



BEYOND MONOGAMY

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AN EVENING WITH BARRY KOHN

by Jacqueline Weller

BMI and the Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Colorado brought Barry Kohn to Denver in February to discuss alternative relationships in the 1980's. Barry is co-author of Barry and Alice: Portrait of a Bisexual Marriage (Prentice-Hall, 1980). During the evening, he showed a videotaped documentary about the evolution of his relationship with his spouse, Alice Matusow. Later, Barry opened the presentation to general discussion about bisexuality, homosexuality, open relationships and related topics.

Barry Kohn and Alice Matusow were married in 1966 with conventional expectations for the future. Barry, however, held a guilty secret --his prior homosexual experiences. Even though he felt badly about his dishonesty, he thought it would never be a problem. As he says, "I had closed the door to homosexuality four years before I met Alice and I thought it would always be closed."

But, Barry began having homosexual fantasies, and eventually had a homosexual experience while Alice was out of town. After that experience, he began worrying about his secret whenever he was with Alice. "My God," he thought. "What if Alice knew? How am I going to live this lie?"

Barry felt terrible about his homosexuality. He says he believed all the stereotypes and all the myths about gays. Not knowing about bisexuality, he assumed that homosexuality meant the end of his marriage. "Here I am married. My wife is pregnant. How am I going to deal with this?" he asked himself.

When he finally confided in Alice, after 5½ years of marriage, she was deeply shocked. "For two or three years," she said, "I could not tell anybody. I had never before had a secret so terrible that I couldn't share it with my friends. As I look back on it now, it seems odd to me that it should seem so shameful."

Barry and Alice struggled for years with the problem of whether to separate, divorce or stay together. In the beginning, when Barry assumed his homosexuality was "sick--an illness, an aberration, a perversion," he began psycho-



Barry Kohn
Co-author of
Barry and Alice

analysis to try to cure himself. He says he spent four days a week on the couch for four years. In the meantime, he became involved with gay activists who "turned my head around." He finally told Alice that he wasn't going to change: "This is the way I am. I am a bisexual. I think I'll be like this the rest of my life. Can you live with that and accept me for what I am?"

Barry and Alice then began another year's process of deciding whether to stay together. Alice unburdened herself of her secret by suddenly telling her mother and her friends. "It was a shock to me," says Barry, "because she didn't warn me she was going to do it. It was a very quick coming out for me."

Barry says his mother-in-law was very supportive. "She didn't know much about homosexuality. She called me up the next day. I was very upset; I thought she wouldn't want to see me anymore. She said that she didn't understand my homosexuality, but that she still loved me and that I was still her son-in-law. She said she'd help see me through it."

Barry knew that he would have to tell his own mother and father before the book was published. Luckily, his parents also accepted his coming out. He said it helped that he and Alice had resolved to stay together by the time he told them. "I think it was easier to come to them when we had already worked it all out."

Barry said his father was the hardest person to tell, so he wrote him a long letter, giving him time to think it over. Barry says his dad didn't mention receiving the letter until a year later, "and then he and I slowly began talking

about it. It was easier for my dad to discuss the book as a business venture and give us ideas about appearing on shows."

While Barry was dealing with his feelings about homosexuality, Alice also began some sexual explorations. For her, there was much that was new, being married at 21 to Barry, her first sexual partner.

"I'd had very little experience," Alice says. "The first time I was attracted to someone other than my husband--just attracted, not that I did anything about it--some of my myths about marriage were shattered."

"After I had an outside relationship, it was easier for me to have some tolerance and understanding of Barry. I don't think anyone is monogamous naturally, they're just not given the choice."

"So here I was, the good girl of the fifties. Sexuality is at the core of who we are. As I began to look at myself as a person, as a woman, how could I not look at my sexuality?"

Besides giving herself permission to engage in an affair with another man, Alice also began to explore her own bisexual feelings, influenced by lesbians and bisexuals she knew from her involvement with the women's movement.

Alice now admits that she is often more turned on with a woman than a man. "Masters and Johnson, among others, showed us that it's a myth that women are turned on most by a penis entering a vagina. That ain't it for most women. I happen to like that, but with most women it's more the clitoral stimulation."

"I never realized until I had sex with a woman, how soft a woman can be. That must be what men are attracted to." She says her bisexuality has made her more sure of herself and more sure of her appeal to men, "because there's something about a woman's skin and touch that's wonderful."

"I love to see the sweetness in a woman," she says. "I love to see her hot and playful. Just touching another woman's body was moving, was a turn on, and a great learning about myself."

"Being with a man and being with a woman are two very different parts of myself. One is not necessarily better than the other, although I have friends who say one is better."

Alice says that as she talks about her bisexual experiences, she is very aware that she is talking about something taboo. "People aren't supposed to do this or like it. But, the most surprising thing about being with another woman is how very natural it is."

Barry agrees that there is something very special about physical contact with the same sex. "There's a feeling of tension and attraction that goes back and forth and is not just physical. There is something between men that we share. It happens even with straight men, although in this culture it's very difficult to express."

"In fact, true liberation for gay and bisexual people will come when two men or two women can walk down the street and feel safe and com-

fortable holding hands or kissing in public--doing things that everyone else is able to do."

Barry says that most of his friends have experimented with homosexuality since his coming out. He suspects that most people are bisexual, and feels that the studies of Kinsey and other sex researchers back him up.

Yet, most people are afraid to experiment because society still regards people as either gay or straight. He says many still do not know about bisexuality, even in 1982. So people struggle to fit the values of their youth with their experiences. Inevitable conflict results. "I remember my own stereotypes. I thought I shouldn't be a lawyer if I had homosexual feelings. I should be a waiter, or a hairdresser, or unemployed, because I thought that's what all gay people did!"

"But even as I speak today, the great majority of gay people still feel terrible about their homosexual feelings. One of my first homosexual experiences was with a doctor who told me that if there was a pill he could take to change his sexuality, he would take it in a minute."

Barry encourages people to organize support groups, bookstores, newsletters, coffee houses, and other ventures to help people in the struggle to change their values. "All of us dealing with issues like bisexuality or open relationships are pioneers and that's not easy. It's like inventing the wheel: there's bound to be a lot of experimenting and a lot of mistakes."

He says he and Alice wrote Barry and Alice as a result of their own difficult eight year struggle to define their lifestyle. He hopes that reading the book may help others avoid some of what he went through with Alice. "Maybe the book will help others get through it all faster. It might help others to know that someone has gone this route already."

MORE ALTERNATIVE RELATIONSHIPS NETWORKS AND PUBLICATIONS "DISCOVERED"

We have recently made contact with alternative relationships organizations in the Washington/Baltimore metro area, Chicago and the San Francisco Bay area. Since there are a number of Beyond Monogamy readers in each of these areas, we think it would be useful to provide some information about these groups. When contacting them, please send at least \$1 to cover their costs of mailing information to you.

