



THE SOCIETY FOR THE  
SCIENTIFIC STUDY  
OF SEXUALITY

FALL 2018

# SEXUAL SCIENCE NEWSLETTER



*Volume 60, Issue 4*

## Letter from the President of SSSS – Eric Walsh-Buhi



I hope you all are having a wonderful Autumn. I write you today with

an update on the actions of SSSS leadership regarding informal reports of sexual misconduct.

It has been almost three months since I first heard reports on social media, both directly and indirectly, about individuals who have experienced sexual misconduct (e.g., sexual harassment) while attending an SSSS-sanctioned event over the years. From what I've

learned from both SSSS members and meeting attendees, no one is immune from experiencing sexual harassment. It should not be this way!

Sexual harassment is unacceptable, anywhere, including at SSSS events or annual meetings. These meetings should be safe and secure spaces for all. Harassment runs counter to our organizational mission. Our meetings should be welcoming environments, not hostile or uncomfortable.

My role as SSSS President is that of a volunteer. The other members of the Board of

Directors (BOD) also serve in a volunteer capacity. As you might imagine, doing the business of SSSS takes time to be done well. However, each one of us was elected by you, the membership, to lead and serve. Everyone on the BOD takes this professional role very seriously.

Since late August, the BOD has had discussions about taking steps to ensure that SSSS-sanctioned events are "sexual misconduct-free." Members of the BOD agree that sexual misconduct will not be tolerated.

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### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- The full letter from Eric Walsh-Buhi
- Member News
- Updates from SSSS Committees
- Get hyped for the SSSS annual meeting in Montreal!



## Letter from the SSSS President continued...

**To address sexual misconduct and harassment at meetings, we have initiated the following:**

**1. Sexual Harassment Policy:** The BOD has convened multiple phone and digital conversations centered on revising the current SSSS Sexual Harassment Policy.

**2. Training of SSSS Leaders:** The BOD will be participating in a bystander intervention training at its Spring meeting in Bloomington, Indiana. As organizational leaders, BOD members have a role in modeling appropriate behaviour and intervening when they witness inappropriate behaviour. It is not safe to assume, however, that everyone knows how to intervene effectively, and such a training is a first step in helping to develop critical skills and confidence.<sup>1</sup>

**3. Longer-term Organizational Solutions:** To explore additional solutions, the BOD has named a new task force on sexual harassment. This task force, chaired by Zoe Peterson, SSSS President-elect, represents the diversity that is SSSS (i.e., it is comprised of women, men, sexual, gender, and racial/ethnic minorities, and members of varying tenure in SSSS). The task force has already begun discussions, having been charged to examine issues around harassment at SSSS events and meetings and make recommendations to the BOD regarding short and long-term solutions for making events and meetings positive, welcoming spaces, and to enhance the culture at SSSS.

### **4. Further Efforts to Understand the Problem:**

The SSSS Membership Committee has developed and disseminated its survey of SSSS members, adding new questions about experience with harassment. Data from this membership survey will be extremely useful to SSSS leaders, allowing a clearer picture to unfold of how members have been impacted by sexual misconduct and harassment. Data will also be critical for informing efforts to address such behaviours at SSSS-sanctioned events.

### **5. Efforts to Protect SSSS Members and the**

**Organization:** Lastly, the SSSS Executive Director, Mandy Peters, and I have consulted with the attorney representing SSSS. As a private organization, SSSS is free to make decisions that protect its members and preserve the integrity and health/well-being of the organization. We learned that, in the end, the Executive Director and President have the authority to ask an individual to leave a meeting, if their behaviour runs counter to our organizational mission. We will not tolerate sexual misconduct and, accordingly, we will not hesitate to enforce this legal right. For now, the SSSS Executive Committee will help with this, perhaps with the assistance of an outside investigator, if needed.

**Continued on page 3**

## Letter Continued...

You can also help:

- 1) **Just don't engage in these behaviours and, if you witness such behaviours,**
- 2) **Intervene to stop it or**
- 3) **Report it to Mandy Peters or me.**

Even with this progress, I ask for your patience as SSSS leaders continue to explore and enact solutions to ensure a safe space at all future SSSS functions.

I encourage you to contact Mandy Peters ([mlpeters@sexscience.org](mailto:mlpeters@sexscience.org)) or me ([ebuhi@sdsu.edu](mailto:ebuhi@sdsu.edu)) with any thoughts, suggestions, or feedback you might have.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at the SSSS Annual Meeting in Montreal!

