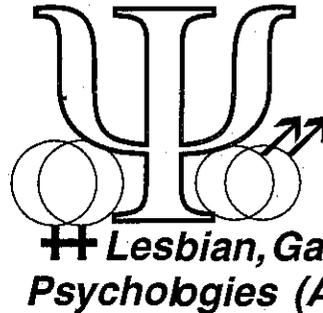


# NEWS- LETTER



Association of  
Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual  
Psychologies (ALGBP Europe)

Nr. 7 (2), 1998

## **Call for Papers: Annual Review of Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Issues in European Psychology**

The Association of Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Psychologies (ALGBP) Europe is pleased to announce the launch of a new book series in the beginning of 1999. The editors are planning the first volume and you are invited to submit papers for consideration.

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### **Background**

Psychology, as a science, has never paid much attention to lesbian, gay, and bisexual people. In Europe of the nineties, it is very likely that the topics of homo- and bisexuality never occur in students, curricula. There are, however, differences in growing up and living a lesbian, gay, or bisexual life, compared to the "straight" population. There are increasing research efforts in psychology and related fields to make these differences visible. The Annual Review of Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Issues in European Psychology offers a new forum for the publication of relevant papers in these fields.

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### **Aims**

The Annual is intended to provide an international medium for the presentation of conceptual and empirical articles linked to the analysis of lesbian, gay, and bisexual lifestyles. Papers are expected to have a focus on lesbians, gay men, and/or bisexuals in one or more European countries. Authors in Southern and Eastern Europe are especially encouraged to provide contributions.

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### **The Editors**

Dr. Melanie C. Steffens is the chair of ALGBP Europe. She works in teaching and research at the University of Trier, Germany. Dipl.-Psych. Ulli Biechele, Mannheim, Germany, works as a free lance researcher and counsellor. He has published in the fields of gay identities, gay youth, HIV and Aids, and is the vice-chair of ALGBP Europe.

The Annual will be published by edition gay studies in Profil Verlag, Munich, Germany.

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### **Submission of Papers**

If you have done empirical or theoretical work in the field which you want to publish, and which has not been published yet, please consider submitting it to Vol. 1 of the Annual. Contributions to ALGBP conferences, national or international, can be taken into account even if they have been published before. We expect papers to have a volume of around 2 to 30 typewritten pages. Deadline for the submission of summaries to the ALGBP address is November 20, 1998. Deadline for the submission of papers is January 7, 1999. (Papers can, of course, be sent along with the summaries.) Book reviews will also be considered.

Subscription to the Annual is included in the ALGBP Europe membership fees. Members who have payed their fees for 1998 will automatically receive it. So if you haven't payed yet...

# NewsNewsNews

There is no conference in 1998. No ALGBP Europe conference. No ALGBP-UK conference. No VLSP conference.—Don't be devastated in the face of these news that are hard to cope with... Rather, read on: Three conferences in the first three months of 1999 (see below) will hopefully make up for that!

It seemed as if there were enough events for ALGBP Europe to link the annual conference with. First, we tried to have it coinciding with Europride in Stockholm. But the (very small, barely existing) Swedish group felt not capable of organising it. Then, we tried to link our conference to the GayGames in Amsterdam. But as you might recall, the "next generation" is steering the Dutch spaceship meanwhile, and they did not feel ready to organise parts of it. The European steering group, in a similar vein, was intimidated by the idea of fighting tons of gay and lesbian American weight lifters for the scarce beds left in Amsterdam. As the percentage of GayGames participants in the European steering group had meanwhile approached zero, we easily made the decision not to go to Amsterdam. Instead, we wanted to link the European conference to the German one. In turn, the German conference was postponed to 1999. Our last chance seemed trying to link the European conference to the British one. However, this one was also postponed. Finally, we gave up. Some things are simply not meant to be...

The 1998 ALGBP Europe conference will take place in Hamburg, March 19 to 21, 1999, linked to the VLSP conference. The 1998 board meeting will also be there and then. The 1999 ALGBP Europe conference is supposed to take place in Rome in Summer 1999. The conference organisers accepted the international symposium organised by Luca Pietrantonio, Italy, as well as a workshop by Margret Reipen and Thomas Heinrich, Germany, on sexual orientation issues in therapy.