Potomac Area Life Styles (PALS) is "an organization of people interested in or actively participating in alternative relationships and lifestyles." However, they are not a swing club, dating service or therapy group. Couples, group families and singles are all welcome to participate in their activities which include parties, personal growth oriented discussion groups, massage groups, erotic film evenings, pot luck dinners, etc. Most activities are "family ori-

ented" with children participating. PALS puts out a monthly newsletter which includes an activity schedule. Membership in PALS is \$8 per year. Their address is P.O. Box 438, Falls Church, VA 22046.

The Enlighten Loving Network was formed by people who had taken workshops in the San Francisco Bay area from noted sexologist Stan Dale. Last year they began publishing a bi-monthly newsletter, Enlighten, which includes articles, workshop and support group notices, and personal ads from people "who believe in unoppressive loving." Enlighten editor, Joshua Bagby is now looking for a national readership. He plans to publish a Loving Network Directory in the near future. A subscription to Enlighten is \$10 per year, payable to Joshua Bagby. Josh's address is 500 Lagunita Dr., Soquel, CA 95073.

All Together, Inc. was founded in Chicago in 1976 by the group's current president, Lloyd Levin. All Together is a national networking group for people interested in open relationships, lesbian and gay lifestyles, bisexuality, swinging, corporate/expanded families, lifestyles for divorced people and single parents, women's liberation, cohabitation, and nudism. They publish a newsletter around two to four times per year which is crammed full of information about alternative lifestyle groups, liberal political action groups and personal ads. Membership is \$10 per year (\$5 for each additional person living in the same household). Their address is Suite 3612, 405 N. Wabash Ave., Chicago, IL 60611.

ANOTHER FAMILY SYNERGY CONFERENCE

Family Synergy, a Southern California-based open relationships organization, will hold their Seventh Annual Conference July 9-11, at the Canyon Plaza Hotel in Palm Springs, California. This year's conference will focus on Alternate Family Life Styles, and will include an interesting mixture of educational programs, group discussions, experiential workshops and social activities. The conference is moderately priced. For more information, write Family Synergy, P.O. Box 2668, Culver City, CA 90230.

LETTERS FROM READERS

Letters Policy: We do not print full names and addresses of authors of letters unless requested in writing to do so. We reserve the right to edit letters, but we try not to pull quotations out of context.

We especially like letters which discuss your personal experiences. We also encourage you to express your feelings about ideas and questions raised by articles or other letters.

Deadline is one month prior to issue date. We cannot guarantee that your letter will be used.

Some Excellent Ideas on Open Relating

Editors' note: The following letter comes from a very thoughtful man in Illinois who wishes to remain anonymous. We have nothing to add to it other than applause!

Dear Editors:

My wife and I are 69 and just celebrated our 44th anniversary. Every year sees our love grow more precious to us. However, and it is a big "however," our relationship has become a new kind of marriage since about 15 years ago. At that time, we began moving from monogamy, forbidden desire, deceit, adultery, pain, tension, tears, and fears to complete sharing and openness. We had started out as fundamentalist Christians, beset with human weaknesses, but committed to Christian monogamy.

I found myself drawn to multi-affectual relationships which involved me in sexual affairs with friends I felt deeply for. Not wanting to hurt my wife, I hid these affairs from her. Only, as is so often the case, she found out anyway. She forgave but stored up hurt and pain and feelings of inadequacy as a wife and sexual partner. Evidently, I found her "not enough."

This went on for years. Finally, I got her to go with me to some discussions about swinging. There she found men and women with kindly, responsible, generally decent attitudes, just like herself.

We set up certain safeguards, and they have served us well:

1. We resolved that whatever we did should be on a sharing-with-each-other basis. If both could be friends or, at least, friendly with a sexual partner (or partners), then we could have such relating.

Extremely important was the relationship context of our life. After our decision for true openness, all inner barriers dropped. We could be open to any fantasy. This removed guilt, secret blame, remorse and fears of being found out. This utterly altered our inward and expressed feelings for each other. Each now feels the other is truly a "second self," an other that yet is the same.

2. Now that the strong impulsion toward other sexual relationships had been diffused or attenuated, we resolved to be wary of getting into frenzied sexual adventure searches. Any sex play would be on a highly selective basis—with friends. We referred to this as "friendship sex," as distinguished from marital and casual sex.

For me, there was a surprising and most gratifying result of opening ourselves to each other in this way. By opening the gates of monogamous confinement, I felt a gradual relaxation leading to a total freedom from the tension of sexual desire. It's a paradox: Since I am totally free to have sexual expression with whom ever I wish (within the conditions of my wife's and my agreement), I have far less sexual desire for others. Consequently, we have had infrequent sexual relations with others, but these have been

rewarding and memorable.

3. We resolved, above all, to combat that fear of losing the beloved which is at the heart of healthy jealousy. There are two ways of doing this. First, we consciously recognize feelings of jealous uneasiness and exorcise them by rational analysis. Second, we continually reinforce each other's feelings of being truly the committed love partner for life. So, when I find myself emotionally involved with someone else, I strongly and repeatedly reinforce, both to myself and to my wife, the undeviating love I have toward her. And she does likewise.

4. It is impossible for me to duplicate with anyone else the meaningfulness and spirituality I feel when my wife and I relate. This includes a glance, touch of hand or that wonderfully thrilling and rhythmic touching that is sex. Likewise, it is impossible to recreate with my wife, the particular, and often precious spiritual meaningfulness, I feel when relating to some other cared-for woman. Each person, each person-to-person relationship, is unique. So I take nothing from my wife and my interrelating with her when I have a loving friendship with another.

5. We avoid possible carriers of disease. If a pool of persons has no venereal disease to begin with, and if they contract none from outside sources, no one in the pool with get any VD, no matter how frequent the sexual contacts within the pool.

6. In a way, all relationships can be considered a game. All games have certain more or less understood rules for playing. If two players follow the same rules, the relationship will go forward successfully. On the other hand, if two life partners have an open relationship, and one of them or their friends tries to turn a friendship into an exclusive, possessive monogamous relationship, that person is breaking the rules of the relationship he/she entered into. That won't work.

It won't work even in traditional marriage. If a man feels he can "screw around" while his wife has to be monogamous, he is trying to live by two contradictory sets of rules.

What's at the root of all this? Many human beings feel a strong urge to relate meaningfully with more than one person, and to include sex as an aspect of this relating. The fact is that the urge for others besides a marital partner is not actually an urge for physical sexual thrills. After all, the most physically intense nerve sensations from erotic activity is not from intercourse, but from various modes of masturbation or from the expert ministrations of skilled prostitutes. Yet, most men and women prefer sex with a friend or mate.

