

Confidential

SEX

SURVEY

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Confidential Sex Survey

Leo Guild

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Several months ago the editors of Confidential Magazine compiled a list of some 300 questions (later pruned to 111) all concerned with sex. Under the title of "Confidential Sex Survey," it ran in a special issue of Confidential Magazine with no promises of any reward for answering the questions in the survey.

The response was gratifying. Many readers were interested in confiding their sexual secrets. And many more were interested in how they compared with the norm.

Confidential's editors have now counted, compiled and analyzed the answers to the survey. Here is a compilation of that survey and the answers given. Answer the questions first and see how you compare.

FOREWORD

Someone once said that statistics can be twisted to anyone's advantage.

The statistics in the following sex survey conducted by Confidential are there, together with the answers of hundreds of men and women who replied. There were no true conformists in the survey. In some key areas of the survey, questions matched up with relative questions. This gave us an insight into the sex life of those submitting the completed questionnaire.

A lot of sincere and dedicated research has gone into this report. We have consulted prominent psychologists, sociologists, psychiatrists, ministers and plain family doctors in order to bring you this compilation as correctly interpreted as possible. Each of these experts had different views. Some of them coincided. Others were at great variance. So were the answers from the many people who filled out the questionnaire.

What makes a happy sex life? An unhappy sex life? Fidelity? Promiscuity? Many things. Each individual has needs of his own. You may or may not be like any of the people who have written letters to us. But this professionally conducted survey and the answers we received may, and we certainly hope will, give you a better look into contemporary sex habits and, in some cases, even relieve some foolish guilt.

