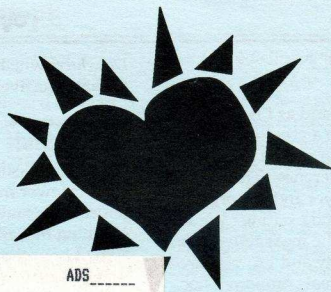


# LOVING MORE



A group marriage journal & network

Published by PEP

Issue 28

RCCI \_\_\_\_\_ ADS \_\_\_\_\_  
DGTNN \_\_\_\_\_  
DGTPS \_\_\_\_\_  
DGTREP \_\_\_\_\_  
REQ \_\_\_\_\_ ALL \_\_\_\_\_

Autumn 1991

## Sexual Addiction

BY RYAM NEARING

*"It is love's unequalled capacity to profoundly influence each of the three pleasure planes — arousal, satiation, and fantasy — that qualifies it as the piece de resistance among the addictions. While the human inclination toward intimate pairing affixes a territory within which mating can occur, it also holds the trigger to the most primitive impulses on earth." Milkman and Sunderwirth, *Craving For Ecstasy**

Sex is powerful. When I tell people I am part of a group marriage, there are some common misconceptions that arise immediately. They assume an open door, a full bed, and a constant orgy. No matter what I say about the basics of love, commitment, and trust in my daily family life, they just smile. "Sure, sure," they say, "but who do you sleep with tonight?" Somehow my having more than one sexual partner, starts a movie in their mind titled "Erotica Unleashed."

The numbers issue is a real highlight. You see, the rule book says "there is a limit of one to a customer," unless of course you discard your present partner first (or semi-simultaneously). The religious and moral overtones of "you're doing something wrong or sinful" make the fruit of multiplicity look even more luscious and tempting. As we talk, the look in people's eyes either implies envy or self-righteousness at my "getting away with something."

Sex is a root chakra, survival energy, creative force. In every culture it is a magnetic symbol, described in songs, stories, and visual arts. Businesses use it to sell their products because it works consistently and relentlessly. Sex is the justification for merging lives in marriage and taking lives through revenge murders.

Sex can relieve tension and be a healing energy experience. It can bind people together through deep and primal nonverbal and biochemical communication. Sex can bring about spiritual bliss. It is part of the essential core of selfhood for each person: a major part of their identity.

Unfortunately, as John Bradshaw states in his book, *Healing the Shame that Bindss*, "...perhaps no aspect of human activity has been as dysfunctionally shamed as much as our sexuality." I believe that this shaming is the source of the sleazy assumptions many people make about non-monogamy. And, for a small, misguided subset of people pursuing nonmonogamous relationships, this shame may be the root of their motivation in the lifestyle.

### Being Hooked

Addiction is a word so widely used it can lose its meaning. Here, it's used to describe "a pathological relationship to any mood altering experience that has life damaging consequences." (John Bradshaw) So, while sex plays a big role in almost every human's life, it

only becomes an addiction when that person's actions are compulsive and destructive.

Multiple sexual affairs, anonymous sexual contacts, and endless chains of serially monogamous partnering, can all be symptoms of sexual addiction. I've met people who compulsively have sex with almost anyone available, no matter the real personal attraction or future consequences. I've encountered many men who push for their female partner to have sex with another woman in their presence. Unfortunately it also frequently seemed quite clear that the woman involved wasn't personally bisexual, or running out her own fantasy, but rather codependently performing to keep her male partner satisfied. I've seen people whose never ending affairs have negative impact on their work lives, and others who in a time of AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases simply don't admit that their relentless one night stands might

— SEE ADDICTION ON PAGE 6

## inside

News Bits .....	2
Survey Stories .....	3
Jealousy and Trust .....	4
Welcome to the Nest .....	5
Letters from Readers .....	9
Book Review .....	11
The Network .....	12
More Resources .....	15

# Aloha!

Summer's ending and as I write this I'm looking forward to a great weekend with all of you who will be in Berkeley for this year's conference. This is our biggest gathering yet and the presentations are diverse and exciting. We've brought together the most active proponents of polyfidelity and I'm prepared to delight in the great company! Look for full details on the conference in the next issue of *Loving More*.

Ryam

## The American Dream in the 90's

Having a happy homelife was the top rated element of the American dream by respondents in a recent *Money* magazine poll. It even beat out being married and owning a home. Somebody has their values straight!

## Nympho's Daughters

In species from insects to mammals more and more evidence pours in that females, once thought to be so genetically wired toward monogamy, are actually decidedly multiple. Even among animals that were considered monogamous, studies now show females have sex outside their pair. And with animals that live in social groups, like some monkeys, females take off to mate with males from outside their band. Researcher Meredith F. Small of Cornell is writing a book called *Nympho's*

## Deadline for next issue is Nov 1

*Loving More* is a quarterly journal about polyfidelity. It describes direct experience and the ideas and theories which have developed from it. A Member & Resource Network is included in each issue. Return postage must accompany all submissions if they are to be returned, and no responsibility will be assumed for unsolicited materials. All rights in submissions, letters, and questions sent to PEP will be treated as unconditionally assigned for publication and copyright purposes and are subject to our unrestricted right to edit and comment editorially unless prior agreements are made in writing. Brief excerpts from *Loving More* may be used when accompanied by attribution showing our name and address. Please write for permission to use longer pieces. Ryam Nearing, Editor Layout: Gorilla Graphix Published by PEP, P. O. Box 6306, Captain Cook, HI 96704-6306 (808) 929-9691 © Copyright 1991

*Daughters* which describes female sexual assertiveness in mating behavior.

## Census Stuff

The 1990 Census, for what it's worth, reports fewer married couples heading households and households of smaller size than the last census in 1980. While 30% of households were "nonfamily," in which no two individuals are related by blood, marriage, or adoption, these were in most cases just one person households. Some were reported to be groups who did not have "traditional" family ties. More specifically, the US average for households of groups of unrelated adults is 4.6%, with Nevada having a high of 8% and New York with over 5%. The average people per household decreased from 2.75 in 1980 to 2.63 in 1990. How low can it go?

## A Band of Gold

Harper's index reports that 17 tons of gold are made into wedding rings in the United States each year.

## Strange Bedfellows

Mormon polygamists are starting to go public with their lifestyle. Since other groups with non-traditional lifestyles have gained some ground in legitimacy and tolerance, polygamists are also seeking a more open life. In places like Colorado City Arizona, polygamy has remained a way of life even though a century back the Mainstream Mormon church sold out its practice of plural marriage to gain statehood for Utah. Since the police are no longer actively prosecuting polygamists, more families have come out of the closet.

The American Civil Liberties Union is considering making legal recognition of polygamy part of its cause. The Utah State Supreme Court found that practicing polygamy in and of itself did not make a family ineligible for adoption. Estimates are that up to 50,000 people in the Rocky Mountain states live in fundamentalist Mormon polygamous families (one man with multiple wives and children). The men usually marry only the first wife legally, then cohabit with each of the following ones. This keeps

them from being charged with bigamy, and most states rarely prosecute for cohabitation and adultery, although the laws against these are still on the books in some places.

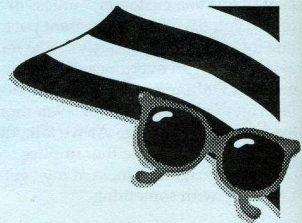
Despite some negative reports of cult-like practices of forcing young women into polygamous marriages, other women in the lifestyle report benefits such as more home support in having a career and raising children. "The women help each other." Many women have college degrees and professional careers. In areas where this lifestyle is common, the children report no problems with getting hassled at school. One family has an 11 bedroom house with a dining table big enough for the adults and their 19 kids. Another man in town has 80 children! (Did these folks fill out their census forms???)

## Getting Out the Word

The July-August issue of *Yoga Journal* includes responses from myself and Deborah Anapol of Intinet in it's Letters to the Editor. We both stressed the fact that working on spiritual goals is just as possible in group marriages as monogamous couples. Consider doing this yourself. If you read an article about relationships that leaves out the multiple option, write in and express it yourself. Reach out to those who may not realize that they have a real relationship choice beyond monogamy!

## "Future Sex"

...is a new book by Stephen Davis that describes sexuality in the new age: useful historical insights and reflections on monogamy, including personal experiences in multiplicity. Approximately half the book consists of channeling by Lyssa Royal. (Davis will be presenting at PEP's conference in Berkeley.) ♥



## SURVEY STORIES

Thanks to all of you who responded to PEP's 91 survey so far. Since this year's questions were designed to help you tell your story, the returns have included many interesting experiences and comments. Some of them are reprinted here.

### I DISCOVERED\* I WAS NONMONOGAMOUS WHEN...

I felt myself deeply loving two people at once and found that it felt so intensely involving and rewarding...I read *Stranger in A Strange Land* by Heinlein, at age 17...I read *Stranger in A Strange Land* at 15...I read *The Harrad Experiment* ...Descriptions of domestic arrangements in Heinlein's SF novels lead me to consider group marriage as preferable at an early age...I realized over and over, til it "took," that I am bisexual...I noticed that I was living with two women...I'd been happily monogamous for several years, but then met another person who I wanted to bring home and live with too. I didn't have a clue about how it could work, but I just felt that love was more important than social conventions and rigid thinking. Despite my anxiety, I started to bring up the idea. The results were escapades that B grade movies are full of. Laughter, tears, defenses, great insights, and rapid growth. It took real commitment to move through all the emotions each person encountered and still keep talking and stay friends. The magnitude of results in my life encouraged me to always believe in the power of love and keep a firm hold on it...I realized that I was in love with more than one person and that it was okay...I was working and living in a house with equal numbers of men and women, many trying to couple-up in a semi-competitive manner. That's when it hit me, why not just share our relationships as we do with material things and household chores?...I never thought of being monogamous...My first wife and I had a wonderful weekend with another couple, back in 1964, sharing everything. Ever since that weekend (sailing to Catalina), I've been trying to perpetuate that ambience...I was about 20 and my wife was 24...I felt that I could love more than one person without short-changing either one...The discovery came when I had sex with more than one partner. But I've known for at least a decade that I could

share intimate love with more than one other person, even before I put it into practice. (\*most people indicated it was a discovery not a decision)

### MY MAIN REASONS FOR BEING NONMONOGAMOUS ARE:

I can't see any good reason not to...Having a one person limit is stifling...Excitement!! ... I'm bisexual and don't want to choose female or male...A personal vision of a new way of life...I don't like jealousy or possessiveness and don't desire to limit my own or other's intimacy...I want a family life including more than just one other adult... Sexual and intellectual variety...More security and continuity of relationships with an enhanced sense of community...The practical reason is I have two partners...I want a family of more than two adults...There's more support and love available...Intensity, variety, and love...I love more than one person at a time...Inability to be monogamous... It's more fun in general...Fun, stimulation, and growth...It's fun and interesting to get to know people well, and having sex with more than one is also sometimes fun and interesting...Joy...I learn and grow more from relating on a deep emotionally intimate level with more than one person, and it feels natural frequently to have sexual relationships with those to whom I relate deeply.

