

**Second Edition**

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**SEXUAL DYNAMICS OF  
ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOR**

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*Edited by*

**LOUIS B. SCHLESINGER, PH.D.**

**EUGENE REVITCH, M.D.**

**CHARLES C THOMAS • PUBLISHER, LTD.**

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*Edited by*

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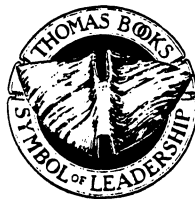
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**To our families  
past, present, and future**



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## FOREWORD

**D**RS. Schlesinger and Revitch have edited a unique, highly readable and important book on sexual criminology. Dr. Schlesinger is a forensic psychologist who has had significant experience in the field of criminal law and psychology and has served as chairperson of the Special Classification Review Board of the Adult Diagnostic and Treatment Center at Avenel, New Jersey, one of the most sophisticated treatment programs for sexual offenders in the country. Dr. Revitch, a clinical professor of psychiatry at Rutgers University Medical School, served for more than twenty years with the New Jersey State Diagnostic Center at Menlo Park. He is a highly respected forensic psychiatrist who, with Dr. Schlesinger, co-authored the well-known text *Psychopathology of Homicide* in 1981.

Their combined efforts are well revealed in the current volume describing the sexual dynamics of anti-social behavior. The editors divide the book into three major sections: the socially tolerated acts, non-tolerated offenses, and the rare and bizarre sexual behaviors. They have called upon a highly talented group of authors from all parts of the United States, Canada, and Europe to write separate chapters. Each chapter is significant, but is blended by the editors into an interesting and readable text, thus giving each chapter more substance and greater value.

Some of the most bizarre and unusual sexual behaviors are brought together in one extraordinary book. The editors are able to relate the various types of criminal behavior with sexual overtones that may appear at first blush to be totally unrelated and independent. For example how would one relate vampirism and kleptomania, burglary and pyromania, or nymphomania and necrophilia? These are all part of the unusual (and the usual) sexual acts and behaviors that are described, analyzed and discussed for the first time in any single volume.

There have been other books about sexual behavior and criminology but none as varied and yet as comprehensive as this one edited by two experienced, eminent clinicians. This material should appeal not only to all mental health professionals but to attorneys, judges, correctional and law enforcement officers, and intellectually curious individuals who want to know more about the rare, the unusual, and the bizarre.

The book does not focus exclusively on sexual dynamics of anti-social behavior, but rather on the psychodynamics of sexual behavior and anti-social behavior, which has sexual implications. This is a very important source of information for all of us who deal daily with individuals involved in criminal, anti-social, and sexually unusual behaviors. The editors have again succeeded in bringing together a significant contribution to the literature of sexual criminology. We will all gain from their efforts.

Robert L. Sadoff

## PREFACE

THE purpose of this volume is to examine various types of anti-social behaviors that are sexually motivated or that have distinct sexual dynamics. We conceived of these behaviors falling on a hypothetical spectrum. On one end are the socially tolerated acts that society may condone in general, however reluctantly; on the opposite end of the spectrum are the rare and bizarre behaviors with which most psychiatrists and psychologists have little contact, even those professionals with extensive forensic experience. In between these two poles are various sexually motivated offenses not tolerated by society and for which there are laws prohibiting such behaviors. Among the socially tolerated activities, we chose prostitution, pornography, nymphomania, sexual permissiveness, and problems of gender dysphoria to be representative of problem areas most relevant to practitioners. In selecting the non-tolerated offenses to be included, a conscious effort was made to avoid repetition of material on the “traditional” sex offenses that has been over-presented in the past. Consequently, in Chapter 6 new material on female genital exhibitionism is presented; the female perspective is also examined in chapters on kleptomania and rape. Sexually motivated burglaries and pyromania are two areas of importance and relevance for which neither substantial literature nor updated current clinical thinking and research can be easily found. The chapters selected for Section III reflect pathologies rarely seen or rarely described in the literature, and yet there is unquestionably a desire to understand the phenomenology, psychopathology, and psychodynamics of such acts as necrophilia, vampirism, eroticized repetitive hangings, and the like. It is in understanding them that we can better grasp not only these specific behaviors, but also *how* the mind functions, operates, and develops such pathologies in general.

In a 1981 book that we co-authored, *Psychopathology of Homicide*, as with this edited volume, our attempt was not to delve heavily

into legalistic issues, although the legal system clearly can encroach upon most of the topic areas discussed here, nor was it to thoroughly explore sociological approaches either. Our focus in both books has been on criminal or anti-social psychopathology. In many quarters, the phenomenological-classificatory approach has been devalued in favor of highly statistical studies of micro behaviors. The question of premature quantification is not new in behavioral science, and it is our belief that important relationships and understanding of psychopathology can be obscured when rich clinical observations are reduced in favor of numbers just to achieve some type of artificial "scientific" acceptability. We hope this volume will give its readers a fresh, clear account of the types of psychopathology covered and will foster further thinking, exploration, and clarification into these and other types of anti-social behavior.

Finally, a special thanks must go to our wives, Beth and Esther, who have been most helpful in providing editorial comments and criticisms along with their support and encouragement.

L.B.S.

E.R.