1. Do you believe the male should be dominant and the female submissive?

Yes No

2. Do you take marijuana and does it affect your love-making?

Yes No

3. Does liquor help your love-making?

Yes No

4. Have you ever had a homosexual experience?

Yes No

5. Do you dislike homosexuals?

Yes No

6. Have you ever experienced any sexual perversions?

Yes No

7. Have you ever been to an orgy?

Yes No

8. Have you ever switched wives or partners for sexual purposes?

Yes No

9. Do you believe too much sex can be harmful?

Yes No

10. Do you have any trouble achieving orgasm?

Yes No

11. Do you have intercourse when you are menstruating (or your girl is)?

Yes No

12. Have you practiced extra-marital intercourse?

Yes No

13. Do you think "cheating" helps a marriage?

Yes No

14. Does your wife or girl friend use the pill regularly (or do you)?

Yes No

15. Do you believe in less strict abortion laws?

Yes No

16. Do you object to nudity on the screen?

Yes No

17. Do you think love and sex are inseparable?

Yes No

18. Do you like a shy sex partner?

Yes No

19. Do you believe in premarital sexual intercourse?

20. Have you ever been unfaithful to wife or girlfriend? Husband or boy friend?

Yes No

21. Do you believe in sex education in schools?

Yes No

22. Are you in favor of legalized prostitution?

Yes No

23. Do you believe that a true love can last forever?

Yes No

24. Do you believe Negroes are better lovers?

Yes No

25. Have you ever had relations with someone of a different color?

Yes No

26. Are you happy with your sexual life?

Yes No

27. Were you under 16 when you had intercourse for the first time?

Yes No

28. Have you ever paid or been paid for sexual intercourse?

Yes No

29. Have you ever experienced sexual intercourse more than 3 times a night?

Yes No

30. Have you ever had sexual intercourse with more than one person at a time?

Yes No

31. During intercourse have you ever daydreamed that your sex partner was someone else?

Yes No

32. Do you fear social diseases?

Yes No

33. Does contraception interfere with your good sex life?

Yes No

34. Do you have erotic dreams?

Yes No

35. Have you ever masturbated?

Yes No

36. Has your sex partner ever stimulated your genitals orally?

Yes No

37. Have you ever stimulated your sex partner orally?

Yes No

38. Have you ever engaged in anal intercourse?

Yes No

39. Do you often talk sex?

Yes No

40. Did you ever have intercourse on something other than a bed?

Yes No

41. Do you as a girl or does your girl have an orgasm in less than 15 minutes after start intercourse?

42. Have you ever seen a doctor about your sexual life?

Yes No

43. Were you breast-fed as a baby?

Yes No

44. Have any of your sexual experiences had any relationship to toilet experiences?

Yes No

45. Do you practice nudity in front of either friends or family?

Yes No

46. Do you believe an unmarried girl should be a virgin after she's 18?

Yes No

47. Do you and your partner take a bath before intercourse?

Yes No

48. Does sexual intercourse make you hungry?

Yes No

49. Have you ever had intercourse in a car?

Yes No

50. Have you ever been in love with a movie star from afar?

Yes No

51. Does sloppy dress turn you off with a sex partner?

Yes No

52. Do you give expensive gifts to your love partner?

53. Do you think of yourself as being passionate?

Yes No

54. Have you ever had a social disease?

Yes No

55. Did you learn about sex from your parents?

Yes No

56. Has your love partner ever complained about your sex prowess?

Yes No

57. Have you ever made love out-of-doors?

Yes No

58. Have you ever made love in front of anyone?

Yes No

59. Do you get bored with sex with the same partner?

Yes No

60. Do you think of sex too much?

Yes No

61. Do you want your sex partner to adjust to you?

Yes No

62. Have you ever worried about the dimensions of your sex organs?

Yes No

63. Do you think the world is becoming too permissive about sex?

Yes No

64. Has your sex partner ever worried about the dimensions of your sex organs?

65. Do you ever "act" during the sex act to impress your partner?

Yes No

66. Have you ever seen your parents in the sex act?

Yes No

67. Do you think breasts are the best-to-look-at part of a woman?

Yes No

68. Have you ever had sexual intercourse with the help of props like vibrators?

Yes No

69. Have you ever had a period of your life when you were disinterested in sex?

Yes No

70. Have you ever had intercourse with someone famous?

Yes No

71. Have you ever had intercourse with someone you disliked?

Yes No

72. Do you use dirty words during the sex act?

Yes No

73. Does your partner use dirty words during the sex act?

Yes No

74. Have you ever used the "69" position in sex?

Yes No

75. Have you ever tied down your sex partner for intercourse?

76. Have you ever employed sadism for the sex act?

Yes n No

77. Do you like pain during the sex act?

Yes No

78. Do you often hate yourself in the morning?

Yes No

79. Have you ever paid for an abortion, had one or been involved closely with one?

Yes No

80. Do you believe in love?

Yes No

81. Have you used words alone to seduce a date?

Yes No

82. Have you ever taken photos of a sex act or had your sex act photographed?

Yes No

83. Do you carry any nude or pornographic pictures with you?

Yes No

84. Have you ever seen a stag film?

Yes No

85. Do you prefer sex at night?

Yes No

86. Do you need to be in a mood for sex?

Yes No

87. Do you fall asleep right after sex?

Yes No

88. Do you tell your friends about your affairs?

Yes No

89. Do you like to tell dirty jokes?

Yes No

90. Do you always have an orgasm or does your partner always have an orgasm?

Yes No

91. Do you think we'll see nudity on TV some day?

Yes No

92. Do you think the institution of marriage is doomed?

Yes No

93. Do you like foreign-born partners better for sex?

Yes No

94. Do you think the average person has more than 25 affairs during a lifetime?

Yes No

95. Do you like music during intercourse?

Yes No

96. Have you ever masturbated your sex partner?

Yes No

97. Do you ever consummate the sex act dog-fashion?

Yes No

98. Have you ever got up to answer a phone or doorbell during the sex act?

Yes No

99. Do you or have you ever kept a written record of your affairs?

Yes No

100. Have you ever had sex in other rooms than the bedroom?

Yes No

101. Did you ever masturbate your sex partner?

Yes No

102. Have you ever had sexual intercourse dog fashion?

Yes No

103. Have you ever had two sex partners at different times the same day?

Yes No

104. Have you ever had sex relations with an animal?

Yes No

105. Do sex smells disgust you?

Yes No

106. Have you gone long periods without sex?

Yes No

107. Do you experience wet dreams?

Yes No

108. Do you object to any laughter during the sex act?

Yes No

109. Have you been rejected often in sex?

Yes No

110. Do you think sex is the most important part of marriage?

Yes No

111. Have you ever practiced sex with woman on top?

Yes No

CHAPTER I

Taking our answers in numerical order we find that question number one drew the greatest volume of mail. Were people always honest or sincere in their answers? We believe so. Many asked that they be informed of the results. If they weren't honest, what good would the results have done them?

Question number one was, "Do you believe the male should be dominant and the female submissive?"

The answers were no surprise; "yes" got 56% and "no" 44%. If anything, we expected there would be even more "yes" answers.

