



NEWSLETTER

An educational publication of Childhood Sensuality Circle for the
liberation of children and youth.

Vol. V, No. 6

February 1980

Valida Davila, Editor
Don Crestle, Assistant Editor

CHILDHOOD SENSUALITY CIRCLE
CELEBRATES
ITS NINTH BIRTHDAY
January 1980

As 1980 opens up and a new decade begins, Childhood Sensuality Circle is celebrating its ninth anniversary. We have not skipped two years since January 1979 as it would seem, because when in our February 1979 issue we stated we had our seventh birthday, we were in error. January 1979 is correctly our eighth anniversary.

Looking over our record for 1979, we find our most outstanding accomplishment to be the acceptance by Dr. Lester Kirkendall, dean of American Sexologists and Professor Emeritus of Family Life Education at Oregon State University, to be our first CSC Consultant and his bringing CSC's Position Paper to the World Congress on Sexology at Mexico City on December 16-21, 1979. CSC will now have a strong voice within the academic community. This connection is the work of our young assistant editor, Don Crestle of Chicago.

Pedophilia, whose interests are entwined with that of children's liberation, has been gaining support among gay organizations and publications both in the U.S. and Europe, and some pedophile groups have as their main interest the emancipation of youth and the restructuring of the family, the same program as that of CSC. This development has resulted in some contacts for us both with organizations and more subscribers and members.

The announcement of three foundations now established in Europe, two in Holland and one in Germany, that have been quietly working for several years collecting research materials and securing their safety legally, will give U.S. researchers service in securing hard-to-find materials on children's liberation and pedophilia.

CSC, too, has been collecting research materials for the past nine years, and can now consider that we have mini-mini archives. Our program for 1980 will include the putting of these records into shape for current use and preservation for posterity. As small as

it is, it is the only collection of materials on the total liberation of children in the U.S. that we are aware of. Besides the research materials, we have manuscripts of our members and associates, some of which will be published.

We now have over 250 books in our library on various aspects of children's liberation, not only on their sexual liberation, but also on pedophilia, for loan by members. Our list includes the latest books on these subjects.

Last September Hustle Magazine invited me to be interviewed for the lead article in one of their issues. I decided against the invitation but appreciated their offer because it was recognition that CSC is making an impact on a national sex magazine that boasts of 8 million readers among blue-collar workers.

In spite of gains made by the radical right and organized religion in the U.S. by their onslaught against our civil liberties, CSC has made gains towards our goal of children's total liberation. I believe this is because some people have the courage of their convictions and are not only fighting back but are working on a positive program of liberation for all people that is influencing our struggle either directly or indirectly.

In Love and Liberation,

Valida
Cultural Midwife

Having Sex With a Kid Outside School is Okay: Gay Teachers
Article in the New York Post, July 11, 1979

Homosexual teachers say they support the right of a gay male teacher to have sex with a young boy, provided it takes place outside school. Meryl Friedman, spokeswoman for the Gay Teachers Association, said the organization opposes teachers having sex with their students, but association members do not otherwise oppose 'man-boy' relationships. The issue is pertinent because the most common fears among those who oppose acknowledged homosexuals as teachers are that they may serve as 'role models' for students, influencing them toward homosexuality, and that male homosexual teachers may physically molest male students.

Alan Bell, of Indiana University's Institute for Sex Research said these fears are ludicrous because a child's sexual orientation is crystallized by age 13. (Many psychologists believe it is set much, much earlier than that! --ed.)

Marc Rubin, a founder of the Gay Teachers Association, said the term 'role model' is a euphemism for child molestation. It is one of the myths that keep teachers closeted.

PSYCHIATRISTS IN SHARP AGREEMENT AND DISAGREEMENT ON CHILD SEXUALITY

Of 500 psychiatrists polled by The Journal of Medical Aspects of Human Sexuality in its March, 1979, issue, 82 percent feel it is not usually harmful for parents on occasion to allow children below the age of 10 in their bed. Additionally, 71 percent do not feel that effeminacy in boys 7 and younger warrants immediate professional intervention, and 94 percent feel the same way about tomboyishness in preteenage girls.

