experiencing at some point over the lifespan of their relationships.

"Lesbian bed death" is most commonly defined as a drop off of sexual activity in long term lesbian relationships, usually after two years. The major research study that gets mentioned as evidence of lesbian bed death was published in a book, *American Couples* by Philip Blumstein and Pepper Schwartz (1983). They found that lesbian couples had less sex than any other couple, heterosexual married, heterosexual co-habiting, or gay male. In the 1980's, many books and articles by lesbian practitioners were written about how to improve lesbian sexuality including how to deal with, among other things, inhibited sexual desire, lack of sexual initiation, and low sexual self esteem (Califia, 1980; Loulon, 1984, 1987; Nichols, 1982, 1987). The notion of "lesbian bed death" received special mention in the 1995 Advocate Survey of Lesbian Sexuality and Relationships (curiously, results showed that lesbian women had more enjoyable sex than most American women).

Is "lesbian bed death" worthy of becoming a diagnostic entity? How would it help us? What are the dangers? Perhaps some lesbian couples who complain of reduced sexual interaction are just experiencing real life. Not unlike their heterosexual brothers and sisters and gay brothers, they met, fell in love, and created a life together. They experienced the blissful merging that only new love (and lust) offers, the honeymoon receded, and life happened. But, one may ask, what about Blumstein and Schwartz's study showing that lesbian couples have less sex than other couples? Several hypotheses come to mind.

1. Lesbians aren't "doing it" less than heterosexuals and gay men, but only seem to be (and believe themselves to be) less sexual because of male-defined definitions and measurements of sex that are culturally constructed and maintained. Feminist scholar Marilyn Frye (1987) questions the validity of sex research such as Blumstein and Schwartz's that compares number of times that couples "have sex."

She states that "what 85% of long term married couples do more than once a month takes on average 8 minutes to do ... what we (lesbians) do that, on average, we do considerably less frequently, takes on the average, considerably more than 8 minutes to do. Maybe about 30 minutes at least" (p. 110). Also, what gets obscured in these studies are reports of the quality of sex life. Many studies indicate that lesbian women report high levels of sexual satisfaction with the quality of their sexual lives (Bressler & Lavender, 1986; Coleman et al., 1983; Iasenza, 1991).

2. Lesbians are "doing it" less than heterosexuals and gay men, and it reflects the depth and type of partnership that lesbians achieve more often than other couples. Lesbian relationships may more often emphasize physical affection, intimacy, friendship and spiritual connection as ways to bond (Schwartz in her book *Peer Marriage* reports how heterosexual couples who develop what she calls equal or "peer" partnerships often have less sex).

3. Lesbian couples "do it" less because of the particular challenges faced by a couple containing two women: The likelihood of at least one partner having experienced some form of sexual abuse or assault prior to the relationship, the effects of menopause, the influence of cultural messages about beauty that affect women's sense of body image, socialization of females to be nonsexual, the tendency of women to bolster their gender identities through their ability to build relationships rather than initiating sexual encounters, cultural and internalized homophobia and misogyny that create feelings of sexual shame.

4. Lesbian couples aren't "doing it" less but they suffer more when not doing it than do heterosexual or gay male couples because of the lack of social sanctions (cultural and within the lesbian community) for alternative sexual fulfillment (i.e. affairs, sex clubs, paid sex) that are available to men when their primary relationship is not sexually satisfying. Blumstein and Schwartz found that gay men in long term (10+ years) relationships have less sex than heterosexual couples, but their declining sex with their partners is balanced by having sex with other men.

There is a saying I heard once that rings true here: Gay men marry for love, lesbian women marry for sex. The lack of sexual outlets for lesbian women combined with societal homophobia repressing the expression of lesbian desire, makes the notion of "lesbian dating" an oxymoron. Hence the popular joke within the community: "What does a lesbian

*...we are
pathologizing
ourselves once
again, allowing
our internalized
homophobia and
sex phobia to
govern the way we
view our lives.*

bring on her second date ... a U-Haul. With so little support for one's loving and sexual expression, why wouldn't lesbian couples struggle to create safe and free sexual space?

5. Lesbian women aren't "doing it" less but they can talk about sexual problems more easily than can men, because female gender identity is not based on sexual performance as it is for men. Women in heterosexual relationships tone down their dissatisfaction (or fake their satisfaction) in the service of their male partner's feelings.

Regardless of whatever hypotheses we may prefer in understanding it, there is little doubt that the coining and usage of the term "lesbian bed death" is an example of the power of language to pathologize lesbian relationships. I can understand why the dominant discourse would promulgate this, but am perplexed as to why lesbians so easily join in. It's effects are similar to the use of the term "merging" which Kreston and Bepko coined, and which took off as the "major lesbian condition" of the 1980's until it was finally and properly critiqued and analyzed by lesbian therapists.

In these times of sexual repression and AIDS hysteria, we are pathologizing ourselves once again, allowing our internalized homophobia and sex phobia to govern the way we view our sexual lives. Ironic, how often our gay brothers carry the promiscuous torch as we carry the sexless one, both extremes of male and female sexual stereotypes, the carrying of which represents identification with the aggressor. The underlying cultural message is "gay and lesbian relationships are sick, they don't have the sexual balance of heterosexual relationships," the yin and the yang.

Besides the political and psychological problems associated with the use of the term "lesbian bed death," as a clinician the predominant problem that I find in its use is that it obscures the complexities of sexual relating that go on in lesbian relationships over time. Beyond the label are many possible difficulties that may require therapeutic intervention and options for treatment. Here are a few examples.

