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Sex: The Zine

Chapman University

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Lauren is a public relations and advertising major, although she fast forwards through most ads these days. As a member of the Chapman Feminists, as well as a safe space trainer on Chapman's campus, Lauren is dedicated to smashing the patriarchy and ending homophobia in our society. When she's not feministing (and really, when is she not?) she is singing, blogging, writing music, eating sushi, and watching Audrey Hepburn movies.



Sonja is a theatre person, Lolita-in-training, crafty chica, and devoted user of the Oxford comma. She writes about feminism, lesbianism, religion, and knitting on the blog Lesbi Crafty. Other interests include her girlfriend, making animal noises to express a variety of emotions, and losing track of important documents.



Nayobi (pronounced nai-oh-bee) is a sophomore communications major currently attending Chapman University, who also identifies as a queer, free-spirited, Latin@-centric radical. She loves to ponder about the future, discover music, and fight daily oppression, when not performing private standup comedy shows to her roommate, Jose Membreno. She is also obsessed with Otis Redding and free forum conversations about gender and sexuality.

SEX.

THE ZINE.



12. MEET THE WRITERS

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WARNING! This zine has been known to have the following side effects: raised-consciousness, knowledge, sexual liberation, and empowerment.
READ AT YOUR OWN RISK!!!

2.

MYTHS ABOUT BISEXUALS

MYTH #1 - Bisexuals have SUPER high sex drives

Some do, some don't. But you can't measure a person's sex drive by their orientation and who they choose to love



MYTH #3 - Bisexuals want threesomes

Not the majority... the idea of bisexuals (mostly bisexual women) always wanting a threesome is a heterosexual concept created by mainstream porn - an industry dominated by straight men.

MYTH #5 - Bisexuals only want attention

Not all bisexual people are seeking attention... most of them just want to be accepted by society for their relationships, regardless of their partner's gender.!

MYTH #2 - "Oh you're bi? Do you have a crush on me?"

Just like a straight person doesn't have a crush on EVERY person, don't assume that a bi person likes you just because they are bi.

MYTH #4 - Bisexuals are just going through a phase, they aren't real

BISEXUALS ARE REAL. They aren't mythical creatures like the unicorn. The fluidity of orientation is a concept that has been present since the times of ancient Greece and Egypt. (We have evidence to prove it!). Most bisexual people do not consider it a phase.

IT IS A PART OF WHO THEY ARE.

MYTH #6 -

Male bisexuality can't exist, if you're a guy and you're "bi", you're actually gay

Male bisexuality exists, and it is completely normal to be attracted to the same sex and the opposite sex at the same time. To say that only women can be sexually attracted to each other is both a sexist notion, as well as biphobia. While some men may be dealing with coming to terms with their sexuality, it is ignorant to assume that every man who has attraction to other males is strictly gay. There is much fluidity in the scale of sexuality, and it is up to each person to decide how they want to be identified.



11.

WHEN I KNEW...

Sonja

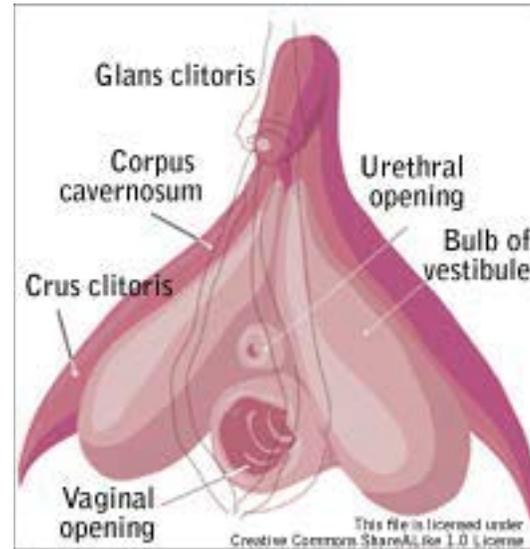
I was sixteen, a sophomore in high school. Rumors had already been spreading about my sexuality because of my overt physical affection with my female friends, but I had both vehemently denied them and crafted a fake girlfriend with which to confuse people (of course, I made her into someone to whom I became somewhat attracted and fantasized about for several months afterward). Because the boy I'd asked to a dance had turned me down, I took a female friend, "Dori". We had an awesome time, and joked about how she was my "date" all night long—it should be noted right now that Dori is a beautiful woman, and many times during church youth group I'd sat in her lap and kissed her cheek all the while thinking I was completely straight.

The DJ put on a slow song, and I went and asked Dori if she wanted to dance with me, as part of the joke. She enthusiastically said yes, and we wrapped our arms around each other and began the awkward slow turning of high school slow-dances. I was suddenly struck by an incredible deep sense in my gut of what I can only call "right-ness". This, this moment, with my arms around a woman, was how the world was supposed to work. I pulled myself closer to her and held her closely as we danced, and realized that what I was feeling was attraction, desire... and I knew.