### WHAT I WANT TO SHARE MOST ABOUT MY EXPERIENCE IN THE LIFESTYLE IS...

I feel much happier and more satisfied as a non-monogamous person. No more serial monogamy! I'm a female with a "husband," and I'm looking for a "wife," and it's okay!...The fact that it could be a viable option for millions of people, if the word got out and some loosely structured framework were available for learning and socializing... It's all really about personal and spiritual growth...It is possible and practical to have a group marriage, even though it's not easy. A polyfidelitous family is a great way to heal dysfunctional biological family issues, redoing the context, but this time no secrets, power trips, or abuse. Just more love and acceptance...It's not all strawberries and cream. It's a great way to live, but there are lots of difficult times and pitfalls and it's a LOT of work, with great payoffs. Those who are considering it should know about both sides of the story, not just the fantasies...For me, it's hard, and what's hardest of all is

that I have to live with the situation, whatever it is, day to day. I can't necessarily decide it's going to be some way and stop looking at the way it really is. It takes a lot of attention and willingness to stay in the present. It keeps me honest. And it teaches me about myself and relationships as though it were a post graduate crash-course study program. Oh, and it's fun...I've spent most of my time meeting other people who share this common interest, but whose differences in other areas, including reasons for being in this lifestyle, preclude making as many meaningful connections with others as singles are capable of effecting... I was initially attracted to the lifestyle partially for the wrong reasons. I honestly did have a fear of commitment because I had grown up in a family where love meant possessiveness, smothering and having someone trying to run your life and live their life through you. I didn't really realize, at least on an emotional level, that you could love without all those things, so my reaction was not to get too committed to (read stuck with, trapped by, entangled with) one person. One day I realized there was a problem in how I was approaching relationships. I went to see a very good therapist for a while. I was terrified I would be turned into a monogamist (sort of like being turned into a frog). But good therapy helps you become more who you truly are, so I guess if I'd turned into a monogamist that would have been OK, since that meant it was my natural inclination. But I didn't. I emerged a stronger, more whole, more healed, more self-assured person. I knew who I was, and I knew I could get close to someone without losing myself. I found I very much wanted real intimacy, emotional sharing, warmth, nurturance, honesty, and I still thought it would be great to have it with more than one person. My fear of long term commitment had disappeared, and it became much easier to tell who was really right for me and who would lead to a "disaster." Now my two relationships are thriving, and give me great joy...We would like to see all people who are interested in this kind of lifestyle able to communicate with each other without fear or prejudice...Be patient. If it's hard to find one partner be ready to wait in time X effort<sup>2</sup> the number of people to be included...It's how I stay awake and remember to share cake.

(Read more from the survey in the next issue of LMJ) ♥

## Jealousy, Trust, and Agreements in Group Marriage

BY MYCALL SUNANDA

Jealousy stabs the heart of most adults in couples and group marriages, faithful or not. The doubt in love arises when one sees or hears a lover or partner touching or even talking to another person, in the family or out. Why? Is jealousy natural or what?

Fear of jealousy seems more common than jealousy itself. Both keep couples attached and closed to outside affection and sex. They both prevent most adults from even considering group marriage. Is jealousy human nature or an anti-sexual cultural program to make and keep monogamous families under control by law, peer pressure, family ties, and fears of rejection.

I was in two group marriages in Oregon: the first in the mid 70's and the second in the mid 80's. Both revolved around natural healing, honesty, cooperation, and parenting. We had one child, and at the end two boys in Eugene who we coparented. Jealousy, the fear of not enough love, came up occasionally when we were afraid our lover was loving another and rejecting us. We were usually open about showing affection to anyone and it was easy for insecure souls to feel rejected, left out, and unloved. When I felt jealous or "needy" as we called it, it was a signal to do some self healing work: to release the fear reaction of separation from love, to love myself even if others were rejecting me.

Whenever I feel left out, needy or jealous, I stop, sit or lay down, and breathe deeply, continuously and consciously until the feeling passes, and I've released the fear or need and can be open again. Healing my jealousy by deep breathing, crying, talking, and primal screaming (a rebirthing process) dozens of times has helped me to love myself, and to forgive and openly love my partners now.

My jealousy reminded me of my Mom and Dad dancing, hugging or kissing,

which I hated. It excluded me and I felt rejected by their affection. It triggered me to feel needy for it, which I denied like most "good" boys and girls. I wanted Mom's exclusive love, all of her, never got it and hated reminders of the lack. Could this family rejection reaction be the source of most of our jealousy of lovers? Of our feelings of being ignored or not loved enough?

My jealousy lets me stay in bed rebirthing until I'm clear again. It transforms my attitude from needy fear to honest love. But owning that I cause my jealousy and need to release it totally is hard if I deny the deep emotional charge and past causes. Now I don't feel jealous because I don't expect more than what is coming here and now, and I love myself enough to fill the need I ask for.

Jealousy, when we fear or hate our lover going to bed (sex?) with another, can stem from being rejected from our parent's bed. The family-bed of open intimacy is natural in India and traditionally many tribal families slept together, playing there. I wasn't let into my parent's bed except a minute or so for fun, or if I was sick and my Dad was gone. Bed was a secret (or shameful?) place of adult mystery. So I confused sex (unseen) with the love that was totally missing in my childhood, except while in Nature.

Jealousy is expected, like the "hurt" of seeing parents sexing in bed or wherever. Both are illusions of co-dependent family and are based on attachment and the fear of rejection, banishment, and punishment. The trust we need to work through years of such fear and denial is a self healing work I call "reparenting our inner child of love." This work needs to be part of any deep family or group marriage now.

Jealousy seems "natural" to humans who are attached to partners, kids or friends in this private property and possessive culture, clinging to signs of love. Couples expect it and some mates will

test their lover by causing jealousy as a way to find out if "they care" or "want me." This is a co-dependent tactic to measure one's clinging, not bonding in real love. Proving that you love me by feeling jealous of my connection with others shows a manipulation to get a phony proof of love.

Most emotions are so deep in guts and origin, and are so repressed by most adults that reaching real agreements is rare because discussing these feelings is so mysterious. I've found in twenty years of family counseling that most couples and parents don't have agreements about emotions and how to heal or simply allow them. To many it seems safer to deny and forget. But that causes other conflicts and blocks to growing closer and more loving. Blocking bad feelings also blocks pleasure, ecstasy, and bliss: the natural results of relaxing, meditating, and loving. Jealousy, like envy, is a superficial emotion hiding the loss of love we had long before and our fear of rejection of our current needs. I find that real trusting agreements about emotional work is a miracle that supports healing of resistance by opening and letting go to learn what is real right now. Most conflicts and power struggles are really a lack of trust and agreements needed to cooperate in relating. But in our competitive culture, cooperating is rare and radical if deep.

Honesty about jealousy is better than stuffing it to be nice. But to solve it, we must go under, behind and before the reaction to learn its cause and to prevent it from spoiling our relationship. Honesty reveals hurt, pain, fear, sadness, hate, lust, needs, and anything, even ESP, which most people resist with manners, consideration or independence. So to sit face-to-face to share our deepest self is necessary and often scary. What will come up?

We even test agreements and trust by failing to keep them. Then we need to admit this to change or to recommit. This takes a commitment to loving it all, good and bad. Jealousy is a challenge, a doubt in being loved and lovable in the way we expect it sexually or totally. If we don't share ourself openly and ▶

deeply, it is common to project that lack. Then we hold back our love or things we need to express to really get or let go of, like childhood hurts. No one can fix our jealousy by a promise to "not feel that way again." It is deeper than that and will return if repressed by being "sorry" for feeling jealous or causing it.

The rage or anger of jealousy is like a tantrum of a child wanting to get their way. Their "being hurt" is a disappointment of an expectation to be loved more than it is now. "How could you do this (hurt) to me??" is a helpless victim or blaming or self-pitying stance. Both the introverted hurt and sadness and the extroverted anger and rage of jealousy are a scarcity of love. Not trusting there is enough affection to go around to fill needs. Jealousy victims even strive to make the "offender" feel guilty for loving others.

Natural coupling takes trusting that my and my partner's agreements are keeping us together or that we'll negotiate new agreements on space. It takes me dozens to hundreds of agreements depending on how much work and play, open and deep we are together sharing our creative energy. So verbal contracts or trusting agreements are the core of any bonding. But counselors are often needed to just allow free expression. Agreements to share all emotions are essential to continue growing in love at home. ♥

## Welcome to the Nest

BY MARCIA MORRISON

When I first met Family Tree it was like going on a blind date with thirty people. My first contact was by phone. I had never met anyone in the group. At the next event, a museum trip, I showed up in the lobby of the Museum of Science and waited. My fears that I wouldn't recognize the group were groundless, they were the ones who were all busy hugging each other. I watched the way these people greeted each other and knew at once that I wanted to be part of that group. To join officially one must be sponsored by several other members, which means

showing up to enough events that people get to know you. I became a regular player at the D & D evenings. I laughed; I made new friends; I slowly grew closer to some in the group.

There was a wonderful warm feeling of acceptance and general fondness, but still no romance. The "dungeon master" and I began flirting mildly, then some months later he gave me a ride home after the game. Well, one thing led to another, and it was wonderful! When we tried to arrange another date, the next time we both were free was a month and a half away, so the courtship took a while to get off the ground. Things have steadily deepened between us since then, and it has been one of the best relationships of my life.

Is there a catch? Well, this is the world of alternative lifestyles and plural relationships. He's married, firmly and committedly for the past twenty years. And he has two other lovers he's committed to maintaining his relationship with. (And those lovers have spouses or lovers, and so forth.) Basically, he is part of an intimate network, a family, of about half a dozen people. A great deal of his time is spoken for. Many people, including those of us involved, are mystified as to how he manages to keep so many relationships going, but it does work. The biggest logistical problem has been time. The biggest emotional problem has been jealousy.

The other three women are all good people with whom I have quite a bit in common (besides him, I mean). We got to know each other socially before romance hit and stirred things up. And we had the best possible situation. Here is a group of people who are all explicitly committed to the idea of plural relationships and have been dealing with the issues between themselves for some years already.

And yet philosophy isn't real life. When romance bloomed for me, all three of the other women felt uneasy and struggled with jealousy. Every one of them worried about losing some of their own time with him, or maybe being "bumped" entirely. There is also a phenomenon described as the "last sweetie" theory. This is the (usually un-

conscious) assumption by the most recent person that she was what the beloved was looking for all along, and now that he's found her, there will be no more new relationships.

If there is a new relationship farther down the line, then (according to this theory) she wasn't what the other person was looking for after all, and great uneasiness follows. Also wailing, sulking, tears and gnashing of teeth, depending on the temperament of the people involved. In times of change all our unconscious assumptions rise to the surface, and make a mess of what our rational self has arranged so neatly.

Even proceeding with all the tact I could muster, there was no way I could make all these other women feel at ease with me or about the situation. Even in the best of all circumstances, people have fears and turbulent emotions and jealousy. In the long run the best cure was getting to know each other better. Working on closer friendships, even though it felt like an uphill course sometimes, helped lessen the fears. I think the biggest difference between monogamists and pluralists is not whether or not there is jealousy, but what the stated ideal is and what constitutes acceptable behavior. The stated goal in this case was harmony and acceptance. Politeness towards each other was expected even in the middle of confused emotions. So we work to approach that, and gradually draw nearer. In the ordinary world, the confused, undefined state in the middle is pushed by prevailing norms towards separation and hostility.

For me, the richness of all these interwoven relationships is so special I don't have the right words to describe it. I have the new, one-to-one love, but I also have all these other friendships or, more properly, kinship relationships that I would never have gained otherwise. I enjoy the time alone with my lover, but I also enjoy "family time" when the larger group is together. One evening in the middle of the usual zoo, people all around us, running in and out, talking, eating, hugging, he put his arms around me and said, "Welcome to the nest." It feels good; it feels like love. It feels like being home. ♥

## ADDICTION CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

be risky to their health and that of their loved ones.

Some people keep their sexual addiction hidden. They simply live double lives. They control and confine their addictive behaviors, bingeing only with certain people, in specific parts of their city, or in the privacy of their home. Other types flaunt their sexual obsession, at least among some circles, presenting themselves as truly liberated and free of hang-ups. Their sexual addiction may be difficult to recognize. Culturally, being a playboy type is frequently seen as a positive attribute, admired by those who aren't jealous of it. Scoring is applauded and seen as a victory of sorts. Body count is the goal and quantity is superficially more easy to demonstrate than the quality and intimacy in relationships.

In sex addiction, there is a clearly unhealthy element to the behaviors. The person feels out of control or looks out of control to those close to him/her. Love affairs end disastrously with the person moving immediately on to new pointless liaisons as a sort of quick "fix." Filling in the gap with another relationship (or several) is compulsively seen as the goal. An addicted person takes unintelligent risks in areas such as birth control, disease prevention, and simple personal safety. S/he ends up dealing with unwanted pregnancies, abortions, diseases, and other injuries. For some it can go to the extreme of masturbating to the point of self-injury, or hanging out in high risk areas and ending up in brawls or getting raped.