Some couples, where both partners desire sex infrequently, present with the concern that something is wrong with them because they don't want to have more sex even though neither of them is personally distressed by it. In this case, the work involves helping the women redefine sex, to educate them about male-defined norms of sexuality and to have them define for themselves what is satisfying rather than accepting cultural norms of sexual relating. This

involves not only critiquing the emphasis on how many times someone has sex but to question what "sex" is.

Different levels of sexual desire between partners is a common situation underlying sexual infrequency. It is important to avoid use of the term "low sexual desire," even though it is popular in sex literature, because it connotes that there is a standard (i.e., "normal") level against which to determine what is "low" or "high." Rather, it is the dynamics created around having different levels of sexual desire that causes most problems in couples. It is important

here to determine whether lack of desire is primary (the person doesn't desire anyone) or secondary (the person lost desire for her partner but finds others sexually desirable). This can be difficult, since lesbian women often avoid expressing sexual desire for persons other than their partner.

Treatment in this situation includes normalizing the existence of different levels of sexual desire, psychoeducation regarding how to adjust to changing levels of sexual desire in long term relationships, introducing the notion of "willingness" to have sex (Loulan, 1984), bibliotherapy and sex homework assignments. It is important to help women explore their feelings about changes in their sexual desire. Some of these include not measuring up to some sexual standard, grief over loss of past sexual energy and lust, loss of meaning and self-image that having sex represents, loss of identity as a lesbian couple ("Am I lesbian if I don't have sex with a woman? Why should we be together if we don't have sex? It feels like I am living with a girlfriend instead of my lover"). Some women feel that they are making so many sacrifices to be lesbian (social, economic, etc.) that having fulfilling sex is one of the few rewards.

Many other issues may contribute to sexual infrequency, such as different desires for particular sex practices, anorgasmia, balancing children and work responsibilities, and intrapsychic issues. The subtleties and complexities of lesbian lives are lost when we make use of the term "lesbian bed death." Let us consider putting the term to bed.

References available upon request.

Suzanne lasenza, Ph.D. is Associate Professor of Counseling at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York. She is contributing editor of *In the Life* magazine and co-editor and contributing author of the recently published book *Lesbians and Psychoanalysis: Revolutions in Theory and Practice* (Free Press).

Toward a Unified Network of Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Organizations

Networking was on the collective mind of the Division 44 Executive Committee during the Division's Midwinter Meetings in Washington DC. Division 44 and the APA Lesbian and Gay Concerns Program co-sponsored a meeting to which leaders from major lesbian, gay, and bisexual organizations and leaders of lesbian, gay, and bisexual caucuses of health and science organizations were invited for getting acquainted, establishing connections, and identifying potential avenues for collaboration.

Representatives of anthropology, medicine, psychiatry, social work, and sociology, and of the National Advocacy Coalition on Sexual Orientation and Youth, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, the National Lesbian and Gay Health Association, and Parents, Friends and Families of Lesbians and Gays participated in the meeting.

Although the meeting was too brief to accomplish much beyond sharing of ideas and making commitments to continue to explore connections and collaborations, a number of ideas were generated. To increase and improve opportunities for networking across organizations and disciplines, and to better disseminate information, it was suggested that we could 1) utilize existing annual meetings of professional associations and lesbian and gay organizations as opportunities for people to come together cross-disciplines, and to advertise these meetings across disciplines (specific upcoming meetings include the Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists in May, National Lesbian and Gay Health Association in July, American Psychological Association in August, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Creating Change in November); 2) utilize the internet to disseminate information, perhaps creating a collaborative World Wide Website; 3) develop professional caucuses within lesbian, gay and bisexual organizations and meetings (e.g., NGTLF and Creating Change); 4) work with current directories, and devise directories where necessary of individuals organized according to expertise and location for use in grassroots organizing; and 5) develop a clearinghouse for information on people, organizations, meetings, universities, research, and scholarship (APA, SIECUS, and NLGHA may already serve something like a clearinghouse function in certain areas). In addition, expert professional support could be provided to other organizations and media: Thoughtful analysis, consensus meetings on key issues, good translation of scientific research, concise format, need for community people to be involved.

Clinton Anderson agreed to follow up on the meeting and to work with Chris Portelli of the National Lesbian and Gay Health Association to coordinate communication among those willing to take a leadership role in continuing these

efforts. These people include Division 44 members Robin Buhrke, Doug Haldeман, Steve James, Karen Jordan, and Craig Waldo; Saul Levin of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association, David Scasta of the Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists, Elise Young of the National Association of Social Workers, and John D'Emilio of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

Of the meeting, Division 44 President Robin Buhrke stated, "This meeting was an important step in connecting the Division with other leaders in the forefront of the lesbian, gay, and bisexual movement. By establishing linkages with other professional organizations and with lesbian, gay and bisexual organizations, we can learn from one another, share our expertise and our strategies, and make our work more efficient. Instead of each organization planning their separate responses to issues such as gays in the military or the Hawaii marriage project, theoretically we could pool our knowledge, talents and expertise, and create a more powerful and unified response. I'm very excited about the work that has begun here." ▼

Resolution on Sexual Orientation Conversion Therapy

DOUG HALDEMAN

As many of you know, last August at Convention a resolution on sexual orientation conversion therapy was introduced to APA Council under the co-sponsorship of Representatives Ruth Paige and Elizabeth Robinson (WA), Connie Chan and Terry Gock (Division 44), and Catherine Acuff (CT). The introduction of the resolution sparked an immediate controversy, including a predictably shrill response from the National Association for Research and Therapy of Homosexuality (NARTH). Coincidentally, NARTH had introduced its own resolution, protesting the Board of Convention Affairs' refusal to allow them program time at Convention. That resolution is coming up for a vote at the February council meeting, where it is expected to be defeated.

