

mattachine **REVIEW**

50c

Casting a Spotlight on Human Sex Problems — For THINKING Adults

January 1957

in
this
issue

DARK NIGHT *of the soul*

**Bungling
Bergler**

SPECIAL 28-PAGE SECTION

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1955-1956

50c

INTROVERSION NEED NOT BE A HANDICAP...

DARK NIGHT of the soul

By Luther Allen

This short little essay is an extemporaneous reply by the author to the sound and the fury generated in the "Culture and the Introvert" article and a reply, both published in 1956. Perhaps it can generate additional thought for many readers at the beginning of a new year.--Ed.

Carl Jung was the one to make a big thing of the 'introvert'-'extrovert' classification. He expounded on all this in his book **PSYCHOLOGICAL TYPES**. I do not think he found any connection between introversion and sexual inversion. In a nutshell the introvert is the type of individual whose energies are turned in upon himself; he is preoccupied with the contents of his own mind. The extrovert is the out-going fellow with practically no inner life at all. Jung believed that extremes of inversion and extremes of extroversion are equally dangerous to mental stability. The therapeutic task is to lead the introvert to become more out-going (but not to try to change him into an "eager-beaver") and to lead the extrovert to the discovery of his hidden inner resources. The ideal temperament would be a balanced one containing both introvert and extrovert elements. I suppose the mystic St. John of the Cross was just about as introverted as a man can get, yet he was, at the same time, a very able and energetic executive and administrator of the church. We tend to make the error of believing that a man must be either the one thing or the other, and to overvalue the extrovert enormously for this is a "go-getter", "eager-beaver" sort of civilization we are living in.

I haven't read **PSYCHOLOGICAL TYPES** for a long time, and found it difficult to understand when I did read it, but I seem to recall that Jung thought that the extrovert and introvert temperments were probably constitutional. I think it is important to point out the value of introversion and the dangers of extroversion in these times when nearly everybody favors the latter. It is supposed to be healthier and more virtuous to be an eager-beaver. To understand the value of introversion, just remember that quite a few of the world's best books were written in jail. Those writers, from John Bunyan to Jawaharlal Nehru, were men with rich inner lives, so solitary confinement held no terrors for them and they turned their imprisonment to good account. The thorough-going extrovert, possessing practically no inner life at all, being utterly dependent upon his ties in the external world, as dependent as a babe upon its mother, would crack up in solitary. The introvert is the sort of man who is not afraid to be alone, who can spend much time alone both profitably and without being lonely. Unless carried to extremes, introversion can be a source of real strength to the individual. All of us need our forty days and forty nights in the wilderness. All of us need to be able to meet the test of the "dark night of the soul."

LITHO IN U.S.A.

mattachine **REVIEW**

Mattachine REVIEW

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Mattachine Society, Inc._____

DID DR. BERGLER BUNDLE THE SUBJECT IN HIS NEW BOOK, "HOMOSEXUALITY: DISEASE OR WAY OF LIFE"?

Is Edmund Bergler's new book, "Homosexuality: Disease or Way of Life," an authentic scientific work or yellow fog upon a subject long clouded by ignorance and confusion?

In its April issue, the Review hopes to present the criticisms of several professional persons who have had first-hand experience in handling homosexual problems. But in the meantime, this comment might be appropriate for many readers who have heard of the new book through mention such as the review which appeared in *TIME* (Medicine, Dec. 10).

"Homosexuality is not an incurable, hereditary condition, and the homosexual way of life is not 'normal' for an unspecified segment of the population, assistance from Kinsey notwithstanding (in quoting statistics on the frequency of homosexual acts in youth)," reported the magazine, taking its cue from Bergler's volume.

Manhattan Psychoanalyst Edmund Bergler, M.D., in "Homosexuality: Disease or Way of Life," (published by Hill & Wang, New York, 1956, \$5; 302 pps.) swiftly demolished some popular misconceptions, said *TIME*. The discussion went on to call common definitions half-truths, and declared that certain "personality traits, partly or entirely psychopathic, are specifically and exclusively characteristic of homosexuals."

One *TIME* reader in New York sent a carbon of his letter to that magazine to the Review. He called *TIME*'s judgment of the book inept: "...a mild term considering that in one place the magazine and Bergler refer to heterosexual activity on the part of would-be bisexual homosexuals as 'lustless mechanical sex' and then only a few lines further along, this same homosexual has normal sexual enjoyment as a result of course of having been suitably brainwashed by Dr. Bergler or another of the licensed Freudian minions of the heterosexual thought police."

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BERGLER (Continued from page 4)

In his foreword, Bergler states that "in writing this book I am thinking of the mass of young people--unhappy, bewildered, uninformed, sometimes suicidal--caught, or about to be caught in a net: I am thinking of those young people who, because of an appalling unavailability of accurate information, erroneously consider their homosexual difficulties to be their final destiny. I am thinking of the young wives of 'bisexuals' who have just found out about their husbands. I am thinking also of the unhappy parents of young homosexuals, and especially their mothers, who are horrified and shocked by the sudden and unexpected revelation of their sons' and daughters' troubles. Without justification, these poor parents accuse themselves of having failed in their duty or, leveling mutual accusations, search both family trees for 'faulty inheritance.' All this can be remedied by information combined with treatment, *providing the prospective patient really wants to change.*"

That last clause is the key to this book. It will evoke some considerable comment, no doubt, because so many of the author's statements are at odds with beliefs of a host of others working in the same field, and with what is undoubtedly as much authority to speak with as much experience in counseling as possessed by Dr. Bergler.

Our advice is to get the book and read it. Then watch for a symposium of comment in the April issue of the Review.