It is the interrelationship that is desired, that reaching out from the deep interior of a man or woman's being. He/she longs to hold the love object in his/her arms and interpenetrate body to body—touching with that touch of ecstasy. And, for all of this to be most rewarding, it

must be within the context of sharing many things together: music, art, theater, arguments, ideals, etc. All of which means friendship—not just one night stands.

Well, there is what I've lived by. It has seemed good for my wife and me. I hope it may be of some help to others who are trying to find a way of living amidst the problems and perplexities of contemporary life.

C. H.
Illinois

Going Beyond Monogamy in a Rural Family Setting

Dear Will & BMI people:

I am interested in hearing or reading more about extended families and open relationships or group marriages. It seems to me that once children come into the situations, things change. In my experience, being a mother of three ranging in age from 1 to 6½, I have found the isolated nuclear family to be almost deadly. I hate it, and just having an open marriage would not relieve the burden of spending all day alone with the kids. I choose to be with my children while they are small. We live in a rural setting which means I have very little contact with people outside my inlaws. I have little extra time for a dating-type relationship. So we see group marriage as the best solution, but have yet to find others so inclined in our area. For me, it is more important to find other women to share the child care, house and garden duties with and for companionship. Anyway, I'd be very interested to hear how other women (and men) with children work it out.

Do you have suggestions on how to meet people or start a group in a middle class, midwest German-Catholic town?

Thanks again for being there.

Mary
Sandusky, Ohio

Editors' reply: Since we live in a city and have no kids, we invite replies from readers who live in situations similar to Mary.

Meeting people with similar lifestyle interests is certainly not going to be easy in your situation. You can't exactly run an ad in the local newspaper or make an announcement at the next PTA meeting! Running and answering ads in selected publications like Beyond Monogamy may eventually bring results if you are patient. Two other places you might try are the Positions and Situations section of Mother Earth News or the Reach section of Communities journal. Mother Earth News is available on most larger magazine stands (probably even in Sandusky, Ohio) and the address for Communities is Box 426, Louisa, VA 23093.

Answering Ads: Please contact advertisers directly except for coded ads. To answer a coded ad, enclose your reply in a stamped envelope with the number of the ad written in pencil in the lower left hand corner. Mail in another envelope with \$1.00 to BMI, Box 6877, Denver, CO 80206. Letters will be forwarded unopened the day after they are received. We will NOT forward your letter if you DO NOT FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS EXACTLY!

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

NOW THAT YOU'RE HAVING MULTIPLE RELATIONSHIPS, YOUR ENTERTAINMENT BUDGET IS GOING UP! Find out how becoming a Universal Life Minister can help increase your cash flow. Cut your taxes 75%; perform group marriages for your friends! Call (303) 934-0964 for information.

ILLINOIS Now being organized: A brand new concept in BEYOND MONOGAMY-oriented Alternative lifestyle, exclusively for NON-SMOKING or DRUG abusing men and women past the age of FIFTY—who are sincerely interested in sharing the Cultural and better things of life in their very OWN Cooperative modern property—instead of risking unpleasant experiences in unclear, mismanaged and over-priced commercially managed retirement homes. Write: "SHARE NOW", 3129 W. Logan Blvd., Chicago, IL 60647.

ARE YOU TIRED OF OLD-FASHIONED, OUTDATED LIFESTYLES? Come on! Get liberated and have fun in POLY-FIDELITY. Your past can't stop you. Taste the joy of best friend group marriage. Family life combined with exciting variety of lovers and camaraderie with platonic friends, plus larger tribal identity. Learn more about it. Write: Kerista Village, 543 Frederick Street, San Francisco, CA 94117 or phone (415) 566-6502 or (415) 665-2988.

OHIO AREA NETWORK I'm wondering if there are folks in the Ohio area who would like to form a BMI-oriented network (group discussions, correspondence, etc.). We would undoubtedly enjoy connecting. Long distance correspondence network also possible. Please contact NIDUS SYSTEMS, P.O. Box 724, Worthington, OH 43085 or call (614) 459-0981.

PERSONALS

PLEASE READ THIS IF YOU WANT US TO FORWARD YOUR LETTERS! A few people responding to coded ads do not put stamps on letters to be forwarded or do not enclose \$1.00 per letter. Make sure you have read the above instructions under "Answering Ads." Forwarding mail takes time—we are NOT going to do it for free!

CALIFORNIA Loving Beverly Hills professional couple seeking to form a living group with six other empowered people, age 30-50, to teach, learn and share, especially in exploring spirituality, parapsychology, holistic health, dreams, body energies, bodywork, and other growth areas. We would also appreciate contacts and networking with similar groups. Write 0901.

CALIFORNIA Stable, sane, Santa Monica couple, 30's, seeks bi-woman for fun and companionship. We enjoy good conversation, music, dance, films, plays, books and out-of-doors. Objective: long term intimate relationship. Write 1001.

CALIFORNIA Head, LA scientific company (52), poet, former editor, dynamic, whose sensitive and passionate nature is role-represented, wishes to belatedly fall in love with open, warm, attractive, empathic and perceptive woman (30-45), whatever circumstances. If outside LA, must be open and enthusiastic correspondent/conversationalist. Write 1101.

COLORADO Female seeks attractive, intelligent, energetic, fun-loving male (30-45) to share substantial part of life. Offers warm friendship, willingness to listen and share life experiences. Committed to open relationships lifestyle. Loves hot tubbing, dancing, massages, good discussion and music —also romantic moonlight strolls and evenings by fire. Write 1111.

COLORADO Coloradan recently returned from a year in Europe desires contact with female/couple/triad who seek intertwining with a piquant male life force. Do you enjoy, as I do, the marvelous amplification that comes through sharing of common interests with kindred spirits? How about cross-country skiing out the back door of our housekeeping cabin atop Grand Mesa in the moonlight to work off a fine evening meal? Exploring Lake Powell's side canyons too small for the power boaters? A superb shower after our campfire dies down in the crisp, clear summer nightfall of the San Juans, as the California Chardonnay goes around? Indoor great adventures with music, art, and each other can be intensified as well. What's your favorite? Dale Wilkins, 724 Sherman St., Denver, CO 80203, (303) 837-0121.

COLORADO Divorced Scorpio athletic male, 37, would like to expand intimate friendship network, locally and long distance. Sex is not a prerequisite to friendship. Into growth, philosophy and learning. I'm college educated, very human and full of positive energy. Interested persons please call ART, (303) 774-4596 or write 51 Washington #6, Denver, CO 80203.

COLORADO Educated, healthy, attractive, self-employed professional man in late forties seeks compatible woman as primary partner in permanent open marriage, preferably in intimate friendship with sincere loving couples or individuals. Two beautiful friends—a married couple in late thirties —wish to begin this intimate network; other outstanding couples and individuals are welcome to respond. Write 1102.

