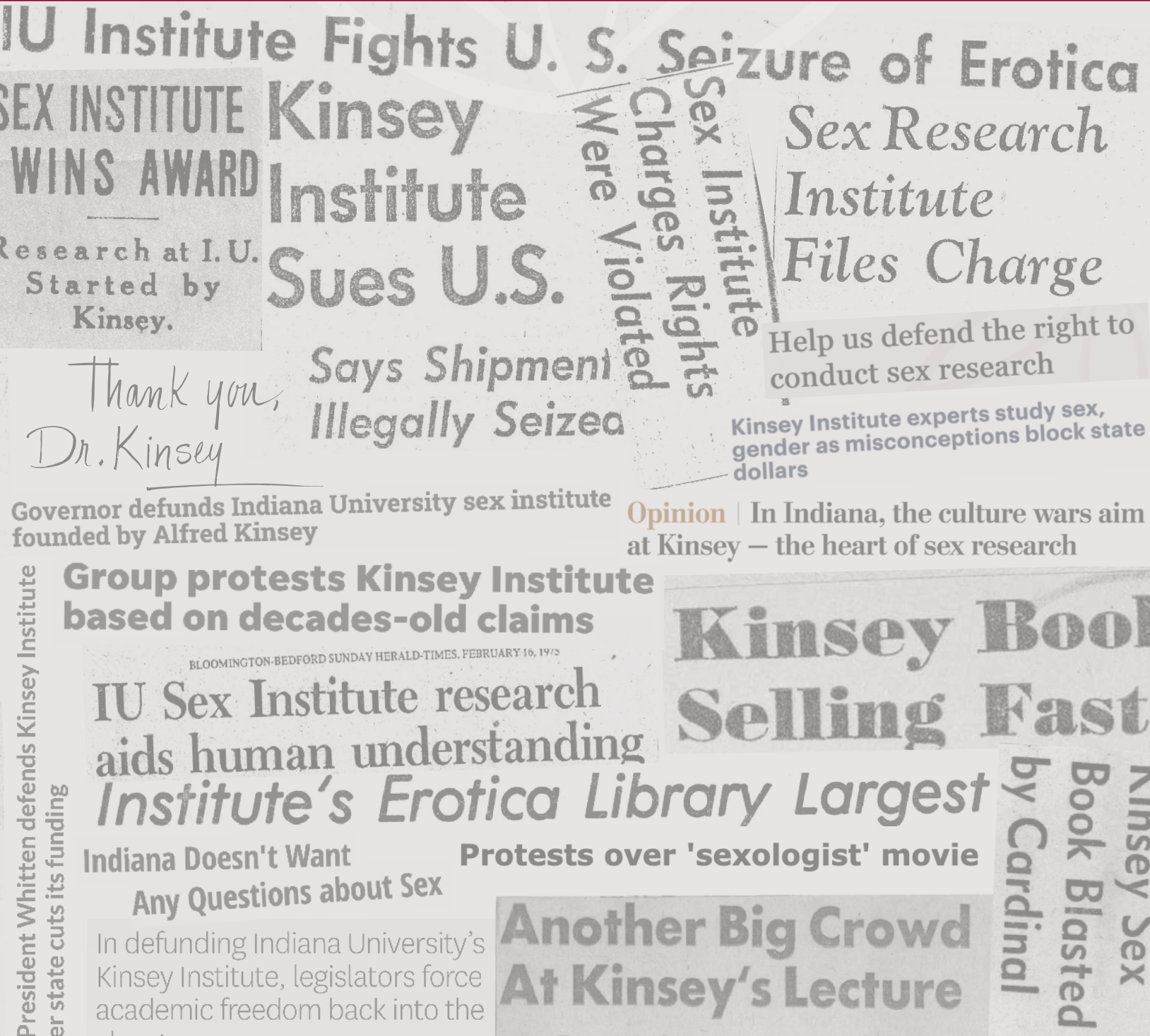


# Kinsey Institute

INDIANA UNIVERSITY

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



IU Institute Fights U. S. Seizure of Erotica

SEX INSTITUTE  
WINS AWARD

Research at I.U.  
Started by  
Kinsey.

Kinsey  
Institute  
Sues U.S.

Sex  
Institute  
Charges  
Rights  
Were  
Violated

Sex Research  
Institute  
Files Charge

Help us defend the right to  
conduct sex research

Kinsey Institute experts study sex,  
gender as misconceptions block state  
dollars

Thank you,  
Dr. Kinsey

Says Shipment  
Illegally Seized

Governor defunds Indiana University sex institute  
founded by Alfred Kinsey

Opinion | In Indiana, the culture wars aim  
at Kinsey – the heart of sex research

Group protests Kinsey Institute  
based on decades-old claims

BLOOMINGTON-BEDFORD SUNDAY HERALD-TIMES, FEBRUARY 16, 1975

IU Sex Institute research  
aids human understanding

Kinsey Book  
Selling Fast

Institute's Erotica Library Largest

Indiana Doesn't Want  
Any Questions about Sex

Protests over 'sexologist' movie

In defunding Indiana University's  
Kinsey Institute, legislators force  
academic freedom back into the

Another Big Crowd  
At Kinsey's Lecture

Kinsey Sex  
Book Blasted  
by Cardinal

President Whitten defends Kinsey Institute  
as state cuts its funding



Unknown artist, India. Metal. Two seated figures, with human bodies and elephant heads, embrace. The underside reveals one figure's erect penis in front of the other's vulva. From the June Reinisch Art and Artifacts Collection, donated by former Kinsey Institute Director Dr. June Reinisch.

## From the Director

Every year, we enjoy celebrating the Kinsey Institute's successes in our annual report as an opportunity to look back at what we have achieved and what opportunities are ahead. This year, we also look back at what has been and continues to be a time of renewed obstacles and attack on the Institute's research mission and the academic freedom of our multi-disciplinary team.

I am continuously inspired by the brilliance and bravery of our faculty, staff, and students, who remain remarkably productive in pursuit of cutting-edge research, innovative educational programming, impactful art exhibitions, and unparalleled historical archiving. Our colleagues at Indiana University and our many external partners, including our funders and donors, have helped us advance research on pressing issues, including sexual harassment in public places, the dynamics of interpersonal violence in intimate relationships, expanding our understanding of asexuality, examining aging and sexual activity, and the annual Singles in America study.

This year, however, we have accomplished all this progress and discovery under a cloud of intense scrutiny and prejudice targeted at both Dr. Kinsey's original scientific studies on sexual behavior and the ground-breaking research that continues today, eight decades later. Tangible repercussions of this misinformation include a new Indiana state law passed in spring of 2023 which bars Indiana University's use of state appropriations to fund the Kinsey Institute's operations, research, and collections activities.

Despite being an apolitical research institute, the Kinsey Institute has been through challenging political times before. We have endured, and will continue to persevere, because of the courage and thoughtful leadership of our researchers and supporters who have stood proudly together in defense of knowledge and refused to bow to fear.

As the Executive Director of the Kinsey Institute, my commitment to you is that we will not succumb to misinformation and intimidation. The Kinsey Institute is a beacon for bold intellectual inquiry, and our work is too important to stop now. I am so humbled and honored by the outpouring of support from our friends and donors this year, for which everyone at the Kinsey Institute remains grateful. I encourage you to continue to stay engaged with our mission and ongoing work as we move forward together in 2024, and for many years to come.

Sincerely,

*Justin*



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**JUSTIN R. GARCIA, Ph.D.**  
*Executive Director* & Senior Scientist,  
Kinsey Institute  
Ruth N. Halls Professor,  
Gender Studies



This untitled mural from Bullwinkle's nightclub in Bloomington, painted by local artist Jim Andrews, was donated to the Kinsey Institute in 2023 by Bernice Pescosolido and Jeff Scofield.

## ABOUT OUR COVER

Since its founding in 1947, the Kinsey Institute has been the target of misinformation and attacks against its research, mission, and existence. And every time, the Institute continues to be supported by researchers, followers, and donors who believe in the vital importance of our work expanding the world's understanding of human sexuality and intimate relationships.

Cover design: Avrie Allen.  
Design: Jennifer L. Witzke.  
Text: Marie Metelnick.

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# Indiana State Legislation Regarding Our Funding

In February 2023, a junior State Representative proposed an amendment to House Bill 1001, the state budget bill, to prevent Indiana University from using state appropriations to directly or indirectly fund the Kinsey Institute. The amendment was passed by the Indiana House, later passed by the Indiana Senate, and signed into law in May 2023 by Governor Holcomb. The new law (IC.21.20.6) identifies both direct expenses such as equipment, furniture, or office supplies costs, and indirect expenses such as facilities and utility costs.

Indiana University and the Kinsey Institute are fully complying with this legislation. The Kinsey Institute has not and does not receive state appropriation dollars to fund any direct expenses. Steps are being taken to ensure that the Kinsey Institute will pay for facilities and university administrative services with verified non-state appropriation funds.



Unknown artist and country. Wood. Carved sculpture of topless female reclining against kneeling male. An infant is at the woman's feet, its head supported between her ankles. From the June Reinisch Art and Artifacts Collection, donated by former Kinsey Institute Director Dr. June Reinisch.

