

ated by members of the police force, have had their careers ruined through being detected in the process of "tea-room trade." Insignificant as the offense may have been, the publicity attending the arrest and eventual trial, and the inclusion of the offender's name in centralized files of "known sex deviates," were enough to stigmatize the individual for life. Sometimes the authorities attempt to discourage sex in toilets by removing the stall doors or modifying the structures architecturally so that privacy will be reduced.

A special adaptation of toilets for sexual purposes is often found in the form of "glory holes," openings surreptitiously drilled or carved into the partitions separating the stalls. These serve for the insertion of the erect penis which is then felated by the occupant of the other booth. This practice combines anonymity, a sense of concentration on the affected organ, and an element of danger that goes even beyond the usual one of employing the public john for sexual purposes. The problem of being unpleasantly surprised was obviated in the glory-hole clubs, commercial establishments that enjoyed some popularity in the late 1970s. With the rising awareness of the need for safe sex, these clubs have largely faded away. Not so, however, the do-it-yourself glory holes in public toilets: despite an often relentless campaign by custodians to close these apertures, they mysteriously keep reappearing.

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Ward Houser

TRADE

As a term of gay slang, this word is the modern parallel of ancient Greek, Latin, and Old Norse terms for a male who remains strictly in the active role of penetrator, and who usually considers himself

heterosexual or bisexual, an attitude which also perpetuates archaic concepts under which only the receiver or *pathic* was considered to be departing from gender norms of appropriate sexual behavior. The modern slang usage probably derives from the association with young male prostitutes, engaged in "the sex trade," who are only available in the penetrator role. Trade is generally a term which is not self-applied, but only used by the receptive partner or by uninvolved homosexuals.

The prevalence of trade behavior is usually underestimated since its adherents seldom write books, join organizations, or fill out survey questionnaires. Nevertheless, it may well be that, from a global perspective that includes Mediterranean, shamanistic, pederastic, and Asian patterns, there are more "trade" men than reciprocating homosexuals, and even in advanced western societies this may be the case for members of the working class, where the sense that only the passive partner is homosexual is best preserved. Certainly there are extensive areas of sexual encounter outside prostitution in which trade behavior is not only common in western industrial societies, but expected by the receptive partner: cruising military men, seafarers, truck drivers, hitchhikers, teenagers, patrons of toilets frequented by the general public, frequenters of interstate highway rest areas, those involved in interracial sex, and men in jail or prison.

The trade pattern seems to serve as an intermediate stage of coming out often enough to have engendered the widespread homosexual saying "Today's trade is tomorrow's competition," but it would be a mistake to draw too broad a conclusion from this saying, which may also reflect the tendency which causes some homosexuals to label anyone and everyone a queen. It is not a saying with much currency among those homosexuals who prefer trade for various reasons and who are perhaps more knowledgeable about their patterns. Those who are familiar with

scenes in which "situational" trade homosexuality can be observed over a longer period of time (prisons, military areas, boarding schools) do not see much evidence to support the validity of the saying; if anything, they would report that "today's trade is tomorrow's married heterosexual."

"Rough trade" is a term denoting a potentially dangerous or ruffian male, virtually always self-defined as heterosexual, and who often demonstrates feelings of guilt or remorse after ejaculation which can erupt into violence directed at his partner. Nevertheless, there are not a few homosexuals who find rough trade particularly appealing. Many professional male prostitutes are termed "rough trade" because of their image as "tough guys" even though their actual potential for violence is low, a few highly publicized exceptions notwithstanding.

Research on homosexuality in this century has tended to avoid role analysis and focused instead on self-defined homosexuals rather than occasional participants. Clearly, the trade phenomenon needs a great deal more research before investigators can contemplate closing the books on the phenomenon of same-sex relations.

Stephen Donaldson

TRAGEDY

See Theatre and Drama.

TRANSSEXUALISM

Transsexualism is the wish for change of sex. This longing may be defined as a gender identity disorder characterized by the subject's intense desire for transformation by hormonal or surgical means, or both, into the gender opposite his original one at birth. This insistence is grounded in complete identification with the gender role of the opposite sex. The transsexual is thus the ultimate form of what has come to be known as the gender dysphoria syndrome.

Such individuals seek to deny and reverse their original biological gender and cross over into the role of the opposite gender. Transsexuals emulate the characteristics of the opposite gender in behavior, dress, attitude, and sexual orientation, and aspire to attain the anatomical structure of the genitalia of the opposite sex. The request for the so-called sex-change operation becomes the obsessive goal of the transsexual's life and brings him to the door of the physician, but in their request for sex reassignment surgery (SRS) they present themselves to the surgeon, not the psychiatrist. They reject the implication that psychiatric referral is required, since they do not conceive their dilemma in psychiatric terms but as a consequence of having been born into the wrong body. In a sense, transsexualism may be considered iatrogenic, in that advances in surgical technique and hormonal therapy now permit the realization of longings for sexual metamorphosis that once belonged to the realm of mythology and fairy tales.

History. This fact became known to the public after the famous Jorgensen case in 1952, in which the reporting endocrinologist received letters from hundreds of individuals requesting SRS. A former sergeant in the American army was transformed from a male into an externally functioning female by a Danish plastic surgeon, Paul Fogh-Andersen, in Copenhagen, and Christine Jorgensen, as the individual was subsequently named, made headlines throughout the world. Controversy and criticism erupted almost at once and have continued to the present day, as some psychiatrists branded the whole procedure as medical malpractice.

However sensationalized the case may have been, it called public attention to the fact that surgical relief was available to the sufferer from gender dysphoria, and thousands of such individuals came forward to demand the sex change operation. Many of these individuals were referred to Harry Benjamin (1885–1987), who promoted the term *trans-*