Since sexual contacts are the major focus, the person may not attend to significant commitments at work or home, instead taking off long lunches from the office or not returning home until 4 a.m. Work, school, family and friends are all given second rate attention. The addict may feel alternately drawn to and repelled by their sexual activities, and see themselves as unique, and their needs different from others. And they may actually experience acute physical symptoms, withdrawal, when they stop having sex.

## Chemistry

Sexual addiction has a purely physiological element. Milkman and Sundewirth in their book *Craving for Ecstasy: The Consciousness and Chemistry of Escape*, describe how orgasm is a function of the brain more so than the genitals. The ecstasy of sexual activity and orgasm involves endorphins which are known to produce euphoric effects. In *The Chemistry of Love*, Michael Liebowitz notes that the peptide PEA has a molecular structure similar to amphetamines. This peptide is involved in romantic attraction and early courtship, inducing highly aroused states. People in recovery from sexual addiction report sex as an extremely difficult "drug" to withdraw from.

Sexual addiction can be identified most clearly by its patterns and results. Frequently those addicted use sex obsessively to control and defuse the pain in their lives. The relationships involved are exploitative, with the other person seen and used as an object towards this desired end. Even over time their relationships do not increase in intimacy or emotional warmth. They are instead patterned "fixes" which are compulsively repeated to soothe and diffuse the emotional pain of the addict.

The culture as a whole encourages addiction, as evidenced by the enormous numbers and types of behaviors which are engaged in compulsively. Patrick J. Carnes, in his book *Don't Call It Love: Recovery from Sexual Addiction*, lists elements which "allow addiction to thrive." These include an orientation towards "convenience and easy solutions in satisfying needs; sophisticated technology that will solve any problem miraculously; entertainment and escapism instead of value and meaning in life; constant change which makes it difficult to choose and hold onto important values; disrupted family life where divorce, both spouses working, and latch key children make abandonment a key issue in everyone's life; loss of community and social isolation; a high stress culture where everyone is chronically overextended or simply struggling to survive; a general denial of reasonable limits and recognition of reality; and a multiply addicted society which

passes on these addiction to its children and where addiction is seen as the norm."

Coaddiction is when an addict's partner participates in the addictive process. To stay in the unhealthy relationship with an addict, a partner usually allows their own self esteem to be devastated. They participate in acts they are not comfortable with, allow treatment which they do not deserve, and make the addict's behaviors the focus of their own life. Obsessing on the actions of the addict takes them away from their own life and problems. They become used to the emotional ups and downs, juiced by the excitement of the constant crises in their lives. They may refuse sex to try to control the addict or go track him/her down at a lover's apartment and create a scene. They may cover up the addict's time away from work or home; become more sexually active to try to keep pace with their partner; threaten to end the relationship, but never follow through; take on personal responsibility for the addict's problem ("if only I were nicer, more attractive, sexier..."); or simply become self-righteous and blame the addict, sometimes even having homicidal thoughts. Sexually, they may shut down or have a revenge affair(s) of their own.

## Affairs

*"I believe that no interpersonal or pseudo-relationship addiction has anything to do with love. These addictions may have something to do with the illusion of love, and they have nothing to do with true loving and, in fact, are ways of avoiding love and intimacy."* Abbe Wilson Schaefer in *Escape from Intimacy*

The word affair implies an illicit, dishonest liaison: cheating, lying, or hiding the truth. People who are monogamous have affairs when they are bored, or going through transitional periods in their lives. A new child, a missed promotion, or a preoccupied spouse can all generate stresses and produce a person who is ready to and needs to "fall in love" again. Affairs are used to build up self esteem: "See I'm still attractive, desired, able to get laid."

Cheaters say they believe that by not ►

telling their partner about their affairs they are protecting them, keeping them from being hurt, but are really protecting themselves. They are afraid of the truth, afraid to face the results of their actions. They are looking for an escape from the lives they've created and use

ship. This person may have great fears, and resentments, but s/he will say "I'm open too." This is obviously just postponing a confrontation with reality. It also sabotages any relationships entered based on the misconception that everyone agrees about nonmonogamy.

been hidden. Bringing "secrets" out into the light is quite freeing and can create much deeper intimate bonding between people.

### Put Your Trust to the Test

**...Triad consultants of Daly City (private investigators) offer a 10 point checklist for potentially cuckolded spouses. The tips help you determine if your partner is cheating on you. Try this one: check to see if the seat belt in your car has been increased or decreased for someone else's size. Nothing like direct communication!**

**...The Infidelity Hotline out of Encino, California is a 900 number you can use for guidance from a private investigator with 31 years of experience in tracking down cheaters. He gives callers a "Suspicion Evaluation Quiz" to help them evaluate their concerns, but advises confronting the problem head on and forgiving and forgetting if possible.**

the new sex as a way to fill the emptiness they feel. Unfortunately, the intensity of experience doesn't equal intimacy.

Most people look at nonmonogamous lifestyles from this perspective of affairs. Relationships beyond one partner are seen as affairs with all these negative trappings, although it takes only a little discernment to distinguish between affairs and consciously choosing to have multiple relationships.

Affairs and addiction actually exist in stark contrast to conscious forms of nonmonogamy. The most important difference is personal choice and honesty. While affairs just "happen," true nonmonogamy is clearly and consciously chosen. A person who identifies as nonmonogamous can directly and comfortably verbalize her/his choice. This means that, for example with a couple, both parties can and do (in context, of course) express their agreement to be open. It also means that each person is freely and individually choosing the multiplicity.

Oftentimes one person in a couple will "go along with" their partner's desire to be open simply to stay in the relation-

Honesty in communicating about multiplicity is essential in distinguishing it from illicit affairs. All parties involved, each and every lover, must know the real score. Crucial information includes the primacy or secondariness of different relationships, who's having sex with whom (to stay away from secrets and also for disease control), and ongoing updates on how everyone involved is feeling about the inter-relationships. Without this information flow, lovers will make assumptions and act on them instead of reality. Deciding and choosing in a vacuum, without relevant data, means that it's easier for blame, shame and bad feelings to arise.

In every relationship, trust develops and is maintained by having basic agreements which are mutually satisfying and keeping these agreements. In multiple relating, where the complexity of relationships is increased, a sound base of trust is particularly necessary.

The lying and deception involved in affairs demolishes the trust between lovers. An honest multiple relationship can be the most trustworthy precisely because it includes directness and honesty about areas that have for so long

### Recovery and Healthy Relating

*"People tend to think sex addiction is about sex; it is not. It is about core feelings of loneliness and unworthiness. Many addicts, in fact, encounter their sexuality for the first time as part of recovery when they experience sex without shame." Patrick J Carnes in Don't Call It Love*

Sex addiction is just beginning to be recognized in this society in other than its most extreme forms. Just as people now recognize that alcoholism doesn't only include falling down drunks, problems with intimacy and sexual relationships that used to be overlooked are now being recognized. People who are not addicts can still learn about and change some of their own unhealthy patterns from the experiences of those with more dominating problems.

Those involved in multiple relationships have plenty of experience to reflect upon. Any interpersonal weakness that arises within a one-to-one relationship will be magnified in a more complex form of relating. Many people who thought they were getting involved in non-monogamy simply for more sex and intimate variety have discovered that just isn't enough. Healthy non-monogamy requires increased personal responsibility and adherence to high standards of personal and interpersonal truth. It also implies a desire to grow through the insights and changes that arise in the relationships. Flexibility and a strong love of learning are absolute musts for lasting-power in love.

People with extremely damaging sex addictions have recovered. Removing the shame based and compulsive attachments to sexual and relationship patterns is not easy, but is composed of fairly simple steps. First, many addicts choose a period of celibacy or absolute fidelity as a sexual "fast" to improve their interpersonal health. Instead of acting on their obsession, they simply face it and grow in their honest awareness of themselves. Learning to ►

release feelings of shame and to grow in self-love and acceptance are prerequisites to loving others fully. Attending to current feelings and sensations and taking on a more process oriented rather than goal oriented style brings them into the present and out of preoccupation. Honesty and sharing instead of holding back and vagueness increase opportunities for real intimacy. And finally, the main work is in developing a clear sense of self, so that sex, when, where and with whom, becomes a lov-

ing choice rather than something that simply "happens" again and again.

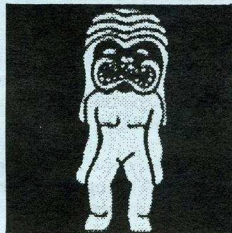
For many people, healing their addictions is most easily accomplished by using a set program (like 12 step groups) and finding a new social network that embraces the values they want in their life. This new group provides friendship and support and a place to practice healthy interpersonal skills and to grow together in intimacy.

### Healing at Home

With the vast numbers of individuals who have come from dysfunctional families (who hasn't?), no one can escape the need for healing. Injuries from childhood may be covered over with perpetually "happy childhood" stories, simply blanked out, or passed over with "Oh, it wasn't so bad. I lived, didn't I?"

While not everyone is a total addict, many people play along the edges. Not completely out of control, but every once in awhile or during a stressful period, their drinking, eating, or sexual preoccupation takes the driver's seat. Usually it's just a temporary binge, but even then the damages can be severe or the behaviors can feel confusing. "Why did I eat that, drink so much, sleep with him/her?"

The experience of addicts is graphically descriptive, and gives great insights to those willing to look. Everyone has something to gain in identifying and releasing unhealthy patterns in their life. People who embrace nonmonogamy can examine the healthy and perhaps unhealthy motivations that this choice is based on for them. Some may find that they seek multiple relations to avoid real intimacy, trying to "hide out in the crowd," some may see that their constant "on the make" behavior says more about their own emptiness than about their true intimacy appetite, and others may realize that they are actually monogamous, but have been trying to act open to stay in pace with a partner who they do not want to lose. Identifying the patterns is the first step in healing. The most important questions are always, "Are my sexual choices working in my life? Are they rewarding to me? Or am I just acting out old patterns that ultimately feel unsatisfying?" ♥



### Resources For Making a Change

**"Until we resolve our source relationships, we are never really in another relationship." Werner Erhard**

**These organizations vary in style and values. Some hold men's groups and women's groups separately, others hold mixed meetings. Meeting places may be confidential or openly advertised. Requirements for membership usually include a "desire to stop compulsive sexual behavior." The definition of sobriety in the various groups ranges from "no sex unless married" (Sexaholics Anonymous) to bottom lines of "committed, intimate, nurturing, unashamed sex with no victimizing, secrets, or anonymous contacts." Co-addicts are welcome at some meetings for addicts; they are considered equals. In other groups, co-addicts are not able to participate and must join other organizations specifically designed for them. All these groups respond promptly to inquiries and have great resources to share. Check them out if you or a loved one needs some support.**

**Codependents of Sex Addicts, POB 14537, Minneapolis, MN 55414, (612) 537-6904.**

**Institute for Behavioral Medicine, 4101 Golden Valley Rd, Golden Valley, MN 55422, (800) 321-2273. (educational materials: books, tapes, and pamphlets on the subject)**

**The National Council on Sexual Addiction, POB 3006, Boulder, CO 80307, (303) 494-5550. (lots of information and other resources)**

**National Service Organization of S.A.A. (Sex Addicts Anonymous), POB 3038, Minneapolis, MN 55403, (612) 339-0217.**

**Recovering Couples Anonymous, POB 27617, Golden Valley, MN 55422 (holding their first annual conference this year)**

**S-Anon International Family Groups, POB 5117, Sherman Oaks, CA 91413, (818) 990-6910. (for Co-addicts)**

**Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous (SLAA), POB 119, New Town Branch, Boston, MA 02258. (a very loving approach to recovery)**



# Letters

## More on Family Registration

Dear PEP, It was with some trepidation that I sent off for a sample copy of *Loving More*. I half expected to receive some swinger's publication devoted to group sex, but I was delighted to find a respectable journal giving serious consideration to the subject of family life.

