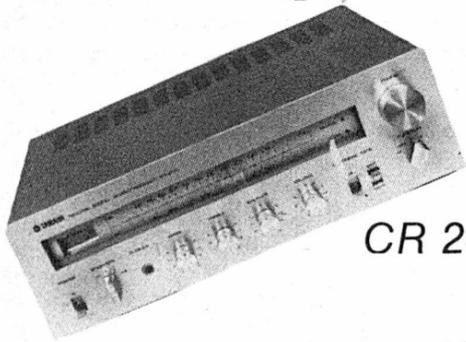


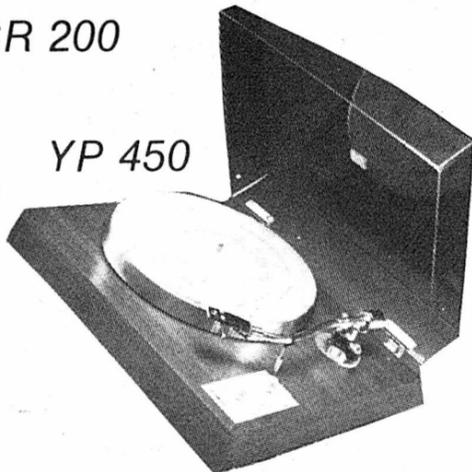
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An explosion

by Manfred Lukat

The term sexual deviance covers a multitude of behaviors which share only that a particular society defines them as "abnormal," "wrong" and often illegal. According to the laws of contemporary America, the only nondeviant form of sexual behavior is genital intercourse between a male and female (married to one another).

Our social mores do not really consider such things as masturbation, adultery, premarital intercourse and oral-genital contact between members of the opposite sexes as "sexually deviant," although some of these are not condoned behaviors either.

Prostitution and pornography are considered "more deviant" and homosexuality, transvestism, sodomy, rape, self-exposure, sadomasochism and other fetichisms are very deviant.

We are in a period of political and social transition. Socially, one of the changes to be made is in sexual identities. Women are questioning their roles, much to the dismay of many chauvinists. One result of the feminist movement has been to change the image of a wife in the kitchen barefoot and pregnant.

However many obstacles must be faced en route. Many obstacles being overcome are the ones that kept a woman in her place, downtrodden, exploited and abused. The acceptance of women as people, not possessions to be put on pedestals, is the new order. But what about homosexuals? Have they rights? What are they? What is their struggle for equality?

To answer these questions and to further an awareness of consciousness of the homosexual scenes in Edmonton, I interviewed several people involved with the organization G.A.T.E.

By the way, *Gateway*, is a newspaper for which I write and is in no way associated with G.A.T.E.

G.A.T.E. is the abbreviation for Gay Alliance Towards Equality. GATE is an autonomous organization within the National Gayrights Coalition. N.G.C. is comprised of 32 other gay rights organizations with headquarters in Ottawa. Gate is located in Edmonton and is the representative gay rights organization.

G.A.T.E. estimates that just on campus there are about 2000 gays. But that does not mean that they're all members of G.A.T.E. or that G.A.T.E. represents them. The members of G.A.T.E. have decided to come out of their closets unlike many other gays, and to fight for their rights, to raise their consciousness and that of others. There are many women being oppressed, but how many stand up for their rights? (Perhaps they have all graduated?) There is a stigma attached to being a feminist or a gay advocate, but then what's better, being called a broad, a chic or a fag?

This stigma affects social life, work life and the university life. In order for a gay to become a gay advocate many agonizing decisions must be made.

First, what is a gay?

Chafetz *Masculine/Feminine or Human* stated "From the perspective of a sex role orientation, homosexuals are drawn to members of their own sex because they find their behaviour more appealing and they reject those of the opposite gender because the behaviours and attitudes characteristic of that sex are in some way offensive or repellant to them."

In other words, it is not an aversion to the opposite sex; it, simply, is not an attraction to the opposite sex.

Marc Gardiner, who is not with G.A.T.E., wrote "the gay scene in Edmonton is much the same as in most centers in Canada except it is a bit more underground here. It's not as horrifying as most homophobic straights would have you to believe, nor is it as wonderful as many gay advocates claim it is. It's life — much like life for everybody else. You eat, you work, you make love. Unfortunately our society has not accepted the right for others to be different. The

black man has won so sexual mores will be hope so, because good, and you have better than hate."

Is he, as well as tolerance towards gays of the prejudice that was imposed differing from social

The ancient Babylonians persecuted In medieval ages the death. Religious and still do that homo St. Paul and St. believers of this. Tri taboo has arisen at and is still a strong in the Christian dogma in marriage for the procreation of homosexual behavior fruitful?

The ancient only true love that two men. Homosexual popular in that society

In England, until considered a capital Victoria refused to could exist. At the wide speculations the