

Gay Anglicans have fared better in the United States. In the era of gay liberation, the lay Episcopal group Integrity was formed, encountering the benevolent support of many Anglican clerics. In 1976 the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the U.S.A. passed a resolution stating that "homosexual persons are children of God, who have a full and equal claim with all other persons upon the love, acceptance, and pastoral concern and care of the Church." Reverend Paul Moore, bishop of New York, has been outspoken in his defence of gay people, whom he has also ordained. To be sure, his positive attitude is not universally shared among American Episcopalians, but on the whole their church has borne the stress of the age of AIDS with calmness and compassion

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Wayne R. Dynes

ANGLO-SAXONS

Our information about homosexual behavior in Anglo-Saxon England is chiefly linguistic. The word *baedling*, a diminutive of *baeddel*, occurs in an Old English glossary as the equivalent of the Latin terms *effeminatus* and *mollis*, designating the effeminate homosexual. A synonym is the word *waepenwifstere* (approximately: "male wife"). Evidently, these words reflect an Anglo-Saxon stereotype of the homosexual as an unwarlike, womanish type. In all likelihood, this negative concept derives in part from a common Germanic archetype, attested by a passage in *Germania* (12) by the Roman historian Tacitus—where death by drowning is stipulated for such individuals—but probably modified in the early Middle Ages by Mediterranean-Christian influences.

Similar in form to *baedling* is *deorling*, the source of the modern English

darling. While the Old English word had a general sense of a beloved person or thing, it was also used more specifically to label a minion, a youth favored because of his sexual attractiveness.

At the present stage of research further data about homosexual behavior in Anglo-Saxon times (that is, from ca. 500 to 1066) remains elusive. For its part, however, the word *baeddel* survived, turning eventually—through a process of semantic expansion—into the general English adjective of pejoration, "bad." The word also forms part of two place names in England: Baddlesmere ("baeddel's lake") in Kent and Baddlinghame ("the home of the baedlings") in Cambridgeshire.

The broadening of the meaning of the word *baeddel* in the direction of general disparagement ("bad") has several historical parallels. The first, from another Germanic sphere, is the shift from old Scandinavian *argr*, cowardly, effeminate, to modern German *arg*, bad, wicked. Then early medieval France seems to have witnessed the creation of *felo/felonis*, evil person (the etymon of our legal term felon) from Latin *fellare*, to fellate. It is also possible that Russian *plokhoi*, bad, is cognate with Greek *malakos* (with change of the initial labial from *m* to *p*), as the Polish *ptochy* has the meaning of "timid, fearful," another of the nuances of *argr*.

ANIMAL HOMOSEXUALITY

A body of evidence has accumulated showing homosexual behavior among many species of animals—behavior that has been observed both in the wild and in captivity. While this evidence suffices to dispel the old belief that homosexuality is unknown among animals, more extended comparisons with human homosexual behavior remain problematic.

Examples and Characteristic Features. In the 1970s the well-publicized reports of the German ethologist Konrad Lorenz drew attention to male-male pair