In response to your article about California's official government registry, I would make this observation: Article 4, Section 1 of the US constitution asserts "full faith and credit shall be given in each state to the public acts, records, and judicial proceedings of every other state." This might imply that other states are obliged to recognize California's registration of your family status, just as they are obliged to recognize a marriage certificate or a driver's license. I am not a lawyer, however, so do not take my word for this. —WYOMING

## Resource for Bisexuals

Dear PEP, Here's another excellent resource on Bisexuality from Alyson press, 1991: *Bi Any Other Name*. I appreciate your resource lists! —GEORGIA

## Getting the Word Out

Dear PEP, I have a few suggestions for PEP. We need more exposure to others not familiar with polyfidelity. What if everyone chipped in for a special advertising fund. PEP puts a small ad in hundreds of papers nationwide, then supplies respondents with information. This might increase our membership base. What about contacting dating services with information about polyfidelity? Maybe literature for their members or articles in their publications? Have you considered donating your primer to college and local libraries? —CALIFORNIA

*Aloha, Thanks for your suggestions.*

*Reaching out to new people and promoting polyfidelity in general is a major part of PEP's purpose. We run ads in many national magazines, including Mother Jones, Yoga Journal, New Age, Tantra...we try what we can afford. In addition, we focus on networking with other organizations and*

*publications, sharing through press releases, articles, and letters to the editor. Person to person communication is particularly powerful, so we meet and talk to people involved in all kinds of groups in a constant exchange of energies to get the word out.*

*PEP is always open to members helping us with our advertising. You can send us names and addresses of publications you think would be good places to run our ads; you can sponsor a particular ad in your local paper (either through our office or through your local group); you can contribute money to PEP specifically for a certain ad's placement or for more advertising in general. We all appreciate and benefit from this kind of input and sharing of energy.*

*If you have a local group going, PEP can help you with suggestions and support as well as ads, flyers, and our info packets. We can also supply bulk orders of our publications at reduced costs to groups working to distribute information about polyfidelity or running discussion groups. Loving More Journal will put in an announcement for your local group and also list you in our resource section.*

*We send information about polyfidelity to groups involved with relationship services, counseling, or research in the hopes of increasing their awareness about our lifestyle. Our intent in giving materials to these organizations is to teach the teachers so the information will spread geometrically!*

*PEP has donated a number of copies of our books to libraries (as well as to other groups). In addition, last year a patron's grant allowed us to send the Polyfidelity Primer to many libraries in the Bay Area of California, as well as in Hawaii. If you'd like to donate a copy to your local, simply send in your order along with your library's address and we'll keep the information flowing together.*

## Christian Tolerance

Dear PEP, Let me congratulate PEP on the new look of *Loving More*, the new membership structure, and including the *Network* in each issue. I am renewing, but one thing bothers me about the articles, the letters, and the ads. They seem anti-religious, especially against Christians. I would hazard a guess that fundamental Christian polygamists out-

number Mormon polygamists and that together they far outnumber all the other polyfidelitous marriages in the USA and Canada combined. Yet in almost every issue there is at least one article putting down Christianity in one form or another. And the only religions mentioned in the *Network* section are Wiccan, New Age, Neo-Pagan, and metaphysics. As a Christian, a minister who is willing to perform "bondings," and someone who hopes and prays to add to my own family, I find this disturbing. —WASHINGTON

*Aloha! I'm glad you like the changes we've made with the newsletter this year, and thank you for your renewal which helps us pay for our publishing and outreach. I'm sorry you feel disturbed. As editor, it is my judgment that determines what is printed or not printed in PEP's publications. As a frequent author, I definitely state my views as clearly as possible. As a member of a polyfidelitous family who is very public about our lifestyle, I have encountered aggressive, negative responses only from Christians. Other groups or individuals who disagree with my family choice, simply leave us alone.*

*In live audiences, on radio phone-ins, or in print, fundamentalist Christians have consistently been the only group who choose to name-call and threaten us with damnation. They are the only ones who have monopolized the righteousness of God and railed against my family form as immoral (not just impractical). When I write about my experience I do share this fact.*

*Others who write for the newsletter seem to have had similar experiences. They describe them in their own stories. Most people in the network who list their spiritual or religious choices, as you noted, are not Christian (although some are). I think most, if they were inclined to look, would find it difficult to locate a Christian church that will accept love in the polyfidelitous form.*

*The majority of Christian religions I am aware of hold a perspective on sexuality that decidedly does not overlap much with that of someone who is polyfidelitous. Why even this summer, when the National Presbyterian Church Committee turned in a report that stated that it was basically okay for humans to have sex, it was rejected! ►*

*Instead, this Protestant church said that ideas like homosexual sex being as acceptable as heterosexual sex, celibacy not being the only moral choice for singles, and sex prior to marriage being moral when based on maturity and consent were wrong. And beyond that it said they were sins against God.*

*I do realize that some Christians base their participation in religions like this on Jesus' actual teachings. Since the main thrust of his work was to promote love and acceptance, it would seem that Christians would exemplify these characteristics. Unfortunately this is frequently not the case. In general, monotheists see their personal God, their personal mythology as the only way. Non-believers are seen as evil enemies.*

*I am very happy to hear that you are a Christian and you are interested in polyfidelity. Perhaps through your unique position you can be part of opening more hearts to love and acceptance of varying family forms and styles of loving. It is definitely PEP's desire to support each person's right to the spiritual view of her/his choice. At the same time, it is our duty to reject groups which deny our right to live as we choose.*

### Specific Definitions

Dear PEP, Karl Hess points out to libertarians that you can't have a voluntary market outside of the context of voluntary association. Therefore, if you truly want to promote a voluntary marketplace, you must first work to create a form of voluntary association. To assert that you want something to come about while failing to facilitate the necessary preconditions is to delude yourself.

My point is that this process applies equally well to polyfidelity. The world at large will never accept us; therefore if we truly desire the evolution of polyfidelitous relationships, we must work to create contexts in which they can flourish. You simply won't get the result without first achieving the context. There's a wonderfully relevant saying in baseball that points out that you can't steal first base.

The article *Ganas Update* in the spring issue of *Loving More*, was perhaps one of the most important pieces I've ever seen

in a PEP publication. Here's why: if someone wants to proceed in this direction, more provocation is pointless. What they need is practical guidance on how to proceed. The Ganas gang comes under the heading of "them what's doin'," a much too small fraternity. Their pathfinding activities can serve two very important functions. The first is to show hopefuls a possible path to achieve their objectives. The second service is to show people who may never have had a polyfidelitous thought that the concept is both desirable and possible. There is nothing so radical as a working model.

While the Ganas organization as a whole isn't polyfidelitous, there's no doubt that they have a polyfidelitous core, protected and enhanced by surrounding layers of supportive people. There's a very important principle here. While their scope may fall short of being "politically correct," at least they're getting on with a working system that's definitely heading in a good direction.

English lacks a word that describes Ganas, but other cultures are familiar with the form. The correct term is a keiretsu, often translated as "shaped like a wedding cake." Ganas is one, and so too is Windward, my home. Their description could well serve to describe us. The precise differences between the two groups, while fascinating to those of us involved hands-on, are perhaps too subtle to be of interest to casual readers, but the knowledge that there is an alternative concept that works is great news to anyone with the wits to realize that there has to be a better way. Where there's one answer, there can also be others.

You're probably wondering where the objection comes in. The Ganas author was considerate enough to present the caveat that Ganas was not perhaps the form of polyfidelity that your readers might have in mind; that was commendable. It's unfortunate that it was used as the occasion for an editorial cheap shot. The comment was witty and sharp, and out of place. An editorial insertion is appropriate in some rare cases, but here it served no purpose beyond exercising the editor's ego.

A group of people such as Ganas, or Windward, represent a long-term, sincere attempt to do what so many say can't be done. We need exposure, both to attract new spirits and to help expand the consciousness of alternative lifestyles, but that exposes us to a remarkable range of misinterpretations, and once it's in print, you spend time and credibility explaining that things aren't really that way, they're like this. It's amazing how hard it is for people to believe that something they've seen in print is less real than what they're actually told by the people involved. It's very scary to realize that no matter how hard we work to define ourselves, a careless editor can override us and dash our credibility. —WASHINGTON

*Aloha, I'm glad you found the Ganas article so significant, but I'm sorry you read so much into my editorial clarification in that article. Here is a repeat of the section of the article in question: "Many of us are either in monogamous or open couples. The rest engage in the whole range of social practices usual for single people. We are sometimes thought of as polyfidelitous, but probably don't qualify for the title. (Editor's note: They're right, they don't.)"*

*While this may seem like a "witty," "sharp," "editorial cheap shot" to you, to me it was simply agreeing with what the author herself indicated and emphasizing that the relationship styles described are not polyfidelitous. I feel as editor of a newsletter focused on polyfidelity, it is certainly important for me to see that the word is used accurately in this publication. My comment was simply intended to be as brief and direct as possible.*

*I think you and I agree that the Ganas community is a wonderful example of people living an alternative. This is precisely why I printed the article they wrote, and why I published one by them a couple years back. This is how I show my support for these pioneers. However, I feel I would be doing them a disservice if I did not clarify the fact that polyfidelity is a very specific form of group marriage, not a community of people who are monogamous, singles, and open couples as they describe themselves.*

*Perhaps you have noticed how often the ►*

definition of polyfidelity is included in this newsletter. If you read the Polyfidelity Primer you will find several pages complete with diagrams all intended to help people understand what the word polyfidelity means. Unfortunately, as a new word, many people use it incorrectly. A word has power only when it has specific meaning and is used accurately. If I use the word "cat" for every animal I see, it becomes much less useful for communicating than if I use it only for the specific animal that is actually a cat. In the same way, I will continue to correct the use of the word polyfidelity anytime I see it used inaccurately. No offense intended.

For those who'd like a review of the definition of the word polyfidelity: POLYFIDELITY: A specific form of equalitarian group marriage including more than 2 spouses; A group in which all partners are primary to all other partners as demonstrated by actions such as sharing a strong emotional bond, home space & resources, and making important life decisions together equally; As a marriage, sexual relationships exist between all partners in line with their sexual preference (i.e. in a heterosexual group every man and every woman would be lovers, in a lesbian group all the women would be lovers with each other woman, etc.); sexual fidelity is to the group; and all partners share an intent of a lifelong commitment together. (Please see pages 9-11 of the Polyfidelity Primer published by PEP for contrasts with other relationship forms.) ♥

## Two Book Reviews

### More than One

*A Home at the End of the World* by Michael Cunningham (published by Farrar Straus Girous, New York 1990)

Fiction which can echo or flesh out the subtleties and nuances of multi-adult bonding is rare. While this book begins with dysfunctional family life and compensatory friendships, it does spend part of its time describing and detailing life as a threesome.

Bobby and Jonathan begin as young friends who eventually explore their sexuality together. Their relationship is emotionally deep, and Jonathan, an orphan of sorts, becomes enmeshed in Bobby's bio-family life. After high school Jonathan goes off to NYC and a disconnected homosexual lifestyle. But he also creates a homelife with a woman, Clare, in a shared rental. They become emotionally intimate and talk of having a child together, despite their sexual preference differences.

Then Bobby shows up and takes his place amidst their twosome. As a group they consistently feel and function like "family." So Clare makes it with Bobby, who has been celibate for years, and produces the desired child. Despite their uncomfortability at their

unconventional dynamics, they all love each other and live together as a triad with a young child. They move from the city, endure parent's deaths, and start a business together.

Like most contemporary novels, the characters seem to spend little to no time working out their psychological problems or improving their interpersonal communication skills. I guess that'd be too much to ask. And basically, the story is none too perky or positive, but the three person relating comes across authentically enough to be pleasurable.