Opinions were more sharply divided on several other questions. On whether there are usually enduring harmful effects on a child from on one or a few occasions seeing parents engaged in coitus, 48 percent answered "yes" and 47 percent "no". Seeing parents nude on occasion has little effect, according to 44 percent, but it is likely to have a beneficial effect by imparting a healthy attitude according to 28 percent, and to be arousing or frightening according to 28 percent. However, 66 percent agreed that indications of homosexuality are usually present in the teens.

Dr. Maria Paluszmy observed in a commentary on the poll that the nearly-even split on the viewing of parental intercourse probably indicates the responders used clinical examples. Many had seen children whose parents, after a violent fight or under the influence of alcohol, followed their sexual urges without concern for the children being present. These clinicians probably saw a fearful child who had emotional problems, much of which appeared to be focused on the parents' sexual activities. The other respondents may have seen children who wandered unexpectedly into their parents' bedroom and saw some portion of intercourse, but under very different circumstances.

[Information from Behavior Today, April 9, 1979.]

More Time Urged for Child Rearing

[From an article in the San Diego Union, November 16, 1979.]

University of Michigan Psychologist Elizabeth Douvan discussed child rearing in a keynote address at a University of Michigan conference on "Women's Life Cycle and Public Policy". Working parents should be required to cut their on-the-job time by a third for five years after their first baby is born, as she considers no culture does anything more important than raising its children. This would enable women and men to devote more time and more balanced attention to the realms of family and career. Although Douvan conceded her idea is utopian, she bases it on realistic needs documented in her studies of adults' attitudes toward work, marriage and parenthood. A five-year furlough for child care would help men develop the loving, nurturant side of their personalities, and would break up the long work cycle that often produces great stress in men about midpoint in their careers. The furlough should be legislated so that people would treat it as a matter of course. People would still have the choice of buying out by paying a tax. Couples who decide to work part-time during the child's early years could draw supplemental income from Social Security and their retirement could be moved back accordingly, perhaps to age 70.

Dutch Workgroup on Pedophilia Changes Its Name

The Dutch Workgroup on Pedophilia has changed its name to Landelijke NVSH Werkgroep Jeudemancipatie (National NVSH - Working-group for Youth Emancipators).

The word "pedophilia" has been dropped as the group is now working on a broader basis. This is the trend in The Netherlands, where the work for youth emancipation is widely accepted. The address is Postbus 132, 5240 AC Rosmalen, The Netherlands.

Change of Address

We have received from time to time our Nusletter, mailed third class to subscribers, returned with the notation, "Moved, not forwardable". Sometimes after two attempts to deliver they come back marked, "Not deliverable as addressed, unable to forward". We have checked our addresses and found them correct as sent to us by our subscribers. We have to pay return postage to get these Nusletters back. We have also received first-class letters returned, marked, "Addressee unknown" or "Moved, not forwardable". All these addresses were as sent to us. To avoid such waste of time, effort and money, and the loss of your Nusletter or inquiries, be sure to send us your change of address as soon as you move, on the form provided by the Post Office.

-- Valida

Transmitting Money To and From a Foreign Country

CSC has been receiving more and more subscriptions and memberships from foreign countries for the past five years. We can give our members and subscribers the benefit of our experience with this sometimes-complicated process that, if unknown, causes you loss of time, money, and the material you wish to buy.

The best way of sending money either to or from a foreign country is by buying an international money order from a bank that has bank connections with the country you wish to send money to. This includes all the well-established countries, and some third-world countries as well. I pay \$1.00 at my bank regardless of the amount, and enclose it with my order.

The second-best way is to buy an international money order from your local Post Office. The cost is according to the amount. The Post Office then sends the money order to the party you designate by surface mail, which takes six weeks or more, depending on the boat service. You can also send U.S. currency by registered mail, but it is expensive and not all countries accept registered mail from the United States. Do not send your personal check, as even if acceptable, it loses a lot of value in buying when converted. If you send U.S. currency unregistered, you risk its loss. If your country does not issue bank international money orders or international postal money orders, find out if they accept registered mail to or from your country.