<b>IC 21-20-6</b>	<b>Chapter 6. Prohibition on State Funding of the Kinsey Institute</b>
<a href="#">21-20-6-1</a> <a href="#">21-20-6-2</a>	"Administration, operation, or programs" Use of state appropriations
<b>IC 21-20-6-1</b>	<b>"Administration, operation, or programs"</b>
Sec. 1. For purposes of this chapter, the term "administration, operation, or programs" includes any of the following property, activities, assets, or expenses that are used, conducted, maintained, or incurred for, by, or on behalf of the Kinsey Institute for Research in Sex, Gender, and Reproduction:	
(1) On-campus facilities.	
(2) Equipment, furniture, furnishings, or office supplies.	
(3) Land or property.	
(4) Utilities.	
(5) Advertising or promotional material included in literature or media presentations.	
(6) Loans, grants, special accounts, or funds.	
(7) Programs, special projects, or research.	
(8) Maintenance of facilities.	
(9) Administrative costs, operation costs, rentals, or mortgages.	
(10) Printing, duplicating, or copying.	
(11) Publication of materials.	
(12) Restoration, maintenance, or housing of research documents, including photographs, audiovisual tapes or films, and printed material.	
(13) Exhibits or displays.	
<i>As added by P.L.201-2023, SEC.231.</i>	
<b>IC 21-20-6-2</b>	<b>Use of state appropriations</b>
Sec. 2. State appropriations may not be used to pay for the administration, operation, or programs of the Kinsey Institute for Research in Sex, Gender, and Reproduction.	
<i>As added by P.L.201-2023, SEC.231.</i>	

## SELECTED MEDIA REPORTS ON RESTRICTION OF KINSEY INSTITUTE FUNDING

Indiana lawmakers back defunding Kinsey sex institute. AP News. February 22, 2023.

IU faculty criticize anti-Kinsey amendment in state budget. Indiana Public Media. February 23, 2023.

Indiana Republicans Vote to Defund Kinsey Sex Institute Over Old, Debunked 'Pedo' Claims. Jezebel.com. February 23, 2023.

Kinsey Institute: House lawmakers vote to defund IU research center. Fox 59. February 23, 2023.

Kinsey Institute no longer to have state dollars after budget adoption. Bloomington Herald-Times. April 28, 2023.

State of Indiana Cuts Funding for Kinsey. Inside Higher Ed. May 1, 2023.

Kinsey Institute prepares for future without state funding. Indiana Public Media. May 5, 2023.

Opinion | In Indiana, the culture wars aim at Kinsey — the heart of sex research. Washington Post. May 10, 2023.

Indiana's Funding Ban for Kinsey Sex-Research Institute Threatens Academic Freedom, IU President Says. Chronicle of Higher Education. May 12, 2023.

PEN America Responds to Defunding of Kinsey Institute as Another "Alarming Step" in Effort

to Exert Political Control. PEN America. May 17, 2023.

Kinsey Institute experts study sex, gender as misconceptions block state dollars. The Indiana Lawyer. May 22, 2023.

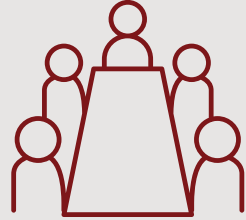
Misconceptions about its research cost Kinsey Institute funding. LA Times. May 23, 2023.

In defunding Indiana University's Kinsey Institute, legislators force academic freedom back into the closet. FIRE: Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression. May 24, 2023.

'Culture wars:' How IU's Kinsey research center reacted to losing state money. IndyStar. May 31, 2023.

# 2023: The Year in Numbers

COLLECTIONS



9,074 USER REQUESTS  
565 SCHOLAR VISITS  
443 STUDENT AND TOUR VISITORS

DEVELOPMENT



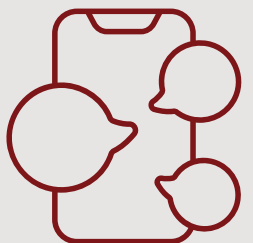
77.2% INCREASE IN DONORS  
\$3,858,000 IN GIFTS AND PLEDGES

RESEARCH



98 SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS  
100+ MEDIA MENTIONS AND FACULTY APPEARANCES

OUTREACH



10,000+ EXHIBITION VISITORS  
413 HOURS ONLINE VIDEO WATCHED  
236,000+ SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS

# Faculty Spotlight and Awards

## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

**Dr. Myeshia Price** joined the Kinsey Institute research faculty in 2023 as an Associate Research Scientist with a cross-appointment as Associate Professor in the Human Development program within the Department of Counseling & Educational Psychology. Dr. Price has more than fifteen years of experience in adolescent public health research, with a focus on sexuality, gender, and LGBTQ youth from an intersectional perspective. Their current area of research focuses on the rich experiences of LGBTQ youth in the U.S., including risk and protective factors for suicidality. Price's research further explores experiences at the intersection of multiple marginalized identities, such as LGBTQ youth of color and the specific experiences of transgender and nonbinary young people. Their work and op-eds have been featured in popular press including *Time* magazine, *Scientific American*, *The Grio*, CNN, NBC, PopSugar, *Forbes*, *Out*, and *Axios* among others. She is currently an Associate Editor of the *Journal of Sex Research*.



Dr. Myeshia Price

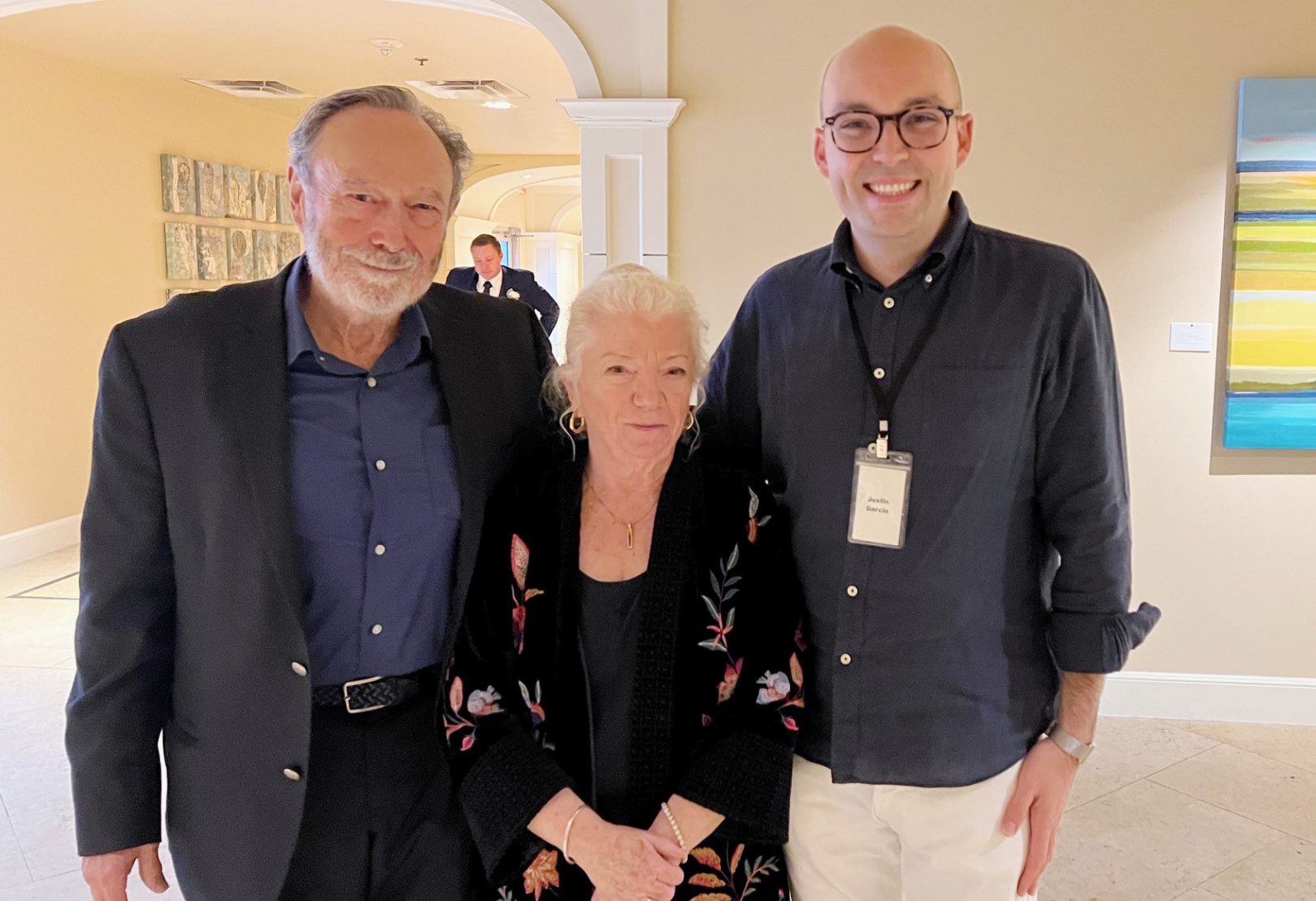
In January 2023, **Dr. Cynthia Graham** joined Indiana University as a Senior Scientist at the Kinsey Institute and Professor in the Department of Gender Studies. Dr. Graham is the Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Sex Research*, a Consulting Editor of the *Journal of Sex & Marital Therapy*, a Fellow of the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality, and a past President of the International Academy of Sex Research.



Dr. Cynthia Graham

Dr. Graham's research interests include sexual health in older adults, sexual problems in women, the design and implementation of interventions to improve the uptake and experience of condom use, gender and clinical sexology, and innovative sex education interventions for adolescents. One of her most recent projects evaluates the use of video gamification as an intervention in sex education among adolescents and young adults.

Dr. Graham is also a founding member of the Kinsey Institute's Condom Use Research Team (KI-CURT), an internationally recognized, multidisciplinary team researching behavioral aspects of condom use and misuse which has produced over 50 articles and two book chapters on condom-use associated variables, including identifying race-specific barriers to condom use, and she has worked with industry partners on the development of more effective condom designs.



Left to right: Dr. Stephen Porges, Dr. Sue Carter, and Dr. Justin Garcia.

Along with Dr. Graham's faculty appointment, the highly ranked *Journal of Sex Research* is now housed at the Kinsey Institute. Gender Studies graduate student **Zoe Moscovici** is the new Graduate Editorial Assistant.

In 2023, current and former colleagues and students of Distinguished University Scientist and former Kinsey Institute Executive Director **Dr. C. Sue Carter** gathered to celebrate her 50-year career of research excellence and leadership at "Love and Longevity: A Festschrift for Dr. C. Sue Carter."

An internationally renowned biologist and behavioral neuroscientist, Dr. Carter has studied the endocrinology of love, social bonds, and mating for more than five decades. She was the first person to detect and define the physiology of monogamy through her research on the prairie vole. These findings helped lay the foundation for the studies of behavioral and developmental effects of oxytocin and vasopressin in humans.