*Good Faith and Truthful Ignorance* by Alexandra Parma Cook and Noble David Cook (published by Duke University Press)

Through much historical research, the authors have pieced together the story of Francisco Noguero de Ulloa who fled Spain for the New World, in part to get away from an unhappy marriage. With communication so poor back in the 16th century, when he is misinformed that his first wife back home is dead, Francisco immediately weds a new wife. Upon arriving in Spain with this new wife, he's charged with bigamy by the King and gets embroiled in a giant legal battle. Eventually it takes the decree of Pope Paul IV to settle the matter. Imagine living in times like these, and be glad you're here now! ♥

*"Polyfidelity is a social institution that appeals to people whose nature is too gregarious to fit into nuclear family or loner lifestyles. It combines the trust and intimacy found in good traditional marriages with the variety and liveliness found in the open lifestyle. Although this choice has only come into its own in the past 20 years among a very limited population, it has features which may well make it a very popular lifestyle in years to come, as social and cultural evolution continue. Certainly it is a model that may be well suited to new endeavors such as colonizing the space frontier (sending out polyfidelitous clusters of best friends who function as both work groups and intimate families for long-term missions could bypass many of the problems associated with loneliness and sexual frustration such missions might otherwise encounter). More than its sci-fi applications, however, polyfidelity is a lifestyle that will appeal to sexually active singles who are tired of superficial sexual involvements (and worried about the risks of non-fidelitous affairs) on one hand, and unable to feel satisfied and fulfilled inside monogamy. The biggest single factor impeding its growth right now is ignorance. The vast majority of people have never even heard of the idea, and if they did hear of it, would assume it couldn't work due to jealousy, possessiveness, and other supposedly insurmountable obstacles within human nature. The fact that it does work is one of the best kept secrets around."* —Bluejay Way in RockHEAD

# Network

## To Answer a PEP Member Ad

1. Check for an address or phone number in the ad itself. Use it if it's included.

2. If the ad only has a number like this: #123, then write your response and put it in a stamped envelope.

3. Seal the envelope and write the ad number on the upper left hand corner of the envelope above where your return address would go. (We will address it for you and send it on.)

4. Now put this envelope and \$1 (for each letter) in a larger one which you address to PEP, POB 6306, Captain Cook, HI 96704-6306. Please include your return address on this envelope for safe mailing. That's it! Write someone today!

**ALASKA** Adventurous Alaskans seek partner(s). Rustic cabin life/Fairbanks area. We're Woodstock vintners, spiritual, not "religious"! Earthstewards/bioregional/Green. Stable, relating couple (Pices/Libra), family circle enriched/extended. Non-TV. Kids: (13, 12 F and 10, 9 M), outdoorsy, self-reliant, independent, learners, voracious readers, huggable! "Mush" dog-team, camp trip style. You're whatever age/(male/f) description; seeking family, fullness, polyfidelity, simplicity, spiritual enlightenment, growth, COMMITMENT. You accept self-responsibility/karma, live-in-the-moment, love cats, laugh a lot. You/we together: "Chop wood/Carry water," are open/warm, bi-sexual, meditative, centered. #764

Longtime Alaskan, Taurus man, 36 yo, very interested in being involved in a polyfidelitous family. I enjoy traveling (in winter), camping, fishing, stained glass and woodworking. I own beautiful forested acreage near Fairbanks with my own building plans. I'm open minded and nonpossessive and believe freedom is the highest value in relationship. I want to be with people who live life meditatively and are not too materialistic. Alaka is a really warm place! (#770) POB 361 Ester, AK 99725 (907) 479-3820.

**CALIFORNIA** Triad, 7 years old, 2 women, 1 man, living in a specially designed central home with swimming pool in East Bay near San Francisco, would like to meet or correspond with other group marriages to share lifestyle ideas and companionship. #502

We're Kata (41, bisexual, feminist, pagan, bookkeeper) and Chaz (42, writer, graphic artist, musician, social anarchist). We're self-employed, nonsmokers, working class, egalitarian, and politically conscious but not correct. We pursue personal growth, desire community beyond the immediate family, and value directness, openness, creative involvement, and political/social commitment. We're looking for other domestic-earth partners, and we'd love to hear from you if you think we sound like potential family members. POB 426118, San Francisco, CA 94142-6118. (415) 861-3579.

I'm a 40 year old, white, nudist, single hetero male who has learned much about myself from past relationships and who feels a strong desire and need for a relationship with others that is very open and honest in terms of communication and genuine intimacy that could reach beyond just

shared sexuality. Music and art in many forms is of great importance to me as is an awareness of a good diet (mainly organic vegetarian and some seafood). Prefer no drug use; light wine, coffee or cigarette use O.K. Have purchased land in Hawaii now for future relocation. (#584)

Kerista is not a polyfidelitous family, it's a whole group of them inside a neotribal intentional community. The commune features economic sharing, an intense interpersonal communication process, a successful computer business, an original feminist religion, and any plans/activities connected to working towards a better world. The family clusters within the community range in size from 2 (just starting out) to 14; all are looking for the next member who fits in with their respective "flairs." Kerista invented polyfidelity, and coined the word, in the early '70's, so we really know the score. For more info, write/phone: Kerista, 543 Frederick, San Francisco, CA 94117. (415) 759-4625.

48 year old male seeks polyfidelitous natured companions. I'm mostly heterosexual, but sometimes I seem to be bisexual. I especially enjoy meeting a trio with a woman and her other partner. My other interests and skills are in the fields of music (flute), computers (programming), brain machines, psychology, and communal living. I'd love to find a nonomogamous woman to play music with. (#605) Robert Manny, 294 Rio Lindo Av #9, Chico, CA 95926. 916-893-8752.

I'm 49, a half-time, single parent (boys ages 7 and 9), and self-employed as an environmental/planning consultant and part-time university teacher. I am interested in relationships that emphasize with rather than for, and being connected with people who honor individual differences rather than ideological conformity. I don't fit into neat categories. I love exciting city life and quiet times in the country; old fashioned rock'n'roll, down'n dirty blues, and classical music; sports and dancing, passionate discussion and quiet togetherness; bodies, skin, sensuality, and sex; photography, art, films, and good food. I'm looking for women/people who are open to life, joy, self-discovery, and sharing. #607

We would like to meet others whose basic priority is personal growth and the well-being of children. Currently a family of four and seeking to expand into intentional community and/or polyfidelity. Our current employment is in Southern California and our hope is to move to the Pacific Northwest. Interests include volunteer work, science fiction, NLP, rebirthing, and hypnosis. We would welcome someone who could bring more physical activity and music into our relationship. #608

Vasectomized purple male, 43, who enjoys keeping fit (running, biking, vegetarian diet), groks the goddess in nature and women, craves intentional Gaian community, and whose artistic temperament finds expression primarily through touch (massage, juggling, music, writing) seeks friendship (possibly more) with an honest, playful, communicative woman who can embrace paradox and the possibility of a partnership evolving to include others. #609

Married couple: Cindy, student in Ornamental Horticulture, lives in Southern California with her heart in New Mexico; Kenneth, librarian lives in Louisiana. Both love plants, nature. Michael with eclectic tastes lives in Southern California. All love free spirits, sensuality, kids, exploring life. Looking for friends to share the stimulation and challenge of group living. Call or write Cindy. #641

Age 57, height 7'1", weight 185, eyes blue, complexion ruddy, birth sign Aries, and education 13 years. I have traveled a lot in my younger days and lived in many social orders. I would like to learn more. #655

Hugs to all! We're Debi 23, & Dennis 43. We're ready to open our hearts and our new home to share and expand our love with one very special lady and perhaps her children, if she already has them. We're happy, healthy semi-vegetarians who feel the grateful Deep or ZZT Top can be as fun and fulfilling as Mozart or Kitaru, depending on our mood. Please drop us a note tonight and we'll call or write you back real soon! #664 Debi & Dennis, POB 1590 Cupertino, CA 95015.

I am looking for a second wife, who wants a mutual lifetime marriage commitment. We are a stable Christian couple, of 19 years, warm, and loving, looking for a woman with or without children to form a larger family. We enjoy mostly vegetarian dishes, a little wine occasionally, do not smoke or take drugs. We like our home and family related activities. (#671) TSF, POB 3100, Redding, CA 96049

Do you value creativity, responsibility, and hedonism? Do

you enjoy reading (especially business, social philosophy, religion, science fiction), communication, writing, swimming, hiking, biking, partying or cooking? If so, I'd enjoy hearing from you. I work as a computer engineer and am a Director of Syntrony Institute (a non-profit using cooperative creativity to develop prosperity open to all people). My major plans include moving to a small college town, starting a business, and establishing a large cooperative household and a polyfide family. #685

Year-old triad, expanded from eight-year dyad: one woman, two men. Our emphasis is communication, understanding, support, trust. Love and passion are our essential binding and motivating forces. We use skills-based leadership, consensual decision-making, integration of approaches and perspectives, emphasis on feeling as well as thinking. Other interests include science fiction, computers, martial arts. Intending relocation to Pacific Northwest. (#687) Tramontane, 49 Showers Dr #438, Mountain View, CA 94040.

We are James and Connie, 46 and 43, living in the San Jose, California area. Married twenty two years (fourteen have been an open marriage). We are the jeans and tennis shoes type, down to earth, non-smoking, no drugs, light drinking, positive, kids at heart type. We'd love to meet other like-minded folks! (#699) POB 18724, San Jose, CA 95158.

Redwood in a forest of bonsai hearts. single, 26, writer, would-be filmmaker. Passionate, non-dogmatic, responsible; loves books, movies, music. Creating a good life is tough. Any Emma Peels-Morticia Addamses-Barbarellas out there willing to help this young don Quixote battle gaints and celestial dreams? Nice! 12228 Quince Blvd. #446, Los Angeles, CA 90066. #719

We're Darcy (35 years, bisexual, feminist instructor) and George (38 years, musician, poet, instructional designer). We're loving, open, growth oriented, healthy and drug free. We're interested in meeting someone who has expanded family with either a single bisexual lady, or couple with same. We'll consider relocation, to wherever meets our joint needs. Let's explore the possibilities of forming a new family together. (#744) Darcy and George Elauh, POB 224 Lompoc, CA 93438-0224

San Diego area, Bi male, 40 yo., 190 lbs, 6'2" and eyes are blue. Seeks the minimum of one good man and one good woman for a dedicated, committed, and loving relationship in a jealous free arena. Prefer an existing couple, but will consider others. I am active in skating, cycling, volleyball and other outdoor activities. I am seeking non-smokers, light drinkers, healthy food consumers, non-religious, caring and active individuals. No couch potatoes. (#754) Jim

Woman, man, and newborn seeking others to build love, family, and life. We've discovered the joy that comes from reaching out to others. We're non-religious but spiritually oriented, vegetarian, idealistic, practical, both bodyworkers. We're committed to honesty, openness, self-expansion and the hard work that these will require. From the Northeast, living in Northern California—ready to relocate to begin a new life. He, 38, she, 36. #763

Life's an exciting journey! Sweet, joyous man of many talents and gifts, 30, who embraces intuition, wears his heart on his sleeve, passionately pursues his art (theater), and balances work, learning and play, seeks beautiful, gifted women to joyously explore (too long denied) sexuality. I have a wonderful non-sexual, primary relationship. (#774) Michael, 2376 W. Portal, #163, San Francisco, CA 94127-0901. #774

Grandfather seeking Family! Considerable experience in polyfidelitous relationships since before the word achieved current glibness. As a child encouraged to omnivorous reading. Re the tragic tramuons of triangles: "Mother, I asked, "why CAN'T one man love two women, or one woman love two men?" Profoundly do I believe: Love is infinite. The more you give, the more you get. The more you share, the more there is. (#795) David Lowell, 56175 Yuma Trail, Yucca Valley, CA 92284-3286. 619-365-4399

43 year old male seeking open relationships and/or marriage. Not sure about polyfidelity or if it is right for me. Willing to talk about it, willing to experiment. Interested in New Age philosophy, tantra, and tantra on West Coast. Travel a lot due to job requirements. #803

Non-linear, creative-edge twosome (WM 55, WF 41) seeks a lively bi poly or M-F twosome (kinds fine) to "marry" us. We are a nurse/bodyworker, an evolutionary biologist and researcher, veteran adventurers in psycho/sacred inner

spaces (rough psychodynamics, too), using mystical and chemical technologies. Please, no smokers, soloists, terminal niceness cases. (#808) POB 11542, Berkeley, CA 94701

I am a shaman and scientist who is attempting to actualize a vision of an interspecies family. A family including humans, dolphins, elephants, apes and possibly extraterrestrials. I have land in the tropical Pacific and practical plans for house trees, urban habitats and translating computer structure based on a group marriage. I am male, 172 cm, 66kg, 42 years, Irish/Danish ancestry, new age eco shaman. (#810) Jerry, 1425 W 221 St, Torrance, CA 90501

Male, 45, I seek partner(s) to create polyfidelitous family. My interests include folk music, cooking, walking, good conversation. I recently began to study Taoist healing practices. I strongly believe in community and want to live in a "Co-Housing" community or "New Town" development with minimal dependence on the automobile. #861 Bill Cerr, 659 A 37th Av, San Francisco, CA 94121 (415) 387-5133

Looking for a poly-intimate, bisexual, amorphous family large enough that everyone has to deal with, and is supported in, their issues of insecurity, self-esteem and jealousy. Three + four possibly a good minimum. WM, physically fit, financially agile, 55 in years, functional, rationalist, independent, liberal, honest, trusting, handyman, writer, innovator. Prefer both urban and rural connections in N CA, OR, WA, AZ, NM, CO or WY. #869 Dan Robinson, 60 Greenview Ln, Richmond, CA 94803. (415) 222-6284.