SSSS is my home for learning about sex research, meeting and networking with new people, and connecting with existing friends and colleagues. I hope attending this meeting will reward you in the same way. Thank you.

- Eric Walsh-Buhi

<sup>1</sup>. According to a systematic review of sexual violence prevention interventions (DeGue et al, 2014: [www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1359178914000536](http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1359178914000536)), the "majority of studies measuring knowledge, bystander behavior or intentions or skills found consistently significant positive effects on these outcomes." Bystander intervention programs focus on individuals as potential witnesses to harassment or violence (rather than as perpetrators or victims) and provides them with skills to help when they see behaviour that puts others at risk, including supporting victims and intervening in potential situations.



## In Memoriam – Dick Leitsch

Dick Leitsch, an early defender of gay rights, died this summer at a hospice centre in Manhattan, he was 83.

In 1966 bars were not allowed to serve alcohol to "homosexuals". Mr. Leitsch challenged the common practice of bars' serving gay customers under a no-questions-asked arrangement by holding a "sip-in" at a bar in Greenwich Village.

The bar had been serving a gay clientele since the 1950s. Dick and 3 friends stood at the bar in suits and neckties, a bartender set up glasses and asked, "What'll you have?"

"We are homosexuals," Mr. Leitsch announced, according to several accounts he gave to the news media. "We are orderly, we intend to remain orderly, and we are asking for service."

After the story was publicized in the press the liquor authority chairman, Hostetter, promptly denied that such a policy existed. This opened the door to challenge bars that denied service in court, which paved the way for licensed gay bars.

Read more:

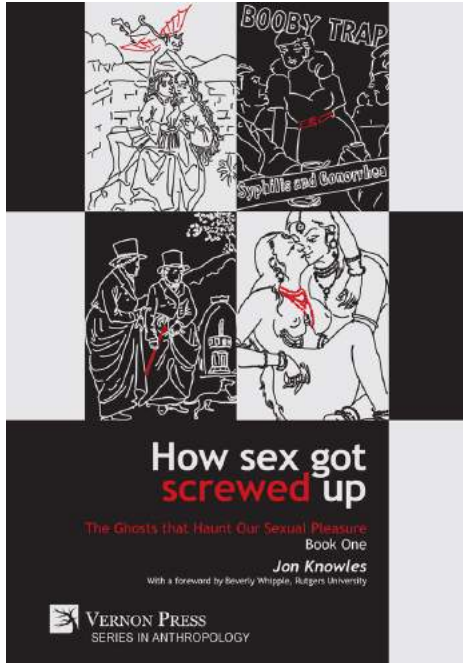
<https://nyti.ms/2MYOOSa>



## We Need Your Help!

Complete the SSSS Membership Survey and Make Your Opinions about the Society known!  
Help us serve you better!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2018SSSSmem>



## How Sex Got Screwed Up: The Ghosts that Haunt Our Sexual Pleasure

by Jon Knowles

The ghosts that haunt our sexual pleasure were born in the Stone Age. Sex and gender taboos were used by tribes to differentiate themselves from one another. These taboos filtered into the lives of Bronze and Iron Age men and women who lived in city-states and empires. For the early Christians, all sex play was turned into sin, instilled with guilt, and punished severely. With the invention of sin came the construction of women as subordinate beings to men.

Despite the birth of romance in the late middle ages, Renaissance churches held inquisitions to seek out and destroy sex sinners, all of whom it saw as heretics. The Age of Reason saw the demise of these

inquisitions. But, it was doctors who would take over the roles of priests and ministers as sex became defined by discourses of crime, degeneracy, and sickness.

The middle of the 20th century saw these medical and religious teachings challenged for the first time as activists, such as Alfred Kinsey and Margaret Sanger, sought to carve out a place for sexual freedom in society. However, strong opposition to their beliefs and the growing exploitation of sex by the media at the close of the century would ultimately shape 21st century sexual ambivalence.

Interspersed with 'personal hauntings' from his own life and the lives of friends and relatives, Knowles reveals how historical discourses of sex continue to haunt us today. This book is a page-turner in simple and plain language about 'how sex got screwed up' for millennia. For Knowles, if we know the history of sex, we can get over it.

Carol Cassell (*Swept Away*), in its first review, wrote that the book is "an engaging and readable masterpiece about the history of sexuality" ... "an essential reading for professionals in the field of sexology". Beverly Whipple (*The G Spot*), in the foreword, wrote that it "is a tremendous gift to our sexual health".

