

ers: How and Why They Disclose Their Homosexuality to Their Children," **Family Relations**, 29 (1980), 173-79; and "Gay Fathers: Identity Conflict Resolution through Integrative Sanctioning," **Alternate Lifestyles**, 4 (1981), 90-107.

3889. FADIMAN, ANNE. "The Double Closet: How Two Gay Fathers Deal with Their Children and Ex-Wives," **Life Magazine**, 6:5 (May 1983), 76-100.

Presents the life of a gay male couple, including relations with the men's former wives and the children of the broken marriages.

3890. **Gay Fathers: Some of Their Stories, Experience and Advice.** Toronto: Gay Fathers of Toronto, 1981. 74 pp.

Experiential account from one of the most successful of the gay fathers' groups that have sprung up in North America. See also: Michael Lynch, "Forgotten Fathers," in: Stan Persky and Ed Jackson (eds.), **Flaunting It!** (Vancouver: New Star, 1982), pp. 54-63.

3891. MILLER, BRIAN. "Unpromised Paternity: Life-Styles of Gay Fathers," in: Martin P. Levine (ed.), **Gay Men: The Sociology of Male Homosexuality.** New York: Harper and Row, 1979, pp. 239-52.

Interviews with forty homosexual fathers disclose four distinct life styles and the importance of relationships with spouse and children. See also his: "Gay Fathers and Their Children," **Family Coordinator**, 28 (1979), 544-52; as well as Bruce Voeller and James Walters, "Gay Fathers," *ibid.*, 27 (1978), 149-57.

3892. ROBINSON, BRYAN E., and PATSY SKEEN. "Sex-Role Orientation of Gay Fathers Versus Gay Nonfathers," **Perceptual and Motor Skills**, 55 (1982), 1055-59.

Bem Sex-Role Inventory results show that gay fathers were no more masculine than gay nonfathers.

3893. SKEEN, PATSY, and BRYAN E. ROBINSON. "Gay Fathers' and Gay Nonfathers' Relationship with Their Parents," **Journal of Sex Research**, 21 (1985), 86-91.

Results of a study of 60 men (30 + 30) found no difference between the father's and nonfathers' perceptions of their parents' acceptance of them. This finding supports the growing body of research that questions the Freudian-based concept of a causal relationship between early familial relationship patterns and sexual orientation.

D. CUSTODY

The increasing visibility of lesbian mothers (and a few

gay fathers) who seek to bring up their children after separation from the heterosexual parent has focused attention on custody problems. The legal literature on this subject is presented here, rather than in the Law sections below.

3894. ARMANNO, BENNA F. "The Lesbian Mother: Her Right to Child Custody," **Golden Gate Law Review**, 4 (1973), 1-18.
Summarizes California law on the child custody issue and the precedents existing at the time of writing.
3895. BROWNSTONE, HARVEY. "Homosexual Parent in Custody Disputes," **Queen's Law Journal** (1980), 199-240.
Surveys both Canadian and U.S. cases, comparing treatment of "immoral" heterosexuals with that of homosexuals.
3896. CAMPBELL, ROSE W. "Child Custody When One Parent is a Homosexual," **Judges Journal**, 17 (1978), 38-41; 51-52.
A judge's reservations stemming from two lesbian mother cases she has tried.
3897. CARDWELL, GARY L. "Doe vs. Doe: Destroying the Presumption that Homosexual Parents Are Unfit--The New Burden of Proof," **University of Richmond Law Review**, 16 (1982), 851-66.
The precedent set in Doe v. Doe instructs Virginia courts to adhere to some more precise burden of proof as to the homosexual factor in adoption, and probably, custody proceedings.
3898. CHESSLER, PHYLLIS. **Mothers on Trial: The Battle for Children and Custody**. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1985. 651 pp.
Based on interviews with 60 women who were challenged for custody in 1960-81, this radical feminist statement of the case is marred by some contestable statistics.
3899. EVANS, MARIE WESTON. "M. J. P. v. J. G. P.: An Analysis of the Relevance of Parental Homosexuality in Child Custody Determinations," **Oklahoma Law Review**, 35 (1982), 633-58.
In child custody determinations, the best interests of the child are served by continuing placement with the psychological parent.
3900. GOODMAN, ELLEN. "Homosexuality of a Parent: A New Issue in Custody Disputes," **Monash Law Review**, 5 (1978-79), 305-15.
Summary of Australian court decisions in child custody issues involving lesbian mothers. While homosexuality per se has been held not to render a parent unfit, some Australian courts have found children to be adversely affected by their mother's orientation. See also: Kate

Harrison, "Child Custody and Parental Sexuality: Just Another Factor?" **Refractory Girl**, no. 20-21 (October 1980), 7-14; and Robyn Plaister, **Lesbian Mothers**, Campaign, no. 42 (April 1979), 13-14.