FLORIDA (Northeast) W/C in upper 40's, share BMI philosophy, seeking female 35 to 55 interested in exploring a relationship. Separate living quarters available on lake that allows swimming, fishing and sailing. Love of animals, reading, musician and education is desirable. Write 1103.

GEORGIA Attractive, curly-haired, successful scientist, 42, with liberal dashes of humor, romance and imagination, thoroughly enjoys his open marriage. Seeks sparkling single or married women, bright and physically responsive. Atlanta area preferred, other places possible. Write 1003.

ILLINOIS Couple, early 30's, two children, wish to meet couples or singles, any location, for lasting open relationship with intimate friendship and possible group marriage. Prefer health conscious, warm, intelligent, communicative, non-cigarette smoker. Wish to relocate onto land, build underground dwelling, alternative energy sources, and land based business(es). Location undecided. His interests include guitar, fishing, herbal medicine, small livestock, beekeeping, organic gardening. Her interests include holistic health, massage, therapeutic touch, reading, music, the outdoors, and communication with creative, positive energy type people. Would also like to join or form social/discussion group of persons committed to group marriage philosophy. Pat, P.O. Box 83, West Chicago, IL 60185.

ILLINOIS Beautiful bisexual couple (mid-40's) and ever-so-gently decadent, would love to cultivate young proteges, single men, women or couples, in close encounters of the best kind. We've so much love to give. Robert Keyes, 18227 Lawndale, Homewood, IL 60430.

ILLINOIS Slim, attractive, achievement oriented, sensitive, married professional man, age 43, good body, good mind, seeks sweet, intimate, non-possessive relationship with single or married female any age. Mutual respect, decency and egalitarianism are givens. Write 1104.

INDIANA Mid-50's male, tall, thin, successful, seeks compassionate, intelligent woman to share the joy of close, intimate friendship and companionship. Marital status unimportant, but discretion is. Prefer to get acquainted through correspondence before meeting. All replies answered. Central Indiana. Write 1005.

IOWA Married couple, active thirties, mix straight/alternative lifestyles, seeks other couples or women, similar interests (music, art, sciences, cooking), orientation (happy, favor open relations —Mahoney's definition, nonrepressed, nonauthoritarian, nonpossessive, politically liberal), habits (nondrinking, nonsmoking, ecological). Also seeking alternative employment (technology, above interests, outdoors, relationships/social fields) with such coworkers, within 900 miles by summer. Write 1105.

MARYLAND Attractive, educated SWM, 29, seeking female friend/correspondent (20's-40's), any location. Enjoy the outdoors, hiking, canoeing, nude sunning/swimming; folk, classical music and the arts; favor healthy lifestyle—no smoking or drugs; respect intelligence, equality, may relocate. Write Glen, 1007.

MEXICO Mexican young man living in Mexico City, 26 years, wants to correspond and eventually meet an attractive, joyful girl/woman to begin a relationship as friends/lovers. Race, religion unimportant as long as she is sensitive and understanding, independent with a sensual nature and nice figure. Age 20-45, tall or short. I'm 5'5", slim, brown eyes, black hair; parttime student (music), single. Interested in politics, art, moviegoing, sight-seeing, walking beside a special woman to share with my feelings, my good times. I'm shy and quiet but with the right woman I'm caring, romantic. I'm searching for that special woman to help me clarify my goals in life and share with her the simple things of life and offer her my affection. Mr. J.T. Chávez, Apdo. Postal 9-170, Mexico 30, D.F. MEXICO. (editors' note: first class postage from U.S.A. to MEXICO is same as domestic rates.)

MINNESOTA Minneapolis area man, 39, seeks intimate friendship with non-smoking, liberal, affectionate woman. A successful writer/video producer. Gentle, affectionate, considerate, sharing, attractive. Enjoy jazz, psychology, philosophy, photography, history, good conversation, loving. Also welcome correspondence on BMI-related subjects from anyone (M/F, any orientation) in or near Twin Cities. Tom, P.O. Box 240368, Minneapolis, MN 55424.

NEVADA Single; attractive; blue eyed blond male. Age 55. Soft spoken, down to earth country type personality. Enjoy the beauty of our earth, animals; C & W. Any BMI mother earth mini-ranchers out there? Septenarian birth 7:10 a.m.--6-18-26 --Milwaukee, WI. Personally experienced the cosmos, music of spheres. Understand the seven rounds of seven worlds, paranormal; Sceptre, birthright. Our fireside chats could be very illuminative. I listen, learn. Formerly self-employed travel Corp. Any BMI R.V.-ers out there? (1) traveling, (2) spotting, (3) living. Retired poor the year of '75. Darn-it, just have to get out of this API. To a vacation of dutiful exercise. Wish to donate short term free work service within the BMI grid. I am self supporting, exception, a roof away from home. Under the BMI classified advertising policy; and personal contents: any/all replies welcome. West Coast states(or). Write 1106.

NEW JERSEY Northern suburbanite couple: She tall, Swedish, forties. He tall, blue eyed, screen tested, fifties, non-smokers, light drinkers. Would enhance esthetic propensities via BMI guidelines. Unswerving discretion to responding couples. Write 1107.

NEW JERSEY Central New Jersey area male, 54, is interested in establishing female friendships. I especially enjoy art, movies, photography, investing, gardening, cooking, wine, and intimate companionship. Seeing old movies and visiting NYC art galleries are especially interesting. Write 1008.

NORTH CAROLINA Married couple; trim, active 40's. Curious, sensuous. Like books, talk and gentle exploration. Don't believe in throw-away people or relationships. Desire intimate friendships, correspondence with BMI-type couples. Let's expand our sensual universe. Carolinas. Write 1108.

OHIO Responsible, forgiving, intelligent Christian couple (27 & 24), with preschooler, seek nutrition-minded female lifemate to share total country lifestyle. Offering home, family, security, happiness, friendship, love, and companionship. We enjoy reading, crafts, humor, exercise, honesty, children, gardening, animals, good health, and life in general. Long letter and photo appreciated. Brad & Becky, PO Box 35, Dunbridge, OH 43551.

OHIO Have land--need people with open minds, free spirits, a sense of humor, honesty and energy for the hard work of creating a rural, self-sufficient community and an extended family, based on open relationships and maybe a group marriage. We are a farm family of 5 with 75 beautiful, secluded acres --25 tillable, the rest in woods, hills & pasture, on a river. We prefer non-smokers with children, but will consider any compatible, creative person. Write M. Winegarner, 1402 Fox Rd., Sandusky, OH 44870. P.S. Want to start a BMI type group for Ohio, Indiana & Michigan area.

