

Eysenckian personality typology; the developmental explanations use a conditioning paradigm.

The results suggest that the basic personality attributes of persons with these sexual variations are more neurotic, introverted and therefore easily conditioned than normal controls. Apart from easily predictable differences in sex phantasy the similarities between the groups are more striking than the differences. Follow-up studies will need to utilize more sensitive research methods. An interesting and original contribution as to why sexual variations are commoner in males suggests that penile erection is the most sensitive biofeedback mechanism to erotic stimuli. Thus sexual phantasy is reinforced through the male child's masturbation, universal in males, less so in females.

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Lesbians, Women and Society. By E. M. ETTORRE.
London: Routledge & Kegan Paul. 1980. Pp
208. £7.95, £3.95 (paperback).

The author, 'being a woman and a lesbian' (p 13), admits to some tension between the needs of objectivity and her own subjective experience. She mingled in lesbian social groups and interviewed 60 women. In addition, by distributing forms at the National Lesbian Conference, 1976 and supplying them to subscribers to Sappho magazine, she obtained 201 completed questionnaires. The responses came from respectively 1 in 4 and 1 in 3 of the recipients. Thus, there was considerable selection, both in the nature of the groups investigated and in the decision to complete a form or agree to an interview.

The participants in this inquiry were above average in education and socio-economic status and actively engaged in lesbian social activities. A majority said they were 'open' about their lesbianism to relatives and to colleagues at work. Ms Ettore divided her social lesbians into the 'sick, but not sorry' (those who accepted traditional ideas about lesbianism being deviant, but were not sorry to be so) and the 'sorry, but not sick' (those who felt they had no reason to be sorry since they rejected society's low opinions of lesbians). The latter group, who were in the majority, were ready to challenge accepted social stereotypes and to reject the conventional role of wife and mother because it entailed economic and social dependence on a man.

A substantial proportion of the women had been married at some stage and many admitted to feeling sexual attraction towards men. The author sees lesbianism not as an uncontrollable revulsion against

heterosexual relations but rather as a matter of choice determined by the unattractiveness of the subservient position of the heterosexual woman in conventional society. It would require a wider range of data and a less selected sample to show whether Ms Ettore is right that social protest is the driving force behind most lesbianism.

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Transsexuality in the Male: The Spectrum of Gender Dysphoria. By EDWIN K. KORANYI.
Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas. 1980.
Pp 198. \$17.50.

'Gender dysphoria' is a term suggested by the author to describe the spectrum of patients drawn from transsexualists, transvestites and effeminate homosexuals who are disenchanted with their male, anatomical sex: it has little clinical authenticity to justify its use and is of dubious value. The book reviews the biological, genetic and environmental factors that have been identified in the aetiology of male transsexualism and discusses the clinical management and treatment of the condition. There is little in the way of original data to appeal to the specialist and this book would only be of value to those with a casual interest in transsexualism.

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Behaviour Modification with Offenders: A Criminological Symposium. Edited by GORDON B. TRASLER and DAVID P. FARRINGTON.
Institute of Criminology, University of Cambridge. 1979. Pp 448. £3.00.

This collection of papers originates from a workshop held at the Cambridge Criminology Conference in 1977—they have also been published recently in the *British Journal of Criminology*. In the main, they are review articles covering the theoretical, practical and ethical issues that surround the use of behaviour modification techniques with offender populations. Although reference is made by several of the authors to individual programmes, the major emphasis is on general programmes and the problems encountered when they are applied both to institutions and community treatment projects. With the exception of the paper on the work being done at Aycliffe, almost all the literature in this area is American. Interest is being shown in the wider application of such techniques within the U.K. and for all those interested in this area or contemplating setting up such programmes, this is an extremely valuable and informative booklet.