There was one particularly honest answer that pretty much summed it up. It read: "I am a married woman of thirty. I have two children and am moderately happy. I would prefer that married life allowed for the male and female to be equally dominant. But I allow my husband that privilege and it has worked. He often notes how happy he is, so it seems to allow for happiness. When I am tempted to use my power (that is, sex) I back down at the last minute. I don't have the courage to challenge my mate." The letter was from Buffalo, New York, which we take would be an average big city.

Some letters from wives stated that their husbands believed they ran the house but, in reality, they didn't. This convinced us, however, that even these women thought men should be dominant, even if they only "believed" they were.

Of the "no" votes, there was a surprising amount of men who didn't believe the male should be

dominant. Yet no man felt a woman should be dominant. What they suggested was equality.

For example, a man wrote: "I believe there are certain areas where a man should be dominant in sex yet not others. I have never believed, for example, that a woman should make love when she doesn't want to (ed. note—most men do believe that, unless a girl is ill, she should submit). Yet I believe a woman should try at all times to please her husband—I mean, go out of her way to please him."

One of the problems was that many letter writers had different ideas as to what is dominant and what is submissive. For example, in two cases girls wrote that when they first married they allowed anything to go in sex. Now that they had been married a while, they didn't. Yet they labeled themselves submissive. Mostly because they didn't kick up any fuss. They felt their husbands had become sensitive to their likes and dislikes.

CHAPTER II

The questions in Confidential's Sex Survey were yes and no questions. Some who answered did not answer all the questions. Some could not give us a definite yes or no answer. Our executive group then used intelligent discretion in tabulating the answers.

Of 111 questions the question which drew the least amount of yes answers was: "Do you take marijuana and does it affect your love-making?" Just 6% said yes and 94% said no.

"Do you think Negroes are better lovers?" drew the second smallest list of yes answers; 8% said yes. 92% said no.

The question that drew the most yes answers was: "Have you ever had intercourse on something other than a bed?" It drew 99% yes answers and just 1% no answers. The second greatest volume of yes answers came to the question: "Have you ever made love out-of-doors?" Of the answers, 92% said they had and 8% said they hadn't.

The survey answers were full of surprises. Now you may not be surprised at something which surprised our executive board. So be it. But we hereby assert, our board is both intelligent and sophisticated; a combination that makes them "in" people, modern and hip.

For example, to the question, "Have you ever indulged in anal intercourse?" which had 60% yes answers and 40% no answers, the executive board was definitely surprised.

Why were we surprised? Well, in all our combined experiences we found men were more adventurous in sex and the less inhibited among them had suggested anal sex (the insertion of the penis in the female rectum). Usually, the girl rebelled on two grounds; one, it would be painful and two, it was unclean.

Therefore, our surprise that so many had tried it.

We had many other surprises. Perhaps we were naive, but we reacted to 88% yes votes on, "Have you ever stimulated your partner orally?" Only 12% hadn't.

Kinsey's sex report some twenty years ago, with questions more inhibited than our survey, also drew the same kind of popular response among the initiated; that is, surprise at the general sophistication of the country.

Maybe it is naivete to believe we are the only swingers. The fact is, it appears by our survey that whether it Oshkosh, the farm, the mountains or whatever, people are just as sophisticated in matters of sex.

people in Hollywood or on the editorial staff of Confidential Magazine. But let's get on with the answers.

CHAPTER III

Question number two was: "Do you take marijuana and does it affect your love-making?" 6% said yes and 94% said no. Obviously, the question should have been asked in two parts. From our research it is apparent that those who take marijuana say it does help their love making. How?

This is an excerpt of a letter from a girl in Chicago, "Marijuana erases all guilt feelings. It also heightens my senses So I have a joint just before making love. I'm only eighteen and I've had many fears about making love. I take the pill but even then fear having a child. After a joint or two I don't have any worries about such things."

What we are driving at is that it is highly possible that only 6% out of 100% take marijuana, in which case all believe it affects their love-making. Also, if it affects their love-making, the question is; does it help it or hurt it? We can only believe it helps because comments from our readers seem to suggest that when marijuana is taken it helps. None said it hurt. Apparently if it hurt, they wouldn't take it.

The question of who and how many take marijuana is an interesting one. We are led to believe by current government surveys that one-third of all adults take marijuana.

But not according to our own survey. Our survey finds a small 8% taking marijuana and we have no reason to believe Confidential's readers are sophisticated. That should be a surprising answer.