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## ALGBP-UK Conference

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ALGBP-UK's next conference "Beyond the Label" will be a two day residential (from Friday afternoon, February 19, to Sunday afternoon, February 21, 1999) and will be held at Gaunt's

House in Dorset, an ideal environment for refreshment and renewal.

The title of the conference addresses issues of identity. Labels have been important in defining who we are in relation to others but they can also be used to restrict identity and stifle self-expression. The conference will be a space for exploring the impact and the effect of labels on both ourselves and on our clients.

Cost: British Pound 125 all inclusive. For registration please contact Amanda Shribman at 56 Manor Park Road, London N2 0SJ.

E-mail: shribman@easynet.co.uk

ALGBP-UK has had a new chair, Liz Day, since the beginning of the year.

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## Another British Conference

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The Inaugural European Conference "Gay and Lesbian Identities: Psychologists Working with Young People, their Families and Schools" will be held at the University College London, 29-30 March 1999. This conference will be of relevance to psychologists, psychotherapists, counsellors, social workers and other allied professionals wanting to explore this area. Key note speakers include: Ingrid Lunt, Steve James, Simon Rosser, and Celia Kitinger. Closing date for presentation submissions was September 30 1998. Information on attending the conference and the submission of proposals should be sent to: Conference Convenor (GLC), Educational Psychology Group, University College London, 26 Bedford Way, London, WC1E0AP, UK. Phone +44-171-5045307, Fax: +44-171-4364376.

E-mail: G.Preece@ucl.ac.uk

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## News from VLSP

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The first half of the year has been quite hard for VLSP (ALGP Germany). No money, and hardly anybody to do the work. Like the year before, the German steering group applied for public funding of the organisation of the 1998 conference. However, authorities in Hamburg (where the conference is to take place) refused paying for a long time, and it was discussed to cancel the conference at all. More than half a year after the organisation should have begun, suddenly some grant was conceded. Consequently, the conference was delayed to 1999, March 19 to 21. The main topic will be "homosexuality and the

work place". If you are interested in attending or presenting a workshop or a lecture, please contact Wolfgang Köhne in Hamburg: Tel. +49 40 27805835, Fax +49 40 27877802,

E-mail HH99VLSP@hamburg.gay-web.de

### **Homophobia (I): Survey among national psychological associations**

You may remember our 1997 survey among the national psychological associations referring to their professional attitudes and policies concerning homosexuality. Out of 28, two (the U.K. and Switzerland) had answered in time. The other 26 had been kindly reminded at the beginning of the year, giving them four more months of time, and asking for at least some reaction if they felt not able to respond in the way we had asked them to do. The result is hard to believe and even harder to accept: None of all these associations found it necessary to give us any reply. No reply seems like a statement, too: "We are no way interested in the concerns of homosexual and bisexual people, so let's simply ignore them."

### **Homophobia (II): The European Psychologist**

Another form of homophobia was shown by the editorial board (or, rather, the editorial person) of the *European Psychologist*, the European Federation of Professional Psychologists' Associations' quarterly. Very short time after our submission (see Newsletter 6(3)), we were told in a very unfriendly letter that our text did not satisfy editorial standards. No suggestions were made, not even the tiniest hint that we should give it another try.

Studying past issues of this quarterly shows that our article on ALGBP Europe was similar to other ones that have been published before. Obviously, the editor-in-chief just does not want any mention of ALGBP Europe in there. Though gnashing our teeth, we want to submit an improved version, trying to be patient and keep cool.

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### **SOFIE: Praise but no Money**

You might remember that we applied for funding for a European network of researchers called "Socio-cultural factors in the integration and exclusion of lesbians, gay men, and bisexuals in Europe (SOFIE)". By now, final decisions as to

which projects will be funded have been made. We received a very positive evaluation, but we won't get the funds that we applied for. A few excerpts from the consensus report (i.e., the review) make it obvious why we do not count this as a failure, but rather regard it as a success. The reviewers note:

"There are strong political reasons favouring a network proposal of this kind. The strengths of this proposal are:

- the strong relevance of the project to the programme.
- the close integration of scientific and practical/policy work and objectives.
- the precision of the work tasks, deliverables and milestones.
- the high level of synergy arising from the inclusion in the network of individuals with considerable experience, academic and policy relevant, and relative 'newcomers'.
- good complementarity of partners.
- good value for money."