OFFICIAL PLEDGES NO POLICE STATE TACTICS

State Attorney General Edmund G. Brown pledged himself today to protect California's citizens from "police state" methods of "illegal search and seizure."

The attorney general's pledge, in direct contrast to the views of Los Angeles Chief of Police William H. Parker, was made at a Los Angeles Breakfast Club celebration of the 165th anniversary of the signing of the Bill of Rights.

Brown, the State's chief law enforcement officer, told the

breakfast club members:

"My office will do everything in its power to see that the court's ruling is enforced and citizens are protected in their homes against unreasonable search and seizure as decreed by the Bill of Rights.

"We don't want a police state here with everyone under espionage such as I found in Peron's Argentina."

San Francisco Examiner
December 12, 1956

HOMOSEXUAL ORIENTATION RULED NO BASIS FOR PROVING DEFENDANT MORE LIKELY TO COMMIT ACTS OF HOMOSEXUALITY

From Marin County, California, recently came a significant ruling on the admissibility of evidence of "a homosexual orientation" in criminal trials where it is advantageous to the prosecution to show that such predilection would be conducive to proof that defendant is therefore prone to commit the act for which accused.

The following comment has been extracted from the printed brief in the case of The People, Appellant, v. Robert Giani, Respondent, Crim. No. 3233, 1st Dist., Div. One, Oct. 31, 1956. The paragraphs give in legal language the rulings upon which the granting of a new trial was affirmed:

[1] **Witnesses—Cross-examination—Defendants in Criminal Cases.**

—Where a defendant on trial for sex perversion in violation of Pen. Code, § 288a, denied the charge in his direct examination and no inquiry was made as to whether his sexual make-up was homosexual or heterosexual, it was improper to ask him on cross-examination whether he was a homosexual on the date of the alleged offense.

[2a, 2b] **Sodomy—Evidence.**—In the absence of supporting expert medical testimony, there is no sound basis for entertaining a presumption or an inference that every homosexual is psychologically predisposed or compelled to commit the acts of sex perversion proscribed by Pen. Code, § 288a.

[3] **Witnesses—Cross-examination—Defendants in Criminal Cases.**

—A defendant on trial for sex perversion in violation of Pen. Code, § 288a, is not required to support his objection to a cross-examination question as to his homosexuality by demonstrating that not every homosexual is psychobiologically predisposed or compelled to commit the proscribed act; rather it is for the cross-examiner to show that homosexuals are so predisposed.

[4] **Criminal Law—Sex Psychopathy.**—The Legislature has not declared that every homosexual is a sexual psychopath who

[1] See Cal.Jur., Witnesses, § 73; Am.Jur., Witnesses, §§ 620, 651.

McK. Dig. References: [1] Witnesses, § 120(2); [2] Sodomy, § 10; [3] Witnesses, § 120(1); [4] Criminal Law, § 236.1; [5, 6] Sodomy, § 2; [7] Criminal Law, § 393(6); Sodomy, § 9.

is defined as a person affected, in a form predisposing to the commission of sexual offenses and in a degree constituting him a menace to the health and safety of others, with any of the following conditions: mental disease or disorder, psychopathic personality, marked departure from normal mentality (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 5500); and a person might be affected by one or another of such conditions but not in a form predisposing him to commit sexual offenses, nor in a degree constituting him a menace to the health or safety of others.

[5] **Sodomy—Definitions.**—In the absence of expert medical testimony on the subject, the word "homosexual" will not be equated with the term "sexual psychopath."

[6] **Id.—Elements of Offense.**—No particular purpose, motive or intent is a necessary element of the offense of sex perversion denounced by Pen. Code, § 288a.


[7] **Criminal Law—Evidence—Other Crimes: Sodomy—Evidence.**

—Evidence of other similar crimes is not ordinarily admissible to prove specific intent unless the intent committing the act is equivocal or it is claimed by defendant that the act was the result of mistake, accident or inadvertence, or the intent is otherwise denied; and evidence of a personality trait or quality, such as homosexuality, may not be admitted as showing a predisposition to commit the act of sex perversion proscribed by Pen. Code, § 288a.

APPEAL from an order of the Superior Court of Marin County granting a new trial. Carlos R. Freitas, Judge. Affirmed.

In the comment, the ruling stated: "We are mindful of Edmund Burke's classic utterance in his Second Speech on Conciliation with America: 'I do not know the method of drawing up an indictment against a whole people.' Equally true, we think, would be the statement 'You cannot indict an entire segment of the population.' Yet, it would seem, that is precisely what the challenged question ('Were you a homosexual on the date of the offense?') does.

"Perhaps we could express it more clearly were we to assume the charge to be that of rape, 'accomplished with a female, not the wife of the perpetrator' (Penal Code Sec. 261), and that the prosecutor asked the defendant upon cross-examination 'Are you a heterosexual?' the contention being that every heterosexual is of a 'psycho-biological' make-up which 'predisposes, indeed compels,' him to commit rape."



Headquarters of the Mattachine Society, Inc., have been moved to San Francisco from Los Angeles, effective January 1, 1957. Thus mail formerly addressed to Post Office Box 1925, Los Angeles 53, should be sent directly to:

MATTACHINE SOCIETY, INC.
Office of the Board of Directors
693 Mission Street
San Francisco 5, Calif.

The Los Angeles address, however, will continue to remain in effect for the Los Angeles Area Council.

Other address changes effective now include:

LOS ANGELES--357 Belmont office discontinued.

CHICAGO--Correct address is Post Office Box 3513, Merchandise Mart Post Office, Chicago 54, Ill. This address had been listed incorrectly previously.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mattachine Society, Inc.

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SAN FRANCISCO 5, CALIF.**