

Relating

The Newsletter of the Institute for 21st Century Relationships

Volume 2, Issue 4

July-August-September 2002

Welcoming Reception at *Building Bridges* to Celebrate National Coming Out Day

National Coming Out Day, October 11, has become a fixture since its modest beginnings in 1987. Its origins trace back to the second GLBT March on Washington, which featured the first display of the NAMES quilt honoring those who died of AIDS. This march catalyzed for the creation of a number of prominent GLBT organizations, and galvanized activists. One product was the concept of encouraging GLBTs to “come out of the closet” in order to further the cause of recognizing their right to be themselves – it is harder to hate when one knows people who openly identify as the hated minority.

National Coming Out Day was the joint brainchild of Rob Eichberg, a founder of the personal growth workshop *The Experience*, and Jean O’Leary, then head of National Gay Rights Advocates. Over the ensuing 15 years, Coming Out Day has grown by leaps and bounds, and is now administered by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation.

ITCR is proud to join in commemorating this important event and in affirming the positive value of coming out in furthering public respect for all persons facing discrimination and bigotry because of sexual orientation or relationship configuration. ☒

Gay Scholar/Activist Rofes to Deliver Closing Address; Optional Workshops Set for *Building Bridges* 2002

The second annual *Building Bridges* Conference program is set, offering attendees a diverse array of top quality programming, fun pre-Conference workshops, inspiring speakers, and memorable social events. The Conference, set for October 11-13 at the Holiday Inn National Airport Hotel in Arlington, Virginia, is expected to draw well over 100 attendees practicing the entire spectrum of nontraditional relationship forms.

Respected GLBT activist and scholar Dr. Eric Rofes of Humboldt State University has joined the *Building Bridges* program as both a panelist and Closing Address speaker. Dr. Rofes has authored nine books, including *Reviving the Tribe: Regenerating Gay Men’s Sexuality and Culture in the Ongoing Epidemic*, and *Dry Bones Breathe: Gay Men Creating Post-AIDS Identities and Cultures*. His closing remarks will address the theme, “The Challenges We Face Organizing Sex, Relationships, and Emotions in an Eroding Democracy.”

Rofes joins a lineup of speakers that includes keynoter Judith Levine, author of *Harmful to Minors: The Peril of Protecting Children from Sex*, Dr. Susan Campbell, author of *Getting Real* and 5 other best-selling books, Dr. Robert T. Francoeur, editor of the *International Encyclopedia of Sex*, Dr. David Hall, Senior Editor of the *Electronic Journal of Human Sexuality*, and over a dozen other highly-qualified presenters.

Two highly entertaining experiential pre-Conference workshops have been confirmed for Friday, October 11. The afternoon workshop, for women only, is *The Art of Exotic Dance for Everyday Women*, presented by professional

continued on page 6

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 Founders Club Members
- 3 GLBT Relationships Theme Articles
- 7 The View from the Front Lines
- 8 GLBT Bookstore Chain Supports ITCR
- 8 Calendar of Upcoming Events

Institute Leaders Present at AASECT, Lifestyle Conferences

ITCR President and CEO James R. Fleckenstein, CAE and Director of Outreach Anita T. Wagner appeared on a panel on "Polyamory" at the "Miami in May" lifestyle conference. The event attracted over 400.

Fleckenstein also appeared in May on the program of the American Association of Sex Educators, Counselors and Therapists conference in Miami Beach. He co-presented with ITCR Advisory Council Member Susan Kaye, Ph.D., D.H.S., on "Alternative Lifestyles – Relationship Options," to a packed room.

Wagner presented a program on "Avoiding the Pitfalls in Polyamorous Relationships" at the annual Loving More East conference in Havre de Grace, Maryland in August. She also moderated a workshop session for leaders of local/regional polyamory support/social groups. ☞



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ITCR Mission Statement

Attaining a satisfactory level of love and companionship through intimate relations is an unalterable, fundamental need of all human beings. The Institute for 21st Century Relationships exists to facilitate the fulfillment of the human potential for relating, and to support the freedom of consenting adults to discover and to practice the intimate relationship structure that best meets their emotional and human needs. We champion the basic human right to do so free of governmental, societal or institutional coercion or favoritism.