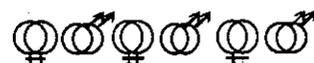
The weaknesses mentioned were: an over-emphasis upon psychology, too little politics, social policy etc.; a perhaps too ambitious list of tasks; and a northern bias in the partnership. "It is concluded that the strengths of the proposal far outweigh the weaknesses and it is recommended that, following consultation with the applicants over the possible modification of the proposal to minimise the weaknesses identified above, it should be given a high priority for funding. The proposed budget for the network is appropriate."

### **SOFIE II**

In the beginning of 1999, there will be another, very similar call for proposals by the EU. Officials in Brussels advised us to apply again with a modified version of SOFIE. Thus, this time, we have much more time to prepare the proposal (it won't be due before May), select projects, and find project partners.

Are there research topics that *you* would like to pursue in an international network? Are you aware of potential partners who ideally are from Southern Europe, have qualifications in a field related to psychology, and are female? Please contact us at the ALGBP Europe address.

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### New Books

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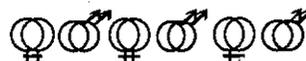
- Atkins, D. (Ed.). (1998). *Looking queer. Body image and identity in lesbian, bisexual, gay, and transgender communities*. Binghamton, NY, US: Haworth.
- Gill, S. (Ed.). (1998). *The lesbian and gay christian movement. Campaigning for justice, truth, and love*. London, GB: Cassell.
- Löfström, J. (Ed.). (1998). *Scandinavian homosexualities. Essays on Gay and Lesbian Studies*. Binghamton, NY, US: Harrington Park Press.
- Owen, R.E. (Ed.). (1998). *Queer kids. The challenges and promises for lesbian, gay, and bisexual youth*. Binghamton, NY, US: Haworth.
- Ryan, C. & Futterman, D. (1998). *Lesbian & Gay Youth: Care and Counseling*. New York: Columbia University Press.
- Sozialwissenschaftliche Forschung und Praxis für Frauen e.V. (Ed.). (1998). Global, lokal, post-sozial. *Beiträge zur feministischen Theorie und Praxis*, 47/48.
- Sozialwissenschaftliche Forschung und Praxis für Frauen e.V. (Ed.). (1998). Gesundheitsnormen und Heilsversprechen. *Beiträge zur feministischen Theorie und Praxis*, 49/50.
- Wright, J.M. (1998). *Lesbian step families. An ethnography of love*. Binghamton, NY, US: Haworth.
- Wright, M.T., Simon Rosser, B.R., & de Zwart, O. (Ed.). (1998). *New international directions in HIV prevention for gay and bisexual men*. Binghamton, NY, US: Haworth.
- issues that lead to sexual boredom. *Diva*, 22, 35-36.
- Grossman, A.H. (1998). Self-esteem and supportiveness as predictors of emotional distress in gay male and lesbian youth. *Journal of Homosexuality*, 35, 25-39.
- Halford, W.K. (1997). *Clinical handbook of marriage and couples interventions*. (Compendium of research and therapy with marriage and couples relationships.) Chichester: John Wiley & Sons.
- Holmes, G.R. (1997). See no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil: Why do relatively few male victims of childhood sexual abuse receive help for abuse-related issues in adulthood? *Clinical Psychology Review*, 17, 69-88.
- Pharr, S. (1998). *Homophobia: A weapon of sexism*. (Analysis of why homophobia exists, the way it works and how it can be fought.) Berkeley, CA : Chardon Press.
- Phelan, P. (1997). *Mourning sex: Performing public memories*. (Analyses different instances of injured bodies to advance performance theory's dialogue with queer theory, cultural studies and psychoanalysis.) London: Routledge.
- Sanchez-Pardo, E. (1997). Melancholia as constitutive of male homosexuality: A Kleinian approach. *Gender and Psychoanalysis*, 3, 47-79.
- Shires, A. (1998). A preliminary study comparing psychological factors associated with erectile dysfunction in heterosexual and homosexual men. *Sexual and Marital Therapy*, 13, 37-50.
- Siegel, K. (1997). Correlates of change in depressive symptomatology among gay men with AIDS. (Follow-up study among gay men with AIDS on the correlation of individual and situational factors with changes in depressive symptomatology.) *Health Psychology*, 16, 230-238.
- Swaya, E. (1998). In the therapy room: Working with a sexually compulsive client. *In the Family*, 3, 20-23.
- Taiwaditep, K.J. (1998). Male bisexualities: A cluster analysis of men with bisexual experience. *Journal of Psychology and Human Sexuality*, 10, 15-42.
- Wegesin, D.J. (1998). A neuropsychologic profile of homosexual-heterosexual men and women. *Archives of Sexual Behavior*, 27, 91ff.
- Weiss, R. (1997). Special populations: Treatment concerns for gay male sexual addicts. *Sexual Addiction and Compulsivity*, 22, 323-334.