We have received money safely from all of the West European countries, Australia, Iran (before the crisis), Kuwait, Japan, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, and Mexico, but not always from Canada.

All large U.S. Banks have foreign departments to give you service. If you want to send for a subscription expressed in foreign currency, ask the foreign department for the value in U.S. currency.

All this complicated international banking points to the need for an international currency. All the U.N. has been able to come up with are international postal coupons to buy stamps with in your country, and they are expensive!

-- Valida

Gay Insurgent

CSC has an exchange with Gay Insurgent, a journal of gay liberation research, reviews and news, and is a scholarly journal for a highly literate readership. As this journal is published only three times a year, the last issue we have is Spring 1979, which includes an article by Dr. Magnus Hirschfeld, the central figure of the homosexual rights movement in Germany at the end of the 19th Century and one of the leaders of the World League for Sexual Reform in Europe; also Children and Sex: A Youth Liberation view from FPS (Free the Public Schools), No. 60 of April-June 1978; A Boy Lover's Perspective, an interview with the author D.W. Nichols; and The Gay Movement and the Rights of Children, a review of this article that appeared in the Journal of Social Issues in February 1978, by Daniel Tsang, the editor of Gay Insurgent. You won't like this last article, like the reviewer Daniel Tsang, because it claims there are no gay children because it lays right into the hands of Anita Bryant, et al., who pretend all children are straight.

Subscription rates to Gay Insurgent for three issues annually are \$5.00 per year U.S. and \$8.00 per year foreign. Single issues are \$2.00 U.S. and \$3.00 foreign. The address is P.O. Box 2337, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103. Checks should be U.S. currency.

ACLU Challenges Movie Ban

The power of movie theaters to bar children from admission to "X" and "R" rated movies has been challenged in Michigan by the American Civil Liberties Union. Their lawsuit, on behalf of two Lansing area families, says the industry practice constitutes illegal age discrimination under the state civil rights law.

Plaintiff Linda Cheeseman said the Meridian Mall Theaters refused to let her four children watch "Animal House," rated "R"; even though she accompanied her kids to purchase the tickets and give her parental permission.

Consciousness-Raising

A CSC ad reads as follows: "CSC Nusletter for consciousness-raising on children's right to self-determination, home sex education, natural home birth, nudism and the elimination of ageism", with instructions how to subscribe. This ad, with slight changes, has served us very well for 5-1/2 years; yet when members and subscribers write to me, I wonder how many of them know what the term "consciousness-raising" means, and if reading our Nusletter is raising their consciousness. As there are various definitions of this term, I will state the one I will use:

A mode of counseling that places so-called personal problems within the larger arena of a patriarchal society (a society dominated and controlled by men). At the heart of such a process is recognition that "the personal is political".

There are five elements in consciousness-raising groups:

1. Self revelation. Each individual talks about cos* attitudes and life.
2. Sharing experiences and attitudes that often reveal a similarity so that community of personal experiences come out and its political character is revealed.
3. Analysis. Recognition of the reasons and causes for the community of personal experiences, with extensive analysis of the social, political, economic and moral focus supporting such experiences.
4. Abstracting. Theorizing about the concrete experiences and social forces and sources, while drawing on the insights of others for perspective.
5. Action. Concretizing analysis into appropriate tasks, goals, projects and the like.

The above definition of consciousness-raising and the five elements in consciousness-raising is taken from *The Transsexual Empire, the Making of a She-Male*, by Janice G. Raymond, a lesbian feminist, in the chapter on Suggestions for Change. I am in total agreement with it.

Summarized in simple words, these five elements in consciousness-raising mean that your individual problems are similar to those of many others, and that the way to solve your problems is to get together with others, share your experiences and work together to remove the causes for your common problems. Then decide on a positive program of action that will benefit the whole group, and stay with it until you get results. I find tenacity pays off well.