We seek, through education, research, and support, to create a climate in which all forms of ethical, consensual and fulfilling relationship styles are broadly understood and are equally respected and honored as legitimate choices.

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Honor Roll of Support:

Founders Club Members

This is an elite group of Institute supporters who gave \$500 before September 1, 2001. We thank them for their generosity and vision.

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2002 Benefactors

Benefactors have supported the Institute with a gift of \$500-\$999 between 1/1/2002 and 12/31/2002

- James R. Fleckenstein – Herndon, VA
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2001-02 Organizational Affiliates

Organizational Affiliates have joined with a gift of \$50 or more since August 2001.

- Anakosha Corporation – Naples, FL
- Chesapeake Polyamory Network – Washington, DC
- International Lifestyles Association – Washington, DC

Special "Triple Issues" of *Relating*

One consequence of the greatly expanded *Building Bridges* Conference programming and optional events has been to put a squeeze on the ITCR staff. This issue of *Relating* covers three months instead of the usual two. The next issue will be the October/November/December issue, which should be in your hands in mid-November, with complete Conference coverage. We appreciate your support and look forward to continuing to provide you with a unique and high-quality *printed* newsletter, five times a year..

Special *Relating* Theme Section on GLBT Relationships

Is Monogamy For You? Some Ways to Figure it Out

By Michael Shernoff, MSW

While most of us fantasize about a relationship full of hot sex, romance, great passion as well as companionship and intimacy, the reality is that there are different kinds of couples. There are couples who have a tremendous amount of sexual passion. These couples may also have passionate fights that help fuel their sexual intensity. These people may or may not share a great deal of interests. It is not uncommon for these relationships to wind down once the sexual passion cools, whether that be a few weeks, months or years.

Other couples have a relationship based more on the quality of companionship and shared affection, where the level of mutual physical attraction does not necessarily include high levels of passionate sexual exchange. These couples generally maintain a level of sexual activity with each other and are often very long term relationships. Then there are those very lucky couples that are extremely companionable and also have a very hot and passionate sex life.

One of the beauties of queer culture is that we get to define the kind of relationship we have. There is no one right or wrong way to be a male couple. There are many varieties of committed relationships between two men that affect their romantic relationship and emotional bonding. Some male couples are sexually exclusive throughout the course of their relationships. Others have explicitly nonexclusive relationships right from their first dating period and continue in this way. Still others have formed a committed relationship that is made up of three men living together and sharing their lives and bed.

Most male couples in the early stage of their relationship describe a high level of sexual activity that is directly related to the newness of being in love. This is the stage of their relationships when male couples are most likely to be sexually exclusive. Most couples appear to move between sexual exclusivity and nonexclusivity at different points in their relationship. For example a couple may or may not start off sexually exclusive but then evolve into having an honestly open relationship. At some point during the course of their relationship

they may become primarily or even 100% sexually exclusive, or even nonsexual partners who share all aspects of their lives except sex.

With all of these options, how can you tell which is the right one for you? As in all important decisions, this needs to involve a multi faceted approach that begins with your doing some very serious self-examination in order to determine whether monogamy or an open relationship is important to you. In order to honestly examine all you're feeling you have to leave political correctness out of the equation. No, we are not supposed to be possessive. Instead we have a different relationship ethic than the one that applies to heterosexuals. Sometimes, though, our feelings are just not in synch with the prevailing political climate. And that is fine!

Talk, Talk, Talk

It is crucial that neither you nor your boy friend or partner be afraid of raising the issue of how each feels about monogamy. Opening up a conversation about this topic does not mean that you are going to change the rules by which you have been functioning. (Unfortunately, all too often a couple has not spoken about this topic directly, and each is under the misunderstanding that he *knows*, while in reality he only *assumes* that both men are functioning with the same understanding and expectations.)

