Freud hypothesized that paranoia originated in a desperate effort on the part of the paranoid individual to repress homosexual desires. This controversy is presented here in some detail as it is paradigmatic of the fate of many Freudian theories: extensive and resourceful research has failed to find confirmation for Freud's claim.

In essence the theory states that delusional thinking arises as a result of the reaction-formation and projection of threatening unconscious homosexual wishes. Chalus suggests a more parsimonious explanation. Extensive references.

Claims that selective responses to words provide support for the psychoanalytic interpretation. However, "[w]hether homosexuality was a major area of concern for paranoid individuals was not determined."

3740. DEB, SUBIMAL. "Repressed Homosexuality and Symptom Formation Like Paranoid Jealousy and Erotomania," Samiksa, 30 (1976), 41-46.
Contends that for the male paranoid, jealousy begins with the choice of the father as the homosexual partner; this wish is then repressed, leading to erotomania.

Early statement of the purported link between homosexuality and the origins of paranoia, by a member of Freud's inner circle.

Analysis of the case of Judge Daniel Schreber, the locus classicus for the posited link. Holds that the type-situation is represented by the proposition: "I (a man) love him (a man)." On the single case on which Freud based his ambitious theory, see William Niederman, The Schreber Case: Psychoanalytic Profile of a Paranoid Personality (New York: Quadrangle, 1974; 172 pp.).

3743. HIGDON, JOHN F. "Paranoia: Power Conflict or

A review of studies highlights the confusion of power conflicts with homosexual dynamics, showing that past research studies have not adequately distinguished between the two.


With reference to Freud's hypothesis, found no significant difference between the schizophrenics and the controls in the degree of their preoccupation with homosexuality.


Although Freud's theory appears to have been substantiated, more studies are needed. The two trends, paranoia and homosexuality, may exist together and yet not necessarily be related.


In his 1932 M. D. thesis, now republished, the influential French psychoanalyst discusses the Freudian theory of paranoia, stressing the value of his approach for the understanding of "thèmes délirants à signification homosexuelle."


A review of the literature on Freud's theory that paranoid delusions are motivated by unconscious homosexual impulses does not support the prediction.


Uses case material to explore why the paranoid and the manifestly homosexual male react so differently to their homosexual libido.


Contends that, whether one subscribes to Freud's specific interpretation or not, there seems to be a relationship between homosexuality and paranoia.

PARANOIA

Questioning the appropriateness of generating a theory from a single case (that of Schreber), concludes that "the data, examined from a clinical-statistical point of view, do not support the analytical theory. ... The frequency of homosexual elements does not appear to be high in paranoid syndromes compared with other forms of schizophrenia."

3751. WOLOWITZ, HOWARD M. "The Validity of the Psychoanalytic Theory of Paranoid Dynamics: Evaluated from the Available Experimental Evidence," Psychiatry [Washington, DC], 34 (1971), 358-77. Reviews the relevant experimental research pertaining to homosexual actions, fantasies, and defenses, finding that males are more likely to fit the theory than females.


F. PSYCHOTHERAPY: GENERAL

The older model of psychotherapy with homosexuals was to replace the deviant orientation with a heterosexual one acceptable to society. The term "cure" encapsulates this attitude. In contrast, many therapists now stress that they accept a homosexual orientation as normal and healthy, and need not be changed. Their intervention is based on their claim to be able help the patient remove obstacles to happy adjustment within it. See also "Counseling and Social Services," XV.A.


therapists' value systems and speedy identification of patients' priorities.

3755. BENDA, CLEMENS E. "Existential Psychotherapy of Homosexuality," Review of Existential Psychology and Psychiatry, 3 (1963), 133-52. Existential therapy seeks to enable the homosexual to form loving, "normal" sexual attachments, and to correct his "distorted view of existence" by providing strong emotional experiences.

3756. BERG-CROSS, LINDA. "Existential Issues in the Treatment of Lesbian Clients," Women and Therapy, 1 (1982), 67-83. The existential approach recommended is prolesbian without minimizing the "contributing pathologies" afflicting many lesbians who seek help in leading happier and more productive lives.

3757. BERILLON, EDGAR. "Le traitement psychologique de l'homosexualité basé sur la rééducation sensorielle," Revue de l'hypnotisme, 23 (1908), 44-46. An early psychotherapeutic technique based on the premise that "in the evocation of images capable of arousing his sexual appetite, the male is olfactory and gustatory, while the female, on the contrary, is in her sexual orientation visual and tactile."

3758. BLACKBIRDGE, PERSIMMON, and SHEILA GILHOOLY. Still Sane. Vancouver: Press Gang, 1985. 101 pp. Account of Gilhooly's three-year struggle with compulsory psychiatric incarceration, in which shock treatments and drugs were employed in an attempt to "cure" her lesbianism.


3760. BROOKS, VIRGINIA R. "Sex and Sexual Orientation as Variables in Therapists' Biases and Therapy Outcomes," Clinical Social Work Journal, 9 (1981), 198-210. In responses of 675 lesbians, female therapists—heterosexual or lesbian—were assessed as more beneficial than male therapists. The sex-role ideology of therapists may be even more important.

3761. BROWN, LAURA S. "The Lesbian Feminist Therapist in Private Practice and Her Community," Psychotherapy