PENNSYLVANIA Shall we call it free love or group marriage? Couple in late-20's seeking couple to share friendship, romance and love. Let's start slow, go far exploring the possibilities of tetra-sexual solidarity. Keith Wright, 236 Meyran, Pittsburgh, PA 15213.

TEXAS Couple wishes to form a suburban commune on our several acres near Houston, and would like to meet others who relate to "Beyond Monogamy." We are humanists. Write 1109.

TEXAS Bisexual woman, 48, bright, cheerful, outgoing, full of energy, love to talk, walk, play, want to meet others for conversation, dining, travel, friendships and lovers. Dorothy, Houston, TX. Write 0813.

WISCONSIN Madison area male, Pisces, born 1935, seeks intimate friendship with bright, affectionate Scorpio, Capricorn, or Taurus female; especially if born 1927, 1931, 1939, 1943, 1951, or 1955. Enjoy politics, history, talking, reading, writing, loving; spiritual, shy, gentle, introspective. Send introductory letter, photo(s), phone number. Every reply answered. Write 1110.

SERVICES AND PRODUCTS

MESSAGE POST newsletter: portable dwellings, low-cost light-weight furnishings, imaginative living. Plans, reports, contacts. Thrice yearly. \$2. P.O.B. 190-BM, Philonth, OR 97370.

BEYOND MONOGABOOKS BY MAIL!

The following books may be ordered directly from Beyond Monogamy, Inc:

NON-FICTION

Adultery and Other Private Matters, L. Myro & H. Leggett. \$15.95(cl). An examination of the need for a "private compartment" in marriage: private time for each spouse to engage in any outside activity which is morally acceptable to him/her as an individual.

Alternative Relationships Songbook, D. Levin. \$2.50. Music, guitar chords and words for "Three in Love" (subject: triads), "Community" (subject: expanded families), "A Second Love" (subject: open relationships) and "I Never Knew" (subject: female bisexuality). Written by a BMI member.

Barry and Alice, B. Kohn & A. Matusow. \$10.95(cl). A very personal account of a couple who come to terms with an open, bisexual marriage after several years of traditional monogamy. Includes valuable insights into sexual fidelity, jealousy, aloneness and fighting.

Breaking the Bonds, W.A. Watson & F. Whitlock. \$4.95. 100 people (including BMI members) share the realities of their open-relationship lifestyles. They discuss jealousy, finding partners, ground rules, dealing with relatives and children, how to open and close a relationship, and more.

Brief Encounters, E. Coleman & B. Edwards. \$5.95. Advice for making the most of short-term friendships, love affairs and chance meetings in today's highly mobile society. Also discusses formation of supportive friendship networks and techniques for improving long-term relationships.

Intimate Friendships, J. Ramey. \$4.95. An examination of intimate relationship options for singles and couples; parents and non-parents; heterosexuals, bisexuals and homosexuals. Topics include personal growth, commitment, ground rules, gender equality, sexuality and intimate networks.

Jealousy, G. Clanton & L. Smith, eds. \$4.95. Collection of articles on experiencing jealousy, internal mechanisms of jealousy, effects of culture on jealousy and management of jealousy to lessen its negative impacts. Useful for people in conventional as well as non-monogamous relationships.

Marriage and Alternatives, R. Libby & R. Whitehurst, eds. \$11.95. The best, most up-to-date alternative relationships anthology. Includes 27 articles on creative singlehood, co-habitation, infidelity, open marriage, swinging, group marriage, bisexuality, parenting issues, ground rules, and jealousy.

More Than Just a Friend, T. McGinnis. \$9.95(cl). A study of the positive and negative aspects of extramarital affairs. Written by a veteran marriage and family therapist and based on his experiences counseling people who were coping with their own or their spouse's affairs.

The New Intimacy, R. Mazur. \$3.50. A positive evaluation of open-ended marriage, a relationship in which partners "enjoy intimacy, sensuality and sometimes sex with other friends." Topics include gender equality, lifestyle options, divorce, jealousy and coping with monogamous society.

Oneida, M. Carden. \$5.95. A history of upstate New York's Oneida community/corporation. The first half of this book examines the community's fascinating group marriage experiment which flourished from the 1840's until 1879 under the charismatic leadership of John Humphrey Noyes.

Options, M. Seligson. \$1.95. A somewhat biased examination of three non-monogamous couples, two triads and a four-person group marriage. Three of these relationships are good role models for people interested in non-monogamy. The others show pitfalls of open relationships for some people.

DENVER-BOULDER BMI ACTIVITY SCHEDULE - APRIL 1982

SUNDAY NIGHT BMI GATHERINGS IN DENVER (special thanks to Allen Hagood for putting this together!):

March 28, An Evening of Wine Tasting. 7:30-9:30 PM (door opens at 7), 1564 Marion St. (13 blks E of Broadway, 3/4 blk N of Colfax. Use parking lot across the street at southwest corner of 16th and Marion). Admission: \$5.00-members; \$6.00-others covers wine as well as normal cost of meeting place. Do not bring your own wine! Longtime BMI member and wine dilettante, Chris Mohr, will raid his cellar to provide a variety of delicious wines, along with tips on how to buy wine. Bring cheese or apples and crackers to share; Chris will bring the rest.

April 4, Mate Sculpting--Envisioning Your Ideal Lover. 7:30-9:30 PM, 1564 Marion St. (see 3/28 directions). Admission: \$2.00-members; \$3.00 others (bring a package of frozen snacks or beverage to share). Dr. Bryan Brook, well-known I.V. personality and therapist, will guide us in sharpening our perceptions of what we really want in intimates. The techniques can be used in defining preferences in other types of relationships too.

April 11, Hot Tubbing. 7:30-10:30 PM, 3185 S. Dahlia St. (corner of E. Eastman Ave., 8 blks east of S. Colorado Blvd., 3 blks north of E. Hampden Ave. (US 285) in southeast Denver). Admission: \$4.00-members; \$6.00-others (bring your own drink). The evening's activities include optional participation in hot tubbing, sauna and/or massage in a warm suburban home. Please bring your own towel, bathrobe and slippers. PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING GROUND RULES BEFORE COMING TO THE PARTY:

1. Gender balance required. If you are not coming with someone of the opposite gender call Will Mahoney (399-3326) who will take reservations for an equal number of individual men & women. Do not come alone or in a non-gender balanced group unless you have made prior arrangements with Will. It is our experience that without this requirement many more men than women will show up.
 2. Though it is not required for male/female couples, we request that you call Will to let him know you are coming. If we don't get at least 20 reservations, the party will be cancelled.
 3. No tobacco smoking in the house, hot tub or sauna. Illegal smoking and snorting materials are prohibited anywhere at the party.
 4. Clothing and bathing suits optional. etc.
 5. Public sexual activity prohibited. Hugging, kissing, among friends and lovers is encouraged, but be considerate of other peoples' feelings and personal space if you do not know them.
 6. Drunkenness and obnoxious behavior will not be tolerated.
 7. Ground rule violators will be told to stop what they're doing or leave.
- If this party is a success, we may try more hot tub parties in the future.