If you have never been successful at remaining monogamous, this is an important piece of information to share with someone you are getting serious with. Similarly, if remaining nonmonogamous is the big deal breaker for you, you need to express this to any potential permanent partner. It is also important to realize that the way either or both of you are feeling about this issue at any particular moment need not be a permanent position. You are entitled to change how you think about this (or almost any other important area of your life or relationship) as time goes on.

Jealousy

"My last lover and I had an open relationship and

continued on page 4

Is (Non-)Monogamy for You?

(Continued from page 3)


I had sex about ten times more often outside of the relationship than my partner did. Yet on those infrequent occasions when he did trick I'd go ballistic and become a crazy woman," Martin told me, laughing at his own inconsistency during a couples session with his current partner when they were talking about whether or not to open up their monogamous relationship. While figuring out whether or not nonmonogamy is for you, it is important to ask yourself and your partner do you think that you are willing and able to handle the knowledge that your boyfriend/lover/husband is having sex with other men?

Rules

If you do decide to move your relationship from monogamous to an open one proceed very cautiously. Spend a lot of time discussing what the rules will be that will allow this to be a safe transition. It is also a good idea not to just throw the flood gates open, but to move in small increments over time, evaluating how you both feel after each new step is taken.

What is the likelihood of it working?

San Francisco psychotherapist Dr. Jack Morin feels that a couple has a very good chance of adjusting to this change if at least some of the following conditions exist:

- Both partners want their relationship to remain primary.
- The couple has an established reservoir of good will.
- There are minimal lingering resentments from past hurts and betrayals.
- The partners are not polarized over monogamy/nonmonogamy.
- The partners are feeling similarly powerful and autonomous.
- Each partner has an independent support system, so that neither is only dependent on the other as an emotional and social resource.
- The couple is merely bored but very secure with each other. 

Michael Shernoff, MSW, is an openly gay psychotherapist in private practice since 1975. He can be contacted at mshernoff@aol.com; or at www.gaypsychotherapy.com

A Rose By Any Other Name...

By Jeffrey P. Adams

Homosexual. Heterosexual. Gay. Lesbian. Bisexual. Transvestite. Transsexual. Cross-dresser. Dike. Butch. Butch-dike. Hermaphrodite. Top. Bottom. Dom. Sub. Whore. Slut. Virgin. Pickup. Good girl. Bad girl.

The biggest problem with an alternative life style may simply be the labels applied to it, by ourselves and by others. Sometimes labels are a good thing: "MWF looking for lesbian couple interested in poly." A lot of labels there, but it's all just trying to make a clear statement. Sometimes labels are for fun. "I'm a tri-sexual. I'll try anything." More often labels are a bad thing. "Get that fag out of here!" or "All a lesbian needs is a real Man to straighten her out."

Ever sat as the only straight male at a table of lesbians? Or as a married couple in a gay bar? Or tried to be chummy as a bi-woman with a group of man-hating dikes? Or ever been the only Democrat at a Republican convention? Some times you are accepted, sometimes merely tolerated and sometimes you'd better leave. A gay in a straight bar runs a great risk just being there. "Straight society" (whatever that means, exactly) is quite intolerant of even small differences in behavior (albeit according to some pretty vague rules). Why? Why this compulsion to label every thing either Acceptable or Unacceptable? Quite possibly it's nothing more than biology -- very low-level, fundamental and unthinking biology.