We have been advised by APA legal counsel that the conversion therapy resolution, in its initial form, was problematic from the standpoint of restraint of trade. A resolution which attempts to curtail any type of practice must be founded on solid empirical evidence supporting

this as an appropriate course of action. While there is an extensive database suggesting that conversion treatments are not successful in their stated aims, there is no evidence (save anecdotal) which proves that such treatments may be harmful.

At its November meeting, the Board for the Advancement for Psychology in the Public Interest (BAPPI) recommended the establishment of a work group to revise the language of the resolution before it is re-introduced to Council. The group consists of Linda Garnets, Chair (BAPPI member), Bob Pollard (BAPPI liaison to CLGC), Doug Haldeman (CLGC Chair), and staff members Clinton Anderson (CLGC) and Paul Donnelly (BAPPI). The intent of the revision process is to refocus the resolution from restricting practice to other areas of concern, such as informed consent, the involuntary aversive conversion treatment of adolescents, and efficacy issues. We hope to re-introduce the resolution later this year.

In the meantime, please continue to lobby Council Representatives from your own states and provinces, as well as from other Divisions to which you may belong. When the resolution comes back to Council, we are going to need all the support we can get! ▼

Diversity Workshop Makes a Difference

ARMAND CERBONE

This past January, the Division held its annual midwinter business meeting in Washington, DC. What made these meetings unusual was the Workshop on Diversity. Traditionally, the Division conducts this workshop once every three years. The three-year cycle coincides with the term of office of an EC member. This insures that each EC member receives the training at least once during his/her tenure. The half-day workshop, held on the first day of the meetings, is meant to keep racial and cultural issues in the forefront of the Division's thinking and planning. It sets the tone for the ensuing discussions and raises the sensitivity of the EC members in their planning. As such, it helps the EC keep faith with the Division's commitment to counteract the effects of racism and cultural bias.

Last year at the meetings in Boston, the EC elected to hold the workshop annually, as long as the budget permitted. Further, the EC determined that the workshop should warrant a major priority in the budget. These actions

themselves resulted from the impact of the workshop. In addition to its primary objectives, the workshop has had very positive effects on EC working relationships and productivity. EC members reported improved satisfaction with the midwinter meetings as a result.

The Division is very grateful to Althea Smith who led the workshops in Boston and Washington. She modeled well the patient understanding and sensitive confrontation such workshops require. Her background as an African-American psychologist and former president of Division 9 (Social Issues) made her particularly suited to our needs. Not content with sensitizing us to our prejudices, she also pressed us to translate our heightened awareness into action.

One such action was the meeting the EC held with psychologists of color in the Washington area Friday morning prior to the Diversity Workshop. We discussed steps Division 44 might take to make the Division more attractive to people of color, and strategies to increase their participation. ▼

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Division 44 Election News

On or around May 25, you will be receiving ballots from the Elections Office of APA. The two positions for which you will be voting are President-Elect and Member-at-Large. Ballots must be received by the APA Elections Office by July 1, 1996.

Statements of Candidacy

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Christine M. Browning, Ph.D.

The slogan "we are everywhere" is not enough. As psychologists we have many opportunities to educate the public with accurate information about the lives of LGB people and the psychological consequences of intolerance and hatred. As a profession we have made tremendous gains in the last 25 years by increasing our scientific knowledge about LGB issues, developing LGB affirmative psychotherapy models, creating resources responsive to the needs of LGB and HIV-infected people, and impacting the curriculum to reflect the reality of our lives. Many Division 44 members embrace the challenge to be educators, healers, and advocates in their professional lives. Division 44 has been actively involved in creating opportunities to address these needs.

If chosen, I would work to make the contributions of Division 44 members more visible to mainstream society. This would involve strengthening our connections with local, state, and national LGB and ally organizations. I also believe it is important to highlight the involvement of our members in order to model, and stimulate interest among others to become more actively involved. The Division can play an active role in creating a network of support.

I bring to this position my experience which includes participation within Division 44 as: Member-at-Large (1987-90), Chairs of the Education and Accreditation Task Force (1987-89), Membership (1986-90), and Malyon-Smith Scholarship Award (1995-present). I am also a member of the APA Committee on Lesbian and Gay Concerns (1994-97) and served on the APA Committee on Women (1988-92). I served on the Association of Lesbian and Gay Psychologists steering committee and was President in 1985. I am an APA accreditation site visitor and former Internship Training Director. I work at the University of California-Irvine Counseling Center and have private practice. At UCI, I Co-chair the Chancellor's Advisory Committee on LGB, am representative to the UC systemwide LGB organization, coordinate a LGB peer program, and teach LGB Psychology.

Sari H. Dworkin, Ph.D.

Fifteen years ago, I reserved a space in the suite of the Association of Lesbian and Gay Psychologists and Division 44 in order to attend the APA convention. The next day I was running for a position on ALGP's steering committee. Thus, began my involvement with Division 44.

Since that time I have served as Treasurer, Program Co-chair (ALGP), and as Member-at-Large of Division 44's Executive Committee (EC). In addition, I have served as Chair of the Continuing Education Committee, and as a member of the Accreditation Committee. I am no longer on the EC, but am still active as Co-chair of the Task Force on Bisexual Issues in Psychology and just wrote Division 44's application for renewal as an APA sponsor of Continuing Education. It seems that I will continue to work for Division 44 whether or not I am officially part of the EC.

