

Insight

ON THE NEWS

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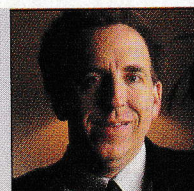


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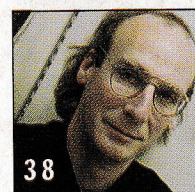
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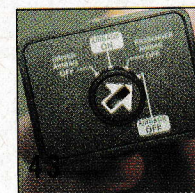
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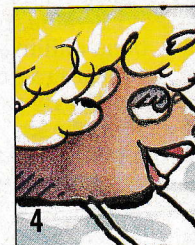
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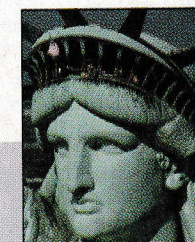
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Q: Should state funding of the Kinsey Institute's sexual research end?

Yes: Research that mainstreams sexual perversity does not serve the public good.

BY BEVERLY R. NEWMAN



Newman teaches at Ivy Tech College in Indianapolis, counsels survivors of sexual abuse and has testified before the Indiana Legislature about children's issues.

Deep in America's heartland is the heart of one of history's biggest cover-ups. Hundreds, perhaps thousands, of sex crimes undoubtedly have been committed in the name of science, and yet a major state university continues to battle for the sake of protecting the name and the reputation of a callous, maniacal scientist who blithely collected data obtained as results from massive sexual experimentation on babies and children. Alfred C. Kinsey is the world's most famous sex researcher, who got unprecedented media attention after the publication of *Sexual Behavior in the Human Male* in 1948 and *Sexual Behavior in the Human Female* in 1953. Less well-known is the fact that he was a classic example of a sexual addict, who induced his own wife to commit adultery on films he made in the attic of their home in Bloomington, Ind.

In recent weeks Bloomington, home to the Kinsey Institute for Research in Sex, Gender and Reproduction, based at Indiana University, has witnessed a raging inferno of citizen anger that is spreading throughout the Hoosier State. While taxpayers foot the bill for the Kinsey Institute through annual appropriations of \$750,000, the public is not welcome to use or view the Kinsey Institute, which is cloaked in secrecy. Callers are informed that there are VIP tours set up every so often, but even then a Kinsey representative must accompany the visitors at all times. State Sen. John Waterman made two unannounced visits to the institute last month — one during office hours on a weekday — but was unable even to take the elevator up to the third floor of Morrison Hall, where the institute is housed at public expense. Accompanied by an ex-Indiana University police officer, Waterman was told by the officer that he never had been permitted to have the keys to the third floor of Morrison Hall.

Recently, Waterman and another Indiana legislator, Rep. Woody Burton, led an unprecedented campaign to denounce and defund the institute. On Jan. 21 the Indiana House of Representatives passed Burton's House Concurrent Resolution No. 16, which excoriated the institute's founder and directed that, "No public funds should be used to operate or support institutions that further the claims made by Alfred Kinsey's research."

What are those controversial claims? The most far-reaching is that children naturally are given to initiating sexual acts and that virtually all forms of sexual behavior should be acknowledged as normal and tolerated. Kinsey's verbose prose is hardly quotable but nonetheless radical in its implications. Consider his condescending dismissal of sex between humans and animals: "There is probably no type of human sexual behavior which has been more severely condemned by that segment of the population which happens not to have had such experience, and which accepts the age-old judgment that animal intercourse must evidence a mental abnormality, as well as immorality." Translation: It's all good.

This and other malignant myths manufactured by the Kinsey Institute have metastasized during the last 50 years. Kinsey's books and the publications of the institute have created what I call the "Kinsey dogma," a body of unproven assumptions about sexual behavior which are often not normal, fruitful or truthful. It is built upon vile crimes against captive babies and children in the name of science. Wardell Pomeroy, a devoted fellow researcher of Kinsey, who worked at the Kinsey Institute for 13 years, still is spewing classic Kinsey dogma. According to Pomeroy in his book, *Boys and Sex*: "[F]or boys approaching or entering adolescence (p. 13) ... Your sex life, like everybody else's, probably began before you were born (p. 32) ... We know now that both male and female babies as young as four to six months have orgasm (p. 33) ... Small boys often want to try intercourse with their girl playmates (p. 38)."