April 18, Which Comes First, the Egg or the Sperm? 7:30-9:30 PM, 1564 Marion St. (see 3/28 directions above). Admission: \$2-members; \$3-others (bring beer or other beverage to share; BMI will provide hot, buttered popcorn). Susan Wells (and possibly Harold Fields) help us find meaning in the language of sex. Susan will also take us on an illustrated voyage of the human sexual response.

April 25, Beyond Monogamy Reexamined. 7:30-9:30 PM, University of Colorado Medical Center (Denver) (Use main entrance to Medical School on north side of East 8th Ave., 1 1/2 blks east of Colorado Blvd. Follow signs to room 2836, the second floor lecture hall.) Admission: \$2-members; \$4-others (at the door or through Denver Free University). Since 1977, hundreds have attended one of our DFU open relationships seminars or classes. How have they fared in their attempts at non-traditional intimacy? Why have some sexually and emotionally open relationships failed while others have succeeded? Will Mahoney and other members of BMI will give short presentations (call Will at 399-3326, if you would like to be a presenter) followed by group discussions.

May 2, Grand Spring Wok-off. 7:30-9:30 PM, 1564 Marion St. (see 3/28 directions above). Admission: \$2-members; \$3-others. Share in preparing and feasting on an oriental meal. Bring your favorite selection of canned Chinese or fresh vegetables, nuts and meats that can be sliced and combined. Bring a regular or electric wok if you have one, and also a light wine or other beverage to share. BMI provides cooked rice.

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Men & Women's Bisexuality Forum, Monday, April 19, 7:30 PM, 2826 South Glencoe St. (from I-25 & Yale go 1 blk west on Yale and 1 blk south on Glencoe). Members-free; others-\$1 (bring snacks or non-alcoholic beverages to share). Are you bisexual or in a close relationship/friendship with someone who is? Is bisexuality an "issue" in your life right now? Come talk to others with similar concerns and interests in a supportive, non-threatening atmosphere.

Beyond Monogamy Mailing Party, Wednesday, April 21, 7:30 PM, 558 Steele St., Denver (8 blks west of Colorado Blvd., 8 1/2 blks south of Colfax). Members-free; others-\$1. Wine and beer provided by BMI. We will get the May issue of Beyond Monogamy ready for the mailman. Help is greatly appreciated!

Women & Bisexuality (women only). 7:00-9:30 PM, Sunday, May 2. 2826 South Glencoe St. (see 4/19 directions above). Members-\$2; others-\$4 (at the door or through Denver Free U.). A woman does not have to choose to be either a lesbian or a heterosexual! Let's explore the joys and problems of bisexuality in a non-threatening atmosphere with other women. Information: 399-3326 (Genie) or 692-0853 (Diane).

Boulder For information about the Boulder group, call Dennis at 443-3815. Boulder women's group-Elaine, 499-8180.

FICTION

Come Live My Life, R. Rimmer. \$2.25. The story of two couples who exchange partners, homes and families for a two week period each year. They have been brought together by a voluntary and experimental couple-matching service called LovXchange.

The Love Explosion, R. Rimmer. \$2.75. A man and woman with prudish spouses have an extra-marital affair and conspire to bring their families together at a West Indian resort. This results in intense conflict, but the prudish spouses eventually become sexually involved with each other.

Love Me Tomorrow, R. Rimmer. \$2.50. People cope with the energy shortages, high cost of living and runaway inflation of 1996 by living in Love Groups of up to four couples with open relationships. They belong to the Unilove Church which performs erotic ballets and tantric sex at its services.

The Premar Experiments, R. Rimmer. \$2.50. An expansion of the Harrod College idea to include vocational and minority students. Participants room with four different members of the opposite sex over a two to four year period. Like most of Rimmer's books, it includes an extensive bibliography.

Proposition 31, R. Rimmer. \$1.95. The adult members of two traditional middle class suburban families become sexually involved. After resolving the resulting conflicts, they form a four-person group marriage and lead a fight to legalize group marriage in California.

Stranger in a Strange Land, R. Heinlein. \$2.75. A science fiction classic about a Martian with super-human abilities who organizes a free-love subculture on earth. The later chapters contain interesting insights into jealousy, open relationships and group marriage.

cl: cloth; all other books are paperback

ORDER FORM IS ON THE BACK OF THIS SHEET

Note: We have written the publisher of Marriage and Morals by Bertrand Russell (reviewed in Beyond Monogamy this month). We hope to have it in stock by May.

Classified Advertising Policies -- Please read carefully!

Content: In addition to your message, you may include an address and/or phone number. Anonymous ads o.k. or list your first and/or last name(s). If concerned about confidentiality, place a coded ad--we forward letters to you (see coded ad rate below). We accept ads in the following categories:

Non-profit Organizations--ads from alternative relationships organizations publicizing classes, workshops, conferences, seeking members or promoting publications. People wanting to start new alternative relationship discussion groups, organizations or social clubs in their area may also advertise in this section. Ads from personal growth/human potential non-profit organizations which are supportive of alternative relationships are also welcome.

Personals--ads specifying an interest in alternative relationships (e.g. open relationships, intimate friendship networks, expanded families, group marriage or similar lifestyles). Ads from singles, couples or intimate groups; heterosexuals, bisexuals or homosexuals are welcome.

Services and Products--ads from individuals or businesses supportive of alternative relationships and offering relationship counseling, personal growth workshops, publications, etc.

Swingers' ads not accepted! We will not accept ads for individuals, organizations or businesses primarily interested in swinging (sexual mate-swapping and sex orgies). We will also not accept predominantly sexual ads. This is not a moral judgment--we merely want to provide an alternative to the many swingers' magazines already available.

Secret affairs. We know that a few people in existing relationships will run deceitful ads in order to meet others for "secret affairs." While we do not condone this practice, we cannot try to censor peoples' intentions.

Who may advertise: We only accept personal ads from BMI members and Beyond Monogamy subscribers.

Rates (per insertion):

Personals and Non-profit Organizations--\$3.00 (up to 40 words) and \$.05/word over 40 words.

Services and Products--\$5.00 (up to 40 words) and \$.10/word over 40 words.

Coded ads--\$1.00 extra per insertion. We will assign a number to your ad and forward mail to you unopened. People answering your ad will send us \$1 plus postage.