Book One traces the history of sex from the Stone Age to the Enlightenment. ISBN: 978-1-62273-361-3

<https://vernonpress.com/book/417> \$81 (12% Discount using WRFLPR12 at checkout)

Book Two traces the history of sex from the Victorian Era to #MeToo. ISBN: 978-1-62273-416-0

<https://vernonpress.com/book/472> \$81 (12% Discount using WRFLPR12 at checkout)



# MEMBER NEWS!

Dr. **Justin Lehmill**'s latest book, *Tell Me What You Want: The Science of Sexual Desire and How It Can Help You Improve Your Sex Life*, was recently featured in *The New York Times*'s Sunday Book Review (<https://nyti.ms/2AfrmeJ>). Here's an excerpt: "If you've ever had a sexual fantasy and thought, 'Oh God, what's wrong with me?' a quick read of *Tell Me What You Want: The Science of Sexual Desire and How It Can Help You Improve Your Sex Life* might ease your mind...Lehmill isn't just putting out a compendium of our raciest thoughts; he tries to explain what those thoughts do for the health of our psyches. And he believes they do a great deal. We need our fantasies both for ourselves and, often, to share with our partners, even when it's uncomfortable. He gives concrete advice on how to do this without making them feel threatened."



Dr. **Randy Brown** is pleased to announce that he joined the faculty of Widener University this fall as an Assistant Professor of Human Sexuality Studies! At Widener, Randy will be teaching sexuality, relationships, and research methods courses, as well as continuing to develop his research program on sexual communication.



**Stanley Krippner** spent the month of October in China. One of the highlights was a talk to the GLAAD chapter in Guangzhou: "There was standing room only, and I had tons of intelligent questions. A decade ago, I gave an all-day workshop on HIV/AIDS prevention in China, and some members of the audience were present. My workshop was part of a Chinese-American conference on humanistic and transpersonal psychology."

**Raymond McKie** was interviewed for a piece on consent contracts in *Playboy*:  
<https://www.playboy.com/read/contract-for-consent>

He and his student, Imran, also recently published a paper on this topic:  
<http://siba-ese.unisalento.it/index.php/cpgp/article/view/18689>

In 2018, Dr. **Markie Twist** was named Editor-in-Chief to the journal of Sexual and Relationship Therapy: *International Perspectives on Theory, Research, and Practice*, which is the official journal of the College of Sexual and Relationship Therapists. In the same year, Dr. Twist was also promoted to the rank of Full Professor in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies in the University of Wisconsin-System.



**Alexandra Marshall** has been a member of SSSS since 2010 - first as a student and now as a faculty member. She is delighted to share that she has been recently appointed as Co-Director of the PhD Program in Health Promotion & Prevention Research in the College of Public Health at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. This will be a shared administrative role, but she and her colleague, Tiffany Haynes, are happy to share the role and responsibilities. They are looking forward to advancing this program under their shared vision and leadership.

Any prospective students interested in sexual health research should go to: [publichealth.uams.edu](http://publichealth.uams.edu).  
(More specifically: <https://bit.ly/2Jn6tS9>)

**Shayna Skakoon-Sparling** was featured on an episode of the **Brain Buzz Podcast!** Check it out here:  
<https://bit.ly/2Azngi0>

**Rhonda Balzaraini** has a new publication: "*Sexual Attitudes, Erotophobia, and Sociosexual Orientation Differ Based on Relationship Orientation*." Check it out here: <https://bit.ly/2DcJclw>

**Alan Santinele Martino** has a new publication! "*When Good Intentions Backfire: University Research Ethics Review and the Intimate Lives of People Labeled with Intellectual Disabilities*." <https://bit.ly/2JoVKA0>

# MORE MEMBER NEWS...

**Stella Resnick** is happy to report that her new book, *Body-to-Body Intimacy: Transformation through Love, Sex, and Neurobiology* was recently released on Amazon as the number # 1 top new release in psychotherapy

<https://bit.ly/2qdN25b>

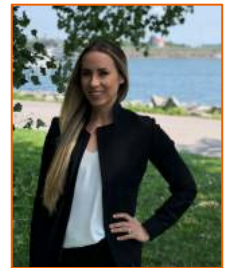
Stella has also designed a new 5-day Esalen workshop that offers 26 CEs for therapists: *True Love and Passionate Lovemaking: Exploring the Transformative Pleasures of Embodied Presence*. For more information and to register, see: [www.esalen.org](http://www.esalen.org) and look her up in March 3-8, 2019 workshops.