Following her tenure as Executive Director from 2014-2019, Dr. Carter has continued to conduct research and support the Kinsey Institute. In honor of her contributions to the Institute and the field of biology, the Dr. Sue Carter Distinguished Lecture Series has been established at the Kinsey Institute to promote interdisciplinary scientific exploration through an annual invited lecture.

## FACULTY AWARDS AND HONORS

**Dr. Jennifer Barber**, Chair-Elect, American Sociological Association's Section on Social Psychology. The Social Psychology Section of the ASA includes over 600 scholars whose research includes a special interest in the individual as both a social product and a social force.

**Dr. Cynthia Graham**, 2023 Masters & Johnson Award, Society for Sex Therapy and Research (SSTAR). The Masters and Johnson Award recognizes

extraordinary contributions to clinical sexuality and/or sexual research over the course of a lifetime and achievement of excellence in clinical and/or research areas of sexual disorders.

**Dr. Jessica Hille**, Library of Congress Demographic Group Terms (LCDGT) Advisory Board, two-year term. Dr. Hille will join high-ranking professionals and scholars from the Library of Congress, U.S. Census, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, NIH National Library of Medicine, SIL, Stanford University, and PEW Research Center.

**Dr. Justin Lehmler**, 2023 Ellen Laan Award for Translational Sexual Science, International Academy of Sex Research (IASR). This award recognizes Dr. Lehmler's work communicating sexual science to lay audiences through his podcast, textbook, social media, and public appearances.

**Dr. Zoë Peterson**, Fellow of the Society (2023), Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality (SSSS). SSSS members are named Fellows in recognition of unusual and outstanding contribution to the scientific study of sex, defined as formal investigation designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge.

**Dr. Zoë Peterson**, Fellow of the Society for the Psychological Study of Men and Masculinities (SPSMM). The SPSMM advances knowledge in the psychology of men through research, education, training, public policy and improved clinical services for men.

**Dr. Stephen Porges**, 2023 Distinguished Scientist Award, Association of Applied Psychophysiology and Biofeedback. This title is awarded in recognition of an outstanding career and scientific contribution to the field of applied psychophysiology and biofeedback.

**Dr. I. India Thusi**, 2023 Charles L. Whistler Faculty Fellow, Maurer School of Law, Indiana University. The Charles L. Whistler Faculty Fellowship was established in honor of IU alumnus Charles L. Whistler, who played a leading role in the shaping of Indianapolis and its modern political structure.

**Dr. I. India Thusi**, 2023-2024 Visiting Professor of Law, Cornell Law School, Cornell University.

**Dr. William Yarber**, Dean's Medallion, Indiana University School of Education. The Dean's Medallion is a lifetime achievement award given to individuals who have demonstrated an unwavering commitment and distinguished contributions to the betterment of society through education.

## KINSEY INSTITUTE RESIDENT RESEARCH FACULTY

### Executive Director

Justin R. Garcia, Ph.D.<sup>1</sup>

### Research Director

Stephanie A. Sanders, Ph.D.<sup>1</sup>

### Research Faculty

Judith A. Allen, Ph.D.<sup>9</sup>

Jennifer S. Barber, Ph.D.<sup>2</sup>

C. Sue Carter, Ph.D.<sup>3</sup>

Amanda N. Gesselman, Ph.D.

Cynthia Graham, Ph.D.<sup>1</sup>

Jessica J. Hille, J.D., Ph.D.

Kristen N. Jozkowski, Ph.D.<sup>4</sup>

Gregory F. Lewis, Ph.D.<sup>5</sup>

Hans Nazarloo, M.D., Ph.D.

Zoë D. Peterson, Ph.D.<sup>6</sup>

Stephen W. Porges, Ph.D.

Myeshia Price, Ph.D.<sup>6</sup>

I. India Thusi, J.D., Ph.D.<sup>7</sup>

Lemuel W. Watson, Ed.D.<sup>8</sup>

William L. Yarber, H.S.D.<sup>4</sup>

Liana Zhou, M.L.S.

### Research Fellows

Helen E. Fisher, Ph.D.

Justin J. Lehmler, Ph.D.

### Postdoctoral Researchers

Jessica Campbell, Ph.D.

Simon Dubé, Ph.D.

Ellen Kaufman, Ph.D.

### Faculty cross-appointments at Indiana University:

1 Gender Studies, College of Arts & Sciences

2 Sociology, College of Arts & Sciences

3 Biology, College of Arts & Sciences

4 School of Public Health

5 School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering

6 Counseling and Educational Psychology, School of Education

7 Maurer School of Law

8 Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, School of Education

9 History, College of Arts & Sciences

## RESEARCH LABORATORIES AND PROJECT GROUPS

Collections Digitization Laboratory

Condom Use Research Team (KI-CURT)

Disability and Sexual Health Initiative (DASHI)

Kinsey-Kelley Center for Gender Equity in Business

LGBTQ Mental Health Research Initiative

Relationship Dynamics and Social Life Project (RDSL)

Romantic and Sexual Relationships Laboratory

Sexual Assault Research Initiative

Socioneural Physiology Laboratory

Traumatic Stress Research Consortium (KI-TSRC)

# Kinsey in the News

**The Guardian**

**Newsweek**

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

**The New York Times**

**Men's Health**

ELLE

SEX AND PSYCHOLOGY PODCAST  
DR. JUSTIN LEHMILLER

LR  
LA REPUBLICA

n p r

"Survey: High Inflation Causing Singles to Adjust Spending Habits on First Dates." **Breitbart.com**, January 2.

"Come sopravvivere alla fine di un amore e smettere di soffrire (How to survive the end of a love affair and stop suffering)." **La Repubblica**, January 2.

"Staying Healthy While Staying Open: The Polyamory Dilemma." **WebMD.com**, January 5.

"Young Americans Still Want Same Number of Kids, Just Not Right Now." **Fox 1141**, January 17.

"How 'Overwatch' Spawned the World's Hottest Video Game Porn." **Rolling Stone**, January 25.

"How the Language of Therapy Took Over Dating." **New York Times**, February 11.

"What Does 'Casual Dating' Mean These Days?" **Mashable.com**, February 15.

"Prairie Voles Born by C-Section Can't Bond. Is Birth Key to How We Love and Relate?" **UVA Today**, February 16.

"How Can a Monogamous Couple Happily Become Nonmonogamous?" **The Advocate**, February 20.

"Identifying Signs of Coercion When Dating." **Psychology Today**, February 22.

"How Women Differ From Men in Matters of Sex." **Giddy.com**, March 10.

"David Hays throuple may have ended – but threesomes are on the rise." **Daily Star**, March 15.

"Sex up your life: Kreative Ideen fürs Vorspiel." **BYC.com**, March 20.

"The Reason Quality Time Is Essential In Budding Relationships (Even If It's Only A Few Minutes)." **Glam**, March 20.

"How young people are shaking off gender binaries." **BBC**, March 27.

"70 Years After the Kinsey Reports: Is Data Science Improving Our Sex Studies (and Lives?)" **Harvard Data Science Review Podcast**, Episode 27, March 30.

"Sexplain It: My Sexual Desires Have Changed Drastically Since My Wife Gave Birth." **Men's Health**, March 30.

"Are Ancient Phallic Objects ... Exactly What They Look Like?" **The Atlantic**, March 30.

"11 Lesser Known Biopics on Scientists that Everyone Should Watch." **Movieweb.com**, March 31.

CNN

BREITBART

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN

BBC

DISCOVER

KQED Inform. Inspire. Involve.

The Atlantic

Life in Red Podcast

The Washington Post

Rolling Stone

HDSR  
HARVARD DATA SCIENCE REVIEW

"Sexual Fantasies and Cuckolding with Dr. Justin Lehmiller." **Luvbites by Dr. Tara Podcast**, Episode 80, April 4.

"Verity Johnson: Struggling to remember what sexy feels like." **Stuff.co.nz**, April 4.

"Researchers Share Effects of Unplanned Pregnancy." **Datingadvice.com**, April 4.

"8 signes qui montrent que vous avez trouvé l'amour de votre vie." **Grazia.fr**, April 4.

"The Most Important Trait For Attraction – And How It Leads To Love." **YourTango.com**, April 9.

"Spring Into the Season of Love." **Giddy.com**, April 11.

"Can Kinkiness Help Sexual Confidence?" **Giddy.com**, April 13.

"Full speed ahead: why do some of us struggle with low libido – and five ways to help." **The Guardian**, April 24.

"The rise of voluntary celibacy: 'Most of the sex I've had, I wish I hadn't bothered.'" **The Guardian**, April 26.

"5 Benefits Of Bringing Toys Into Your Sex Life (Beyond Making You Feel Good)." **Women.com**, May 7.

"In Indiana, the culture wars aim at Kinsey – the heart of sex research." **Washington Post**, May 10. (Opinion editorial by Kinsey Institute Executive Director Dr. Justin Garcia.)

"Love at First Sight: Does it Exist?" **Discover Magazine**, May 12.

"India Thusi: Senior Scientist, Kinsey Institute - Professor of Law, Indiana University." **Life in Red** (YouTube), May 15.

"Brain changes after the end of a relationship." **CBS News**, May 17.

"Ancient Warriors and Modern Footballers: An Evolutionary Explanation for Homophobia." **Areo**, May 19.

"9 non-monogamy terms that show there's no one way to have a fulfilling relationship." **Insider.com**, May 28.

"It's time the law caught up with polyamory." **I-d.vice.com**, May 30.

"Can cannabis improve your sex life? Why some people claim it 'accentuates every bit of feeling and touch.'" **Yahoo Life!**, May 31.