Because 90% of the yes answers came from urban areas, it gives us a hint that marijuana is probably easier to get and, therefore, easier to try in metropolitan areas. It is also possible that in city areas, where marijuana is more available, people would be inclined to experiment more.

We base this theory on a letter from a male college student: "I found that liquor sometimes helped me in the hay but often put me to sleep. I tried an acid trip with three of my friends at school but that was too far out. When one of the girls suggested grass, we all tried it. The results were good. They got better as we went on. First, marijuana put us in a quiet, non-worrisome mood, shutting out all our troubles. It was even better when my girl took it too. She didn't care what I said or did. Now we take grass when we can get it, which isn't always. Also, the price has gone up on the campus from \$10 a lid to \$30 a lid and is still rising."

CONFIDENTIAL SEX SURVEY

CHAPTER IV

Liquor is another kettle of fish according to question number three. The question asked: "Does liquor help your love-making?" The answer: yes, 40%; no 60%.

Of those who answered almost all had occasional drinks. Generally it was felt that liquor was hard to control. Also, it affected people differently at different times. In other words, liquor was unreliable. Among the younger male set, however, liquor was still being used to seduce the girl, often successfully. One man, who found his wife unresponsive after twenty years of marriage, had had

physician recommend some drinks for both of them and they worked.

~~Generally opinions on liquor to help love-making were strong. Either someone felt liquor interfered with good sex or they felt it was a blessing for sex. It seemed no one was neutral on the matter.~~

The opinions in some cases were too much liquor—and two drinks one night was too much while on other nights they hardly made a dent—made them ill, tired or speeded up their orgasm too much.

One letter from a young girl in Nebraska said: “My boy friend and I always have a drink before making love. In my opinion it gives a nice smell to the breath and it's sharing something. One night however, we took a few drinks and he fell asleep right on top of me. That taught us a lesson.”

There were a few notes that had something to say about the types of liquors. Beer was frowned on especially by the girls, as being too gassy. Women liked wine more than men. Some men liked the liquor straight but not in highballs. Almost everyone liked champagne. A few liked to sip a drink while in bed. Men seemed to suffer more from hangovers.

Of the 60% who didn't like liquor, the usual cry was that they enjoyed making love and didn't need liquor. One man said liquor made him go to the bathroom too often. A girl said she used to drink quite a bit and found it had dulled her sensibilities. Some said drinking was too expensive.

The strangest letter came from a co-ed: “My boy friend used to like lapping gin out of my belly button. I found it thrilling and got all worked up, but then he'd get drunk and fall asleep leaving me unsatisfied and unhappy. After a while I got him to eat whipped-cream out of my belly button. He enjoyed it and then we made love and enjoyed it. Also my liquor bills are a lot less. Finally, I think drinking is only good when two girls are having an affair. It takes care of the guilt.”

CHAPTER V

Question four was: “Have you ever had a homosexual affair?” I thought the incidence of yes answers was particularly high. There were 40% yes answers and 60% no answers. From the Kinsey Survey it was believed homosexual incidence was about one in five. Confidential's survey was about one in two-and-a-half or almost double that of the Kinsey Report.

Maybe that's because a lot of years have passed and there is much more permissiveness in sex now.

This kind of answer would mean that there isn't a family without someone in it having had homosexual experience.

Homosexuals themselves believe the time will come when there will be as many homosexuals as heterosexuals. They further state that in the near future there will be as many men having sex relations with men as with women and vice versa.

A letter from Dallas, Texas, probably expresses the general opinion:

“I am a man of twenty-two and make my living as a civil service worker. I have had maybe twenty-five affairs with different girls in my life. But I have been curious about men. I was picked up in the park by a blond chap and had an affair with him. It was okay but not near as much fun as with a girl. So I satisfied my curiosity and I will never have an affair with a man again. That takes care of that.”

You could tell that women have a different view of homosexuality. Here's a comment from a girl who lives in New York and works in a department store. “I have no steady boy friend but date a lot.

am twenty-three. I am far from being a virgin, but often go long periods without sex because I don't like the boys enough I go with. I room with a cute girl, a year younger than myself, who goes steady with a professional football player. He's out of town a lot and when we don't have a sex partner, my roommate and I make it. It's only to tide us over. It keeps her from cheating and me from going out on my head. It means nothing other than something to satisfy a temporary need. We have absolutely no guilt about it and feel very comfortable with each other. Someday we'll both be married and that part of our life will be all over."