As I feel some of the readers of our Nusletter subscribe to it for personal gain only, and some members join CSC for personal gain only, and even after committing themselves to work for children's liberation do little to contribute to the struggle, it seems

* "cos" means his/her

necessary as part of CSC work to try to raise the consciousness of our subscribers and members. And because so many of our readers are still in the closet and out of the mainstream of life, I feel the desire to work on consciousness-raising in CSC.

The women's liberation movement had to begin by working on consciousness-raising of women in small groups before they could get off to a good start on a program for women's liberation and build a radical feminist movement. Women had been closeted all their lives in their homes in suburbia or the ghetto, taking care of their children, husbands, and the homes, or working on a job where there was no opportunity to get together to talk about their common problems and air their frustrations. The many restrictions imposed upon them because of their sex and the low-paid jobs that made them cogs in the wheel, with little opportunity to ever get into decision-making jobs, were obstacles in the path of liberation. A few women found that consciousness-raising was the first step, and spread the idea. Peer support (all women suffer oppression, whether they are conscious of it or not), was one of the crucial aspects of their consciousness-raising. You support me and I will support you and my other sisters.

The same ideas on consciousness-raising can be used for other oppressed groups to liberate themselves, including children and pedaphiles. One needs to have the desire to change one's self in such a way to solve one's own problems by working to solve the problems of your peer group. In our society, based on exploitation of the other guy, it is difficult to change over to the idea of working with a group for the greatest good for that group. And this must be done in the context that your group must be also working for the greatest good for all of society.

In these times, when we are threatened with nuclear war and nuclear power plants, the time to change from a rugged individualist to a socially conscious person is NOW, and the way to begin is to develop such consciousness, either through personal study or joining a consciousness-raising group. If such a group is not within your reach, form one locally yourself, or do it by correspondence with a planned program such as a round-robin letter. CSC started with a round-robin on children's sexual liberation, and it was fun as well as enlightening.

Wherever you may be, whether you are isolated or close to like-minded people, you can help yourself to your own liberation by helping to free others.

-- Valida
Cultural Midwife

The *Dr. Edward Brongersma Foundation* was established in early 1979 in Overveen, The Netherlands, to advance scientific research into the development of the sexual lives of children and young people, with special emphasis upon the phenomenon of erotic and sexual relationships between children and adults and between children themselves and the significance of these facts for legislation, judicial decisions, education and social life. For several decades the founder has collected material in the field of sexuality in general and in particular of eroticism between boys and between boys and adult men. The collection includes scientific literature, novels, short stories, articles from newspapers and magazines, private manuscripts, photographs, drawings, movie films and tapes. The founder wishes to put this material at the disposal of persons doing serious research and publishing in this field and to assure that this collection is preserved and continued after his death. He therefore made a gift of it to the Foundation and will continue in the future to administer the collection on its behalf. The Dutch authorities have recognized the Foundation as serving "a common social interest" (Section 24 of the law on inheritance tax).

The Foundation will not only serve as a repository of objective information open to all persons concerned in this field but will also try in several ways to stimulate independent research. Contributions from private collections, including written, pictorial and aural material, will be most welcome, as will be the assistance of other people. There are many possibilities of collaborative research.

The present board consists of: Edward Brongersma, founder; Harry Disselkoen, civil servant; Simon van der Kwast, professor of psychiatry; Lex van Naerssen, psychologist; Jan Weekers, architect; Gerard Zwerus, teacher.

Letters to: Dr. Edward Brongersma Stichting, Tetterodeweg 1, 2051 EE Overveen, The Netherlands. Telephone: (023) 254183.