And she will be giving a presentation at the United States Association of Body Psychotherapy conference on the theme of *The Science of Connection: Honoring Our Somatic Intelligence* <https://bit.ly/2PpcfRE>



**Ashley (Rhea Ashley Hoskin)** defended her dissertation at Queen's University in the Sociology department in August. Her dissertation was titled: *"Critical Femininities: The Development and Application of Femme Theory."*

[www.ashleyhoskin.ca](http://www.ashleyhoskin.ca)



**Dr. Heino Meyer-Bahlburg** spent September 10-17, 2018, in Cairo, Egypt, presenting 3 invited lectures and served as discussant for a series of case presentations of Egyptian patients with intersexuality and presentations of Egyptian (non-intersex) transgender patients. Heino also was part of two recent publications including: *"Assessment and treatment of gender dysphoria and gender variant patients: A primer for psychiatrists."*

## KLB Research Lab News

We are recruiting participants for three studies:

The first study is about experiences with sharing affection, and especially public displays of affection, for individuals in same- or mixed-sex relationships. [www.PDAstudy.com](http://www.PDAstudy.com)



The second study is about experiences of giving and receiving approval and disapproval for romantic relationships. We are interested in people who are in relationships as well as individuals who have opinions about the relationships of their friends or family members (which, let's face it, means everyone!) [www.insideoutstudy.com](http://www.insideoutstudy.com)

The third study is the Memories of Coming Out study and we are looking for LGBTQ individuals as well as the parents of LGBTQ individuals to participate in an online survey: [www.comingoutstudy.com](http://www.comingoutstudy.com)

As always, people can find our ongoing studies and register to be a future participant by visiting: [www.drkarenblair.com/ongoing](http://www.drkarenblair.com/ongoing)

Dr. Blair has a new blog on Psychology Today focused on LGBTQ Psychology called Inclusive Insight <https://www.psychologytoday.com/ca/blog/inclusive-insight>. If you'd like a recent publication of yours in the area of LGBTQ Psychology (and related disciplines) to be covered, send an email to [drkarenblair@gmail.com](mailto:drkarenblair@gmail.com).

## Awards

Congratulations to the KLB Research Lab Students who received NSHRF Scotia Scholar Awards for the 2018-2019 Year: Odessa McKenna (Undergraduate in Human Kinetics at St. Francis Xavier University), Chelsea Hudson (1st Year MSc Student in Clinical Psychology at Acadia University), and Nicole Tibbetts (2nd Year MSc Student in Clinical Psychology at Acadia University).



## SEE YOU AT THE MEMBERSHIP BUSINESS MEETING MIXER IN MONTREAL!

From 5:30 – 6:30pm on Nov 10<sup>th</sup> in the general session room you'll be able to learn more about the SSSS Committees and take advantage of the cash bar and light apps!

## 2018 SSSS Election Results!



**Terry  
Humphreys**

Secretary  
(2018-2020)



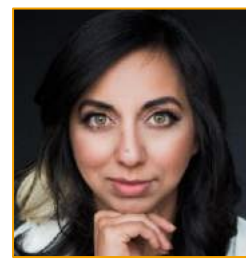
**DJ Angelone**

Membership  
Chair  
(2018-2020)



**Dayna Henry**

Member-at-  
Large  
(2018-2020)



**Sofia Jawed-  
Wessel**

Member-at-  
Large  
(2018-2020)



**Christopher  
White**

Member-at-  
Large  
(2018-2020)



You can find the at-a-glance program and everything related to the upcoming SSSS Annual Meeting here:

<https://goo.gl/dnHc9P>

### Student Events

*Orientation: Welcome to SSSS!*

Thurs: 3:30pm-4:00pm Room: Mussett (Level A)

#### *Student Night Out*

Fri: 9pm onward

Room: Meet at Café Bar (lobby bar)

Mingle with other young professionals at your choice of two spots: a local pub or a maple taffy pulling event

#### *Student Luncheon*

Fri: 12:15pm - 1:45pm

Room: Sal De Bal Ouest & Centre (Level 4)

Lunch, sexual science trivia + prizes, and announcements related to the student experience

### *Network... work... work... work... work! Tips for Students & Early Professionals*

Fri: 10:45am - 12:15pm Room: Salon 8 (Level 4)

Develop your elevator pitch and active listening strategies

#### *Conversation & Cocktails*

Sat: 8:30pm onward Room: Café Bar (Lobby level)

Networking opportunity with young professionals + faculty in the field



## Student and Developing Professional Involvement Update!

Hello, Students and Early Career Professionals! We are the co-chairs that represent you on the SSSS Board of Directors, and we wanted to get you ready for upcoming events at the annual meeting!