Deadline: First of the month preceding date of issue (e.g. May 1 for June-July issue)

Beyond Monogamy Classified Ad Form

Name(s) _____

Address (including ZIP code) _____

The following ad is to be placed under (check one) Personals Non-profit Organizations
Services and Products (type or print neatly exactly as you want the ad to appear):

Enclosed is \$ _____ for _____ insertions and \$ _____ for coding and forwarding (if applicable).

I/we hereby give my/our permission to print the above ad in Beyond Monogamy. I/we agree not to hold Beyond Monogamy, Inc. or its staff responsible for any actions which occur as a result of this ad.

Signature(s) _____

All ads must be paid for in advance. Mail to BMI, Box 6877, Denver, CO 80206.

GIFT SUBSCRIPTIONS TO BEYOND MONOGAMY

Give a friend or lover a gift that may enlighten, may shock, may amuse but will not be ignored! Give them a one-year subscription to *Beyond Monogamy!*

Send *Beyond Monogamy* gift subscriptions to:

Name(s) _____

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Address _____

City, state or _____

City, state or _____

province, zip _____

province, zip _____

Please make your remittance payable to Beyond Monogamy, Inc. (\$9.00 per subscription). We will include the following note: "You are receiving a one-year gift subscription to *Beyond Monogamy* from _____ (fill in your name)."

Send this form and your remittance to BMI, Box 6877, Denver, CO 80206.

BEYOND MONOGAMY BOOK ORDER FORM

(see back of this sheet for titles available)

Please print neatly!

Ship to _____

Address _____

City, state or _____

province, zip code _____

Quantity	Title and author	Price
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Open Relationships in Europe?

Dear Will,

Recently I leafed through a stack of BMI newsletters going back to the time I became a member. I joined BMI in the fall of '79, and at that time the newsletter consisted only of the monthly schedule. For a long time, the schedule was the most important part of the newsletter for me, even after you began to add articles. However, since I have moved away from Denver, the newsletter has had a change in purpose for me. Not being able to participate in an active support group like BMI, the articles now sustain a mental support. I want to compliment you on the enormous growth of Beyond Monogamy in the past year.

I know you are curious to learn about my findings on the other side of the pool. It takes time to get acquainted with the lifestyles in Germany.

I had an interesting telephone conversation with a German expert in sexology. He told me that, to his knowledge, no groups comparable to BMI exist in the Bundesrepublik (West Germany). Europe has long since outgrown the puritanical behaviors and attitudes still held by many in the U.S.A. Not having puritanism to resist, modulations in lifestyles have been easier to accept. Extremists like Anita Bryant and Jerry Falwell would never have any followers in Europe. In the U.S., a variety of subcultures have developed to counteract puritanism. BMI is a subculture because those of us who are involved with it feel uncomfortable and unaccepted by mainstream society. Depending on its growth, a particular subculture like BMI will either remain in the minority category or will be eventually accepted by the mainstream.

I would be very interested to know if there are any BMI subscribers who have lived or live in Germany and could fill me in on the situation here.

Emma
Frankfurt/Main
WEST GERMANY

Reply from Will: Emma's report is most interesting, and we look forward to further news from her. I would imagine that open relationships are very acceptable in West Germany, The Netherlands, Denmark and Sweden. At the same time, such a lifestyle would be very difficult to carry on in Eastern Europe due to lack of privacy, puritanical totalitarian governments and economic hardship. Because open relationships are based on gender equality, I doubt they would be very popular in Southern Europe (Portugal, Spain, Italy and Greece) where the double standard still reigns. Secret affairs for married men but not for married women have traditionally been acceptable in this region. Anyone with firsthand information care to comment?

Why is Beyond Monogamy Arriving Late?

Dear BMI:

A week ago, I wrote to tell you I had not yet received my January copy of Beyond Monogamy. I want you to know that it finally got here yesterday, January 30. I notice that it's been over a week since you've had the mailing party for the February issue. "Better late than never."

John
Michigan

Editors' reply: Jesus, we heard you people back East were having a tough winter, but we didn't realize the postal service was resorting to dog sleds to deliver the mail. The January issue was mailed on January 5. Subsequent issues have been mailed on about the 20th or 25th of the previous month. Until this year we had always mailed Beyond Monogamy first class. Now, we have a third class bulk mailing permit which enables us to mail it for 10.9¢ (at its present size, it would cost 37¢ by first class mail). We're sorry Beyond Monogamy is arriving late in the month for those of you living a long distance from Colorado. The alternative is a smaller publication which could be mailed first class for 20¢ or an increase in the subscription rate.

Bulk mail is not forwarded. Please be sure to immediately send us a change of address notice if you move.



"Listen, Barbara, couldn't we be a little more discreet about this open marriage thing?"

Flint Whitlock from Breaking the Bonds by Watson and Whitlock.

friend or lover rarely cleans the toilet bowl until you start living with them. The potential for conflict in an intimate multi-adult household is great--conflict over jealousy, money, house-keeping and just plain ole' personality clashes. Ideally, the house will be large enough for everyone to have some private space, but chances are there will be less privacy than in a two-adult household. Family members will need to take more people into consideration when doing anything that affects others. Decision making will be more difficult, more time consuming and consensus will be more difficult to reach when more people are involved in the process. These difficulties are not, however, insurmountable. Several generations ago, large extended families often lived together successfully. The only additional dynamic within an intimate multi-adult household is multiple sexual involvements. It seems reasonable to assume that people can learn to handle this new dynamic.

Group Marriage

According to Larry and Joan Constantine (Group Marriage, Macmillan Publishing Co., 1973), a group or multilateral marriage consists "of three or more partners, each of whom considers himself/herself to be married (or committed in a functionally analogous way) to more than one of the other partners." In an intimate multi-adult household, members have no or only one primary relationship within the group. In a group marriage, each person has two or more relationships that are considered primary though not necessarily equal. It is assumed that partners in a group marriage live together. However, I know of two couples who had what they called a group marriage for more than twenty-five years, but never lived together because of community and family pressure.

Of course, group marriage is not legal in most Western countries so partners have to make their own commitment or find a minister who will marry them in a church which recognizes group marriage (e.g., The Church of World Peace based in Denver and founded by BMI member Bill Conklin recognizes group marriage. Several of the church's ministers are willing to perform group marriages, but to my knowledge, have had no requests to do so during the five years of the church's existence.). Group marriages are also relatively rare. When the Constantines wrote their book ten years ago, they estimated that there were maybe one thousand group marriages in the entire United States.

Having more than one spouse is and has been relatively common outside of Western society. Usually it has taken the form of polygyny: one husband and several wives. Polyandrous marriage (one wife and several husbands) has been practiced in only a handful of societies. Group marriage of two or more wives and two or more husbands has never been the dominant family form in any society, present or past. The Constantines (op. cit.) found that this latter form of group marriage was significant in only two socie-

ties: the Toda tribe of Southern India and the Kaingang of the Brazilian jungles.

