Shows how the definition of femininity in the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI), which is still widely used, was deeply flawed at the start by its con- fusion of sexual inversion with gender identity (gay men were used to create the feminine scale). Concludes: "SIX-
ty years of MF testing have primarily demonstrated what femininity and masculinity are not: they are not two sets of matched traits." This book contains much else of direct and indirect interest.

3577. LONEY, JAN. "Background Factors, Sexual Experi-

In the MMPI and Family Adjustment Test administered to 60 male and 11 female homosexuals, differences between males and females were found in the proportion of homosexual marriages, the number of homosexual partners, and expressed satisfaction with the homosexual role. See also: Loney, "An MMPI Measure of Maladjustment in a Sample of "Normal" Homosexual Men," Journal of Clinical Psychology, 27 (1971), 486-88.


In a battery of tests, the female transsexual group reflected a more rigid gender role stereotype, while the lesbians saw their options as more androgynous.


The analysis of individual items with total scores showed the 31 items were significantly associated in both groups. See also his: "Education and MMPI MF Scores in Homosexual and Heterosexual Males," ibid., 36 (1971), 395-99.


Concludes that a personality scale could be developed using items from the MMPI to detect lesbianism.

3581. OLDS, DEBRA E., and PHILLIP SHAVER. "Masculinity, Femininity, Academic Performance, and Health: Further Evidence Concerning the Androgyny Contro-

Masculinity emerges as beneficial for both sexes, corre-
lating negatively with achievement conflicts and stress symptoms but positively with mastery and work.
A study of 97 male psychiatric outpatients found that the MF-scale related measures differentiated subjects who admit to and are worried about homosexuality from subjects who are neither overt homosexuals nor worried about it.

Contains that the MF1-2 scale is useful for the study of personality variables in male homosexuality independent of traditional male-female stereotypes.

A review of the literature indicates that the MF scale fails in its intended purpose of measuring homosexuality and of measuring characteristics that reliably divide males and females. The concept of sex differences is inappropriately defined and establishes artificial boundaries.

Challenges S. Bem's contention that sex-typed individuals are limited in their behavioral repertoire and that persons with androgynous personality traits enjoy better mental health than sex-typed individuals.

K. Rorschach and Other Projective Tests

The Swiss psychiatrist Hermann Rorschach began his experiments with inkblots in 1911. Although they enjoyed a great vogue in the middle decades of the century, the blots have been shown to be largely vitiated by subjectivism. In any event, these and similar projective tests have no predictive value in determining sexual orientation (though they may be of some use as an adjunct in some therapeutic situations). The episode remains as an instructive chapter in intellectual history.

Suggests that today's permissive sexual atmosphere may be responsible for the fact that heterosexual subjects sometimes show homosexual tendencies on their Rorschachs.

Contains that the signs successfully discriminated three groups: heterosexual, sex-role disturbed, and homosexual. See also Seitz, Andersen, and George N. Braucht, "A Comparative Analysis of Rorschach Signs of Homosexuality," Psychological Reports, 35 (1974), 1163-69.


From a study of 30 lesbians and 30 heterosexual women who took the Rorschach and Figure-Drawing Tests, Armon concluded that projective techniques were of no use in differentiating between homosexually oriented and heterosexually oriented women.


Standard exposition of the case for the value of the signs.


In comparing 30 homosexuals with 30 heterosexuals, concludes that the traditional index is not valid and that it should not be used in a clinical setting as a measure to assess homosexuality.


Some kinds of homosexual records (anal orientation and feminine emphasis) could be distinguished, but most could not. Without other substantiating evidence the Rorschach failed in a large number of instances.


Not surprisingly, male homosexual signs were judged to be inadequate for lesbians.


Compared the validity of predicting lesbianism from empirical signs from the Draw-a-Person Test with the validity of psychologist's "blind" predictions from the same DAP protocols.

The schemata employed by the children in their figure arrangements were significantly different from those of adult heterosexuals and resembled those of adult homosexuals.


Criticism of the use of Szondi test, which consists of 48 cards bearing pictures of mental patients, some of them homosexual.


From tests with northern Italian men, the authors find no support for the claim that Rorschach responses are useful in diagnosing homosexuality.


Reports mixed results from the signs with male convicts of a Calcutta jail.


Concludes that the first figure drawn on the Draw-a-Person Test is not a useful measure of sexual inversion or gender identity.


Both homosexual and sex-role disturbed groups displayed significantly more Wheeler signs than normals. For rebuttal, see Elizabeth A. Anderson, "The Elusive Homosexual," ibid., 39 (1975), 580-82.


Reports on the use of twenty signs of the Rorschach,
the "Wheeler content signs test." Contends that there is a need to develop objective Rorschach signs, inasmuch as therapists' clinical judgments tend to be unreliable. See also: Jay S. Ksawer, "Male Homosexual Psychodynamics and the Rorschach Test," Journal of Personality Assessment, 41 (1977), 10-18.

L. SOCIAL SEX ROLE

Recent research, prompted in part by changing social conditions, has sought to distinguish gender from sex role, emphasizing the culturally contingent nature of the latter. It was of course a commonplace of older stereotypes of homosexuality that "inverts" were characterized by their compulsive adoption of traits of the other sex. A more nuanced approach has made obsolete this notion, though some have questioned whether--in view of the biological bedrock on which every human organism rests--we can so confidently make an absolute separation between gender and social sex role (see "Biology," XXIV.A). In an area of research that is to some extent in flux, some have argued that in American society, the traditional male sex role is rigid, constricting, and not conducive to psychological health, others (and sometimes the same individuals) have urged that women incorporate these same qualities, so as to more "androgynous" and effective at work and at home.

3601. ARCHER, JOHN, and BARBARA LLOYD. Sex and Gender. Revised ed. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1985. 355 pp. Critical review for the lay reader of the accumulating body of research on the extent to which men and women differ, the origins and implications of the differences in physical development, sexual experience, emotional expression, mental health, aggression, power, family, life, work, and achievement. The authors tend to favor sociocultural and environmental explanations, downplaying biological approaches. For an opposing synthesis, see Jo Durden-Smith and Diane Desimone, Sex and the Brain (New York: Arbor House, 1983; 298 pp.).


Attempted to validate a psychometric instrument intended to measure varying degrees of "masculine gender identity" in women.


From a gay liberation and feminist standpoint, uses ethnological and other data to argue that gender categories are socially conditioned rather than natural.


Contends that while certain forms of homosexuality (passive male and active female) are expressions of personality inversion, other forms of homosexuality have nothing to do with inversion.


Invaluable review of the literature since the 1950s on the "male role," with special attention to empirical discoveries, political assumptions and implications, and theoretical framework.


Suggests that homosexuality may be appropriately conceived as an alternate lifestyle rather than a nosological entity, and that gender role may, in some instances, be more important than biological sex with respect to an individual's self-perceived personality characteristics.


The author, a psychologist and theologian at Yale Divinity School, holds that the problems of distorted masculinity are essentially caused by males and must be resolved by them.


Questioning the heterosexual-homosexual dichotomy, argues that sexuality is more socialization than innate biology.


Provides detailed abstracts on ca. 400 items; note esp.