

# Gay and Lesbian Supplement

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## Author Susie Sexpert tells all

BY HEATHER MACKAY

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**MONTREAL** — There are things you don't know. And then there are things you don't know you don't know.

Can a contracting vagina snap little finger bones? Can a dental dam stretch securely from clitoris to anus? What is a 'fuckware' party and how can we get one started in say... Halifax?

The surest and simplest route to answers for these questions and others can be got through a lesbian, according to Susie Bright, or 'Susie Sexpert', as she is better known.

Bright, editor of *On Our Backs* magazine, takes her road show on tour, toting a wide and wild range of sexual accoutrements: toys, latex this, latex that, bodies, videos and big screens. She was in Montreal in the fall to promote her new book, *Susie Sexpert's Lesbian Sex World*.

"Lesbians are the fucking experts. the experts on fucking," said Bright.

She attributes the health and confidence of the movement to the grassroots approach lesbians have been forced to take by the absence of professional lesbian erotica. "We've been getting very brazen and bold."

"There was this idea that if people knew what we were doing we'd be vulnerable," said Susie. Now, she said, she expects a growth in the number of people stopping women on the street to say, "I realize you're a lesbian and you know everything about sex."

Gay men have come to understand gender crossing from the pre-Stonewall drag days to the present, according to Bright. Straights can trace their understanding of gender to the stone age, but lesbians are still forging what will become the heritage of lesbian gender-fuck.

Bright described an anti-censorship concert she attended along with

further forward, "So why don't you tell me what turns you on."

Susie's other Sex Ed methods include various incarnations of her road show. In Seattle, she pulled off a smashingly successful 'fist fucking' workshop with 60 women.

On another occasion, Susie brought her female ejaculation video to 1500 people, of which only 10

were men. The only screen available was 15 feet high, giving a view of female ejaculation like no other. Susie said a man came up to her afterward, saying "I didn't know you came more than we did."

"When people ask me about sex wars, I say we won, but there's still a lot of sticky battles ahead," said Bright, referring to the right wing, fundamentalist movements that slow down the pace of progress. "I want to go 90 miles an hour," she said. She also noted the objections of some older, hard-line feminists to a politics of pleasure, but said it's the next sensible step.

Bright took another step when she had a baby four months ago. Although she chose to "party" into pregnancy, she said women should be free to choose their method, describing one turkey baster insemination exercise in a lesbian separatist commune in Northern California.

"Your body turns into a gigantic sex act when you're having a child,"

continued on page 11

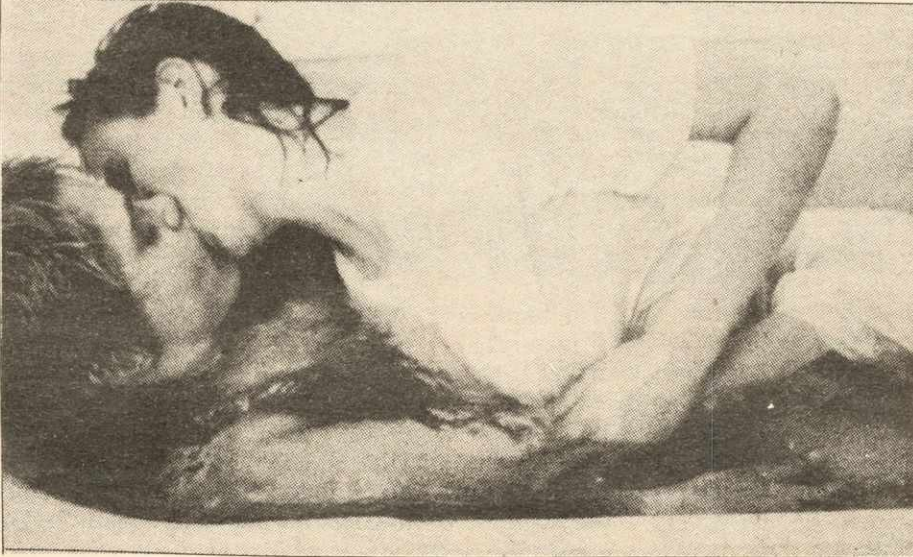


Photo courtesy A Space.

Ice T, Iggy Pop, and others hit by the 'moral' minority. A man told a story of a generation gaps, encouraging the audience to talk reason with their Dads. But if Dad still refuses to listen, the man said, tell him, 'suck my dick.'

The audience joined in a chorus repeating the words. "And you know who was saying it the loudest," said Susie, "It was the young girls. We've got the biggest dick. We've had it all along. It's like we turn ourselves inside out to hide it."

## Happy Pink ▼

BY JULIE LEWIS

Happy Pink Triangle Day, everyone, and welcome to the *Gazette's* annual gay and lesbian supplement. For those of you who are thinking "what is this pink triangle business?", I thought it was Valentine's Day", let me explain.

During World War II in Nazi-occupied Europe, many groups were persecuted. Usually individuals were required to wear some sort of badge to make it easier for the "authorities" to identify them (re: send them to concentration camps). Most of us are familiar with the yellow star worn by the Jews. Fewer would recognize the pink triangle that identified gay men.

Over the years as lesbians and gay men have risen up against persecution and oppression, we have reclaimed the symbol of the pink triangle. We have taken the Nazi badge and turned it upside-down, just as its meaning has been. The pink triangle which was once a tool of persecution has become a symbol of gay and lesbian pride and strength. That's why on February 14, we choose to celebrate Pink Triangle Day rather than buy into the romantic heterosexual notions of Valentine's Day and the ideals of love which continue to marginalize same-sex relationships. So, the pink triangle has become a symbol of the determination of lesbians and gay men to create and explore a healthy identity and to celebrate ourselves, even though vehicles for this kind of

expression are systematically denied in this culture.

Enough of the history lesson and on with the show. I would like to point out that the gay and lesbian supplement is primarily by and for lesbians and gay men. The supplement is meant to foster pride, to strengthen the gay and lesbian voice and to inspire those who have yet to venture from their closets.

This is not about educating straight people or trying to get them to like us. There will be heterosexuals who enjoy this paper and who will learn something which may help temper their homophobia. This is good and we are GLAD (get it?). However, that is a fringe benefit, not our primary purpose.



Neither is this supplement meant to offend anybody (gay or straight). It is about diversity and freedom of expression and celebrating that. Unfortunately, some people will be offended because some people find my lifestyle offensive - not to mention the fact that I dare write about it. This too is a fringe result and not our goal. So let's go ahead and celebrate the big Pink Triangle.



Juana Maria de la Caridad Las Amigas

Susie admitted owning "many pairs of 'earth shoes' and Birkenstocks," back in the days when being a lesbian "meant saying 'Fuck you' to Revlon." But Bright says things were destined to change. "Inside I was wearing a very low-cut dress." Now she wears it on the outside, in red.

### So tell me...

Bright calls her educative activities "sexual social work." She spoke gently, leaning slightly forward, "I know it's really embarrassing to talk about sex." The listener expected some stilted social theory or psychological analysis. Wrong, very wrong.

The voice deepened, Susie leaned