Our bodies are constantly at war inside ourselves. The number of cells in an adult human body is so staggering that putting a number to it (something like 60 trillion) is a pointless exercise. Let's just say that from a cell's-eye-view, our bodies are Universes. Within that Universe are things that belong (our cells, tissues, bones, etc) and things that don't (viruses, pollens, bacteria, splinters, etc). We have a police force in our bodies (the immune system), and the cops on the beat (the white cells) are always running around in there asking of everything they meet "is this *Me* or *Not-Me*?" That is, does this belong here or not? If it is *Me*, then all is well and the white cell moves on. If it is *Not-Me*, then this is **bad** and the "foreigner" is destroyed as quickly as possible, without any possibility of mercy and with no exceptions made. If necessary, other white cells are called to the attack. In this way colds, flus, etc are fought off.

continued on page 6

Bisexuality's Future - Through the Window of the Past

By Anita T. Wagner

In the words of Martin Luther King, I have a dream – and it's a big one. My dream is made up of my hopes for queers and straights, the vanilla and the kinky, the monogamous and non-monogamous. Of course, bisexual interests and concerns are present in virtually all of these worlds. In a nutshell, my dream is that consenting adults be free to love whom and how they wish, free of influences, both overt and subtle, that serve to deny freedom of choice in such matters.

Like so many other forms of nontraditional sexual expression and relating, bisexuality has had its challenges in achieving tolerance and acceptance, more so within the gay and lesbian communities than in the historically homophobic mainstream, oddly enough. But considering that, like African-Americans, gays and lesbians have had to fight the kind of oppression that threatens their very lives, it becomes easier to see how the idea of accepting the legitimacy of bisexuality was perceived as an additional threat. To their credit, and due to the tireless efforts of bisexual activists, a considerable amount of tolerance, acceptance and healing has been achieved for queer-identified bisexuals.

This is not to say, though, that the mainstream universally embraces bisexuality. If you are a mainstream woman, your bisexual inclinations are generally tolerated, encouraged in some sectors and even celebrated in others. If you are a mainstream man who desires both men and women, you soon get the message that you had better be very careful to whom you reveal it.

In the early 1990s, female bisexuality began to show up on mainstream shows like *LA Law*, and being a feminine bisexual woman was soon considered pretty cool. It caught the attention of and fueled the sexual fantasies of women who otherwise may never have considered same-sex sexual activity or been brave enough to explore it if they had.


Certainly mainstream men play a major role in the acceptability of female bisexuality. It is no secret that experiencing sex with two women who desire each other as well as him is a pervasive male fantasy. Dr. Joan K. Dixon's research in the early 1980s – well before the mainstreaming of female bisexuality – revealed that the subjects of her study (married, over-30 women with absolutely no history of sexual interest in or desire for other women prior to engaging in multi-female sexual activity in a swinging context) overwhelmingly cited the influence and encouragement of their husbands as motivating their choice to engage in multi-female sexual activity for the first time. However, the subjects went on over time to develop a substantial independent desire for, and pleasure in

engaging in and fantasizing about, sex with other women, and eventually came to self-identify as bisexual.¹

Though research is needed to determine how many women identify today as "mainstream bisexual," it seems safe to say that their numbers greatly outpace those of queer focused female bisexuals. As the opportunities for knowledge and connection have multiplied via the Internet, groups for mainstream bisexual women have formed, where women who embrace and enjoy their desire for other women gather to socialize, dress sexy for each other, and watch pornographic videos by their own choice, without any overt thought, concern or even awareness of feminist values and "women's issues."

Unfortunately, men with bisexual potential and interest have been not nearly so advantaged. For otherwise mainstream individuals, the swinging community tends to be the point of entry into nontraditional sexual/relationship behavior. Though some improvement is observable, men are generally discouraged from exploring bisexuality within swinging. This is largely accounted for by the widespread belief in the swing community that if male-to-male sexual activity is discouraged or prohibited, sexually-transmitted infections will remain outside the community and the use of condoms can be dispensed with.

But even in the carefully regimented swing world, boys will be boys, and as men who have grown up in more accepting times in general begin to participate in swinging, they are beginning to express their objections to being denied equal access to same-sex pleasure. The good news is that as the older generation of swingers becomes less influential, male bisexuality is much more likely to gain acceptance.