Slender Jean, 40, 5'4", and slim Jon, 50, 5'10", recently discovered each other, are aiming for unconventional happiness with aware, responsible, fun others. We like Sci-fi, computers, psychology, healthy food, nature, bicycling, laughter, writing, but not into drugs, bisexuality. Jean hopes to meet you (couple, I hope) at the Berkeley conference. Write to Jean! #871.

Hi, I'm 49, 5'10", 175 lbs, born Belfast NI, currently living alone in a house in EPA. I like rock concerts; I'm politically active in a couple of gay and pro-choice organizations; and I'm a biker (Honda). I currently class myself as bisexual and am 100% negative. I enjoyed multiple partner relationships when I was in them. George (415) 325-9502

Very attractive, slender, active couple seeks long term romance with attractive woman. You must be caring, passionate, bisexual and college educated. We are 32/43 professionals, no children, love animals, kind, very happily married with a marvelous sex life to share. We like outdoors, classical/new age music, good movies, stimulating conversation, travel, and quiet evenings at home. Central California. #878 (209) 636-1639.

Our family presently consists of 3. Norm 48, Karlene 39, Erik 10, we are seeking serious minded people who, like us, desire to make their dreams a reality, i.e. a working polyfidelitous family. We value honest, open communication; personal growth; trusting, intimate relationships; sincerity and compassion; and much, much more. Open to relocating. Please write us with your ideas. Norm & Karlene Gagnon, POB 2044, Crescent City, CA 95531 or 405-767-465-3416.

Successful former engineer committed to personal growth and helping plant seeds female of like mind. I live in a high Sierra paradise. My interests are spirituality, camping, hiking, macrobiotics. I am DWM, 5'6", 145 lbs., 40 years old, physically fit. #903

**CANADA** I am 36, male, firstborn, ACOA, heterosexual, patient, accepting, compulsive/obsessive, non-drinking, divorced and currently celibate, both without wanting to be, good natured and deep. I am honest when not threatened, loyal beyond belief, sensitive to criticism, and function better in a loving, fun-loving group family environment. Spiritually I seek to attract others willing to commit to Christian millennial concepts, basically, living the ten commandments and ordinances (Passover, etc) instead of Christmas, etc. #507

We are still trying to get a group marriage going in Toronto. One family has given a nudge but not through PEP. Is anybody out there? We now have a son 5, and a daughter 1 year old. Is anybody out there? (#628) Deb and Dan Paitich, 15 Grenadier Rd, Toronto, Ont. Canada M6R 1R1 (416) 533-0160

Happy, outgoing, N/S male, 40, free spirit, slim, athletic, 5'9", 140 lbs, rural alternate lifestyle, self-employed de-

signer-builder. Interests include sailing, travel, yoga, gardening, dancing, photography, paganism, astrology, massage, clothing optional lifestyles, holistic healing, metaphysics, eroticism, and the French language. (#629) Frank Pallister, 361 Island, Hwy, Victoria, BC, Canada V9B 1H3. (604) 479-3860.

Health oriented, mid-40's male, hetero, pagan/taoist spiritual leanings, vegan, carpenter, enjoy country living, travel, reading, outdoor activities, inner exploration, and would like more friends and lovers in my life. #642

I am seeking possible partners to create or join a polyfidelitous family or group marriage, desire mutual growth, freedom of jealousy and possessiveness, not afraid of intimacy, freedom of all kinds on a voluntary basis, and loving, frank commentary on one another. I am open to any ground rules that the group works out mutually for all concerned. I am a tradesman and financially independent. I would like to feel free to meet all of you nice people. Have a clean bill of health, AIDS free, etc. Open to the Pacific Northwest and would love to hear from you. (#658) Pete Schultz, RR 2, Chase, BC, Canada V0E 1M0

Hedonistic, successful, professional, he/43 (real estate investor, writer and publisher), she/40 (matchmaker, introduction service worker) looking for female or couple, 25 to 40. No internet sites or substance abusers. Our interests: computers, travel, foreign cultures, non-traditional relationships, hot tubs, photography, macrobiotics and Studebakers. Passive solar, conservator home, 9 acres, 50 miles northwest from Seattle. #667 Chris and Ginny, POB 7172, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. V9B 4Z3 or phone (604) 478-9975.

Don (40), Heather (37), daughter (16) and son (8) are Imagine family, a happy and healthy dyad looking to expand gracefully. We own land, including a large organic garden. We are NS, vegetarians, social pioneers, "Water Natives." Interests include free-form dancing, idea speaking, community action and involvement, reading, egalitarian child-rearing, hiking, folk & rock music. POB 1768, Stn A, Vancouver, BC V6C 2P7 Canada. #726

**COLORADO** Hi everybody! I am a composer/sound designer/musician (and a bunch of other titles) aged 32. Favorite things include authors like Robert Anton Wilson, Heinlein, Rimmer, Crowley. Subjects ranging from philosophy to neurology to music to computers. Music of all styles. Other interests include theatre, Broadway musicals, sound recording, computer programming, electronic engineering, roller skating, mountains, hypnosis, yoga, and (of course) polyfidelity. #674

**FLORIDA** I have only ever lived as a couple or, of course, alone. I got to know and visited many times a group of polyfidelitous people living on Staten Island. And one of the people I met there encouraged me to get in touch with PEP. I have a sense that there are many Polyfides out there and growing in numbers all the time. (I hope so anyway.) I am a single female and would like to know how or if other single have found they could arrange to develop into a group. I have just recently moved to Tampa from NYC and I do acupressure for a living. I would like to network with others who are interested in group marriage. #601

Slim male, 39, left dysfunctional 13 year monogamous relationship 5 years ago. Have since been on path of rapid growth and self-discovery. I'm now ready for firm and responsible commitment in polyfidelity family. Health conscious, professional engineer, honest, humorous, outdoor musician. Let's talk! #830 3500 Gosselin, 4542 SW 131 Ave, Miami, FL 33175. 305-223-6356

**GEORGIA** Spiritual marriage: sharing from deepest profound self in perfect harmony; mutual adoration and healing; total openness and honesty with all Beloveds; surrender of addictions and harmful ways of being; inclusiveness; enhancing serenity and joy; egalitarian circles of meaningful and moving song, dance and shared wisdom; and honoring and treasuring Passion's seed of life within each of us. Mailing address only: (#561) Ray Frye, 224 Athens St, Harwell, GA 30643. (404) 376-4889 (call 8-9 pm Eastern)

WM, 33, influenced by Heinlein/Rimmer during teenage years, looking for a couple/trio/single female to explore ideas and perhaps find mutual ground. I'm a medical professional, intelligent, good sense of humor (former D.J.). I'm most interested in an urban (or easy access) location. I'm imaginative, liberal, and enjoy group activities. #604

A.M., 2655-C Decatur Rd #150, Decatur, GA 30033. SWF, 33, have had 3 polyfidelitous relationships in past,

of varying combinations. Despite my failures, it still seems that it should be able to work out with the right people. Have recently tried social clubs because of lack of something more substantial. am a playwright, poet and artist. Am 5'5", 102 lbs., petite, with long hair. Looking for deeper friendships and possibly family. Want to meet more intelligent, deep thinking, fun, light hearted, libidinous, balanced people. I know you're out there somewhere. (#737) Alex, 6696 A Peachtree Ind Blvd, Doraville, GA, 30360.

**HAWAII** I am interested in people whose basic priority is evolving and the well-being of children. I am a mind-type person, but after years of living with children in wilderness environments and in Asia, I have learned to intuit through feelings and physical activity. I am a survivor of the Haight-Ashbury 60's, but am not into either dirty feet or BMW's. In living situations I am uncomfortable with privately owned rooms, but believe that "alone" time is essential for anyone's sanity. At present I live alone with a 2 1/2 year old, which may account for my writing about sanity. #635

Something brings people together. Shared values are a good foundation, but there's also some dynamic energy that motivates people to form family. We're freedom loving, voluntary associators, truth seekers, health oriented, wild movie fanatics, and love to laugh when we're not too busy. Who are you? Ryan, Allan, & Barry (#684) SYNTONY, P.O. Box 6306, Captain Cook, HI 96704-6306.

Warm friendly couple looking for special lady to join us at our beach house near Honolulu for a loving relationship. Both employed, in early 40's, together 15 years. Have three horses and enjoy country living. Seek a lady who wants to have children! Bisexual is ok. Letter and photo to (#812) Mike and Linda Challis, POB 727, Hauula, HI 96717.

We're a heterosexual (28F, 31M) self-employed prosperous couple looking to expand our family. Desire an attractive woman to complement our work hard/play hard nature, raw food diet, and emphasis on developing our mutually satisfying communication skills. We live in rural tropical Hawaii. If this interests you, let's start a correspondence. (#845) P. O. Box 108, Naleahu, Hawaii 96712

**ILLINOIS** We are a couple exploring the possibility of establishing a loving extended family. We are both educators, she in her very early fifties and he in his middle fifties. We are non-smokers, naturists, and Unitarians. We are new to Jacksonville, FL, but are fast discovering the easy living that comes with a gentle climate. Drop us a line. We would like to arrange a time to get to know you. Our mailing address right now is: #621 Jim and Judy, POB 533, Macomb, IL 61455.

I am a SWM, heterosexual, semivegetarian, politically liberal. I am 27 years old, weigh 160, good-looking. Kind, gentle, easy-going person. Interests: semi-rural living, hiking, nature walks, reading, gardening, camping, good conversation. Love music (rock-50's 60's/70's, blues, jazz, folk). Strong believer in group living, considering polyfidelity. We are also active in semi-extended family. If you women who are interested in the above to please correspond. Bob Schmutzge, Jr, 3443 N Ozanam Av, Chicago, IL 60634. #802

**INDIANA** Flame: something alive and different in Southern Indiana. We are four or more adults and a passel of kids who are active in semi-extended family. We are warm, loving, sensitive, spiritual, philosophical, intellectual, educated, freedom oriented naturists. Interested in community, alternative lifestyles, personal growth, and family activities. (#513) For information, write Flame, POB 6161, Bloomington, IN 47407

**KANSAS** HeartFire is a polyfidelitous family of two, desiring, at present to become four. We plan on building a nature sanctuary, herb farm, and research/wholistic health care center. We seek intelligent, capable, open minded individuals with a very high sense of integrity, honesty, and willingness to grow. For the foreseeable future, we are geographically centered in the Mid-West for both professional and financial reasons. However, given the right situation we are prepared to relocate. We are currently working on the personal growth mat fostered by the Phoenix family and actively seeking compatible partners. (#523) J & R, POB 3304, Kansas City, Kansas 66103.