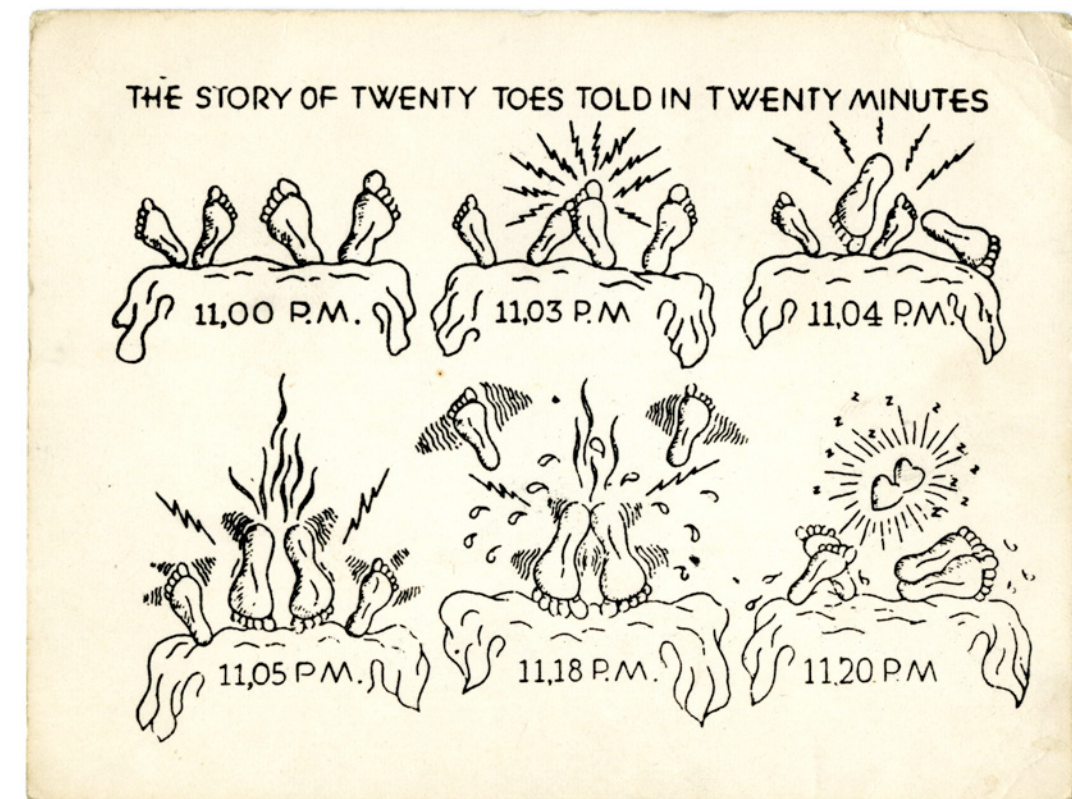
"Dr Hilary Jones: Men need to talk about erectile dysfunction." **The Irish News**, June 1.

# The Kinsey Institute on Social Media

The Kinsey Institute continues to share our research and collections with new audiences across numerous social media channels, including Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, X (formerly Twitter), and Threads. Included here, you will find two of our most popular posts from 2023 – a 1940s-era postcard from a series on sex and humor (below), and an archival post about early transgender educator and activist Louise Lawrence (right), who also contributed materials about transgender mid-century life to our archives.



@kinseyinstitute



"This Facebook Group Lets Women Share Dating Woes — and Find Out if They're Dating the Same Guy." **Philadelphia**, June 3.

"Bisexual America." **Institute for Family Studies**, June 5.

"Why Not Have A Threesome This National Sex Day?" **InsideHook.com**, June 6.

"Cuddling, not sex, makes a relationship stronger – Study." **Pulse.com.gh**, June 8.

"So, You Want To Open Your Monogamous Relationship? Here's Where To Start." **Refinery29.com**, June 9.

"Does My Husband Love Me? 15 Adorable Signs He Loves You Deeply." **Bonobology.com**, June 10.

"Impact of Live Jasmin: Dr. Amanda Gesselman Reveals Surprising Findings from Groundbreaking Research." **Life in Red** (on YouTube), June 13.

"Breaking Taboos: Dr. Justin Lehmler Explores the Importance of Communication in Sexuality." **Life in Red** (on YouTube), June 13.

"The Beginner's Guide to Foot Play in the Bedroom." **Women.com**, June 16.

"Unsolicited naked photo senders might have to pay up in Michigan." **953mnc.com**, June 22.

"The Culture Wars Come for Sex Research." **QueerMajority.com**, June 22.

"And Just Like That, Sex Talk Comes to the Office." **Wall Street Journal**, July 2.

"Is The Topic Of Sex Now Okay In The Workplace? Why Younger Generations Could Be Driving The Shift." **AirTalk podcast**, NPR, July 6.

"A year since the abortion rulings, here is what changed." **Noon Edition**, NPR, July 12.

"What you should know if there's no sexual attraction for your partner, according to a therapist." **CNN**, July 17.

"We need to know how to have sex in space, scientists say. Here's why it will be so hard, but so important." **Insider.com**, July 23.

"Dr. Justin Garica: Sex And Relationships In The Post-Pandemic Digital Age." **Commonwealth Club of California**, July 24. (podcast)

"Put 'Great Sex' on Your Vacation To-Do List." **Wall Street Journal**, July 31.

"New study uncovers attitudes towards COVID-19 vaccination status in romantic relationships." **PsyPost.com**, August 10.

"Episode 219: It's Time to Build a Better Condom." **The Sex and Psychology Podcast**, August 29.

"Episode 220: The Medicalization of Sex." **The Sex and Psychology Podcast**, September 1.

"Watch Out for This Common Intimacy Killer." **New York Times**, September 29.

"CDC Recommends Doxycycline PEP to Prevent Spread of STIs. What to Know." **Healthline.com**, October 6.

"La fluidité sexuelle chez les jeunes: «Ce n'est pas juste une mode, c'est une manière d'être»" **Elle** (France), October 5.

"Why Having a Crush is Good For You." **KQED radio**, October 7.

"Am I a porn addict? Psychologists reveal tell-tale signs to watch out for." **New York Post**, October 7.

"How astronauts could get it on if they really wanted to." **Mashable.com**, October 21.

"How Simply 'Feeling Safe' Can Make Us Healthier And More Productive." **Entrepreneur**, November 3.

"What to Do When Sex Hurts - and What Your Doctor Might Be Missing." **Goop.com**, November 9.

"Does space romance make NASA cringe? It's complicated." **Mashable.com**, November 11.

"Couple in Polyamorous Relationship for 20 Years Share Their One Single Rule." **Newsweek**, November 11.

"The Bodily Indignities of the Space Life." **New York Times**, November 12.

"Is Nathan Fielder's Micropenis in 'The Curse' Real?" **Men's Health**, November 13.

"Pussy Riot founder protests Indiana's ban on nearly all abortions." **The Guardian**, November 14.

"When Your Significant Other Has Four Legs and Fur." **New York Times**, November 16.

"Five tips for dating in the digital age." **CNN**, November 25.

"Sex at Christmas: 4 keys to rekindling sexual chemistry during the holidays." **GlobalComment.com**, December 13.

"Groupies Who Had Famous Songs Written About Them." **Grunge.com**, December 18.

"The Fatal Mistake Single People Make, According To Research." **YourTango.com**, December 19.

"How fashion heated up the XXXmas period." **GQ (UK)**, December 20.

"The Age Gappers They say they're happy. Why is it so hard to believe them?" "The Cut." **New York Magazine**, December 20.

"20 Highest Rated Condoms for Her Pleasure." **Yahoo**, December 20.

"Model Subject Gets His Close-up: Chuck Photographs by George Platt Lynes." **Boston Globe**, December 20.

"Man Wants An Open Marriage After 19 Years, Realizes His Mistake When He Sees Wife Thriving." **BoredPanda.com**, December 19.





## RESEARCH

# Sex and Women Over 60

A new survey from the Kinsey Institute, led by Dr. Stephanie Sanders, asked a national demographically representative sample of 3,001 women in the U.S. ages 60 and up about their sexual lives from frequency and range of sexual activities to their levels of desire and sexual satisfaction. 47% were in a committed relationship with one person, 42% were single and not dating anyone.

### FREQUENCY

Overall, 21% of the respondents had partnered sex in the last year. This was significantly higher among women in partnered relationships (31%) compared to only 12% of single women. And younger women (60-69) were significantly more likely to report having partnered sex in the last year than those ages 70 and up.

For women having partnered sex in the last year, 34% reported having sex once a day to once a week, 47% once to a few times a month, and 17% a few times a year. Among women who had not had sexual activity with a partner in the last year, the most frequently cited reasons were not having a partner (43%), not being interested in sex anymore (33%), and health and sexual problems for themselves or their partner (45%).

### RANGE OF SEXUAL BEHAVIORS

Sexual activity in heterosexual couples generally changes with age as physical changes can make penile-vaginal intercourse (PVI) uncomfortable or difficult. Many couples may engage in mutual masturbation, oral sex, or manual stimulation instead of PVI. In our study, 60% of respondents agreed that intercourse is not necessary for a satisfying sexual experience. Women who had engaged in partnered sexual activity over the last year reported a large diversity of sexual activities, including kissing, cuddling, mutual masturbation, oral sex, anal sex, and breast stimulation.

In addition to partnered sex, most respondents reported engaging in solo sex activities, including masturbation and using sex toys. In fact, masturbation and self-stimulation were more common among the research cohort than partnered sex: 52% reported masturbating at least once a year. The highest responses were masturbating a few times a year (19%) and a few times a month (14%).

### ORGASM & SATISFACTION

Age can bring physiological and vascular changes to the clitoris that may make orgasm harder to achieve for older women. However, nearly three-quarters of survey respondents report that age has had no negative impact on the quality of their orgasms and 20% report that their orgasms are more satisfying than in earlier periods of their lives. Among women who masturbate, 77% reported achieving orgasm always or almost always. In addition, 57% of women report that they achieve orgasm with their partners always or almost always, and 14% of sexually active respondents said that they enjoyed sex more now than they did 10 years ago.

While cultural stereotypes continue to portray sex and aging as mutually exclusive, our research reveals a much more nuanced picture of continued sexual satisfaction and adaptation to physical limitations among women who wish to continue their sex lives into their elder years.