Being the eternal optimist, I have hope that my dream of acceptance for all, including bisexuals of every variety, will come true. Of course, in an ideal world, people of all orientations and lifestyles would come out and stand up for their right to be who they are while resisting the urge to separate themselves into discrete groups and distance themselves from others whose alternative identities and sexual practices do not exactly match their own. Care to share my dream? 

¹ Dixon, J. K. (1984). The Commencement of Bisexual Activity in Swinging Married Women Over Age Thirty. *The Journal of Sex Research* 20 (1), 71-90.

Anita T. Wagner is a self-identified polyamorous bisexual, co-founder of the ITCR and of the Chesapeake Polyamory Network, and a board member of the National Coalition for Sexual Freedom. Her writing has also appeared in *Loving More* magazine. Contacted her at imapolygirl@yahoo.com.

Building Bridges 2002

(Continued from page 1)

instructors and aimed at the interests of "everyday" women who want to "fully empower yourself, connect with others, boost your self-confidence and self-esteem, become a role model, attract people to you, overcome your fears of self expression, let down your guard, and discover new ways to spice up your relationships." The \$59 registration fee for the 4-hour program includes a free *Exotic Dance* videocassette or DVD, for periodic "refreshers."

The Friday evening workshop, following the Welcoming Reception honoring National Coming Out Day, is themed *Exploring Intimate Friendships*. The leaders, David S. Hall, Ph.D. and Roseann Hannon, Ph.D., are members of the ITCR Advisory Council, experienced workshop leaders and sexuality educators. Both Dave and Roseann have participated in, and led, similar workshops for swing clubs, poly groups, and others. The workshop, which costs \$35, will encourage participants to "look into ourselves to find what we mean when we say we are 'poly' or 'swingers' or 'into BDSM' or any other lifestyle we are exploring." Everyone will always be at choice as to how they participate, and what they share.

Saturday night's optional social event will be a "Pajama Party" dinner/dance, a chance to unwind, have fun, be a little outrageous (or not) and get to know fellow Conference attendees better outside the formal setting of the educational sessions and workshops.

It's not too late to register for these exciting workshops, or for the entire *Building Bridges* Conference – but it soon will be. Registration is available online at www.lovethatworks.org/conference.html Or, you can still print out the registration form and mail it with a check to:

**ITCR 2002 Conference
2419 Little Current Drive
Suite 1933
Herndon, VA 20171-4612**

ITCR wishes to thank the organizations that are supporting the *Building Bridges* Conference:

**The National Coalition for Sexual Freedom
Delaware Valley Synergy (PA, NJ)
Chesapeake Polyamory Network (DC, MD, VA)
Hampton Roads (VA) Polyamory
Richmond (VA) Polyamory** ☒

A Rose by Any Other Name

(Continued from page 4)

Sometimes this process goes really bad, though, and the white cells label something as foreign matter when it isn't. Such as our own nerves, for instance, which is what conditions like Muscular Dystrophy and Lou Gehrig's Disease are all about. Some think diabetes and even aging might also fall in this category. These are literally the body tearing itself apart because its simple two-valued logic -- Me or Not-Me, Good or Bad -- just isn't good enough.

In the world around us we see this same sorting process at work. A pack of wolves will accept its own members, but not one from another pack. Primates and monkeys live in closed communal groups. Humans show this behavior at many levels. Street gangs and ethnic neighborhoods. Men's clubs and ladies lunches. Class distinctions and religious wars. He's Catholic, she's Protestant and a firebomb goes off somewhere. A gay man is beaten to death and the case simply filed away "unsolved." All very like the simplistic and ruthless "Me/Not-Me" formula that our bodies rely on everyday.

What do I mean by all this? I mean that labels ("this is me, and you're not") are basically silly. Gay or straight. Atheist, Christian or Muslim. Right-to-lifer or Pro-choice. Nothing is that simple. For example, what labels can I put on myself? Guy? Yes. Straight? Maybe. Lesbian? Not for a guy. Oops, what about a male lesbian? Where does one label start and another end? Myself, I have my hands full just trying to be human.