CHAPTER VI

Question five was: "Do you dislike homosexuals?" The answers were 42% yes and 58% no. The report should be heartening. There was once a witchhunt where homosexuals were concerned. There was only hate and distaste for them, at best ridicule. Today there is sympathy and understanding. Not entirely, of course. One third of all people, according to the Confidential survey, dislike homosexuals.

In most cases homosexuals suffer from their own uncontrollable sickness. It is silly to dislike them for what amounts to an illness. Psychiatrists state that if you strongly dislike homosexuals, you have a touch of the affliction yourself.

A question like this would be bound to inspire letters from homosexuals. It did. A young man in Boston wrote this letter with his survey: "I am a homosexual, though few people know it. I am a stockbroker and most of my men friends are in the same business. I want to point out that your question, 'Do you dislike homosexuals?' presupposes there are people who dislike homosexuals. Why didn't you write it, 'Do you like homosexuals?'"

"Anyway, whether the people who know I'm a homosexual like me or not doesn't affect the basic fact that I can't control my needs. You may call me different, a freak, but whatever you call me, I can't control it."

That's more or less the land of mail homosexuals wrote. His beef that our question was slanted was a typical homo complaint. To them, the whole world is against them. It's the land of paranoia that goes along with the animal.

Frankly, it's the type of question that belongs in such a survey because as you can see homosexuality is now out in the open and people have opinions on it.

What we discovered most about homosexuality is that people had opinions about it. It left no one cold. A woman of forty-eight from Centerville, Wyoming, had the old-fashioned view and we presented it so all sides may be considered: "My brother was a homosexual, a fairy and he brought disgrace on our whole family. I hated him for it. Him and his mincing ways! He tried to masquerade his weakness but everyone was wise to him. I literally forced him to go out with girls and to marry. He did and at least that saved us all from the horror. His wife never forgave me but at least I sacrificed a stranger to save our whole family."

CHAPTER VII

In question six we finally found a question that split pretty evenly between yes and no. The question was: “Have you ever experienced any sexual perversions?” There were 48% voting yes and 52% for no.

If this doesn't shock you, then you must be impervious to shock. We can only account for so many yes votes on the basis that the word “perversion” has different meanings.

For example, we asked several psychiatrists what a perversion was. After we received some long complicated answers we reached the conclusion that the word meant different things to different people. Surely any kind of masochism, sadism, or toilet sex belongs in the perversion class to most people. Anal or oral sex, however, was not considered a perversion.

Let's examine a couple of the letters (and in this category the letters were wild). One woman wrote: “One year after we married I came to the revelation that if I didn't do something new in sex life I would lose my husband. So for ten years I've kept him happy because I'm a very imaginative girl.

“In the beginning I used my vibrator on him but that was tame after a while. After that he used it on me. And I mean he stuck it in wherever he could shove it.

“That paled, too. I had a child and that gave me a little respite. Then we went stronger than ever. One night he brought home a big tough masseur who massaged us while we made it together. It was wonderful.

“That marked the beginning of other people, switching partners, and a daisy chain in the bathtub (five people involved). I'm still thinking and we have a great marriage.”

Wild! But many letters were wilder than that.

A twenty-two-year-old senior at Yale University wrote: “Perversions? I wouldn't know how to do that straight anymore. How about this? Two girls under a sheet on a bed all covered except for a cut-out for the genitals. You makes your choice—stick it in one or the other. After you come, the sheet comes down. If it's a single girl you're home free. If she's married to any of the guys in the frat, you get the paddles on your bare ass. She had the fun and you get the punishment. How you like those fun and games?”

CHAPTER VIII

“Have you ever been to an orgy?” In these days of permissiveness you'd think orgies would be a common occurrence or so we've been led to believe by movies and literature. But not according to our voting which showed that 24% had been to an orgy and 76% had not.

The question then has to be asked: Is it because people turn down invitations to orgies or is it that they are never asked or never become involved in the inception of one? By our mail it is obvious that nine out of ten people would like to go to an orgy but never get the opportunity.

Hopefully (that is, for them) things will change. There will be more orgies if the trend continues and therefore more will attend.

Letters from readers who have been to orgies show only glee and happiness at having been there. There are few dissatisfied customers. Of the 24% who have been to orgies almost all were involved in the action. People just don't go to orgies to watch.