This elementary-level sex text then continues to instruct its young audience in homosexual "oral sex," which is portrayed as common oral behavior of young children. This sex text and its companion book, *Girls and Sex*, are (continued on page 26)

found in the children's section of most libraries. The sex text repeatedly instructs girls about the benefits of early intercourse between a boy and a girl as a training ground for marriage. Pomeroy's main message to young girls is that "essentially nothing humans do sexually ... can be called abnormal" since humans are mammals, and mammals "engage in practically every kind of sex."

Kinsey's pernicious and fallacious dogma, pervasive in our schools, courts and professions, is poison to children. Children who have been sexualized early in life are often easy to spot. They are the kids who manipulate themselves at school, experience rage and terrifying flashbacks, cannot control their fears and anger, run away from home, drop out of school with early and multiple pregnancies, make repeated suicide attempts throughout their lives and fight lifelong addictions and depression. This is the norm for young survivors, who have been sexualized by acts of incest, child molestation or pornography.

Expert opinion holds that children who are sexually violated, whether through incest, molestation or exposure to pornography, frequently and chronically suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder, dissociation and/or multiple-personality disorder.

According to the textbook *Psychology*, by John Santrock, "A summary of the research literature on multiple personality suggests that the most striking feature related to the disorder is an inordinately high rate of sexual or physical abuse during early childhood."

The sex-education programs in U.S. schools are the most catastrophic failure ever witnessed in American education, just in sheer numbers of sexual casualties through unwanted pregnancies, abortions, sexually transmitted diseases and sexual dysfunctions. What else could you expect from a program founded on the works of a man who promoted animal-human sex and, as noted by historian James Jones, Kinsey's biographer, "attempted to put child molesters in a benign light"?

It may be argued — and many psychologists do — that children are not born sexual. When children exhibit sexual or criminal behaviors, these have been learned through harmful acts inflicted upon them or in the presence of children by adults or much-older children. Sexual abuse, for instance, includes pornography or live sex acts displayed in front of children. According to the National Adoption Information Clearinghouse, the classic signs of sexually abused children, which are listed in school manuals and professional training materials throughout the United States, are exactly what Kinsey followers claim to be normal behavior, specifically advanced sexual knowledge and early sexual promiscuity. These are the key indicators of child molestation, not childhood sexuality. Classic Kinsey dogma — that all sex is natural, normal and acceptable — promotes exactly such behaviors by young children.

The Kinsey dogma, which American sex education has been founded upon, is lies built upon crimes. The infamous *Sexual Behavior in the Human Male* acknowledges the cooperation of numerous schools, orphanages children's homes in which Kinsey or his assistants did "research." Beginning on page 175 of Kinsey's sexual manual are tables of experimental data about babies and children containing such tell-tale phrases as: "Based on actual observation[s]." Table 30 details the sexual responses of hundreds of babies and children, observed but not timed. Table 31 records observations of 317 males from age two months to 15 years old. Table 32 records "observations [of 188 boys] timed with second-hand or stop watch. Ages range from five months of age to adolescence." Table 33 details observed and sometimes timed responses of 182 young males timed by the second. Table 34 includes data from sexual experiments on infants as young as five months old and children, who were sexually tortured for up to 24 hours at a time.

Where did the nine adult males who observed these sexual responses, according to Kinsey, gain access to hundreds of babies and children to time their sexual responses for up to 24 hours at a time?

The enormity and the severity of these sexual crimes against children never have been denounced by the Kinsey Institute despite the data having required the sexual torture of infants and children. The matter that needs to be disclosed is the extent to which Kinsey and his colleagues actually facilitated such research by encouraging it, purchasing the data of sexual predators, training them accurately to time their captive subjects and/or personally conducting the experiments themselves. Somewhere in the history and secrecy of the Kinsey Institute are the answers to these questions.

No matter what good work in which the Kinsey Institute may claim to be engaged in today, its history is based upon criminal acts of the most heinous and vicious kind. Until now, they had not been denounced or even admitted by Indiana officials. Kinsey Institute staff continue to speak of Kinsey as a devoted husband, successful father and a very principled scientist, despite the brutal revelations contained in the recent biography of Kinsey written by Jones, a former member of the science advisory board of the Kinsey Institute. The continuing denial of Kinsey Institute staff in the face of the documented monstrous realities about Kinsey in *Alfred C. Kinsey: A Public/Private Life* speaks volumes about the institute's credibility. According to Jones, "Kinsey was having sex with other men and arranging for his wife, Clara, to be filmed having sex with [Kinsey Institute] staff members," and Kinsey was so sexually addicted that he escalated to performing acts of severe sadomasochism on himself on film. In 1954, says Jones, Kinsey threw a rope over the exposed ceiling pipes of his basement office at Indiana University, tied it to his genitals and jumped off a chair. The fact is, Kin-

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sey delighted in homosexual sadomasochism and simply disregarded sex-crime laws that differed with his own obsessions and addictions to sex.