## RESEARCH

# American Singles Seek Better Sex Ed for Healthier Relationships

Results from the 2023 Singles in America survey from the Kinsey Institute and Match revealed a strong desire among America's singles for better sex education in their younger years, including access to more sources of reliable information and in topics beyond basic sex and reproduction.

Nearly half of singles (44%) report that more sex education (i.e. learning more about and communicating what you want, gender identity, consent, sexual orientation) in their younger years would have enabled them to have healthier and happier relationships today. Singles believe that better sex education would result in having more sexual confidence now (40%), knowing how to talk about sex with partners (32%), and knowing how to date more effectively (30%).

Although most singles report having received sex education on topics of physical sex, including puberty, pregnancies, STIs, and abstinence, they identified key areas of intimacy as important gaps in their sex education, including how to talk about what you want (39%), gender identity (38%), how to talk about sex in general (35%), how to give and ask for consent (31%), and how to establish and/or discuss sexual orientation (26%).

The survey also revealed that US singles have more often learned about sex from inconsistent and unreliable sources like their peers and pornography than in sex education courses:

- How to have a positive or healthy romantic relationship: 25% learned about this from friends/peers, 26% from family, 24% learned somewhere else; while 7% learned from school.
- Sexual orientation: 31% learned about this from friends/peers, 16% from family, 28% learned somewhere else; while 18% learned from school.



- Consent: 25% learned about this from friends/peers, 18% from family, 25% learned somewhere else; while 17% learned from school.

"Despite the political rancor over sex education, the data shows that most singles haven't received sex ed from reliable sources, with nearly half of single adults today saying that proper education would lead to happier and healthier relationships. Today's singles are hungry for tools to help them find and maintain human connection," said Dr. Justin Garcia.

Match's 13th "Singles in America" study is the largest annual scientific study on single adults. Kinsey Institute Executive Director Justin Garcia has been a scientific advisor on the Match study since it started, along with Kinsey Institute Senior Research Fellow Helen Fisher, who also serves as Match's chief scientific advisor.

## RESEARCH

# Sexual Misconduct in Public Spaces

Understanding the contexts of sexual harassment offers governments and communities the opportunity to develop more effective interventions tailored to suit different types of venues. A Kinsey Institute study on sexual harassment in public spaces led by Dr. Zoë Peterson examined nine categories of public spaces: music concerts and festivals; food and drink venues; dance clubs and raves; sporting events; fan conventions; public transportation; long-distance transportation (planes, inter-city trains or buses); taxis and ride-share services; and recreation and fitness spaces. Participants reported their experiences with unwanted sexual attention or sexual harassment/assault in these spaces over the past five years.

Participants reported high rates, with 41.5% having experienced unwanted sexual attention and 25.8% reporting sexual harassment or assault in at least one of the nine location types. LGBTQ participants were more than twice as likely to have experienced unwanted sexual attention and almost twice as likely to have experienced sexual harassment or assault as heterosexual participants.

Across all location types, the perpetrator was more often a stranger to the victim. Although research into sexual assault generally indicates that sexual assault is more often perpetrated by someone known to the victim, this is not true of harassment or assault conducted in public venues. Importantly, sexual misconduct occurred in every context studied. Although rates varied by location type, participants who experienced sexual misconduct reported distress regardless of the context.

Media portrayals of sexual misconduct in public spaces usually center on the risk of women being touched sexually

by men, but in our study, cisgender men experienced sexual harassment as often as cisgender women, both men and women were perpetrators, and nonconsensual sexual contact with breasts or genitals was relatively rare, but nonconsensual touching of non-genital body parts was quite prevalent.

Previous research has demonstrated that women fear sexual harassment and assault in public locations more than men and that the perceived risk was often higher than actual rates of sexual harassment in those spaces. Well-intentioned media reports about sexual harassment in public—especially when accompanied by anecdotal stories of relatively severe violations—may cause women to avoid public venues, restricting their mobility and their recreational opportunities. Thus, both experiences and fears of sexual harassment are potentially harmful. Interventions aimed at reducing sexual harassment in public spaces could help to reduce patrons' experiences and fears of sexual harassment.



Public services notices like these that center solely on risk to women of sexual assault may both exacerbate women's fear and avoidance of public spaces and obscure sexual harassment experienced by men or non-binary individuals.



## RESEARCH

# The Dynamics of Intimate Partner Violence Experienced by Young Women

In order to investigate which conflicts within intimate relationships are more likely to turn violent, Kinsey Institute researchers asked a series of weekly questions about new or existing partners to a random, representative sample of 910 young women living in the same county in Michigan. The questions covered a range of topics, including known accessibility of resources, power dynamics, childbearing history, relationship types and duration, and any history of conflict.

Overall, most women reported relationships that exhibited balanced power dynamics with collaborative decision-making and monogamous partners. However, relationships with an imbalance in power saw higher rates of intimate partner violence (IPV). In the weeks after an intimate partner dominated the decision-making, women faced a 76% higher probability of experiencing disrespect, an 81% higher probability of being threatened, and a 73% higher probability of being physically assaulted by their partner. In relationships where the woman's partner had sex with someone else, disrespect, threats, and physical assault were also more likely during the weeks when their partner was non-monogamous.

Young women experienced more physical assault, but less disrespect in the relationships they formed after having a child, but not while in a relationship with the father of their child. This can be important in contexts where high rates of marriage or cohabitation dissolution followed by re-partnering may result in children living with their mother and a male partner who is not their biological father. Although these children may witness less disrespect in their mothers' relationships with later partners, they are likely to witness more physical violence than children who remain living with their fathers.

Relationship duration and levels of exposure also affected women's relationship conditions, with women experiencing more IPV in more serious relationships (committed dating, stayovers, cohabiting, and married/engaged) than in casual or uncommitted dating relationships, and all types of intimate partner violence increased in the later months of a relationship compared to the earlier months. This is consistent with theories that declining relationship satisfaction may increase IPV over time.

The elevated risk of IPV and disrespect in relationships with unbalanced power dynamics underlines the importance of interventions that reduce conflict and equalize power within relationships and encourage young women - especially young mothers - to evaluate and perhaps delay serious cohabiting relationships.

## RESEARCH

# Expanding Our Understanding of Asexuality



Over the last two decades, studies in asexuality have grown into a distinct subfield in sexuality research. Asexuality is defined by limited or no experience of sexual attraction and is now generally recognized as a sexual orientation rather than a sexual desire disorder. The APA's fifth volume of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM 5) in 2013 eliminated Hypoactive Sexual Desire Disorder as a diagnosis and distinguished asexuality from sexual desire/interest disorders. The changes in the DSM 5 marked a key step in shifting away from diagnosing asexuality as a disorder.

Kinsey Institute researchers have explored the diversity of the asexual (or "ace") spectrum, which includes identities like graysexual (rarely experiencing sexual attraction) and demisexual (experiencing sexual attraction only after establishing an emotional connection). Dr. Jessica Hille, Assistant Director for Education at the Kinsey Institute, found differences among asexual, graysexual, and demisexual individuals in their experiences with and desire for sexual activity. In the same study, qualitative analysis found that reasons for engaging in sexual

activity included indulging a partner's interest and establishing or promoting intimacy in a relationship. Most respondents did not report their sexual experiences as coercive or non-consensual, even if those experiences were not driven by a personal desire for sex.

Research on asexuality raises broader questions about intimacy and the types of relationships that laws acknowledge and society privileges. Relationships that are both romantic and sexual, especially those solemnized by marriage, are still generally considered the most important type of relationship a person can have. This attitude relegates relationships like friendship and non-sexual intimacy to a lesser status, despite the importance of platonic relationships. Similarly, popular culture generally elevates monogamy as an important factor in determining which relationships are considered legitimate, even though findings from Kinsey Institute researchers suggest that 1 in 5 Americans have at some point engaged in consensually non-monogamous (CNM) relationships (e.g. swinging, polyamory, etc.).

Dr. Hille's team recently completed the first study to explore experiences at the intersection of asexuality identities and polyamory. Previous theoretical work suggested that ace individuals would engage in CNM relationships to satisfy discrepancies between an ace individual's desire for sex and their partner's. Dr. Hille's findings, however, suggest that people who identify as asexual or on the ace spectrum who engage in polyamory do so for several reasons beyond desire discrepancy, including a desire for additional intimate, though not necessarily sexual, connections.

As the field of asexuality studies continues to develop, our knowledge about asexuality will yield greater understanding of this community and of sexuality and relationships more broadly.



## RESEARCH ON THE ROAD

# Dr. Simon Dubé at SXSW

Kinsey Institute Research Associate Dr. Simon Dubé appeared at South By Southwest (SXSW) 2023 on a panel discussing the growing research fields of astrosexology/space sexology/space sexual health research. *Sex in Space: Sex & Reproduction Beyond Earth* touched on past research and experiments on reproduction in space and their findings, barriers to expanding such research in national space programs, and the urgent need for future research in this area before humanity expands beyond Earth to settle upon the Moon and other planets.



Left to right: Alexander Layendecker (SpaceBorn United Inc./Astrosexological Research Institute), Dr. Shawna Pandya (International Institute for Astronautical Sciences, Orbital Assembly Corporation), Egbert Edelbroek (SpaceBorn United, Inc.) and Dr. Simon Dubé (Kinsey Institute).

# Publications (1 January - 31 December 2023)

This list includes the publications of the resident Kinsey Institute faculty and their postdoctoral and graduate student advisees.

