Sociolinguistics, which is concerned with the use of language in human encounter situations, is a recent development in the ensemble of linguistic fields. While the discipline holds considerable promise in view of the social anchoring of homosexual behavior, as yet the results have been somewhat limited.

2470. ALLEN, IRVING LEWIS. The Language of Ethnic Conflict: Social Organization and Lexical Culture. New York: Columbia University Press, 1983. 162 pp. Presents results of an analysis of more than a thousand terms of abuse which have been used for and by 53 different groups of ethnic Americans. Shows correlations between the number of slurs, the size of a group, and a group's contact and conflict with other groups. The perspectives disclosed by this book should be extended to gay men and lesbians.


2472. CHESEBRO, JAMES W. (ed.). Gayspeak: Gay Male and Lesbian Communication. New York: Pilgrim Press 1981. 367 pp. Twenty-five papers of varying quality on communications and sociolinguistics arranged under six topics: the social meanings of the words homosexual, gay, and lesbian; inside the gay community; homophobia; institutional forces shaping the public images of gay males and lesbians; gay liberation as a rhetorical movement; and gay rights and the political campaign.


research problems.

2476. HAYES, JOSEPH. "Language and Language Behavior of Lesbian Women and Gay Men: A Selected Bibliography," JH, 4:2 (Winter 1978), 201-212; and 4:3 (Spring 1979), 299-309.
A remarkably comprehensive roundup, which may be used to supplement the items listed here. However, as Hayes' astute annotations demonstrate, much of the material published up to the time of his writing was methodologically immature.

Surveys the problem of gender-marked differences in vocabulary and usage.

A start on the study of a neglected topic.

Concludes that the ideas of the British sociologist cannot be accepted without modification for stigmatized groups.

Analyzes the social elements characterizing the use of words by local informants.

Sexual and social notions of who is included in San Francisco gay men's understanding of "gay community."

Analyzes lesbian techniques for minimizing self-revelation, including nonverbal communication.

Anecdotal evidence. This article is a condensation of a chapter in Cory, The Homosexual in America (New York: Greenberg, 1951.)

SOCIOLINGUISTICS

Presents the results of a participant-observation study in a southwestern U.S. city, showing how at that time gay men's argot effeminized nouns and pronouns, from which Sonenschein draws conclusions about their social role.

Interprets questionnaires to conclude that gay men possess a more extensive "marginal vocabulary" than either heterosexual men or lesbians. See also her: "When We Say 'Out of the Closets'," College English, 36 (November 1974), 385-92.

Gay terms and expressions collected were grouped in a method similar to factor analysis to locate specific dimensions of behavior in a community of college-age persons. Special attention was given to the presence of binary oppositions. See also: Aaron Bruce W. Ostrom, "A Study of Lexical Items in the Gay Subculture," in: J. A. Edmonson (ed.), Research Papers of the Texas SIL: Pilot Studies in Sociolinguistics (Dallas: Summer Institute of Linguistics, 1983), 72-87.

Ten papers seeking to display progress made in the field since 1975, followed by a noteworthy annotated bibliography (pp.151-331). See esp. pp. 125-37 and 327.

Papers seeking to state the rationale and implications of the feminist-sponsored language reform. Although most of the contributors in the anthology tend to take the feminist critique of language too much for granted, a number of secondary issues are usefully canvased. Bibliography, pp. 319-23.

D. GRAFFITI

Although surviving graffiti from Greece and Rome (including some that bear on homosexuality; see III.C) have been studied for linguistic and social attitudes, in subsequent centuries the practice has been neglected. Contemporary graffiti have, however, attracted the attention of folklorists and amateurs since the beginning of the century.
Finds that homosexual graffiti in male restrooms tend to be aggressive, while graffiti in female restrooms have "an element of what might be called tenderness." See also Wendy Reich et al., "Notes on Women's Graffiti," *Journal of American Folklore*, 90 (April 1977), 188-91.

Anonymous illustrated work treating graffiti as indices of the male mentality; see pp. 47-66.

Attempts to place graffiti in historical context so as to evaluate them as a "continuing cultural achievement of humanity."

Texts selected from several thousand graffiti collected by the author over fifteen years in Paris, the French provinces, and several neighboring countries. See pp. 85-315 for homosexual examples.

Report on homosexual graffiti observed in Parisian toilets.

Comparing samples from the two countries it was found that the American ones were more likely to be humorous, political, and philosophical, while the Philippine ones had a higher amount of hostile content and disapproval of sexual ideation. See also Lee Schrest and A. K. Olson, "Graffiti in Four Types of Institutions of Higher Education," *Journal of Sex Research*, 7 (1971), 62-71.

E. FOLKLORE

Until recently folklorists--with the exception of a few Freudians--have tended to avoid dealing explicitly with sexual matters. The study of homosexuality in folklore has not yet achieved defined parameters. Accordingly, the entries listed below offer only a few glimpses of the