I was honored to be asked to run for President and carefully considered whether I was ready to take on this responsibility. My decision was based on the relationships I have developed in the Division, my belief in the importance of the Division's mission, and my desire to influence the future direction of the Division. Research, training, application, education, and public policy involving the psychology of gay and lesbian issues has been and will continue to be primary foci for the Division. Yet, as we learn more about the complexity of sexual identity our mission must expand to include bisexuality and other sexual minorities. I also see a necessity for the Division to move more into the international arena. While social and professional networking will always be part of the allure of this division, we must focus on research in order to increase the basis for our advocacy, education and training.

MEMBER-AT-LARGE

Ron Fox, Ph.D.

Division 44 serves as a professional home within APA for lesbian, gay, and bisexual psychologists. The Division actively supports our interest in quality research and education by giving members the opportunity to communicate about their clinical

work and research through APA Convention papers, panels, posters, and continuing education workshops, contributions to the Division Annual, and the Placek and Student Research Awards. The Division has also made efforts to address diversity issues by more fully including ethnic minority and bisexual members in the life of the Division.

We have become the conscience of APA on lesbian, gay, and bisexual related policy issues through the cooperative efforts of our Executive Committee, the Public Policy Task Force, CLGC, the APA Public Interest Directorate, and other APA Divisions. Currently, Division 44 is developing guidelines for APA addressing the important issues of heterosexism and homophobia in the realms of professional practice standards and training program accreditation.

I am in independent practice in San Francisco working primarily with gay, lesbian, and bisexual clients. I received my Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the California Institute of Integral Studies and have been a clinical supervisor, consultant, and researcher in the area of sexual orientation issues. I am Co-chair of the Division 44 Task Force on Bisexual Issues in Psychology, and a new member of the Division 44/CLGC Joint Task Force on Professional Practice Standards.

My background as a clinician and researcher, my current involvement in Division 44, and my commitment to lesbian, gay, and bisexual issues lead me to want to further serve the Division. I support the excellent work of our dedicated members and would be honored to serve as member-at-large as we persevere in our important mission of promoting a better understanding of lesbian, gay, and bisexual issues and achieving an affirmative approach to our concerns within APA and psychology.

Craig Kain, Ph.D.

I greatly appreciate being asked to run for Member-at-Large. The responsibilities of this position - representing the varied needs of the diverse community of lesbian, gay and bisexual psychologists who comprise the division - is a task that with my background and experience I know I can meet.

I know I can represent those of you who consider yourself to be primarily a clinician as I have a private practice in Southern California. I know I can represent educators as I am an Associate Professor at Antioch University Los Angeles. I know I can represent researchers, as I continue to conduct research on HIV-related issues.

I believe my past experience with the division has made me particularly well suited for this position. I have served on the executive council as the division's Newsletter Editor from 1992 until just last year. As editor, I gained great insight into the various aspects of the division's committees, task forces and ongoing business. I have also served as the co-chair of the division's Public Policy Task Force (now the Committee on Public Policy) since its inception. I bring to the position of Member-at-Large my understanding of the

crucial political and social issues that face us as gay, lesbian, and bisexual people and my commitment to speaking out and working to affect change.

In conclusion, I would be honored to represent you as your Member-at-Large. Because I believe communicating with you, the members of the division, is crucial to the success of whomever is elected to this position, and because 300 words is not a lot of space, I urge you to email me at Craig_Kain@antiochla.edu if you have any questions about my candidacy or have ideas about how I could best represent you if elected. ▼

Award and Funding Opportunities

Announcing the 1996 Annual Prize: \$250
Psychotherapy with Women Award

Awarded by Division 35 under the Sponsorship of Drs. Annette Brodsky and Rachel Hare-Mustin, authors, *Women and Psychotherapy: An Assessment of Research and Practice*

Content: Manuscripts on the broad topic of psychotherapy with women are eligible. Research (quantitative and qualitative); clinical applications; clinical case studies; and theoretical review articles are welcome.

Eligibility: Jointly authored articles are eligible. Entries should be of approximately journal length and written in APA style. Papers which have been submitted for publication or presented at professional meetings are eligible, along with papers which have been accepted for publication. In the case of the latter, the papers must be published after the June 1 submission date.

Submission: Send four copies of the paper and a self-addressed stamped postcard by June 1, 1996 to Dr. Jessica Henderson Daniel, 295 Longwood Avenue, Boston, MA 02115, phone (617) 232-8390 x2102. Email address: DANIEL_J@A1.TCH.HARVARD.EDU. A cover sheet with the author's name, address, and telephone number should accompany the paper. The author's name should not appear on the paper itself.

Judging: A panel of psychologists with expertise on psychotherapy with women will read all the entries using a standard anonymous review procedure. Judging will be made on the basis of scholastic rigor, clinical impact, theoretical creativity and innovation, methodological skill, clarity and style of presentation, in addition to judged importance to psychotherapy with women.

Award: The winner will be announced at APA. A \$250 prize will be awarded for the selected paper.

Deadline: June 1, 1996 ▼

Candidates for President-Elect Respond to Division 44 Survey

BY DOUG HALDEMAN

In order to give our members a look at where the candidates stand on lesbian, gay and bisexual issues, the Division has instituted a policy of sending all candidates for APA President-Elect a short questionnaire. This year, the five candidates are Drs. Richard Suinn, Martin Seligman, Patricia Bricklin, Robert Sternberg, and Thomas Boll. In February, the candidates were asked to respond to the following questions:

1. Please briefly describe your record on lesbian/gay/bisexual issues (voting record, organizational memberships, clinical/training/research experiences, etc.).
2. In what ways do you see sexual orientation being implemented in guidelines for accreditation and training?
3. What should APA's position be on sexual orientation conversion therapy?