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### New Books and Articles

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- The following books and articles were selected by Helmuth Bühler from those that Homodok Amsterdam, the Gay & Lesbian Archives, Information Centre & Library, provides for ALGBP Europe. Address: Homodok, Oudezijds Achterburgwal 185, NL-1012 DK Amsterdam, Tel.: +31-20 525 2501, Fax : +31-20 525 3010. E-mail: info@homodok.nl
- Biniasz, T. & Hetzel, D. (1996). *Psychotherapy on Aids: Basics, methods, experiences*. (Collection of 20 articles on the theory and practice of psychotherapy for people with HIV/AIDS.) Deutsche AIDS Hilfe e.V. (Ed.). Berlin: Ullstein Mosby.
- Cardarelli, A.P. (1997). *Violence between intimate partners: Patterns, causes, and effects*. (Also on violence in gay and lesbian partnerships.) Boston, MA, US: Allyn.
- Fenton, K.A. (1997). Why do homosexual men continue to practise unsafe sex? A critical review of a qualitative research paper. *Genitourinary Medicine*, 73, 404-409.
- Giese, R. (1997). Let's stay together: Sometimes, love does last: On lesbians in long-term relationships and how to deal with



## Homosexuality and Science

In the winter term 1996/97, a course of lectures about the relations between homosexuality and science was organised at the University of Graz (Austria). It was an officially recognised lecture for students of psychology and educational science. Contributions were made by Franz Eder, Sabine Fabach, Helmut Graupner, Hanna Hacker, Jutta Hartmann, Gudrun Hauer, Roswitha Hoffmann, Rüdiger Lautmann, Helga Pankratz, Roswith Roth, Iris Schmitt, and Dieter Schmutzer. They have now been published in German.

*Que(e)rdenken – Homosexualität und Wissenschaft*, Eds.: Hey, Roth, Pallier. Studienverlag.

## Suicide Attempts of LGB Teenagers

Young lesbians and gay men found to experience disproportionate pressures towards suicide in Flanders (report by Christian Laporte in *Le Soir*, Brussels, 12/13 Sep. 1998).

According to research recently undertaken at Gent University, Belgium, up to five times as many young lesbians and gay men in Flanders have attempted suicide as their heterosexual counterparts. These figures, obtained from a sample of 404 young people consisting of equal numbers of heterosexuals and homosexuals between 15 and 25 years old by the sociologist John Vincke and psychologist Kees van Heeringen, were reported at the 7th European Symposium on suicide and attempted suicide at the Rijk-universiteit Gent last week.

The research, intended to investigate whether young people in Europe were subject to pressures similar to those observed in North America, found that roughly one young lesbian or bisexual woman in four had attempted to commit suicide at least once, compared with 5.4% of heterosexual women. Roughly one in eight young gay men had attempted suicide at least once, compared with 5.9% of those in the same age-range who are heterosexual. Similarly, roughly 45% of young lesbians and one third of young gay men had considered the possibility of committing suicide, compared with about 24.3% and 16% of their heterosexual counterparts respectively.

The researchers attribute this difference largely to the social pressures that young homosexual people are liable to experience in Flanders, which is thought to be similar to those in other

parts of Western Europe where little effort has so far been made by the public education authorities to provide young people with objective information about homosexuality.