Over one hundred years ago, the Oneida Community of Upstate New York practiced a group marriage based upon an unusual interpretation of the Bible. In this community, some two hundred adults were all considered married to each other. (For more information, consult Oneida by M. L. Carden which may be purchased from BMI or refer to the review of this book in the February 1982 issue of Beyond Monogamy.)

Probably the best known contemporary North American group marriages are those comprised of members of San Francisco's Kerista Village. Several Kerista members appeared on "The Donahue Show" in 1980. They were bitterly attacked by angry midwestern housewives for their "immoral" lifestyle. Kerista members practice "polyfidelity": they restrict sexual intimacy to people within their group marriage. Their community is remarkably stable, having been around since the early 1970's.

The best source of information about contemporary group marriages is Group Marriage which unfortunately went out of print last year. In this book, Larry and Joan Constantine present results of an extensive study of twenty-six different three, four, five and six person group marriages. Group Marriage was reviewed and summarized in the November 1980 issue of Beyond Monogamy. (If you would like a xerox copy of that issue, send \$1.00 to BMI.)

Group marriage and intimate multi-adult households have similar advantages and disadvantages. I won't repeat them here.

Summary of the Open Relationships Typology

Recreational swinging, utopian swinging, "the bar scene," separate involvements, intimate friendship networks, expanded families, intimate multi-adult households, group marriages--which relationship style works better than the others? That really depends on the personalities and desires of the people involved. Many find recreational swinging or "the bar scene" easiest because the relationships involve minimal commitment. However, they also involve minimal intimacy, if you look at intimacy holistically and not just sexually. Many people who are interested in multiple intimacy want more than casual sexual encounters. For them, the question is how much commitment do they really want and how much can they realistically handle? For most of us, an intimate multi-adult household or group marriage may be too intense. For myself at present, I prefer an intimate friendship network which includes a small expanded family within it. At the same time, I greatly admire and envy those with workable intimate group living situations. Maybe someday ...

Enough of theory for awhile. Next month we will get into the "practice" portion of this series. Genie Whitaker will discuss the history of our open relationship. It will likely take at least two issues to cover it adequately.

A REVIEW OF MARRIAGE AND MORALS

by Will Mahoney

It may strike you as rather strange that I would review a book written 53 years ago. However, *Marriage and Morals* by British philosopher, Bertrand Russell, is one of the most important forerunners of the open relationships philosophy. Although earlier Western philosophers such as Voltaire questioned conventional sexual morality, it was Russell who evaluated it in light of twentieth century science and society.

Russell was born into a prominent English family and did time in "the big house" for his pacifist activities in World War I. He later won the Nobel prize for literature and was awarded the British Order of Merit. When he died in 1970 at the age of 98, he left behind a legacy of works on philosophy, science, mathematics, religion and society. Were he still alive today, Russell would probably occupy an honored spot near the top of the Moral Majority's "hit list."

It seems incredible that a book such as this was written way back in 1929. In reading *Marriage and Morals*, it is important to remember that some of the contents which seem rather trite to us today were extremely radical when they were written. But, Russell's underlying approach to the subject matter remains very relevant.

In general, Russell felt that "... advances in medicine and hygiene ... made changes in sexual ethics desirable both from a private and public point of view." He put current Western sexual ethics in perspective, tracing their evolution from prehistoric matrilineal societies, through early patriarchal societies and early Christianity to modern Christian society. He showed that the discovery of paternity led to subjugation of women in pre-Christian times. Although religions have had both pro-sexual and anti-sexual elements throughout history, the anti-sexual elements won out in Christianity. Russell felt that the need to keep women "virtuous" to insure paternity and the anti-sexual tone of Christianity were the dominant influences on early twentieth century sexual morality.

Russell built a good case to show that the anti-sexual element of Christianity was a "morbid aberration" which should be dismissed as foolish superstition. He attacked the unfairness of the subjugation of women and the double standard which allowed men to cavort with prostitutes. He showed that concerns about paternity were becoming less important because of increased effectiveness of contraception and an increased role of the state in providing for the education and protection of children.

The author proposed a new sexual morality based on scientific/medical advances, reason, situation ethics and the realities of modern society. He addressed a number of subjects falling within the purview of marriage and morals.

Of great interest to our readers is Russell's views on sexual monogamy. He felt that "... uninhibited civilized people, whether men or women, are generally polygamous in their in-

stincts." Should one restrain these instincts? According to Russell, "There can be no doubt that to close one's mind on marriage against all the approaches of love from elsewhere is to diminish receptivity and sympathy and the opportunities of valuable human contacts." The author did not advocate irresponsible promiscuity. He felt that "... sex intercourse apart from love has little value." However, Russell was less concerned about the nature and circumstances of peoples' sexual escapades than with children which might result from such encounters. Given the realities of society at that time, conception of children should be limited to married couples. He asserted that when a marriage is good and includes children "... the expectation ought to be that it will be lifelong, but not that it will exclude other sex relations."

Russell admitted that jealousy is a barrier to non-monogamy. He also felt that "... jealousy, though it is an instinctive emotion, is one which can be controlled if it is recognized as bad, and not supposed to be the expression of a just moral indignation ... In the system which I commend, men are freed, it is true from the duty of sexual conjugal fidelity, but they have in exchange the duty of controlling jealousy."

In addition to sexual monogamy, *Marriage and Morals* contains Russell's thoughts on other subjects which must have infuriated conventional moralists of his day (and the more conservative moralists of our day, for that matter). He was opposed to laws regulating prostitution, homosexuality and erotic literature. Children should be given accurate information about sexuality commensurate with their age and curiosity. Young people should not get married with intent to have children unless they have had previous sexual experience. Furthermore, marriage is unnecessary until and unless a couple has children.

I strongly urge reading *Marriage and Morals* as a background for the open relationships philosophy. For a philosophy book, it is short and very readable. Russell said things so well and so simply. Furthermore, his writing is very entertaining in places, especially his outrageously sarcastic attacks on conventional moralists. For example, "If ... the old morality is to be re-established ... the regrettable practice of going to dances without a chaperone must be sternly stamped out. It must be illegal for an unmarried woman under fifty to possess a motor-car, and perhaps it would be wise to subject all unmarried women once a month to medical examination by police doctors ..."

Parts of *Marriage and Morals* are outdated (What do you expect after 53 years?). Some of Russell's assertions would probably not stand up under empirical examination (e.g., elimination of paternity "... would tend to make a man's emotional life trivial and thin ..."). Still, *Marriage and Morals* has to be considered a classic among open relationships books which have a moderate approach to the subject.

Russell, Bertrand. *Marriage and Morals*. Liveright Publishing Co., 1970 ed. (\$5.95, pb).