Responses were received from Drs. Suinn and Sternberg. Dr. Bricklin's response arrived too late for inclusion in this newsletter. The other candidates did not respond. The text of Drs. Suinn and Sternberg's responses follow:

Richard Suinn, Ph.D.

As a member of the APA Board of Directors I actively opposed the military's stance on gay/lesbians, and voted in favor of preventing their advertising and recruiting at the APA Conventions. During my 20 year term as Head of the Psychology Department, we have recruited graduate students to increase diversity and received several awards. Included among our current students and those who graduated with doctoral degrees have been several gay and several lesbian persons. We are viewed as having a supportive environment for diverse students.

During my term as president of the Association for the Advancement of Behavior Therapy, I declared "Diversity" as the central theme for my convention, broadly defined to include ethnic minority, gender, gay/lesbian, etc. issues. The success can be measured by noting that at our convention there was a half-day Institute on Meeting the Unique Clinical Needs of Lesbians and Gay Men, and two workshops that included discussion of gay/lesbian persons, as well as a Professional

Consultant session at which Gail Bernstein (whose interests are gay/lesbian issues) was an invited consultant. This is in contrast to no programs two years previously. Finally, following diversity being recognized to a greater degree by AABT, Dr. Bernstein was elected to the Executive Committee of AABT. Outside of AABT, I have actively nominated gay/lesbian persons to Boards in APA in order to broaden representation (exclusive of the Committee on Lesbian and Gay Concerns).

The APA Commission on Ethnic Minority Recruitment, Retention and Training (CEMRRAT) which I chair, adopted language in its mission statement that formally recognizes diversity in sexual orientation. As chair of CEMRRAT, I have met twice with the chairperson of the APA Committee on Accreditation to offer help and to seek accountability. The accountability involves obtaining a promise by Accreditation to forward the data on "flagged" programs, regarding improvement by programs and/or sanctions for failure to meet diversity standards. The second meeting was to clarify what appeared to be failure to follow-through on earlier support for CEMRRAT's proposals. This second meeting corrected some office communication difficulties, and produced a strong commitment from Accreditation to CEMRRAT. I am fully supportive of CLGC's efforts to reach goals in accreditation since these are nearly identical to those sought by CEMRRAT. I believe my efforts are producing impact both on the elected members and Central Office personnel in Accreditation.

Currently, the concept of conversion therapy is no longer an acceptable one to be used routinely. Even where a client "volunteers" to seek change, great caution should be maintained to understand the reasons. We know that the source of a difficulty for other complaints can be the person's environment or the climate, and not the person him/herself. Change should be directed to those environmental conditions rather than to the person. "Blaming the victim" has too often been the rule when addressing ethnic minority, gay/lesbian, or other unempowered groups.

As an ethnic minority person myself, and a person who has devoted visible energies to insuring progress in diversity matters within APA and other organizations, I am committed to APA being a leader in the elimination of barriers and misconceptions.

Robert J. Sternberg

I believe that lesbians, gays and bisexuals should have exactly the same rights and privileges as everyone else without exception. I don't believe that our society or any society has room for the kinds of artificial distinctions that tend to be drawn when one group seeks to abridge the rights of any other. My voting record is thus one of always favoring full rights for all groups, including lesbians, gays, and bisexuals.

I believe that training of psychologists should include information as well as the development of sensitivity to members of all groups where identification in such a group might have an effect on individuals or the field. Such training should start from the very first course in psychology, and indeed, I discuss these issues at some length in my own introductory-psychology text, thereby trying to put into practice what I preach. I also teach these issues in my introductory-psychology course.

I believe that people should adopt whatever sexual orientation feels natural to them. For many people, this is an orientation that will evolve over time. In rare instances, some people may feel uncomfortable with the sexual orientation that has emerged, whether homosexual or heterosexual. If a person is uncomfortable with his or her sexual orientation, whatever it may be, the first question the person should ask is why. If it is because of societal, family, or other pressures, then the issue the person faces is not really one of dealing with the orientation, but rather with the external pressures that are making him or her uncomfortable. If the reason for the discomfort is truly internal rather than external, then the person still needs to figure out what the problem is, as it may be an internalization of perceived societal values, which the individual may decide to accept or reject after further consideration. I believe that, ultimately, most people will come to terms with the sexual identity that has emerged naturally for them, but people of any orientation who are committed to trying to change should have the freedom to change if they so wish. What's important is that there be no pressure to do so, and that the person understand fully why he or she wishes to do so, and the likely consequences of doing so. Encouraging or forcing people to change orientations is always wrong.

I am not a therapist by training, and I must be honest in saying that I do not have great professional expertise in these matters. Were I to be fortunate enough to be elected, I would seek the counsel of Division 44 on matters pertaining to lesbian, gay, and bisexual issues, and would ask that the division recommend advisors to me. I would like to be and am trying to be more knowledgeable. At the same time, I think that any good leader needs to acknowledge his or her limitations, and to seek expert counsel in areas in which she or he is nonexpert. This is such an area for me, and I would hope that the Division would welcome an exchange of ideas with me. I know that I would have much to learn from the counsel of its members.