Alan Reekie (for ILGA, Brussels)

## Conference in Manchester

Second International Conference "Beyond Boundaries: Sexual Diversity and Human Rights", 21-24 July 1999, Manchester Metropolitan University, UK. This conference seeks to bring together the studies, ideas and experiences of colleagues from a variety of social and cultural settings, who will develop and explore the connections between sexual diversity and human rights in a wide variety of contexts. Papers are invited around areas which address the key themes. The organisers are particularly keen to encourage contributions from a variety of disciplines and cultural contexts which employ diverse critical and theoretical approaches. Abstracts of around 200 words should be sent to: Gail Hawkes, Department of Sociology, Manchester Metropolitan University, Geoffrey Manton Building, Rosamond Street West, Manchester M15 6LL, UK, Tcl.: +44-1612473464, Fax: +44-161247 6321, e-mail: g.hawkes@mmu.ac.uk.

## Symposium: Lesbian Research

The fourth Symposium of German-speaking lesbian research will take place in Berlin, November 13-15, 1998. For information, please write to: Antje Hornscheidt, Buerknerstrasse 31, 12047 Berlin, Germany.

### ALGBP EUROPE INFORMATION

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Claudia Mühlbauer  
Birgit Eschmann  
Helmuth Bühler (Secret.)  
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### NEWSLETTER

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#### Advertisement rates and Deadlines:

For inquiries please contact the Editors. Please always send us your copy on floppy and on paper.

### **New Journal: Men & Masculinities**

*Men & Masculinities* is a new journal committed to publishing high-quality, interdisciplinary research in the emerging field of men and masculinities studies. The journal presents peer-reviewed empirical and theoretical scholarship grounded in the most current theoretical perspectives within gender studies, including feminism, queer theory and multiculturalism. It is published quarterly by Sage since July 1998. Bernie Folan, Sage, 6 Bonhill St., London EC2A 4PU, UK. +44-171 374 0645 ext. 2313.

### **Feminist Theory Journal**

"Feminist Theory" is a new international interdisciplinary journal being published by SAGE Publications in April 2000. The journal is being launched to provide a forum for critical analysis

and constructive debate within feminist theory.

The journal will be edited by Gabriele Griffin (Kingston University, UK), Rosemary Hennessy (State University of New York, Albany, USA), Stevi Jackson (University of York, UK) and Sasha Roseneil (University of Leeds, UK). They will be supported by Associate Editors and an International Advisory Board. Feminist Theory will be genuinely interdisciplinary and will reflect the diversity of feminism, incorporating perspectives from across the broad spectrum of the humanities and social sciences and the full range of feminist political and theoretical stances.

For further information about publishing in or subscribing to Feminist Theory contact: Jane Makoff, SAGE Publications, 6 Bonhill Street London EC2A 4PU, United Kingdom.

Email: jane.makoff@sagepub.co.uk

### **Application/Subscription Form**

- I am a psychologist or a psychology student, and I want to join ALGBP Europe and receive the ALGBP Europe Newsletter.
- I am neither a psychologist nor a psychology student, but I want to receive the ALGBP Europe Newsletter at a price of DM 50 per year.

Please fill in this form and send it to: ALGBP Europe, c/o Dr. Melanie Steffens, FB I - Psychologie, Universität Trier, Germany.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  f  m Student:  yes  no

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Nationality: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number including country and local access codes

Private: \_\_\_\_\_

Work: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation and place of employment (confidentiality guaranteed): \_\_\_\_\_

What is your professional speciality? \_\_\_\_\_

Remember to enclose a Euro-Cheque over DM 50. If paying by other means, please check:

- I have sent an international postal money order.

*Psychologists and psychology students only:*

*For the Netherlands, UK, and Germany only, check if applicable:*

- I've included no cheque since I want to join ALGBP Europe via my national organisation. Send me name, address and phone no. of a contact person.

All nationalities, check if applicable:

- Please send me name, address and phone no. of the contact person for my national ALGBP organisation.

**IMPORTANT!** Check one of the two following blanks:

- I grant permission to have my name, address and phone no. placed on a list to be distributed, on request, to other ALGBP Europe members.
- Exclude my name from the address and phone list.

Date and signature

Herrmann-Green  
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78467 Konstanz