

psychotherapy' does incalculable harm to thousands of men and women" (pp. 84-86).

Dr. Robert Kronmeyer, in his 1980 book, *Overcoming Homosexuality*: "For those homosexuals who are unhappy with their life and find effective therapy, it is 'curable.'"

"The homosexual's real enemy is ... his ignorance of the possibility that he can be helped," says Dr. Edmund Bergler in his book, *Homosexuality: Disease or Way of Life?*⁴

"The major challenge in treating homosexuality from the point of view of the patient's resistance has, of course, been the misconception that the disorder is innate or inborn," writes Dr. Charles Socarides in his text, "Homosexuality," in the *American Handbook of Psychiatry*.⁵

Here is what Dr. Irving Bieber and his colleagues conclude: "The therapeutic results of our study provide reason for an optimistic outlook. Many homosexuals became exclusively heterosexual in psychoanalytic treatment. Although this change may be more easily accomplished by some than others, in our judgment, a heterosexual shift is a possibility for all homosexuals who are strongly motivated to change."⁶

Bieber states 17 years later: "We have followed some patients for as long ten years who have remained exclusively heterosexual."⁷

Dr. Lawrence J. Hatterer says in *Changing Homosexuality in the Male*: "I've heard of hundreds of other men who went from a homosexual to a heterosexual adjustment on their own" (p. 138).

Even Masters and Johnson report in their 1979 book, *Homosexuality in Perspective*, that the success rate in 81 gays desiring reorientation (after a six-year follow-up), is 71.5% (p. 402).

"No longer should the qualified psychotherapist avoid the responsibility of either accepting the homosexual client treatment or referring him or her to an acceptable treatment source" (p. 251).

#3. "Homosexuality is no longer considered a mental disorder."

The gay community claimed a great victory when they prevailed upon the American Psychiatric Association (APA) to remove homosexuality from the DSM-II, its listing of psychological disorders.

This highly controversial action seems to fly in the face of the evidence of any common-sense definition of psychological well-being. Consider the following:

- Homosexual men are six times more likely to have attempted suicide than heterosexual men.⁸
- Studies indicate that between 25% and 33% of homosexual men and women are alcoholics,⁹ compared to a 7% figure for the general population.¹⁰

- Statistics give evidence of widespread sexual compulsion among homosexual men. A major Kinsey study revealed that 43% of the homosexual men surveyed estimated that they had had sex with 500 or more partners; 28% with 1,000 or more partners.¹¹ Either the APA is ignorant of what homosexuality entails for vast numbers of men, or their view of healthy sexuality indicates a serious disorder among members of the APA.
- The same Kinsey study revealed that homosexual men have to a great extent separated sexuality from relationship. The survey showed 79% of the respondents saying that over half of their sexual partners were strangers. Seventy percent said that over half of their sexual partners were people with whom they had sex only once.¹² Surely this is an indication of either deep dissatisfaction, or else terribly destructive hedonism.

Societal Prejudice

We do need to address the statement that the difficulties suffered by homosexuals are all a result of society's prejudice and unwillingness to support stable gay relationships. We can address this on several points:

- In areas where there is the greatest acceptance of homosexuality (San Francisco, West Hollywood, New York City), the detrimental effects don't decrease; they increase.
- Over the past 20 years, there has been a great increase in the acceptance of homosexuality, but during the same period, there has been a huge increase in homosexual suffering due to disease and other factors.
- For many years, society did not condone heterosexual sexual involvement outside of marriage. As far as we know, this did not force the people so inclined into greater sexual promiscuity, higher rates of alcoholism, suicide, and disease.

Disagreement with the APA

Additionally, many therapists disagree with the 1973 APA ruling that dropped homosexuality from its list of psychological disorders. Why?

Over 75 years of psychoanalytic knowledge underscoring homosexuality as a disorder was disregarded. Experts who viewed homosexuality as a disorder were pointedly left off the National Institute of Mental Health task force studying this issue. Others were silenced or disregarded.

Militant homosexual groups began disrupting nu-