Teaching Lesbian Gay and Bisexual Psychology

*Contemporary Strategies and Media Resources
for Teaching Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual
Psychology*

**APA DIVISION 44 PRE-CONVENTION
WORKSHOP**

**Toronto, Ontario, Canada August 8, 1996
12:30-5:00PM**

Workshop Description: This workshop is designed to examine the administrative, pedagogical, and content issues specific to Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual (LGB) psychology courses with an emphasis on the unique dynamics of the classroom experience. Designed to be interactive, this workshop will include group discussion and the demonstration of experiential exercises. Participants will receive an updated LGB bibliography and a current multi-media resource list. This workshop will take into account a wide range of participant needs including those relevant to faculty and graduate students experienced in teaching LGB courses and those considering teaching such courses for the first time.

Trainers: Christine Browning, Ph.D., Staff Psychologist, Counseling Center at the University of California at Irvine

Craig Kain, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Graduate Program in Clinical Psychology, Antioch University Southern California at Los Angeles

#CE Hours: Four

Price: \$75 (\$50 for full time students). Make checks out to Division 44/SPSLGI

Cancellation Policy: A handling fee of \$25 is deducted for cancellation. Refund requests must be received by mail by August 1, 1996.

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Send registration and payment to:

Dr Isiaah Crawford
Department of Psychology
Loyola University Chicago
6525 N. Sheridan Road
Chicago, IL 60626

For more information call (312) 508-2973
E-mail Address: icrawfo@wpo.it.luc.edu

Call for Nominations

The Committee on Lesbian and Gay Concerns of the American Psychological Association annually presents one or two Outstanding Achievement Awards to recognize psychologists for significant contributions to the mission of CLGC. This mission is to:

- study and evaluate on an ongoing basis how the issues and concerns of lesbian and gay male psychologists can best be dealt with;
- encourage objective and unbiased research in areas relevant to lesbians, gay men, and lesbian and gay youth, and the social impact of such research;
- examine the consequences of stereotypes about lesbians, gay men, and gay and lesbian youth in clinical practice;
- develop educational materials for distribution to psychologists and others; and
- make recommendations regarding the integration of these issues into the APA's activities to further the cause of the civil and legal rights of lesbian and gay psychologists within the profession.

Nominees may have made significant contributions to CLGC's mission either through direct CLGC service or through independent work. The contributions may be of a scientific, professional, educational, leadership or political nature.

All nominations should include 1) a brief description of the specific achievements and contributions of the nominee (500 word maximum), 2) a current curriculum vitae, and 3) three reference letters. No current members of CLGC or staff of Public Interest Governance Programs at the time of the award are eligible for consideration. The deadline for receipt of nominations is May 1, 1996.

Send nominations and supporting materials to:

CLGC Awards, Public Interest Directorate
American Psychological Association
750 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002-4242

Announcements

Committee on Lesbian and Gay Concerns (CLGC) seeks nominations for two terms beginning in early 1997.

Nominees with professional practice and training expertise, or scientific research expertise are especially sought. CLGC is comprised of three women and three men appointed by the Board for the Advancement in Psychology in the Public Interest for staggered terms of three years. The Committee welcomes nominations of ethnic minority psychologists and other psychologists who are members of under-represented groups.

The candidates selected to serve on the Committee will serve for three years, and will be required to attend two Committee meetings per year in Washington, DC, with expenses reimbursed by APA. The Committee will meet on March 14-16 and September 26-28, 1997, March 20-22 and October 2-4, 1998, and March 19-21 and September 24-26, 1999.

The Committee's mission is to study and evaluate on an ongoing basis how to best deal with problems confronting lesbian and gay psychologists; encourage objective and unbiased research in areas relevant to lesbians and gay men, lesbian and gay youth, and the social impact of such research; examine the consequences of inaccurate information stereotypes about lesbians and gay men, and lesbian

and gay youth on clinical practice; develop educational materials for distribution to psychologists and others; and make recommendations regarding the integration of these issues into the APA's activities to further the cause of civil and legal rights of lesbian and gay psychologists within the profession.

A description of the nominee with her or his qualifications and a current curriculum vitae should accompany the nomination. Self nominations are accepted. Nomination materials are to be sent by August 28, 1996 to CLGC Nominations, Public Interest Directorate, American Psychological Association, 750 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002-4242.

The Committee on Public Policy (COPP) is happy to announce the unveiling of its own Web Page. The page should be up and running by the time this newsletter comes out. The page includes important public policy information for gay, lesbian and bisexual psychologists. Features include an Urgent Action Alert, updates on public policy concerns in various states, a guide to advocacy, and links to other gay, lesbian and bisexual public policy Web Pages. Anyone with access to the World Wide Web can reach the Committee on Public Policy home page at: www.antiochla.edu/COPP.

Malyon-Smith Scholarship Award

We received more proposals this year than ever before for the 1996 Scholarship Award. This is a very important source of funding for graduate students doing research in Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual issues. The need is great and our fund is small! Please help the fund grow. If each member made a tax deductible contribution of \$25, we would establish a fund which will support LGB psychology research in perpetuity. Your contribution today (regardless of how small or large) will be greatly appreciated. Please write a check in the name of "Malyon-Smith Scholarship Award" and send to:

Christine Browning, Ph.D.
University of California
Counseling Center, SS1, Room 202
Irvine, CA 92717
Email: cmbrowni@uci.edu
Phone: (714) 857-5182

LESBIAN, GAY AND BISEXUAL IDENTITIES OVER THE LIFESPAN

Psychological Perspectives

*Edited by Anthony R. D'Augelli and Charlotte J. Patterson,
Oxford University Press, 416 pages*

Over the last fifteen years, psychological research regarding sexual orientation has seen explosive growth. In this book, Anthony R. D'Augelli and Charlotte J. Patterson bring together top experts to offer a comprehensive overview of what we have discovered - and what we still need to learn - about lesbian, gay, and bisexual Identities. Writing in clear, nontechnical language, the contributors cover a range of topics, including conceptions of sexual identity, development over the lifespan, family and other personal relationships, parenting, and bigotry and discrimination. *Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Identities Over the Lifespan* is essential reading for researchers and students, social scientists, mental health practitioners, and general readers who seek the most up-to-date and authoritative treatment of the subject available.