Single, male graduate student in the process of realigning and clarifying values and goals. Committed to staying put until May '92, then ready to relocate. Seeking understanding of real world experience, seeking also (and more im-

portantly) to make new friends. Interests include classical, Celtic, new age music, sunsets, surfs, myth, process. Let's get in touch and learn from each other. (#643) R. E. Ramcharan, POB 132, Topeka, KS 66601

Our goals are health, self sufficing, love, caring and sharing for a longer life. We're an egalitarian co-op into polyfidelity on a small farm in SE Kansas. Need more people over 35 for farm food production and health retreat operation. Let's make a less stressful life so there is more time for the pursuit of a happy fruitful life. Mary & Billibob. #775

**LOUISIANA** Couple, both 38, seeking additional partner(s) to create polyfidelitous family. Searching for someone(s) that is family oriented and desire a long term commitment. Someone(s) that enjoys family style activities, music, long talks, and is compassionate toward all ages. Health conscious. Have four home schooled children (14, 12, 6, and 1/2 year) Would enjoy corresponding with fellow networkers. #580.

**DWM, 34, (hetero; no children)** seeking relationships leading to PGM. Am 6'3", 180lb, brown hair/eyes, very attractive & youthful in appearance. Own two businesses (workaholic), am lacto-vegetarian, do not smoke or drink, and an 18 year practitioner of yoga and TM...weight-lifting. Read extensively in wide variety of non-fiction-subjects (business, natural sciences, metaphysics). Los Angeles raised, now live in Louisiana. College grad. Arty soul, Cappie Rising. Very loving & attentive. #760

**MASSACHUSETTS** Good Morning Polifid's! Greetings follow deviates & devotes. How y'all doing? SWM, 38, 6' 165, Br/Hazel, Irish/Italian, cusp born Sag/Cap Dec 21, 1952, seeks other open-minded free-thinkers for friendship and intimacy. I am funny, warm, quiet, sincere & caring. Only visiting this planet! Moon in Pisces. Body & brain in Boston. Can travel, visit, or relocate. Rescue me! (#809) James Michael POB 408, N Cambridge, MA 02140

White couple, 33 & 35, new to polyfidelity. We are non-smokers, nondrinkers, drug free, safe, basically vegetarian. We would like to start a group marriage in the New York & New England area. We would like to hear from Hetero & Bisexual singles & couples. (#646) Susan & Timothy Strout, POB 1419, S Lancaster, MA 01561-4150

**MAINE** Looking for two wonderful women, 45-50 who are already good friends, willing to explore possibilities with a common man. Hope you are capable and caring, taking care of your bodies and minds. I live in far away Maine, will travel, and am early 50's. Love city or wilderness, Dixie or Downstate or quiet times. Please write about yourself! (#814) Steve Clark, POB 350, Sanford, ME 04073

Dreaming of a committed intimate multi-racial group marriage with 2 or 3 bisexual women? So am I! I am a SWM Hetero nudist polyfidelitous artist (37). Kind, considerate, warm, sensual, passionate lover, I love sharing love. Extremely creative and indulgent in sex. I love doing it for hours at a time. Eager to give and receive an abundance of pleasure. I love camping, vegetarian food, yoga, spirituality, massage, reading, writing, drawing. More! Let's exchange photos. #784

**MICHIGAN** Michigan, 37 year old single bi male, 6'0", 160#. Seeking the ultimate pleasure of true intimacy through stimulating conversation and sharing physical closeness. Would like to meet people who give priority to these activities over solitary pursuits. If you believe that our main purpose in life is to interact with and enjoy the company of other human beings, please write. #848

**MISSISSIPPI** Experienced, happy, polyfide family of two (womyn 30s, man 40s) seeking partner(s)...together 14+ years...both counselors...like nature, food, sex, books, movies, water, camping, opera, rock, much more...love the intense intimacy of more than two...do you? Willing to relocate near ocean (South or West coast) #518 write ORC, POB 15276, Hattiesburg, MS 39404-5276, (601) 261-0449.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE** Namaste green intentional community (currently 6 co-participants) 5 cohousing units, permaculture homestead. Beginning now "Living Green Enterprises" with trans-hush hotel network inside NHA green movement philosophy. We advocate living love inside integrity circles, naturism resonance with nature, family consensus, commitment of 1600 hours per year (1 year prospective membership) our motto "to enhance and sustain life" is our focus. 8655 Namaste, R2 Box 578, Barnstead, NH 03225 (603) 776-7776.

**NEW JERSEY** 58 y.o., 160#, 6', strong and healthy, sea-oriented loving hetero W/M, divorced 21 years, children 31, 29 & 11 (enough), HIV neg, split residence, married to 50 Ac. NJ South Cape aquaculture facility and 35 Ac. HAWAII outback diversified valley farms and so goal-oriented with these it has co-oped time for med practice, intimate relationships, travel, etc. I'd like to lighten up again, with whatever/whoever wants, but it would have to be my places not yours, and best after end of 91.

I am interested in getting to know people in the Polyfidelity network. I am attracted by the idea but would like very much to meet like-minded people to talk things out and perhaps meet a family in person. I am available to travel in the East over the next few months. I am a married man and in my youthful 50's. Please write to me #697

Professional, fiscally responsible, Ivy-League graduated, 34 & 35 year old interfaith white married couple seeking a female and/or empathetic, non-aggressive guy, singly or in couple to explore the possibilities of a long-term polyfidelitous family. Neither of us is promiscuous, yet we have tons of fun and out of bed. A polyfidelitous relationship would be great for sharing, chiaring, and simplifying economy. We are health conscious: no AIDS/ARC, do not smoke or do drugs, little alcohol and we exercise frequently (aerobics, volleyball...). We enjoy music, movies, discussions, literature, board and card games... Interested? Drop us a line about yourself!(ves) #878

**NEVADA** Autocratic caucasian businessman seeks sincere long term relationship with females only (25-35) with goals toward building a future. Race no barrier, but you must be exceptionally sharp, physically, mentally, with well defined business acumen. Professional, accomplished, qualitatively superior intellect, yet possessing a submissive attitude, willing to serve, work and be owned. Sincere only, no dopers, phonies, gamblers. Send letter, photo. (#782) TR, POB 29083, Las Vegas, NV 89126-3083.

**NEW YORK** Senior citizens retired with 80 acres land-fills, woods, pond for skinny dipping, 8 miles from towns, super markets, etc. Nature lovers, campers, bibliophiles (thousands of books in library every subject from Nature to Cooking. Would welcome "settlers" who liked homesteading idea, were fond of outdoors and liked gardening and raising own food. A circle of friends is a dream I have cherished, though I wish has reservations about ever finding such an ideal. I'd love to correspond. (#508) Lyman & Affie Barry, P.O. Box 331, Dansville, NY 14437

I'm a 38 year old white male librarian. I'd like to meet people in my area (Syracuse, NY), and correspond with others who I've cherished, though I wish has reservations about possibly isn't possible, but I like to travel. Many interests: movies, current affairs, travel, most music, ballet, theater, folkmarths, reading (history, SF). Anarchist/libertarian, vasectomy, no smoker. #622

Passion is intelligent and interesting conversation. Balance between survival of self and survival of species interests is good. Independent income supports me making my managing household(s) ideal. Cohabiting currently and discussing polyfidelity. Two cats. Male, 41, hetero. #657

**OHIO** DWM, 41, Hetero, drug free, 5'10", 155 lbs, fit, healthy, financially secure, attractive, liberal education, active recovering adult child of a sexual abuse survivor, artist, writer, strong interest in psychology, philosophy, mythology, metaphysics. Love good company, good food, talking, walking, dancing, music, travel, reading, erotic and playful endeavors. Creative, passionate, sensual, intellectual. Treat self and others with dignity and respect. If you can relate, I would love to hear from you. (#796) Henry Tony, 666 Inlington, Toledo, OH 43610-1336. 419-244-0866

WMC, mid-30's seeks couple or singles under 45. Interests include skiing, flying, scuba, science fiction, travel, and exotic film. We are degreed professionals, non-smokers, warm and loving, who want to build a shared life centered around co-housing and alternative technology. No drugs. If we sound right to you, please write. (#805) Leigh and Randy, POB 31271, Dayton, OH 45431.

**OREGON** Stable couple of 10+ years desires single lady to share small home in the Cascade Mt. region of the Willamette land. Room and healthy diet in exchange for 20hrs/week garden chores. We seek an optimistic, animal-loving, day person with green thumb and sense of humor to help develop organic garden/home business. Possible extended stay in Holland (1992-3). Eventual goal: polyfidelitous partnership. Kraig (35) and Barbara (41). #509

We are a feminist, ovo-lacto vegetarian, Wiccan couple who met on Candlemas (Feb 21) 1991, and have been together ever since. I'm a bisexual, female, cancer be. He's a Leo, 28. We'd like to correspond/socialize with other polyfidelitous minded partners. write: Box 1052, Eugene, OR 97440-1052.

**Heartsun Family**—we are a polyfidelitous family of two women, two men and an 8 year old girl, together for 2 1/2 years. We value New Age Spirituality (Sufism, neo-paganism, Buddhism, meditation), political awareness, playing, healthy diet (no drugs or addictions), co-counseling, Hakomi, and other natural therapies. Income is from art-work, carpentry, publishing and counseling. We are open to adding another woman or couple. We also welcome any new friends who would like to contact us, although our lives are busy and correspondence may be slow. #578

A family life rich with projects, plans and children gives our 4 year old triad a passion for new friends and networking with others interested in polyfidelity. We're exploring adding new members. We are two women, one man, two daughters, 3 cats and one log home in the process of being built. We'll write if you do...let's share! (#856) K, K & G, 13178 SE 130th, Clackamas, OR 97015

**MLT Family** is a ten year polyfidelitous triad that includes two men, one woman, our 11 year old son, a golden retriever, two cats and two turtles. We are a lawyer, a manager of information systems (computers), and an insurance agent. Our interests include basketball, stained glass, scuba diving and fishing. We are interested in talking or corresponding with anyone. (#612) MLT Family, 7270 SW 173rd, Aloha, OR 97007 or call (503) 591-1690

I want it all: polyfidelity and intentional community plus a garden to relax in after dancing the night away. What physical activity turns your crank? Drop me a line. I'm singing solo and looking for others to harmonize with. The gender mix isn't important to me, but sexual fidelity is a must. (#647) Shirley Reeves POB 5247, Eugene, OR 97405

Sensitive, loving, communicating, intellectually curious, financially independent hetero couple in 8 year fidelitous, growth directed relationship seeks woman to share polyfidelitous rural (but not remote), healthy Central Oregon lifestyle. Interests include reading, midwifery, fiber arts, spirituality, French, woodworking, sailing, cycling, skiing. #676

Sonja Rhea (52) and Paul (56), being of sound mind and body, 5'8" & 6'1", reasonably attractive, invite you to consider "Concordia." Our interests include creating a line family of mixed age (wifely) without very small children) and a family business that produces abundance. New Thought, Inner Child and Metaphysical spiritual growth are other areas that we love. No chemical addictions or smoking. Currently located 38 miles West of Portland in the Coast Range on 40 acres. Adequate for beginnings but an urban setting on acreage nearer Portland may better support the financial needs and interests of an Expanded Family. HCR 71 Box 1318, Forest Grove, OR 97116. #730.

Harmony extended family: polyfidelitous singles, couples, research team forming. Semi-vegetarian, self-sufficiency in food and power; goal to discover how to create peace & harmony on earth with gardens, solar power, greenhouses. Wanted creative pioneers, hands, hearts, and brains. Aware future changes: economics, climate, geophysical, world aggressions. Grow it = eat. Solar power = electricity. Prepare now = survival. Interested? (#769) Richard 7902 Taklina, Cave Junction, OR 97523

Single mother, 46 (but guessed at 33), with 3 year old Down Syndrome son (blond haired sweetie) seeks polyfidelitous family. I'm attractive, active (cross-country skiing, windsurfing, hiking), highly intelligent (valedictorian/high school, B.A./math/honors), interested in writing, music (have synthesizer), alternative approaches to healing, New Age consciousness. Now building blue-green algae distributorship. Planning Waldorf education for son. (#777) Lila Nelson, 63925 Sunset Dr, Bend, OR 97701 (503) 385-8887.