The citizens of Indiana are beginning to realize that Kinsey should never have been walking the streets freely, let alone administering a major university institution. Kinsey is a prime example of the awful realities of "sexual liberation." Like any sex addict, he could not get enough sex and misused sex. The man

perceived to be the founder of sex education in American schools reduced sex to the primitive, mechanical level of plants and animals, and his namesake institute continues to attempt to normalize sexual aberrations in the name of science. The institute boasts of having the nation's best collections on the history of transsexuality and supports fellowships on homosexual parenting. The shameful Kinsey legacy continues to menace the lives of America's children. ●

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more accessible to scholars, so we find a steady increase in demand for access from the academic community.

The institute organizes interdisciplinary meetings, bringing scholars together from around the world and producing publications from these events. The institute has a research program; we are studying the effects of steroidal contraceptives on the sexuality and well-being of women and the impact of such effects on the acceptability and continuation with these methods. This is research that should have been conducted several decades ago. We are exploring with Family Health International how this research methodology can be adapted to address the same questions in other countries in the developing world, tackling an issue of crucial importance to the effectiveness of family-planning programs worldwide. We are investigating the impact of the menstrual cycle on the sexuality of women.

In the area of male sexuality, we have a novel research program studying the neuropsychology of male sexual response. This research not only may prove to be considerably relevant to understanding common problems of male sexual dysfunction but also may shed light on why some men persist in taking sexual risks, an issue crucial to the HIV/AIDS epidemic. We are collaborating with colleagues in the medical school to use brain-imaging techniques to investigate central mechanisms involved in the control of sexual response.

We have been fortunate to have two postdoctoral fellows funded by the Social Science Research Council's, or SSRC's new Sexuality Research Fellowship program. Last year, our SSRC fellow, a historian, used the institute's archives to further her study of the history of transsexualism in the United States between 1930 and 1970. This year and next, we have a fellow studying the relationship between childhood sexual play and adult sexual adjustment by asking young adults to recall their childhood experiences, as well as describing their sexual development during adolescence and since. This data will be compared with data obtained from Kinsey's original survey, permitting the parallel study of two data sets collected 50 years apart. The Kinsey Institute provides specialized clinical services to men and women who have sexual dysfunctions and women with menstrual-cycle-related problems. This form of clinical care, in which both psychological and physical aspects are given

equal importance, is threatened by the current health-care system in the United States. Our clinics, and the training of health professionals associated with them, will help to keep these important clinical skills alive and available.

And finally, the institute is attaching increasing importance to its role as an "information service," provided through our World Wide Web site. I would urge anyone who wants to know more about the Kinsey Institute and its current activities to visit us at <http://www.indiana.edu/~kinsey/>.

We are legally restricted in how we can use many of the materials in our collections, and because of this we restrict access to scholars with bona fide research interests. However, we are progressively "coming out of the closet." For the last three years we have provided courses for the local community through the university's continuing-studies and mini-university programs. Last October, we had our first major public exhibit of items from our

art and photography collections. The six-week-long exhibit, "The Art of Desire: Erotic Treasures From the Kinsey Institute," was held in the fine-arts gallery on the Bloomington campus. This effort celebrated the 50th anniversary of the founding of the institute and was a great success. We give tours for an increasing number of visitors to the institute and, following the recent political interest, we have invited state legislators to visit the institute to learn more about our activities. We are proud of the Kinsey Institute, and we believe its role will grow. In fact, the need for interdisciplinary research of this kind is so great today that, rather than closing

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us down, comparable institutes should be set up on other campuses around the country. Then there will be a reasonable chance that the need for an established tradition of interdisciplinary scholarship in human sexuality will be met.

As for sex education, the Kinsey Institute is not directly involved, but we recognize its importance. It is not a straightforward issue, however. There is need for vigorous debate as well as careful evaluation of the effects of different policies. And, of course, issues of sexual morality will be central to this debate as, I hope, will evidence derived from sound scientific research. But a productive debate only can flourish in a climate of honesty and respect for varying opinions, none of which are in the forecast of the anti-Kinsey movement. ●