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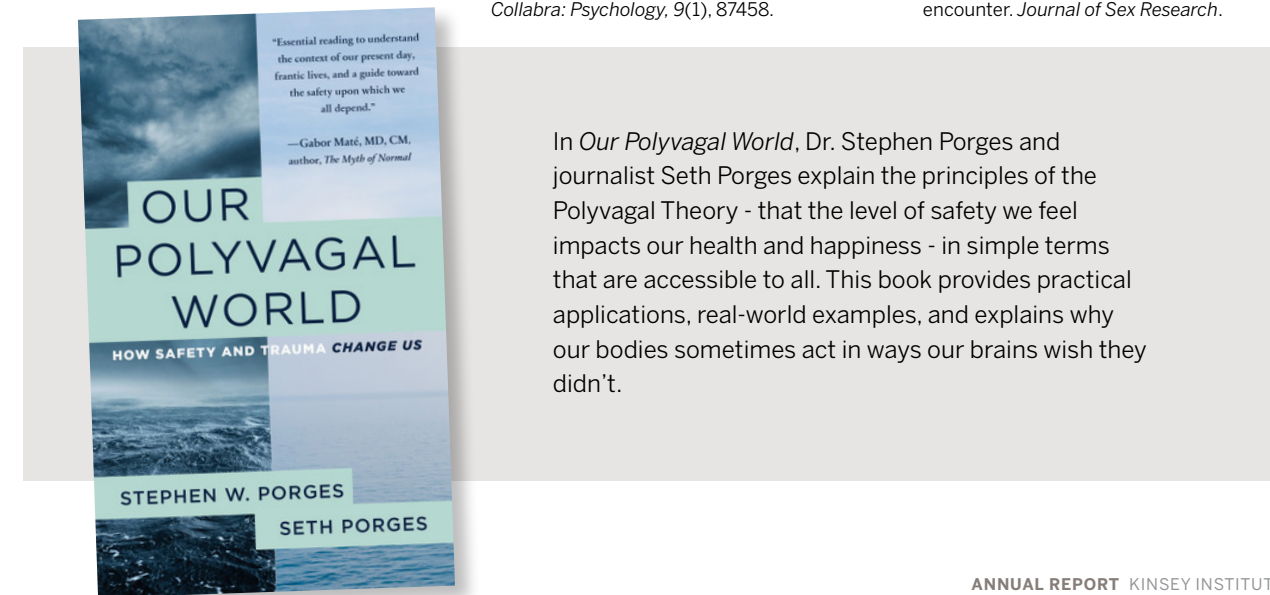
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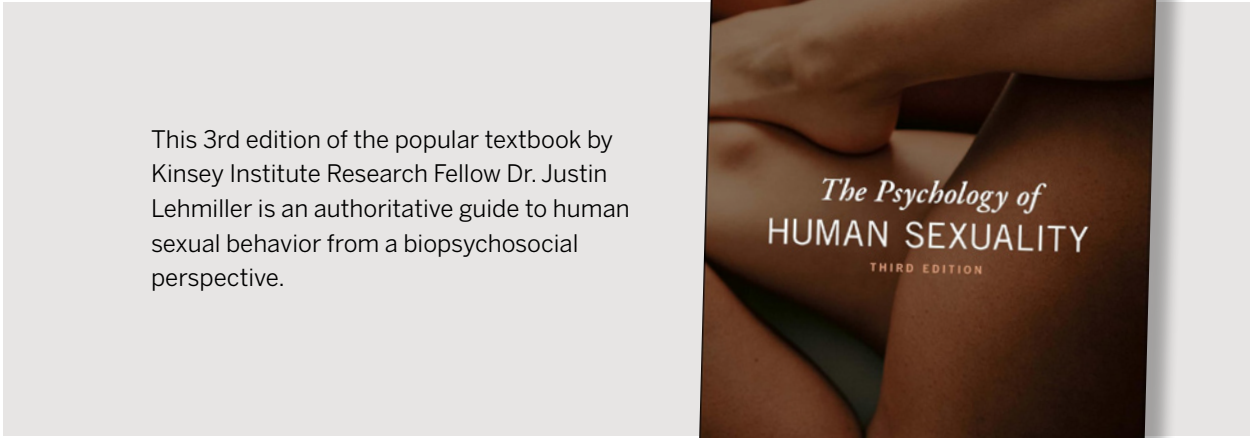
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In *Our Polyvagal World*, Dr. Stephen Porges and journalist Seth Porges explain the principles of the Polyvagal Theory - that the level of safety we feel impacts our health and happiness - in simple terms that are accessible to all. This book provides practical applications, real-world examples, and explains why our bodies sometimes act in ways our brains wish they didn't.

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This 3rd edition of the popular textbook by Kinsey Institute Research Fellow Dr. Justin Lehmiller is an authoritative guide to human sexual behavior from a biopsychosocial perspective.

# Student Corner



**Andrea Mariani** is a PhD student in Counseling Psychology in the School of Education. He is a Research Assistant at the Kinsey Institute working with Dr. Zoë Peterson and a recipient of the Lindsey M. Bonistall Research Fellowship from PEACE OUTside Campus. Andrea is conducting a project to develop and validate a scale to measure degrees of “himpathy,” focused on university students and faculty. Originally theorized by feminist philosopher Dr. Kate Manne, himpathy is defined as an excessive sympathy (subconsciously) granted to male perpetrators of sexual assault that are deemed to have higher status (e.g. higher social class, White race, cis-gender). According to Manne, himpathy is deployed when individuals perceive the perpetrator as the victim of his own crime by sympathizing with him ahead of the victim. If himpathy proves to be an empirically sound construct, Mariani’s study could guide interventions to increase reporting, increase sense of security and support for victims on college campuses, and empower university policy makers and Title IX officers with knowledge to create safer, more respectful, and more accountable communities.



**Zoe Muscovici** is a graduate student in the Department of Gender Studies at Indiana University. She is a Research Assistant at the Kinsey Institute and the Editorial Assistant for the *Journal of Sex Research*, where she works with Kinsey Institute researcher Dr. Cynthia Graham. Zoe’s research interests include sex work, communications, and disability. She is the co-author of a Kinsey Institute study on the attitudes of American singles towards Covid-19 vaccination in potential partners. She also recently served as an Editorial Intern at goop.com with featured articles on vulvodynia and painful sex, and the stop-start sexual technique called ‘edging.’

**Lee Yun Sok Weeks, Jr** is a graduate student in Gender Studies and a Research Associate at the Kinsey-Kelley Center for Gender Equity in Business. He is currently guest co-editing a special issue of *Business Horizons* on gender. Lee, along with Dr. Justin Garcia, Professor April Sellers, and Professor Charlotte Westerhaus-Renfrow, delivered a panel on “Gender Issues in Business” in San Diego at the Academy of Legal Studies in Business Conference. Through a partnership with Indiana University’s College of Arts and Sciences Griffin Pathways Fellowship, Lee also currently works as a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Co-op at Terex Corporation. There, as part of the Global Inclusion and Culture team, he has provided data analysis of focus groups and all-company surveys, developed a DEI training curriculum based on those results, and worked with the team to align the DEI strategy within the larger Terex business strategy. Lee also continues to serve as a Captain in the US Army Reserve, branched in Military Intelligence.



## KRAFT-KINSEY AWARD FOR MFA STUDENTS



The Kraft-Kinsey Award is a partnership between the Kinsey Institute and the Indiana University Creative Writing Program which supports a writing project by an Indiana University M.F.A. student that makes substantial use of the Kinsey Institute’s materials and archives. The award is funded through the Martha C. Kraft endowment.

**Tyler Patton** is a writer from Portland, Oregon. He currently serves as fiction editor of *Indiana Review* and is pursuing his MFA at Indiana University.

For his current work with the Kinsey Institute Library & Special Collections, Tyler is working with diaries, journals, and other primary sources of witness and testimony from the height of the HIV/AIDS crisis in North America. His work explores the legacy of the 80s and 90s for queer communities, and searches for resonance with another major crisis of our time: climate collapse. He is interested in how eroticism adapts to and survives the threat of various apocalypses and whether queer responses to AIDS can provide a roadmap for finding joy and intimacy in the face of climate catastrophe.

# Kinsey Institute Awards

The **Scholars of Sexology Fellowship** is awarded annually to support the work of one or more graduate students whose research would benefit from the resources of the Kinsey Institute collections. Fellows are also expected to contribute to the organization, preservation, and/or accessibility of Kinsey Institute collections.



**Alex Bateman** is a filmmaker, writer, and designer from Sydney currently in the third year of her screenwriting and directing MFA at Columbia University. Her thesis explores sex technology and design, and lesbian identity within historical social and cultural frameworks. As a Scholar of Sexology for the Kinsey Institute, Alex will create a digital presentation and a collection guide based on sex design from the 1990s, drawing on catalogs and marketing of this period from the archival collection to examine how sex design was marketed and sold in the United States. The collection guide will accompany and expand on materials used in the production of Alex's Columbia thesis short film and presentation, and catalog sex design during the past twenty years and how it relates to the dismantling of the sex taboo but the heightening of the pleasure taboo. Alex will also examine lesbian representations during this period when a female same-sex partnership was highly sexualized in marketing but not catered to in practice.



**Muza de la Luz** is a performance artist and an MA in Performance student at the Norwegian Theatre Academy in Fredrikstad, Norway. Rooted in dance and explored through the genres of burlesque, drag, and video, their work uses themes of ritual, myth, transformation, desire, and the erotic to raise consciousness around issues of gender identity, sexuality, sex worker rights, and environmentalism. Inspired by the mission of the Sex Worker Syllabus project, Muza will create an annotated bibliography of the sex worker-produced materials that can be found in the Kinsey Institute collections, focusing on the 1970's through present day. The creation of a sex worker-centered bibliography will provide Muza with a chance to survey the ways in which sex worker's voices appear within a prominent scholarly collection, assessing the materials for content and context, and noting gaps in available materials that would be apparent only to those with insider knowledge of the field.