Cloth 0-19-508321-1 \$39.95 list/\$33.95 discount
Paper 0-19-510899-X \$18.95 list/\$16.00 discount
(May, 1996)

NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON LESBIANS, GAYS, AND BISEXUALS IN COUPLES AND FAMILY THERAPY

◆ Sunday, June 23, 1996 ◆ 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at 50 California St., San Francisco ◆

One week before the Freedom Day parade. Focus on families of origin, couples, and lesbian/gay parents. *Presenters:* Monica McGoldrick, Robert Jay-Green, Patricia Colucci, Suzanne Iasenza, Tom Johnson, Joan Laird, Barbara Rothberg, contributing authors to *Lesbians and Gays in Couples and Families: A Handbook for Therapists*. Proceeds support the Alternative Family Project and its internship training program.

Sponsors include: *In the Family Magazine*, American Family Therapy Academy (AFTA), California School of Professional Psychology, Alameda, Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Therapist Association (GAYLESTA), New College of California's Graduate Psychology Division, Pacific Center for Human Growth, and San Francisco State University's Counseling Department and College of Health and Human Services.

Registration Fee \$85. for licensed professionals, \$45. for pre-licensed interns and graduate level trainers. To register, complete the form below and send with a check payable to: Alternative Family Project, PO Box 16631, San Francisco, CA 94116. Telephone: 415-566-5683. A postcard will confirm your registration.

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Lesbian and Gay Parenting Publication Available from APA's Public Interest Directorate

Lesbian and Gay Parenting: A Resource for Psychologists (1995), a joint publication of APA's Committee on Women in Psychology, Committee on Lesbian and Gay Concerns, and Committee on Children, Youth and Families, is available from the Public Interest Directorate. The 40 page publication, which includes psychological literature on lesbian and gay parenting, is divided into two parts. Part I is a summary of research findings on lesbian mothers, gay fathers, and their children. Part II is an annotated bibliography of the published psychological literature, and includes additional resources relevant to lesbian and gay parenting. The publication is a practical resource for researchers, students, and those involved in legal and policy issues related to lesbian and gay parenting.

A copy of the publication can be obtained by contacting the Public Interest Directorate at 202-336-6050 or sending an Email request to publicinterest@apa.org. Mail orders should be sent to the American Psychological Association, Public Interest Directorate, 750 First Street, NE, Washington, DC, 20002-4242

Communications

Doctoral Candidate Seeks Gay Male Subjects

who are currently caring for a partner with AIDS, to participate in a study which will look at the experience of a carepartner. Its purpose is to design interventions which will help carepartners cope with the complex and often overwhelming tasks which caring for a partner with AIDS can entail. Participation is strictly confidential and would require answering a questionnaire which would be mailed to you. This study is being carried out by a gay male doctoral candidate at Columbia University. If you are interested in receiving a questionnaire or would like more information, please call (718) 237-4248 or Email M. Koski c/o "sjb33@columbia.edu". Your participation will help in providing support for the often unrecognized hero in the fight against this illness.

Membership Survey Results

JAMES S. FITZGERALD, PH.D., *Membership Chair*

As you are aware, a pre-stamped, pre-addressed membership survey was included in the Fall newsletter. The return rate was 16%, and while we would have appreciated a broader base of opinion from the membership, the return rate was highly similar to previous years (the survey is conducted every three years). And, as with any situation with lower voter turnout, the few who speak are heard and tend to shape the agenda.

On the survey, there were thirteen Division activities that the membership were asked to rank order in terms of priority. Below, the 13 activities have been listed in the order of importance to those members who responded to the survey. The number on the right is the percentage of responders who AGREE with the activity.

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Promote Research | 91% |
| 2. Address Public Policy Issues | 92% |
| 3. Address Education Within and Beyond APA | 91% |
| 4. Sponsor Workshops and Compile Resource Material (tied) | 87% |
| 5. Advocate for Youth | 82% |
| 6. Accreditation Standards | 73% |
| 7. Psychotherapy Guidelines and Increase Student Participation | 82% |
| 8. None | |
| 9. Increase Fundraising Activities | |
| 10. Increase Membership Development | 75% |
| 11. None | |
| 12. Include the term Bisexual Along with Lesbian and Gay in Name and Mission | 43% |
| 13. Substitute the Term Sexual Orientation for Lesbian and Gay | 48% |

The Board of Convention Affairs would like each person with a disability who is planning to attend the Convention in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, August 9-13, 1996, to identify himself or herself and to provide information on how we can make the convention more readily accessible for his or her attendance. APA will provide a van with a lift as transportation for persons in wheelchairs, interpreters for hearing impaired individuals, and escorts/readers for persons with visual impairments. We strongly urge individuals who would like assistance in facilitating their attendance at the convention to register in advance for the convention on the APA Advance Registration and Housing Form which will appear in the March through May issues of the American Psychologist. A note which outlines a person's specific needs should accompany the Advance Registration and Housing Form.