Iowa's Teen Offenders Repay Victims of Crime

[From article in Sun-Times, September 30, 1979.] Dozens of youth are working at odd jobs in Iowa to repay damages their victims suffered on the Juvenile Restitution Program, now about two years old. Offenders work 35-40 hours every two weeks, until the bills are paid. The program's success in Black Hawk County in Iowa prompted state officials to urge other counties to begin similar projects, and the 1979 legislature appropriated \$400,000 for funding. Jobs include cleaning parks, picking up litter, mowing lawns for the elderly, janitorial work at county offices, shovelling snow, raking leaves, helping at local day-care centers or painting fire hydrants. The wages are \$2.00 per hour. Seventy-five percent of these wages go to the victims.

This project is a means to make youth responsible for their own actions.

Works in Progress

Dr. Frits Bernard of Rotterdam has written a book, Padophilie, in German, that is a best-seller in Europe. He now has an English translation and is looking for a U.S. publisher. If you have any possible contacts, write: DR. FRITS BERNARD, Rotterdam 7, Gijsinglaan 350, The Netherlands.

Dr. Bernard is also looking for an English translator of his novel Costa Brava, in Dutch, and has some specially-made illustrations for an American version. Costa Brava is a love story between a boy and a man with a locale on the Spanish coast.

An article by CSC member Thomas Robischon will appear soon in Sexology, covering discussions at the recent Lifestyles Convention in Culver City, California, on incest, pedophilia, and gerisexual. He is also preparing an article on "What We Know About Child Sexual Abuse", covering in part the workshops at the Fourth National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect in Los Angeles, and a recent program at the Woman's Building, "Bedtime Stories: Women Speak Out About Incest".

Another member is writing a book on child/adult sexual relationships and will offer some of the chapters as articles for magazines.

If any other members are writing on any aspect of children's liberation or pedophilia, please write CSC the details so that we can report them and encourage others to write or speak.

Articles printed in this issue of the CSC Nusletter express the opinions of the writers of the articles, and are not necessarily those of CSC. Our Nusletter is an open forum for the expression of opinion concerning children's total liberation and related subjects.

Swedish Law Would Let Children Divorce Parents

Children would be given the right to divorce their parents under a new law proposed by the government committee investigating children's rights. The proposal follows legislation making it illegal for Swedish parents to spank their children. The law would be applicable only in certain cases. The final decision would rest with a court. A child could divorce parents only if they had shown themselves to be unsuitable, if they no longer

function properly as parents. Another of the committee's proposals is that a child ombudsman be appointed by each local authority to deal with problems that arise between parents and children. (From article in Sun Times, Chicago, October 17, 1979. From Stockholm UPI.)

[The following two articles are also from the Sun Times.]

Kids Get the House in Settlement

In an unusual divorce settlement, a judge allowed four children to be the only permanent occupants of their parents' Chicago home. The wife can live in the home for 11 months and the husband may move in July or August and the wife must leave. The mother had filed for divorce on grounds of mental cruelty after 16 years of marriage. There are 2 boys and 2 girls, aged 9 to 15.

Dad Convicted of Spanking Girl

A Camden, N.J. man has been convicted of assault with an offensive weapon for spanking his 15-year-old daughter with a wooden paddle. The father said he punished the girl at her mother's request because the girl consistently misbehaved. He struck her 15 times with a paddle. The charges were lodged against the father by his ex-wife and her husband, even though the ex-wife had sought the father's help in disciplining the girl. The couple filed the charges because the girl was so sore after the spanking that she had difficulty walking.

We Teens Know and Have Sex

Excerpts from a letter to the editor of Prov, July 19, 1979, B.C., Canada, by a 15-year-old boy regarding R-rated movies and teen sex, suggested the restricted age on R movies should be lowered, if not totally eliminated. He feels most teenagers are not affected by viewing R movies, and should have freedom of choice in their selection of what movies they see. He wrote it is not wrong to show suggestive scenes as he and everybody at his high school know and talk about sex, and some perform the act. He wants to know what can be done to change the law: petitions, a public vote on a new 20-year-old B.C. director of film classification? He concluded that it is time people listened and understood what teens have to say on the subject.