**PENNSYLVANIA** Professional, literate man 53 and woman 45 looking for man and woman, singly or as couple, preferably bisexual, to form long-term polyfidelitous family in deep suburbs of Philadelphia.

**RHODE ISLAND** I'm a 48 year old male living in the Boston/Providence area. I'd be very interested in meeting and talking to people who are thinking about or living in "extended" wholesome relationships. As my children

most often answer the phone, 401-625-5017, please ask for "Bill senior," or talk with a very adult voice. (smile)

**TENNESSEE** He, 42; she, 36, bit; both fit with advanced degrees. Would like to meet serious travelers. # 866 POB 752332, Memphis, TN 38175-2332.

**TEXAS** Self-employed engineering consultant, late 30's, non-smoker, with interests including music (listening and composing), science fiction, gourmet foods, flying, martial arts, scuba, massage, nature, skiing, and myriad other things. My ultimate goals include involvement in a community devoted to the creation of an inspirational environment, supportive of individual growth, with shared resources and sufficiency via technological/educational industries. Interested in relocating and forming an extended family of like-minded persons. #631 Steven Parker, 1501 Bowie, Garland, TX 75042. (214) 272-8181

**UTAH** I am a 40 year old single male who is interested in polyfidelity. Politically liberal. Medicine/science education. Explorations of consciousness tempered by skepticism. Wide intellectual interests. Paragliding and skydiving. #563

Single male fitness freak (skier, climber, backpacker), adventurous, professional, dog-lover, environmentalist, looking for compatible others interested in open relationships or polyfidelity. (#572) Walt Haas, (801) 534-1262, 717 Ninth Ave., Salt Lake City, UT 84103.

**VIRGINIA** Couple, near 30, seeks additional primary relationships. It may take awhile, but new friends are worth cultivating too. We are non-religious, libertarian, active medievalists (SCA) and voracious readers of science, science fiction, fantasy and politics. We are searching for family-whatever that looks like. We're DC area residents and we're plotting an escape one day. Please write #792

Couple, 35 and 43, seeks female or another couple, to form a primary polyfidelitous relationship. Interests include neo-Paganism and the "greens." We live not too far from the Baltimore, Washington, DC, Herndon and Frederick areas. (#2575) Write or call us at POB 613, Leesburg, Virginia 22075, 304-263-4606 at home.

**WASHINGTON** SWM, 36 looks 22, Rock guitarist, RE investor, tall, slim, very long wavy dark hair, brown eyes, clean shaven, NS, ND, considered very sexy and good looking, yet having many intellectual interests, metaphysics, books, etc. and own awesome log home I'd like to share with 1-3 commitment oriented, bit or straight females. (#606) Amante, POB 55142, Seattle, WA 98155

I'd like to meet others interested in, or already practicing, polyfidelity. Objectives: friendship, learning from your experiences, socializing. NOT "shopping." My wife of 20+ years is still dead-set against the idea. I'm eugenean, computer professional, workaholic, naturist, photographer, father (X6). #693 Jack vL., Box 369, Ridgefield, WA 98642-0369 (rural area, 20 mi. from Portland, OR)

kinky couple, committed to Seattle, city activities, local friends. she 47, estate computer programmer and activist. he 35 bicyclist, swimmer, considering graduate school. We are enjoying our new relationship, interested in alternative lifestyles and sex positive environments. #718 Betyakay & Robb, 501 North 36th, #137, Seattle WA 98105

Dawntrader: blueprinting the vision of a global village foursquare pilot model in Index, Washington, made up of eight best friends living happily ever after, enjoying gourmet vegetarian cuisine, rotational and tantric polyfidelity (heterosexual), enlightening philosophical discussion, and the loving security of pooled economic resources. (#794)

Two loving souls searching for the third bright star in our sky. He's 39, she's 30 and a redhead. Metaphysically minded, pursuing the transformation of our mountain top into a self-sufficient Eden. We are sincere in our search for polyfidelitous women to equally share our committed relationship. If you want simple living and don't care for the materialistic city-life hassle, contact us. (#797) Tony and Julia, POB 376, Chewelah, WA 99109.

Hard-to-label, closed fidelitous triad, 2 F (49, 27), 1 M (46) seeks to form loose to tight polyfidelitous family of 4-6 adults based on equality between family members, use of a social contract, and commitment to personal growth and a healthful lifestyle. Our interests and values include neopagan spirituality, conscious improvement of communication and self-awareness, movies, massage, hugs, vegetarian cooking, good times without using chemicals, sharing feelings, and being individually financially self supporting. #618

Lady partner for polyfidelitous family. Both late forties, living in Tacoma, Washington. Lady that wants loving, caring, sharing people in her life. Treating her as an individual with respect to her needs. We travel & have family condo on beach in Lincoln City, Oregon. Please contact us. (#634) Jim & Patty, 910 North Stevens, Tacoma, WA 98406, (206) 759-0546.

My current interest in polyfidelity is platonic. My wife and I are not committed monogamous relationship. We attended PEPCON '90 in order to meet people living the lifestyle, to gather information, and to support the work of the organization. I want to connect with folks in order to research issues associated with living the lifestyle and ultimately to write a book. In particular, my desire is to study and write about qualities of individuals who have chosen the path of multiple primary relationships and to uncover features inherent in polyfidelitous families which are missing from traditional family couplings. Peter #847

I would like to explore the possibility of friendship, love, laughter and unity in healthy mutually supportive polyfidelitous family, starting with one or two women (35-55). I'm new to Tacoma area, relocated from Los Angeles. I'm down to earth, war, caring, human being, who enjoys fishing, camping, naturism, long walks, music, theatre, cooking, gardening, boardgames, fairs and festivals. I try to live a healthy lifestyle. A student of metaphysics, personal and spiritual growth. I am nonsmoker, D/A, Black male, 48 years old, 240 lbs (losing), 5'11", lover of animals (2 cats) and mother earth. If you would like to invest some time getting to know another, then write soon. #877 Art, POB 5047, Tacoma, WA 98405-0047

Resources

"Anything That Moves" is a quarterly magazine with a focus on bisexuality published by the Bay Area bisexual Network. Annual subscriptions are \$25. BAYN 2404 California St #24, San Francisco, CA 94115.

Anyone interested in a support group for local polyfides in the Canadian BC area call Don at (604) 576-9706.

The Expanded Family Network is the Bay area networking and support group for those desiring loving, committed, multi-adult families. They would love to hear from Bay area PEP members. POB12762, Berkeley, CA 94701.

Family Synergy is for people interested in nonpossessive, caring interpersonal relationships. They have a number of chapters in the Southern CA area and elsewhere and offer a variety of social events. POB 2668, Culver City, CA 90231.

Family Tree is a group actively interested and/or participating in alternative relationship and family lifestyles. Sponsor local events and publish a local newsletter. Write for information: POB 315, Chestnut Hill, MA 02167.

Intinet Resource Center describes itself as "a clearinghouse for info on ethical non-monogamous relationships." A Resource guide for the Responsible Non-Monogamist," a compilation of information on the subject, for \$14.95 postpaid. IRC POB 2096, Mill Valley, CA 94942

Keirsta is the group who coined the word "polyfidelity." They are prolific publishers and pathfinders in committed group living. They also sponsor an on-going Growth Coop for stimulating discussion. 543 Frederick St, SF, CA 94117. (415) 753-1314.

Loving Alternatives is a support/discussion group for the non-monogamous in Pennsylvania. Meetings are in State College. Member interests range from open couples to group marriage, but NOT swinging. Calder Square, Box 0509, State College, PA 16805-0509.

N.O.S.E. (The National Organization of Sexual Enthusiasts) is a membership organization complete with membership card, newsletter and bumper stickers. Their purpose is to promote a positive approach to sexual pleasure and sexual freedom with responsibility. They oppose sexual censorship. Yearly cost is \$20. Write to POB 8733, Atlanta, GA 30306.

Oregon's Local is now holding regular get-togethers, potlucks and discussion for people interested in multiple committed partnering. If you want to connect with them please call Shirley Reeves at (503) 683-6197 or write POB 5247, Eugene, OR 97405.

Partners Newsletter for Gay & Lesbian Couples: practical info & ideas for developing satisfying, successful relationships. Interviews, news & reviews. Bi-monthly and mailed in peak proof envelope. Write for subscription info or \$3 for sample issue. Box 9685, Seattle, WA 98109.

PEP is a nationwide organization which publishes Loving More, a quarterly newsletter focused on the ins and outs of group marriage and polyfidelity. Each issue also includes a member directory for networking and nonmonogamous resources. Offers the Polyfidelity Primer and hosts an annual convention (this year Aug. 30/31 & Sept 1 in the Bay area). Box 6306, Capt Cook, HI 96704-6306.

Phoenix, a group marriage in Beverly Hills, CA, explores psychospiritual processes for healing, personal growth and transformation, and is available as a resource for others who are seriously interested in the rapid, intense expansion of their lives and consciousness. (213) 275-3730.

Seattle area women-only polyfidelity support group for lesbians and bisexuals who are interested in multiple relationships and group marriage. Call SBWN at (206) 783-7987 for the time and place.

SSC: Magazine for Alternative Lifestyles, a "sophisticated unique, and erotic monthly publication for love-conscious, but fastidious, persons of personal ads placed by couples (no singles accepted) interested in soft swinging activities with other couples. Also some resource info is included. Single copy price \$5. Omnific Designs West, SSC Div, POB 459, San Dimas, CA 91773.

For local support in the Tacoma area, and also invites to discussions & potlucks, call Jim & Patty at 206-759-0546.

Touchpoint Network for the nonmonogamous is a contact service for those exploring alternatives to monogamy. Send SASE for details. Also, Multiplicity, an irregular quarterly. Write to 27 Music Square East, #169, Nashville, TN 37202.

"The Safe Sex Maniac's Bible" is produced in England by Tuppy Owens, POB 42B, London W1A 4ZB. It contains a vast amount of information about sexual styles and practices, and many resources world wide, although much of the book focuses on sex clubs.

Utah polyfidelity support group forming. If anyone in the Salt Lake City area wants to join, please call Walt Haas at (801) 534-1262 or write to him at 717 Ninth Ave, Salt Lake City, UT 84103.

For folks in the East, near Frederick and Baltimore, Maryland; Northern Virginia; and Washington, DC, there is a support group forming for like minded individuals interested in polyfidelity, extended families, multipartner relationships and WICCAs. For specifics, write to POB 1050, Inwood, WV 25428.

Unclassifieds

KIDS LIB NEWS: magazine for children's rights, wholistic-parenting, homebirth & bonding in natural families, home education, self-healing, fun & new games, Geo-Toys, Childlike-Playloga, outdoor-living, respecting emotions & feelings now, encouraging independence, cooperating by agreements, setting limits, nurturing growth, asking deep questions, social equality, sexualit, loving nature, democratic schools, kids choosing to create, magic trust of intuition, new wave music & dance. KLN Oness Press, POB 108 Naalehu, Hawaii 96722

Send books about spirituality, health, and politics to Eastern Europe! Donate your new or good condition secondhand copies to the New York Open Center, 83 Spring Street, New York, NY 10012 or call 212-219-2527. Tax deductible.

PRODUCTS for a HAPPIER HEALTHIER TOMORROW: Walter filters by Mulipure; home, travel and commercial models. Hemp and cotton blend shirts and shorts by Stoned Wer. Hemp/Marijuana history books. Breath-powered kaleidoscopes toys (for ages 14+). Handmade pure beeswax candles and sage sticks. Dark Moon Insights (503) 485-3579, Box 1052, Eugene, Oregon 97440-1052.

HOUSEKEEPING UNITS AVAILABLE at small group workshop center with loving atmosphere. Available by the day, week or month. 20% discount to fellow PEP members! Fantastic views, creek, 3 miles from John Muir Wilderness. At the edge of the Eastern Sierra. Also position available for resident handy person. (619) 935-4560.