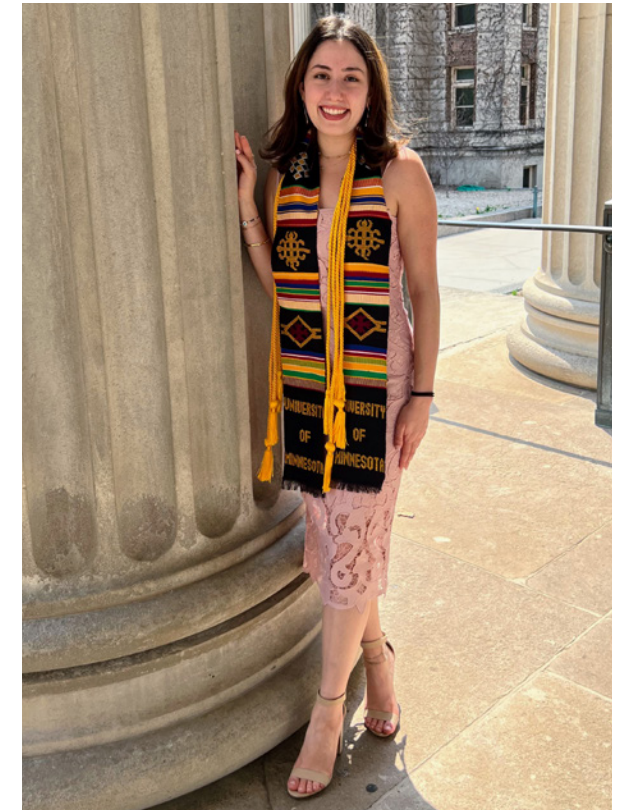


**Yael Rosenstock Gonzalez** is a PhD candidate at Indiana University Bloomington in Applied Health Sciences - Health Behavior. Her research centers the nuances of identity and power in topics of sex, consent, desire, pleasure, embodiment, agency, and partnering styles with a particular interest in Latinas as a population that is underserved within sex positive work. Yael's project for the Scholars of Sexology Fellowship will interpret the messages shared about Latina sexuality from Latina-specific porn and erotica magazines at the Kinsey Institute. This will include an analysis of narratives where they shared what they enjoyed receiving, performing, and engaging in sexually, as well as what they found attractive in others, and insecurities shared. Yael will create a guide for Latina sexuality related materials at the Kinsey Institute to support others seeking to work with these materials.

The **Gina Ogden Curatorial Scholarship for Integrative Approaches to Sex Research and Therapy** is awarded to stimulate new ways of building on Dr. Gina Ogden's integrative Four-Dimensional Wheel (4-D) approach to sex research and therapy, and to carry forward Dr. Ogden's award-winning work. Scholars are expected to produce a tangible result adding to the integrative practice of sex research and/or therapy that incorporates the complex relationships among body, mind, heart, and spirit. Scholarship recipients are also expected to contribute to the organization, preservation, and/or accessibility of Kinsey Institute collections.

MA student **Sahar Khanpour**'s research interests and objectives revolve around our treatment of AI (Artificial Intelligence) and pushing the boundaries of humanity, sexuality, and choice. AI can become our intimate partners, sitting with us during times of sorrow and going out on dates with us humans, sometimes without being physically present. Khanpour will investigate the current use of teledildonic and erobotic use within our society and how it affects present relationships with others and the self. Khanpour's aim is to expand our current knowledge regarding erotic interactions with non-human beings, and the nuances in individuals' experiences, and develop a new understanding that goes beyond just sex and the erotic for individuals, but also the future of intimacy and companionship within romantic and platonic relationships.

**Claudia Johnson** is a marriage and family therapist whose research explores the intersection between sexuality, spirituality, religion, meaning making, and their connection to pleasure, especially within Latin American populations where cultural norms, gender norms, social and religious narratives impact one's beliefs and identities pertaining to sex, sexuality, sexual practices, and sexual behaviors. Johnson seeks to create a specific strategy that addresses sexual religious shame rooted in a narrative of sin by centering pleasure at the core of integration and transformation following the groundbreaking work of Dr. Ogden's 4-D model. This strategy facilitates the exploration and deconstruction of sexual shame, increasing sexual confidence by situating sexual pleasure at the center of the mind, heart, soul, and body connection. New opportunities to explore pleasure-oriented meaning-making foster self-awareness and self-reflection, and practitioners may benefit from utilizing this strategy with populations experiencing sexual religious shame.



# Kinsey Institute Awards

## KENNETH R. HASLAM, MD RELATIONSHIP DIVERSITY RESEARCH AWARD

Dr. Rhonda Balzarini was awarded the 2023 Kenneth R. Haslam, MD Relationship Diversity Research Award, which supports the work of Kinsey Institute and affiliated researchers conducting research on non-monogamy, alternative sexualities, and intersections of diverse relationships and sexuality. Dr. Balzarini is an Assistant Professor of Psychology at Texas State University studying the interpersonal processes that enhance and detract from the quality of romantic and sexual relationships. Dr. Balzarini's research focuses on how diverse couples can have satisfying and passionate relationships and successfully navigate challenges and distressing situations. Her investigations of the dynamics of consensual non-monogamy (CNM) include some of the first studies to compare the demographic characteristics of people in polyamorous relationship with those in monogamous



relationships and to compare how relationship quality differed among polyamorous people's reports of primary and secondary relationships versus monogamous relationships.

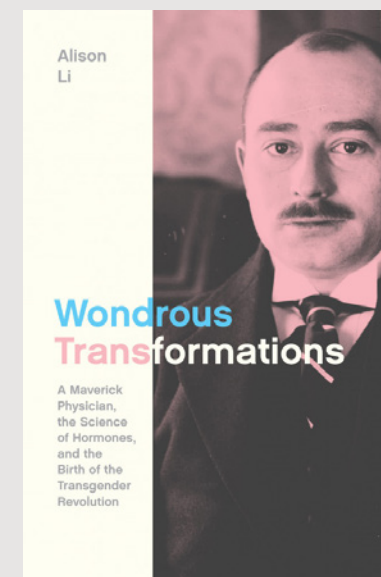
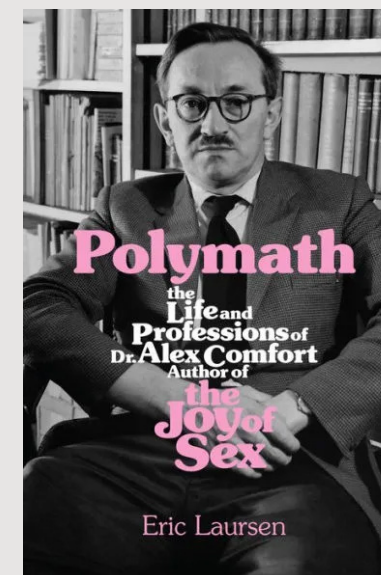


## CAHI / KINSEY INSTITUTE FELLOWSHIP

Offered through the College Arts and Humanities Institute (CAHI), this fellowship supports a cutting-edge project in the arts or humanities by an Indiana

University faculty member that makes extensive use of the Kinsey Institute's holdings. The awardee receives course releases from teaching, research resources at the Kinsey Institute, and opportunities to collaborate with Kinsey Institute researchers and affiliates.

**Faye R. Gleisser** is Associate Professor of Contemporary Art and Critical Theory at Indiana University, Bloomington. Her new research project, *The Color of Hormones*, explores the ways that contemporary artists working across a range of mediums identify and disrupt normative epistemologies of scientific sight and the eugenic economies of health at work within "common sense" narrations of hormonal management. Her project reconceives hormonal management as a cultural concept of social regulation that manifests in and is upheld by traditional American art discourse. At the Kinsey Institute, Professor Gleisser is examining archival documents that reveal the history of hormone therapy, eugenics and medical apartheid, post-partum depression, and endocrinological and neuroendocrinological studies of the hormonal body.



# Producing New Scholarship from the Kinsey Institute Library & Special Collections

The Kinsey Institute Library & Special Collections are a repository of archives and artifacts, but also a site of production for important research into the history of the individuals, organizations, methodology, and customs that have shaped human sexuality and the science of sex over centuries. Every year, dozens of scholars visit to explore the wealth of knowledge preserved on our shelves. They share the insights they glean in publications and scholarly works. Here are three recent examples of scholarship arising from these research projects.

**American Poly: A History** (2023) by Christopher Gleason presents the first history of American polyamory from the Roaring Twenties to the present, revealing polyamorists' surprising mix of religious, political, and cultural backgrounds. Dr. Gleason researched extensively using the Kinsey Institute holdings, including the Kenneth R. Haslam, MD Polyamory Collection. Dr. Gleason is the Academic Director for the Georgia Coalition of Higher Education in Prison and Assistant Professor of American History at Kennesaw State University.

**Polymath: The Life and Professions of Dr. Alex Comfort, Author of The Joy of Sex** (2023) by Eric Laursen is the first biography of Alex Comfort. Comfort was a British poet, novelist, biologist, cultural critic, activist, and anarchist, and the author of the international bestseller, *The Joy of Sex*, which sought to banish guilt and anxiety from sex in favor of pleasure and closer human understanding. Mr. Laursen is an independent journalist and historian who conducted extensive research for his book at the Kinsey Institute.

**Wondrous Transformations: A Maverick Physician, the Science of Hormones and the Transsexual Phenomenon** (2022) by Alison Li. Dr. Li is a full-time writer and former assistant professor of science and technology studies at York University. Li's book tells the story of hormone therapy through the life of Dr. Henry Benjamin, who pioneered the use of hormones to assist gender transformation and whose archives reside in the Kinsey Institute Library & Special Collections.



COLLECTIONS

# Cynthia Plaster Caster

In 2023, the Kinsey Institute acquired an historic collection of artwork, memorabilia and personal effects from renowned artist Cynthia Albritton, also known as Cynthia Plaster Caster.

Cynthia Plaster Caster became famous for creating plaster casts of musicians' erect penises. From 1968 through 2014, she cast over 70 phalluses of mostly rock and punk musicians, tour and road managers, actors, and artists, including Jimi Hendrix, Jello Biafra of the Dead Kennedys, Pete Shelley of the Buzzcocks, actor and singer Anthony Newley, and "Ivan" of the Flying Karamazov Brothers. Many of these plaster molds were also cast in bronze. In 2000, she began casting female musicians' breasts including Suzi Gardner of L7, singer Peaches, and Karen O. from the Yeah Yeah Yeahs.

Following her death in April 2022, long-time friends Babette Novak and Chris Kellner contacted the Kinsey Institute regarding her collection.