Labels (gay, lesbian, bi, trans) have their places certainly, but generally are too simplistic. Life is more complicated than Me/Not-Me. Otherwise evolution (or creation) would have halted with the immune system. I'd like to think we're smarter than a white cell. Wouldn't you? ☒

Jeffery Adams (jeffrey_p_adams@hotmail.com) is a freelance writer. He and his four-adult family are mutually owned by four very sophisticated cats who firmly believe in everyone's right to a free lifestyle.

Next Issue – Biology's Influence and Gender Issues

Share *your* thoughts and experiences. For writer's guidelines, deadlines, etc.:
www.lovethatworks.org/relating.html

The View from the Front Lines

By Jim Fleckenstein, ITCR President and CEO

Building A Bridge... Or A Pier?

"Increasingly, gay activists are the self-righteous zealots..." - Maggie Gallagher, leading advocate for the Marriage Movement, August 7, 2001

"Self-esteem isn't built by wearing butt-less chaps at an all-gay event straight people won't attend. It's bringing a male date to the company picnic. Pride isn't forged because you sit in the back of a convertible wearing a dress. It's earned when you don't let go of your boyfriend's hand, even when you see straight people coming." - Michael Alvear, *Houston Voice* columnist, June 23, 2000

As a straight man with a gay brother and a gay first cousin, in relationship with two bisexual women, and with many bisexual and gay friends, these two quotes resonate deeply with me. Maggie Gallagher is one of those people you'd have to invent if she didn't exist. She provides so much documentary evidence of the intolerance that would be visited upon us all if we do not forthrightly resist the efforts to continue and expand the legal imposition of "one size fits all" relationships in this country.

Michael Alvear's quote shows that he clearly understands that posturing "inside the closet," no matter how flamboyant, has no effect on promoting freedom and the right to love whom, how, and however many we love in the wider world. And, that the small, though difficult, steps each individual takes will collectively make a huge difference.

When the Institute was conceived, we understood that it was essential to do everything possible to facilitate the inclusion of gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendereds in our constituency. Few other groups have encountered so much prejudice and hatred because of whom they love as our GLBT friends and family. They belong in our fold, we want to support them, and we need their support.

Unlike our common foes, we reject attempting to assess the "validity" or worth of a person's relationship on the basis of immutable biology or "mere" personal preference. To us, it's irrelevant, because we believe every competent adult has the absolute right to be in whatever relationship he/she deems appropriate, always assuming informed consent and the absence of harm.

When we use the word "choice," we do so as it affects the right to self-determination regarding relationships, *not* whether or not a particular orientation, practice, or predilection is innate or chosen. The gender, orientation, or number of the adult participants, and the exact behaviors that characterize the relationship (other than honesty and consent) are not material to our support for the right to have such relationships, and the right not to suffer discrimination based on those relationships.

We hope our GLBT allies will hear that message and not take offense at our use of the word "choice" with respect to relationships. We mean something entirely different than do our common enemies.

We also have grave doubts about the merits of attempting to assimilate our diverse relationship forms by trying to mimic "mainstream" culture. Unfortunately, this puts ITCR at odds with the strategies of some large GLBT advocacy groups. They generally seek to "repackage" the culturally unique and yet diverse relationship structures and approaches developed over the centuries by gays and lesbians as "Ozzie and Harry" or "Georgette and Gracie" – sanitized carbon copies of the Christian het monogamy model so unfairly highly privileged in our society and laws (which nevertheless fails nearly half the folks who try it).

One possible consequence of this difference in philosophy has been that ITCR has not yet enjoyed much cooperation from these GLBT groups. Our emails get shuttled around and eventually "lost," our phone calls go unreturned. The kindest explanation is that this is only because we are small and not yet seen as central to these groups' many urgent priorities. Hopefully, in the future we will be better able to work together despite differing views. I believe our common cause is too important for a less collaborative outcome.