We encourage persons with disabilities to select one of the following convention hotels for housing as they are the best ones equipped to deal with special access issues: 1) Royal York; 2) Sheraton Centre; 3) Crowne Plaza Toronto Center; 4) Delta Chelsea Inn. Toronto is not bound by the ADA and only these four hotels come close to meeting ADA standards.

The priorities of the membership do not appear to have appreciably changed within the last three years. However, there does seem to be a mild shift toward research and scholarly issues versus social activism. The name change issue is addressed in other sections of this newsletter but, by far, numbers 12 and 13 generated the most energy with people expressing strongly held beliefs on both sides of the issue. Read the letter from Marty Rochlin, one of the co-founders of the Division and the "creator" of our current name. ▼

On Changing the Name of Division 44

A Letter from a Co-Founder

Dear Jim,

Since it was I who first suggested the name Society for the Psychological Study of Lesbian and Gay Issues, in the early 80s, before we achieved divisional status in APA, I am particularly interested in the now overdue prospect of a name change that will bring us more up to date.

I agree that the inclusion of the term "bisexual" along with lesbian and gay would be an improvement. But then why omit "transgendered," a significant and fast growing grass roots movement? As long as we remain mired in the unfortunate habit of categorizing people according to their transitory sexual tastes, it seems likely that we will be hearing demands for recognition from other sexually defined groups as they rally around their specific inclinations. To include all sexual non-conformists in the name of a single organization is bound to become as silly as it is cumbersome.

Substitution of the term "sexual orientation" for lesbian and gay also seems to me some improvement, but far too presumptuous in light of our growing awareness of the fluidity of human sexuality and the social construction of sexual preference categories. Why "sexual orientation" rather than "sexual preference?" "Preference" is more in keeping with the mercurial nature of human sexuality than "orientation," which assumes a static adaptation. Either of those terms would, of course, imply the necessity for studying heterosexual issues as well as the issues of sexual minorities. Will heterosexual issues be explicitly included in the newly defined mission of the society? If so, and I consider it an excellent idea, it leads me to suggest a few possibilities that might be more in keeping with the drift of current consciousness. I submit the following for consideration:

Society for the Psychological Study of Human Sexuality:

General enough to include everyone and offend no one, but perhaps too inclusive to provide adequate focus on the

social issues of primary concern, as opposed to, for example, behavioral or physiological aspects of sexuality.

Society for the Psychological Study of Sexual Identity Issues:

Also general enough to include everyone and offend no one, but perhaps focused too heavily on individual psychology at the expense of the highly pertinent social issues involved.

Society for the Psychological Study of Sex and Gender Issues:

The inclusion of "gender" moves toward a sociological perspective, but may lend itself to some overlap and confusion with the concerns of Division 35, Psychology of Women.

My own favorite, though any of these would be fine with me, is ***Society for the Psychological Study of Heterosexism:*** This seems to me directly indicative of the proper subject for study by the society since, as a corollary of the sexism of concern to Division 35, heterosexism is the problem of the minority sexual identities which concern Division 44.

Society for the Psychological Study of Sexual Categorization:

This is probably too specific and subjective a suggestion. It is what I personally believe to lie at the root of sexism, heterosexism, homophobia and the rest of the hierarchical and divisive dynamics of identity politics.

I also like "Society for the Psychological Study of Compulsive Heterosexuality" or "Division of Queer Studies," but doubt the APA is quite ready for those.

With all my best wishes,

Marty Rochlin

Co-Founder of SPSLGI & Division 44

A Letter to the Bisexual Task Force

Hello Sari,

I'm responding to your request for input from Division 44 members on bisexual issues. I'm bisexual, and have been a member of Division 44 for at least eight years. I feel that adding this term to our title and mission would be inclusive and constructive, in the sense that it would broaden the concept of sexual orientation beyond a simple dichotomy. Since the reality of orientation is more a continuum, I think this corresponds to reality better than Lesbian/Gay. If it would still help to fill out a membership survey also, I'd be happy to, although I did not receive one.

Hope this is still of use.

Thanks,

Wendy Stock

The Division 44 Newsletter

The Division 44 Newsletter is published three times a year by the Society for the Psychological Study of Lesbian and Gay issues (SPSLGI) in Autumn, Spring and Summer.

The publication of any advertisement in the Newsletter is not an endorsement of the advertiser of the products or services as advertised.

Division 44 reserves the right to reject, omit or cancel advertising for any reason.

Submissions to the Division 44 Newsletter are welcome. The deadline for the summer, 1995 newsletter is June 20, 1995.

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Become a Member

All social scientists interests in applying psychological knowledge to the study of lesbian and gay issues are warmly welcomed as members, irrespective of personal sexual/affective orientation. Members of the American Psychological Association may join as members or associate members of the SPSLGI. Affiliate membership is open to professionals in related fields, or to individuals members of the APA who would prefer that their affiliation with the 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 the 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 the SPSLGI, please feel free to contact our membership chair, Jim Fitzgeralds, 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 _____

I am applying for Division 44 membership as a:

Member Associate Affiliate Student Affiliate

Dues for student affiliates are \$10. Retired persons, and those with low incomes may be eligible for reduced dues of \$10 (US funds). Please send this form and dues for the current year (\$30 US funds) to the SPSLGI Membership chair: Jim Fitzgerald, Ph.D., 4015 South Cobb Drive, Suite 275, Smyrna, GA 30080. Please make your check out to SPSLGI.