"Cynthia wanted people to know who she was and what her role in music history was, rock and roll musical history, especially," Novak said. "The Kinsey Institute is a teaching institution," Kellner added. "They have an archive that is accessible to people. That's something we were passionate about. This is about contextualizing things so her archives can be looked at and researched in the future by scholars."

The Plaster Caster collection at the Kinsey Institute includes many of the famous plaster penis molds, bronze penis casts, breast casts, and a plethora of original drawings, prints, notes, and annotated books, as well as Cynthia's "Plaster Casters of Chicago" suitcase – which served as both portable storage for her casting tools and as a highly-visible calling card that she used to attract the attention of musicians and their entourages.

Above: The Plaster Casters of Chicago suitcase Cynthia Plaster Caster used to carry her molding materials.

Left: Some of the bronze casts donated to the Kinsey Institute.

Additional items include a host of music memorabilia that paints a picture of the vibrant early world of rockers and groupies. Cynthia preserved her tickets to music shows from the 1960s and the 1970s with legendary performers like the Beatles, the Kinks, Frank Zappa and the Mothers of Invention, and Jimi Hendrix. Her notebooks include entries about the locations she visited, and her observations, sketches, and portraits of people she met. Her many diaries include meticulous notes she took of each casting session and document her commitment to continually evolving and improving the composition of her casting materials and her molding technique.

"We are so thrilled to be the permanent home of Cynthia's life's work," said Rebecca Fasman, Kinsey Institute Curator. "I knew about Cynthia from the time I was a teenager - I went to art school in Chicago and she was already an incredibly well-respected and adored artist and music lover. Knowing that we are charged with preserving her legacy for decades to come is such an honor to all of us at the Institute and to me personally."

The Kinsey Institute is grateful for a financial gift from Desert Harvest to support the processing and digitization of the Cynthia Plaster Caster Collection.

Above: Kinsey Institute Curator Rebecca Fasman unpacking a donation shipment.

Right: The variety of items in this collection include photographs, Cynthia's sketches, hand-decorated diaries, and many of her concert admission tickets.

Below: A calendar page hand-lettered and illustrated by Cynthia.





Georg'ann Catellona, former Executive Director of the Bloomington Area Birth Services (BABS) cataloging the BABS Archives in the Kinsey Institute Reading Room.



Students and Professor Sarah Knott from class Reproduction in the Archives.

Below: Cover art for the *Lineages of Birth* community event series, produced by Emily Zarse.

## COLLECTIONS

# The Bloomington Area Birth Services (BABS) Archives

In 2023, the Kinsey Institute became the stewards of an important collection of reproduction and birth related documents and history in the Bloomington Area Birth Services (BABS) Archives. BABS provided maternity and postpartum care and information to individuals and families in Bloomington, Indiana, for two decades between 1995 and 2014. After BABS' closure, its records were kept in the home of former Executive Director, Georg'ann Catellona, for over a decade until they were rediscovered and donated to the Kinsey Institute.

The BABS Archives document day-to-day operations of a local birth service, legislative obstacles faced by midwives and at-home birth proponents, the growth of the home birth movement in the late 20th-century in the US and particularly in Indiana, and levels of postpartum and family care available in Indiana at the turn of the century. When fully catalogued, the BABS Archives will be one of the most important collections of the history of local reproductive care.

In May 2023, the archives were the inspiration for and foundation of *Lineages of Birth*, a university-community collaboration between the Kinsey Institute Library & Special Collections, former BABS staff and members, and Tandem (a local birth care service), with the sponsorship of the Mellon Foundation. *Lineages of Birth* explored recent history and the current moment, bringing together members of the community and birth workers of all kinds through a series of artistic and public events, gathering oral histories, memorabilia, and important objects, and developing a living archive at the Kinsey Institute Library & Special Collections. Additional information is available at [LineagesofBirth.com](http://LineagesofBirth.com).

In addition to providing a subject for future scholarship, the BABS Archives are already contributing to student knowledge at Indiana University. In 2023, Reproduction in the Archives, taught by Dr. Sarah Knott, introduced IU students to materials from the archives in their study of the history of reproduction and birth services.

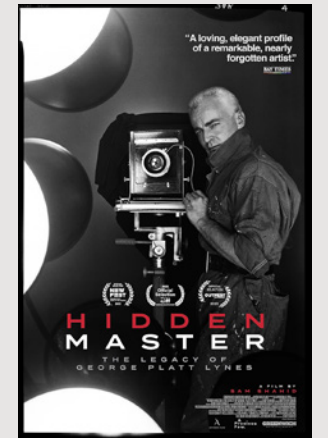


## COLLECTIONS

# Bettina RHEIMS Everything All At Once

The twelve images in this exhibition come from the "Modern Lovers" and "Espionnes" series created by Bettina Rheims, a contemporary fine art and commercial photographer known for her portrayals of the nude body and her exploration and transformation of ideas about femininity, the male gaze, sexuality, and power in her work. Shot in London and Paris at the height of the AIDS crisis between 1989 and 1991, these photographs were her first large-scale explorations of gender identity. The androgyny of her subjects resists and subverts the rigid gender stereotypes so prevalent in society, forcing us to focus on the physical and human details of each person in front of us as they have chosen to embody themselves.

Premiered in Bloomington during our 75th anniversary in 2022 and curated by Kinsey Institute Curator Rebecca Fasman, this exhibition was relaunched during Art Basel Miami Beach 2023 at the Wilzig Erotic Art Museum, well-known and beloved for its beautiful and provocative exhibitions. The show will be on display until April 19th, 2024. We are thrilled to present these stunning and impactful works to a wider audience, especially at a time when the rights and wellbeing of LGBTQIA+ people across the United States and globally are threatened.



# Hidden Master

The Kinsey Institute partnered with the Indianapolis LGBT Film Festival on the 2023 closing feature, *Hidden Master: The Legacy of George Platt Lynes*. Photographer George Platt Lynes achieved renown during his lifetime for his innovative celebrity portraits and striking fashion photography. However, his best work and greatest passion was for the explicit male nudes he made of his lovers, friends, colleagues, and dancers. The Kinsey Institute is the largest public holder of Lynes' artistic works. Showcasing a dazzling amount of Lynes' photographs from the 1930s-50s, *Hidden Master* mounts a convincing case that Lynes not only deserves rediscovery, but should be remembered as one of the great masters of 20th century photographic art.



## Supporter-Hosted Events

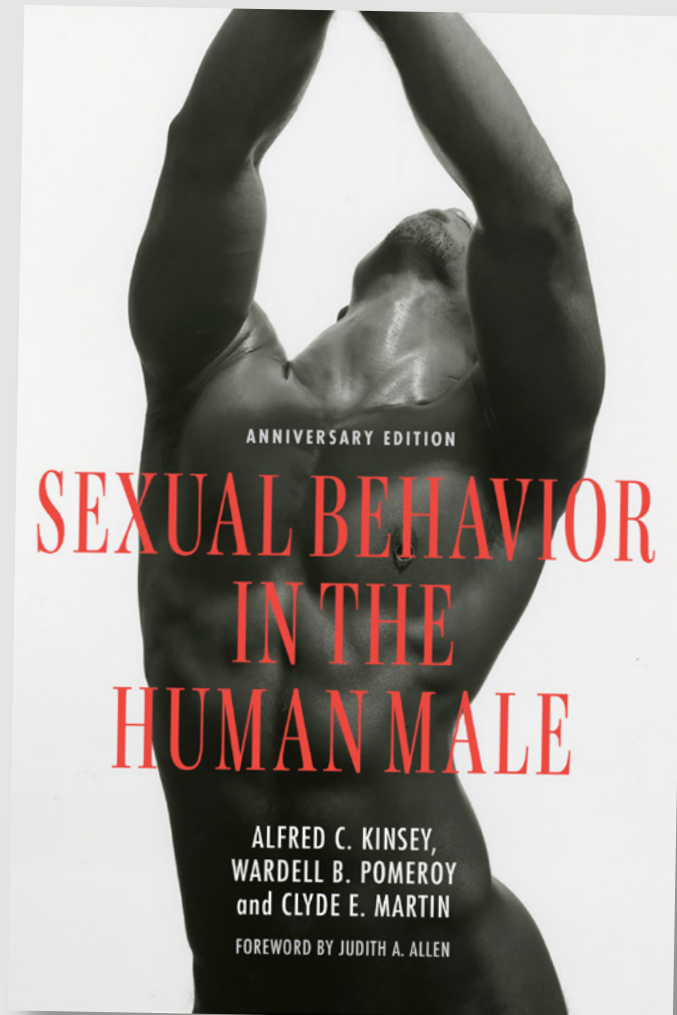
Throughout the past year, we have been grateful for our many friends and partners who continue to show their support of the Kinsey Institute's mission in diverse ways. In addition to financial gifts to fund our research and gifts-in-kind to our collections, supporters have hosted a variety of events across the country where we have the opportunity to meet donors in person and share our vision and continued commitment to sex and relationship research. If you are interested in hosting a Kinsey Institute donor event, please contact our staff at [kinsey@indiana.edu](mailto:kinsey@indiana.edu).

Events pictured: Chicago, IL salon hosted by Dr. Lauren Streicher; Los Angeles, CA salon hosted by Posthoc founder Susan MacTavish Best; and New York, NY event hosted by Desert Harvest CEO Heather Florio.

# Sexual Behavior in the Human Male: Anniversary Edition

Originally published in 1948, *Sexual Behavior in the Human Male* presents the findings that Dr. Alfred Kinsey and his fellow researchers garnered from interviews and sexual histories of 5,300 research subjects. It was the largest sex research project of its time, transforming the field of sexology. It was wildly popular upon release, reaching #2 on the New York Times best-seller lists and selling more than 200,000 copies within the first two months.

Issued to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the original volume, the new Anniversary Edition from Indiana University Press features a foreword from Kinsey Institute Historian and Indiana University Distinguished Professor Dr. Judith A. Allen. The dynamic new cover features the work of New York photographer and artist Len Prince.



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as of 12/31/2023

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