### Lester A. Kirkendall Outstanding Mentor Award

We have received several nominations for outstanding mentors. It has been great getting to read about the impact these mentors are making in their students' lives. We will narrow the applications down, and **a winner will be announced at the SSSS annual conference in Montreal!**

### Student Events at the Annual Conference

There are many student-centered opportunities at the annual meeting. One great opportunity is the special student session! This year we are featuring '**Network... work... work... work... work!** Tips for Students and Early Career Professionals.' Come ready to develop your elevator pitch, active listening skills, and learn how to make the most of your conversations with senior members at the conference (and beyond)!

Also, do not forget to register for the student lunch (included in your registration price). We will have sex science trivia, prizes, and announcements related to the student experience.

Lastly, we are working with locals in the area to plan a student night out on the town. So do not forget to pack shoes you can dance in!

That is all for now! We look forward to seeing you at the conference.  
-Sasha Canan & Remi Coker



**Your Membership Renewal will Appear in your Member Account this November!**

**Check the program at annual meeting in Montreal to get a code for a \$20 discount!**

**Meet Your Annual Meeting Co-Chairs for 2019!**



**This October an FSSS Grant in Aid was awarded to Prof. Abbie Goldberg, of Clark University!**



This grant will support her work on a study titled: "*Navigating the transition to puberty: Lesbian, gay and heterosexual adoptive parents' experiences.*"

This study seeks to explore lesbian, gay, and heterosexual adoptive parents' (n = 39) perspectives on the transition to puberty and

adolescence. It will attend to parents' experiences and challenges related to puberty, including how they have navigated discussions about bodily changes and sexuality, the messages they hope to convey, and the resources and supports (e.g., same-gender role models; advice from pediatricians) they have drawn on to support themselves and their children. Findings have implications for scholarship on pubertal and sexual socialization in marginalized families.

What's the FSSS Grant in Aid Project? <http://foundationsss.org/grants/>

"As the annual conference planning co-chairs, we are always thinking about innovative ways to showcase the research of our members. Planning is already underway for the 2019 annual conference in Denver, CO and we encourage you to start thinking about what work of yours you want to be featured November 7-10, 2019 in the mile-high city! Keep your eye out for the release of our 2019 theme and the call for abstract submissions. We hope to see you there!"

- Kristen Mark & Justin Garcia



# OPPORTUNITIES!

The **Department of Prevention and Community Health** in the Milken Institute School of Public Health at **George Washington University** is hiring a full-time tenure track or tenured Assistant or Associate Professor: <https://www.gwu.jobs/postings/56463>

A **new scholarship** from the Kinsey Institute Library and Special Collection is available, The Dr. Gina Ogden Curatorial Scholarship for Integrative Approaches to Sex Research and Therapy. The Scholarship is to stimulate new ways of building on Dr. Ogden's integrative Four-Dimensional Wheel (4-D) approach to sex research and therapy.

For more information about the scholarship and about Gina's work, please visit the website: <https://kinseyinstitute.org/collections/gina-ogden-scholarship.php>

The **LGBT Health Policy & Practice Program** is now accepting applications for the 2019 semester. This is an 18-credit interdisciplinary graduate certificate program at The George Washington University that trains medical and mental health professionals to better care for and produce improved health outcomes for LGBT people.

For more info visit [www.lgbt.columbian.gwu.edu](http://www.lgbt.columbian.gwu.edu)

Alexandra Rutherford and Peter Hegarty are pleased to circulate a **call for papers for a special issue of American Psychologist** scheduled for 2019 to reflect on the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall uprising:

50 Years Since Stonewall: The Science and Politics of Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity

<https://www.apa.org/pubs/journals/amp/call-for-papers-sexual-gender.aspx>

The aim of this issue is to analyse and explore the co-constitutive relationships between psychological research on gender diversity and sexual orientation and the societies in which this research has been, and is, embedded, both in the United States and other national and geopolitical contexts.

**DEADLINE EXTENDED - Special Issue of the Personality and Individual Differences – Sexuality and Individual Differences.**

Submissions now accepted until the **1<sup>st</sup> of December, 2018** at:

<http://ees.elsevier.com/fct/default.asp>

This special issue of Personality and Individual Differences on "Sexuality and Individual Differences" is intended to present papers dealing with a variety of sex-related issues including, but not limited to, sex differences/similarities, sexual behaviors, sexual attitudes, sexual orientation, sex/gender roles, and sexual relationship dynamics.



**That's it for this issue! See you in Montreal SSSS-ers!!**  
- Shayna Skakoon-Sparling, Sexual Science Newsletter Editor