3901. HARRIS, BARBARA S. "Lesbian Mother Child Custody: Legal and Psychiatric Aspects," **Bulletin of the American Academy of Psychiatry and Law**, 5 (1977), 75-89.

Summarizes the major reported cases, discussing misconceptions and how they can be dispelled by scientific research findings.

3902. HITCHENS, DONNA. "Social Attitudes, Legal Standards, and Personal Trauma in Child Custody Cases," **JH**, 5 (1979-80), 89-95.

Lesbian mother cases and gay father visitation cases are increasingly successful in the courts. The main hurdle continues to be the lack of objective legal standards that could make the outcome of these cases predictable.

3903. HITCHENS, DONNA, and BARBARA PRICE. "Trial Strategy in Lesbian Mother Cases: The Use of Expert Testimony," **Golden Gate University Law Review**, 9 (1978-79), 451-79.

On the value of expert testimony in rebutting commonly held misconceptions about the consequences of raising children in a lesbian household.

3904. HUNTER, NAN D., and NANCY D. POLIKOFF. "Custody Rights of Lesbian Mothers: Legal Theory and Litigation Strategy," **Buffalo Law Review**, 25 (1976), 691-733.

Summarizing current law, argues that advocates should work toward establishing a requirement that a specific logical nexus be shown between a mother's lesbianism and her ostensible unfitness as a parent before she can be denied custody based on her homosexuality.

3905. LEITCH, PATRICIA. "Custody: Lesbian Mothers in the Courts," **Gonzaga Law Review**, 16 (1980), 147-70. Focusing on Washington State, surveys lesbian mother cases, esp. Schuster v. Schuster.

3906. MILLER, SUZANNE. "Rights of Homosexual Parents," **Journal of Juvenile Law**, 7 (1985), 155-59.

Even though societal tolerance for alternative lifestyles seems to be growing, the courts still tend to feel justified in restricting the amount of exposure a child may have to an overt homosexual relationship on the part of the mother.

3907. PAYNE, ANNE T. "Law and the Problem Parent: Custody and Parental Rights of Homosexual, Mentally Ill, Mentally Retarded, and Incarcerated Parents," **Journal of Family Law**, 16 (1978), 797-818.

Offers a comparative analysis, including elements of subjectivity and bias that often enter into legal proceedings and decisions in these spheres.

3908. RILEY, MARILYN. "Avowed Lesbian Mothers and Her Right to Child Custody: A Constitutional Challenge That Can No Longer Be Denied," **San Diego Law Review**, 12 (1974-75), 799-864.

Provides a detailed exposition of the constitutional arguments against allowing a mother's lesbianism to influence custody cases when no specific nexus of harm can be demonstrated. Reviews professional literature on sexual orientation as it serves to buttress the argument.

3909. SMART, BARBARA. "Bezio v. Patenanda: The "Coming Out" Custody Controversy of Lesbian Mothers in Court," **New England Law Journal**, 16 (1980-81), 331-65.

Discusses a Massachusetts case in which a lesbian mother sought to regain custody of her two children from a female friend. The mother was successful on appeal in a decision that set limits on the trial judge's discretion.

3910. SUSOEFF, STEVE. "Assessing Children's Best Interests When a Parent Is Gay or Lesbian: Toward a Rational Custody Standard," **UCLA Law Review**, 32 (1985), 852-903.

Gay and lesbian parents seeking custody of their children have met with increasing success in American courts since the California Court of Appeal instructed a trial court that it could not rule that a mother's homosexual orientation made her unfit to have custody of her child. See also: Catherine Rand et al., "Psychological Health and Factors Court Seeks to Control in Lesbian Mother Trials," **JH**, 8 (1982-83), 27-39.

3911. WHITTLIN, WILLIAM A. "Homosexuality and Child Custody: A Psychiatric Viewpoint," **Conciliation Courts Review**, 21 (1983), 77-79.

Although a specific incident will often trigger a legal battle, its course may be determined by societal attitudes (including homophobia) and the kind of research evidence that is brought to bear.

E. CHILDREN OF LESBIANS AND GAY MEN

The increasing visibility of households headed by lesbian and homosexual single or coupled parents has evoked fears that the children's psychological health might be adversely affected. Little if any support has been found for this assumption of environmental determinism.