It is my hope that ITCR can, by continuing to extend the hand of friendship and support to our natural allies in the GLBT world; by continuing to explore GLBT issues such as in this edition of *Relating*; by featuring speakers like Dr. Eric Rofes and Dr. Loraine Hutchins at our *Building Bridges* Conferences; and by such actions as incorporating a recognition of National Coming Out Day into our Conference programming, unambiguously demonstrate our good will and positive intentions.

You cannot build a bridge from one side – what you end up with is a pier. Useful, but not what you were looking for. I hope our GLBT friends will hear our call and start building from their side, too. ☞

Calendar of Events

October

- 4-6 – 6th Annual Conference of the Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network (GLSEN) – Los Angeles, CA (Info: www.glsen.org/templates/events/article.html?section=50&ecord=617)
- 4-6 – 2nd Annual *Transcending Boundaries* Conference – New Britain, CT (Info: www.transcendingboundaries.org)
- 5 – 2nd Annual Poly Pride Day – New York, NY (Info: www.poly-NYC.com)
- 11-13 – 2nd Annual **Building Bridges** Conference of the ITCR – Washington, DC (Info: www.lovethatworks.org/conference.html)
- 18-20 – Men's Awareness Institute/American Institute for Bisexuality Conference – San Diego, CA (Info: www.bisexual.org)
- 24-27 – 60th Annual Conference of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy – Cincinnati, OH (Info: www.aamft.org)
- 31-Nov 3 – 6th Annual Black Rose pansexual leather, education and social event – Washington, DC (Info: www.br.org/br2002/)

November

- 6-10 – National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's 15th Annual *Creating Change* Conference – Portland, OR (Info: www.nglftf.org/cc/index.cfm)
- 7-10 – 44th Annual Conference of the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality (SSSS) – Montreal, Quebec, Canada (Info: www.ssc.wisc.edu/ssss/meetings.htm)
- 11-14 – 64th Annual Conference of the National Council on Family Relations – Houston, TX (Info: www.ncfr.org/conference_info/index.asp)
- 14-18 – 4th Annual Nawlins in November lifestyle convention – New Orleans, LA (Info: www.neworleansinnovember.com)
- 15-17 – BiZone NJ *Endless Possibilities* Conference - Princeton, NJ (Info: www.BiZone.org or 732-246-3769)

2003

January

- 9-12 – 4th Annual Research Meeting of the Sexual Medicine Society of North America – Boca Raton, FL (Info: www.smsna.org/meetings/meetings.html#2)

March

- 26-30 – Lifestyles Convention-East – Miami Beach, FL (Info: Lifestyles-East.com/)

April

- 10-13 – Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality (SSSS) Western Region Annual Meeting – San Jose, CA (Info: www.sssswr.org/Prog03/cfp03.html)
- 11-13 – Leather Leadership Conference VII – Boston, MA (Info: <http://www.leatherleadership.org/llc7/index.htm>)
- 24-27 – Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality (SSSS) Eastern Region Annual Meeting – Baltimore, MD (Info: www.ssc.wisc.edu/ssss/CallforPapers-EastRegion.pdf)


June

- 3-8 – 35th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Sex Educators, Counselors and Therapists – Las Vegas, NV (Info: www.aasect.org/annualcon.cfm)

Send us information on major conferences/events that might be of interest to Relating's readers, and we'll consider them for inclusion. Send to Relating Calendar, ITCR, 2419 Little Current Drive, Suite 1933, Herndon, VA 20171, or email us at calendar@lovethatworks.org.

Lambda Rising Bookstore Chain to Support ITCR

The *Lambda Rising* chain of GLBT bookstores has agreed to donate 10% of the receipts from all purchases made using the coupon below to ITCR. The coupon is valid at *Lambda Rising's* stores in Washington, DC, Baltimore, MD, Rehoboth Beach, DE, or Norfolk VA. We urge you to patronize these friends of relationship freedom, save money, and help support our work.



Save 10%
with this coupon and
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will donate another 10% to
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Relationships**
(not valid on tickets; expires 12/31/02)
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