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**SEXUAL DYNAMICS OF  
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**SECTION I**  
**SOCIALLY TOLERATED ACTS**



In Section I of this volume, acts and pathologies that are, however reluctantly, tolerated in society will be examined in light of current empirical research and clinical findings. Prostitution and pornography are not new activities, and while certainly not condoned, society in general has come to view both with some degree of grudging tolerance. Sexual permissiveness is a consequence of the modern age and is due in large measure to social changes, the breakdown of values and long-held beliefs, and a shift in established patterns of behavior. Nymphomania and gender dysphoria are seen as forms of psychopathology whose actions do not result in criminal charges directly, but nevertheless may result in a great deal of maladjustment and disturbance. The chapters in Section I were chosen to provide the reader with an overview of a variety of behaviors with distinct dynamics that are tolerated, although not necessarily condoned by society at large.

Prostitution is vociferously condemned by society; however, the prostitute continues to do a flourishing business despite the easing of restraints on premarital relations. Why? In "Prostitution: Profession and Pathology," Edward Sagarin and Robert Jolly Jr. explore the phenomenon of prostitution, its pervasiveness, social structure, clientele, and the concomitant problems of venereal disease, drug addiction, and crime. While heterosexual activities with the male as patron claim most of the authors' attention, they also detail all male prostitute activities and illustrate distinct differences between the heterosexual and homosexual scenes in terms of financial arrangements, social perceptions, and the like. In discussing pathology, Sagarin and Jolly find "that there is no evidence that lower class prostitution recruits large numbers of women with pathological problems." Rather, most prostitution can be explained in economic and social terms. However, the life with the degradation, exploitation, and assaults on the ego can lead to pathology not there in the

first place. We, as a society, must confront the growing movements toward decriminalization or legalization and be cognizant that changing the law will not remove the stigma attached to the individuals involved in prostitution.

In Chapter 2, Edward Donnerstein and Neil Malamuth discuss "Pornography: Its Consequences on the Observer." Thematic content varies widely in pornographic materials, running the gamut from nonaggressive to extremely violent. The authors emphasize that just as all pornography is not the same, so too do effects on the observer differ. That which is devoid of aggressive images seems to have little or no effect on the observer. The newer form of pornography, however, is aggressive in nature and this type has striking effects. The authors review their own research on aggressive pornography as well as that of others in the field. Carefully examining this data, they conclude that exposure to aggressive pornographic matter leads to an increase in aggressive sexual fantasies, a greater acceptance of interpersonal violence against women, and an altered perception of rape. Drs. Donnerstein and Malamuth believe that aggressive pornography influences perceptions of and attitudes towards violence against women, and it is the change in perception of aggression against women that accounts in large part for the increase in aggressive behavior of the observer. Their research is new and ongoing and will no doubt have great impact on future researchers. For the present, the best evidence suggests that the attitudes regarding rape, women, and violence are reinforced and shaped by exposure to material that combines sexual and aggressive images of women.

Drawing on research and her own clinical experience, Natalie Shainess discusses "Nymphomania, Hostile Sex and Superego Development" in Chapter 3. While exploring the similar components of nymphomania, Don Juanism and satyriasis, Dr. Shainess draws important distinctions between the three; distinctions often not clearly defined. The author examines the growing trend of sexual alienation in individuals who "go through the actions devoid of feeling, selectivity or even apparent motivation. . . ." as well as the potency of hostile sex, which is essentially an instrument for punishment. Citing examples of this sexually alienating behavior, she vividly illustrates the obvious deleterious effects on both participants and demonstrates that a pattern of hostile sexual en-

counters can be disastrous. The reader is then directed to a discussion of the superego. We have left the “repressive age of the Victorians behind and moved into the expressive age” where we now find ourselves, states Dr. Shainess. The growing abdication of parental responsibility, the poorly defined norms of appropriate behavior, the need for immediate gratification and the predominance of the “I-Me” attitude all serve to shape a “growing cultural amorality and psychopathy.” Compulsively chasing after some elusive sexual ideal or engaging in numerous meaningless sexual encounters does not mean one is enjoying freedom. In the service of *true* freedom, the individual must look at the emerging sexual attitudes and incorporate those aspects that are positive and capable of enhancing and enriching the sexual experience.

Our society and culture have experienced numerous, rapid, and dramatic changes, particularly in the area of sexual mores. In “Sexual Permissiveness and Its Consequences,” Dr. Harry Gershman explores what has come to be called *the sexual revolution* and details both its beneficial and detrimental aspects. On the positive side, society’s attitudes have undergone a change in the perception of sex as dirty, sinful, and guilt-laden. Indeed, sexuality is “out of the closet,” thus freeing us to accept our sexuality as natural and allowing us to realize a capacity for real intimacy, commitment, and satisfaction on a variety of levels. However, with the new openness or permissiveness in sexuality, Pandora’s box has been unlocked in a sense. Promiscuity is rampant, venereal disease abounds, girls under the age of thirteen accounted for 600,000 pregnancies last year and abortion rates spiral continually upward. Dr. Gershman reviews the diminishing influence of religious and political leaders, the ever burdgeoning technological advances, and other sociological shifts that have contributed to one degree or another to the permissiveness of the age.

Richard C. Stuntz examines “Gender Dysphoria and Dyssocial Behavior” in the concluding chapter of Section I and defines the terms gender, sex, gender dysphoria, and transsexualism. Dr. Stuntz describes the pattern of development in normal gender identity and those factors essential for such development. “Gender dysphoria results when gender identity is not concordant with sexual identity” and is a term that has been used to describe a varied group of psychologically dysfunctional individuals. Dr. Stuntz draws on