Children's Home Punishment in Solitary Charged by Staff

[Excerpts from Prov, July 19, 1979, B.C., Canada, from a Canadian Press Dispatch from Edmonton.] Child-care workers at a government-run treatment center at Edmonton charge that children are being confined to small, bare, poorly-ventilated rooms for up to 4 weeks. Residents at Westfield, an institution for disturbed and delinquent children, are put into solitary confinement for smuggling cigarettes, creating disturbances, skipping homework or classes, running away, or temper tantrums. The rooms where

children are confined are called "thinking rooms", or TR's. They are 2 x 3 meters wide, with white wall, barred windows and a mattress on the floor. Some of the teachers have resigned in protest, but the director denied allegations of brutal treatment. He stated the thinking rooms are a last resort and that we can't be wishy-washy.

The children at Westfield range from 6 to 16. They are delinquents assigned by the courts, or children taken from abusive parents or neglective parents, or children whose parents agree to child welfare temporary custody. (It seems the children are transferred from abusive parents to be abused by the state. Ed.) One teacher who resigned said the children looked and sounded a lot more disturbed than when they went in, and there were days when all 15 TR's were used. He added that children went in violent and defiant and came out "like the living dead." Westfield is run by an "old school" management that believes disturbed children should be punished.

21 Nations Accused of Child Torture

[Article in The Milwaukee Journal, October 15, 1979, from an AP dispatch, London.] Amnesty International, an international human rights organization, has documented cases of 35 children in 21 countries that are among untold numbers who have been tortured, imprisoned, and possibly scarred for life because of political repression. Amnesty International states this report is one of the most gruesome reports they have published. The list of atrocities Amnesty has compiled for the last 10 years ranges from the mass killing in April, 1979, of 50 to 100 school children in a Central African Empire jail, to the beating of a Chilean girl of 3 while the mother watched. Ethiopia's Marxist military government killed 5,000 persons between the ages of 12 and 25 during the Red Terror campaign ending in mid-1978. Amnesty is a London-based group that won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1977. It said it could give no estimate of the number of children around the world who have been detained or who have disappeared, so each case must stand symbolically for the number of children scarred by acts of intolerance and cruelty. Nations from which individual cases of child victims of political repression include Haiti, Indonesia, East Germany, the Soviet Union, Singapore, South Africa, Argentina, Chile, and Paraguay. The worst things may never be known.

Nudist Research Library Established

The New American Nudist Research Library opened September 10, 1979, at Cypress Cove, a nudist resort at Kissimmee, Florida. It has been established to preserve the history of social nudism. The library is a long-range project, a grass-roots, nonprofit effort to provide a depository for all manner of social nudist history in magazines, brochures, club bulletins, convention folders, regional minutes, records of court cases, and the like, that can be considered memorabilia. Read and Jayne Schuster, the

founders, are making this library their retirement project. The librarian is Dottie Purcell. If you have material you wish to donate, write: READ SCHUSTER, c/o American Nudist Research Library, Route 2, Box 349, Kissimmee, Florida 32741.

Books for Young People

1. The Facts of Love: Living, Loving and Growing, by Alex and Jane Comfort. Crown Publishing Co., 1 Park Ave., New Jersey 10016. \$10.00. Includes a preface to parents. CSC has ordered a library copy.
2. The Teenage Body Book, by Kathy McCoy and Charles Wibbelsman. N.Y.: Wallaby Press, 1979. \$5.95 paperback.
3. Loving Sex for Both Sexes: Straight Talk for Teenagers, by Dale Carlson. N.Y.: Franklin Watts, 1979. \$8.90 hardcover; \$5.95 paperback.

All three of these books were reviewed in SIECUS Report for November, 1979, publications of the Sex Information and Education Council of the U.S., edited by Dr. Mary Calderone, M.D., president of SIECUS. Subscriptions are \$12.00 for individuals. Canadian and other foreign, \$16.00. Institutional, \$24.00; Canadian and other

foreign, \$28.00. Single copies of any issue available. Queries and subscriptions should be sent to Human Science Press, 72-5th Avenue, New York, New York 10011.

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