4.

GETTIN' FREAKY WITH YOURSELF

Did you know that masturbation is actually really good for your health??



BUT I CAN'T HAVE AN ORGASM!

There's nothing weird or abnormal about that! Many women cannot orgasm from certain types of sex. Some women can only orgasm vaginally, others only from clitoral stimulation, some can orgasm just from having their breasts rubbed. Experiment with yourself. Get comfy, play some soothing music you like. Fantasize and visualize. Figure out what feels good. If you still can't orgasm, you can always talk to a doctor about it. But first try to experiment with your body and learn about what it is that YOU want and need!

9.

PHYSICAL BENEFITS

- 1) Masturbation helps prevent cervical infections and helps relieve urinary tract infections
- 2) Masturbation is associated with improved cardiovascular health and lower risk of type-2 diabetes
- 3) Masturbation can help work against insomnia naturally, through hormonal and tension release
- 4) Orgasm increases pelvic floor strength.

EMOTIONAL AND MENTAL BENEFITS

- 1) It helps improve mood. (it releases the chemicals dopamine and epinephrine in our brains)
- 2) It helps relieve stress.
- 3) Strengthens our relationship with ourselves by gaining sexual confidence and self-awareness
- 4) Strengthens relationships with your partner. By learning what you like, you can better communicate with your partner to have a better sex life overall



SEXUAL FLUIDITY

(As a sexual orientation.)

Many folks are already aware of the numerous sexual orientation labels that we have, but they may not be aware of the increasingly popular sexual identities *queer* or *fluid*. Just to bring everyone up to speed, here are some common definitions for those words.

Queer: "A political statement, as well as a sexual orientation, which advocates breaking binary thinking and seeing both sexual orientation and gender identity as potentially fluid. A simple label to explain a complex set of sexual behaviors and desires. For example, a person who is attracted to multiple genders may identify as queer." (Via http://geneq.berkeley.edu/lgbt_resources_definiton_of_terms)

Fluid: A person who experiences fluid sexuality will experience changes in their sexual orientation, whether over a lifetime, years, months or sometimes weeks or days at a time. People who identify as having fluid sexuality often see it as a distinct sexual orientation.

VENUS OR MARS?



What makes a man or a woman?

Is it genitals?

Chromosomes?

Clothes?

How do you know if someone is a man or a woman?

Hair length?

Voice?

WHY DO YOU WANT TO KNOW EITHER WAY?

...

Also, why did I feel the need to censor Mars/Venus' penis?

5.

8.

LOVE AND SEX

(From a feminist perspective.)

The common misconception that all forms of feminism despise sex is false. As a matter of fact, there is a specific type of feminism named *sex-positive feminism* and I believe that it can help women everywhere have more enriching sex lives.

Definition: *Sex-positive feminism*, (a.k.a. pro-sex feminism, sex-radical feminism, or sexually liberal feminism), is a specific facet of feminism that argues that sexual freedom is key to women's freedom overall.

Issues Related to Sex-Positive Feminism:

- Pornography – Sex-positive feminists argue that pornography is important to both men and women, and, in contrast to anti-porn feminists, argues that it is not inherently bad.
- Sex Work – Sex-positive feminists argue that there can be positive experiences for those that delve into legalized, regulated sex work.
- Sexual Orientation / Gender Identity – All orientations and gender identities are accepted through sex-positive feminism.

Sex-Positive Feminists:

- Ellen Willis
- Susie Bright
- Patrick Califia
- Gayle Rubin
- Carol Queen
- Avedon Carol
- Tristan Taormino
- Diana Cage
- Nina Hartley
- Betty Dodson
- Annie Sprinkle

LOVE AND SEX

(Continued.)

It is also interesting to note how feminism affects sexual relationships. As Jessica Valenti, author of *Full Frontal Feminism*, aptly puts it, "Feminists do it better. Sorry, we just do. It makes sense - when you don't have to feel guilty, slutty or ashamed, when you feel free to have sex entirely on your own terms, it tends to be much more enjoyable. So much for that myth that feminists hate sex."

Valenti, similar to many other feminists, also advocates for sexual education for a multitude of reasons:

- Sex education been proved to lower the rates of STD's in students.
- It lowers the rates of pregnancy.
- It helps promote the idea of sexual independence and maturity.

If you do not have access to sex education near you and are interested in starting the conversation, you can also call the

Better Than Sex Ed Hotline:

Phone - 877.4ME.2ASK

Website - <http://betterthansexed.com/>

