



About Your Sexuality Kit, 1975-1983 [Bulk: 1983] : Ms.Coll.123

Finding aid prepared by Caitlin Abadir-Mullally on December 2, 2021

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Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical / Historical	3
Scope and Contents	4
Administrative Information	4
Related Materials	5
Controlled Access Headings	6
Collection Inventory	6

Summary Information

Repository:	John J. Wilcox, Jr. LGBT Archives, William Way LGBT Community Center
Creator:	calderwood, deryck
Title:	About Your Sexuality Kit
ID:	Ms.Coll.123
Date [inclusive]:	1975-1983
Date [bulk]:	1983
Physical Description:	.7 Cubic Feet
Abstract:	The About Your Sexuality Kit is a sexual health and education guide created by Dr. deryck calderwood designed for individuals age 12 to 14. The course is structured around leaders' guides that detail sex education topics through lectures and activities with audiovisual components and supplemental resources such as books and pamphlets.

Preferred Citation

About Your Sexuality Kit, John J. Wilcox, Jr. LGBT Archives, William Way LGBT Community Center, Philadelphia, PA.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical / Historical

The About Your Sexuality Kit is credited to deryck calderwood, Ph.D (1923-1986). Dr. calderwood is the major writer of the About Your Sexuality Kit. He pioneered the first graduate program on sexual education at a university and was the Professor and Director of the Human Sexuality Program at New York University (New York, NY). The About Your Sexuality Kit was created with support and sponsorship of the Unitarian Universalist Association. Dr. calderwood was hired by the Unitarian Universalist Association on a three month contract to build a compilation of the best sex education resources for individuals age 12 to 14 to be distributed amongst the church. Upon finding that there were very few if any positive and informative sex education resources, Dr. calderwood took it upon himself to create resources that empowered young people instead of shaming their sexuality. The available materials shared detailed resources on disease, conception and birth control. There were little to no resources on basic expressions of sexuality such as petting, masturbation, homosexuality and love making. The first edition of the About Your Sexuality Kit was published in 1971. The About Your Sexuality Kit

encouraged exploration and curiosity. It is inclusive of the experiences of different genders and positively discusses homosexuality.

There were two court cases about the obscenity of the imagery included, but both were ruled in favor of the About Your Sexuality Kit as an educational resource. The About Your Sexuality Kit was designed with the help and resources from dozens of individuals within and outside of the Unitarian Universalist Association, especially Hugo J. Holleroth, the Director of Curriculum Development in the Department of Education and Social Concern at the Unitarian Universalist Association in Boston Massachusetts. Dr. Calderwood went on to serve on the board of directors for the Society for the Scientific Study of Sex, Community Sex Information, Coalition on Sexuality and Disability and the Sex Information and Education Council of the U.S. The About Your Sexuality Kit was distributed to a variety of organizations including Unitarian Universalist organizations but also public and private secondary schools, colleges and universities, government agencies and private agencies like Planned Parenthood. The collection is a significant and comprehensive compilation of ideas on human sexuality from the 1970s and 1980s.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents

The About Your Sexuality Kit is a sex education guide created by Deryck Calderwood, Ph.D. and published by the Unitarian Universalist Association. The About Your Sexuality Kit contains materials from 1975 to 1983. Most of the materials are copyrighted for 1983. The collection covers topics such as human anatomy, femininity, masculinity, conception, birth, birth control, abortion, masturbation, lovemaking, friendships, sexually transmitted diseases, and sexual minorities. The About Your Sexuality Kit pays equal attention to homosexual and heterosexual relationships and sexual health. It captures progressive viewpoints of the early 1980s. This collection contains leader guides that are booklets to direct the course on sexuality for young people aged 12 to 14, as well as supplemental material such as filmstrips, cassette tapes, activity sheets, books and pamphlets. The About Your Sexuality Kit is organized according to the curriculum of the program. The collection looks to be missing materials. The following books are not found in this collection: *Human Sexualities*; *Changing Bodies, Changing Lives*; *Lesbian/Woman*; and *The True Story of How Babies are Made*. The Sexual Minorities in Society cassette and the VD Handbook are also not found in this collection.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research use.

Conditions Governing Use

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Provenance unknown.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Related Materials

Related Materials

John J. Wilcox, Jr. Archives:

Ephemera files, Ms. Coll. 35:

Camden Area Health Education Center (Camden, NJ)

Health Education Resource Organization (HERO) (New York, NY)

Sex Information and Education Council of the US (SIECUS) (New York, NY)

Files related to the Unitarian Universalist Association can be found in the ephemera files collection.

LGBTQ pamphlets, Ms. Coll. 57:

Pamphlets produced by the Sex Information and Education Council of the U.S. and the Pennsylvania Department of Education can be found in the LGBTQ pamphlet collection.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Controlled Access Headings

- Adolescence
- Anatomy
- audiocassettes
- Bisexuality
- Childbirth
- Conception
- Contraception
- Cross-dressing
- Filmstrips
- Friendship
- Heterosexuality
- Homosexuality
- Instructional and educational works
- Masturbation
- Pamphlets
- Sex Instruction
- Sexual Health
- Sexual Orientation
- Sexuality transmitted diseases
- Study guides and teaching aides

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances	
Leader's Guides: About Your Sexuality program booklets, 1983	Box 1	Folder 1
Leader's Guides: About Your Sexuality program booklets (copy 2), 1983	Box 1	Folder 2
About Your Sexuality program booklets addendum, 1983	Box 1	Folder 3
Birth Control Methods cards, 1983	Box 1	Folder 4
2 Sets of Genetics cards, 1983	Box 1	Folder 5
Photocards of Young People, 1983	Box 1	Folder 6
Cassette tape: Lovemaking: Heterosexual, 1983	Box 1	Item 1
Cassette tape: Lovemaking: Bisexual and Homosexual, 1983	Box 1	Item 2

Cassette tape: Dressing Up: An Overview of Cross Dressing, 1983	Box 1	Item 3
Cassette tape: The Invisible Minority, 1983	Box 1	Item 4
Cassette tape: Same Sex Friendships, 1983	Box 1	Item 5
Film strip: Sex is Everywhere, 1983	Box 1	Item 6
Film strip: Breaking the Language Barrier, 1983	Box 1	Item 7
Film strip: Love Making, 1983	Box 1	Item 8
Film strip: Love Making (Continued), 1983	Box 1	Item 9
Film strip: Sexual Anatomy, Conception and Birth, 1983	Box 1	Item 10
Film strip: Same-Sex Friendships, 1983	Box 1	Item 11
Film strip: Masturbation, 1983	Box 1	Item 12
Film strip: Dressing Up, 1983	Box 1	Item 13
Film strip: The Invisible Minority, 1983	Box 1	Item 14
Book: Society and the Healthy Homosexual by Dr. George Weinberg, 1983	Box 1	Folder 7
Pamphlets, 1975-1983	Box 1	Folder 8
Cardboard carrier, 1983	Box 1	Item 15