Various lands of orgies were described. Some were with a few people, others were with many. Some were held under the guise of a party while others were advertised as such.

This letter from a Detroit woman seemed to hit a plaintive note, "I am a married woman of thirty-six and all my life have wanted to go to an orgy with or without my husband. But I have never been invited to one. We tried to put together an orgy at our house but our friends were chicken. On Saturday night we sent the kids off to my mother's and had everything set up, but everyone got frightened. There I was walking around in the buff and everyone else had their coats buttoned up around their neck. So you can see how frustrated I am. The other day I heard of an orgy to be held in New York and I almost flew there. But I couldn't find anyone to pick up my kids at school."

Naturally the letters from those who have attended orgies are more interesting. Many of the folks who have attended one orgy seem then to make it a pattern of life. It's the first one that is the hardest to get to.

For example, this letter, "I am a girl of nineteen and work at Woolworth's. One night about six months ago a date took me to a party and there was some pot smoking. Things got pretty rough and before you know it, an orgy was going on in the living room on the floor. Ordinarily I would have left such a party but I was high and curious, a combination that made me stay. It was wild. There were so many bodies on the floor it was hard to tell who was doing it to whom and how. I didn't join in I guess because no one asked me. But when another orgy was set for the following week, I was there and joined in. All I can say is that I enjoyed it and became plenty pooped. Since then I don't turn down any invitations to orgies. I find them exciting and I meet lots of swinging new people. I think the best one was held in a phone booth—just a gimmick—and four or five at a time entered the booth. It was funny that in the middle of our orgy the phone rang and I picked it up. So I was talking on the phone to a grocer who was trying to order some cereal and had the wrong number while two men were making love with me. Is that an orgy or is that an orgy?"

Certainly you are aware that there are many kinds of orgies. Many of them are organized affairs. Yet, letters seem to point out that the best orgies are those that happen all of a sudden, on the spur of the moment.

Maybe this note sums it up: "It takes a particular kind of person to be able to indulge in an orgy. I'm not that kind. You must be uninhibited, daring and adventurous. But I would think it is worth it."

CHAPTER IX

If you believed wife switching was prevalent, you were wrong. Frankly, we thought a much greater percentage of couples, married or not, had tried switching. Yet look at the score. The question was "Have you ever switched wives or partners for sexual purposes?" Of the people who answered, 16% had and 84% hadn't. Obviously, not many had by the sophisticated standards of the day.

We have been led to believe that couple switching is a pretty normal hobby in the suburbs on weekends but apparently it isn't.

Some respondents felt pretty strong about this question. No doubt even the swingers, who indulge in all sorts of perversions, felt fooling around with a marriage was a moral issue. For example, a husband who readily admitted he and his wife had an understanding so that each cheated, still wouldn't dream of couple switching. They felt that was tasteless and immoral.

This point of view was held by many. Unlike orgies, many couples had the opportunity to switch but didn't or wouldn't.

Also unlike orgies, a few who had tried it would never do it again. They felt uncomfortable switching couples.

Of course, there are satisfied customers too. We give you as an example a young married woman who wrote this letter in longhand with red ink.

“We had an unhappy marriage for two years until we moved into a tract home in Long Island. The problem with our marriage was that we couldn't communicate, mostly in matters of sex. I felt I was just being used as a thing and he felt my emotions left something to be desired. Then we moved next door to this beautiful couple. Right away the husband came on to me and the wife came on to my husband.

“It wasn't long before they invited us in for cocktails. Before you knew it, the four of us were on twin beds in the bedroom—he with me and his wife with my husband. Our evening there lasted three days on a Labor Day week-end. It opened up our whole life.

“My husband and I became human and warm to each other after that and when we did have sex together it was completely uninhibited. Since then we have switched with other couples in the tract home and it was always good. My husband knows I am his ticket to fun and games and vice versa, and we are very kind to each other. I can't begin to tell you how our whole life has changed.”

Couples who have enjoyed switching have expressed similar comments. Most of them felt couple switching had made their marriage much better. But, as yet, only a few couples are doing it.

CONFIDENTIAL SEX SURVEY

CHAPTER X

“Do you believe too much sex can be harmful?” Only 13% thought it could, whereas 87% thought it couldn't.

Of the forty-nine who thought too much sex could be harmful, most seemed to be hypochondriacs and feared physical problems from too much sex. Some thought that, psychologically, too much sex took one's mind off other important things. Some thought too much sex could ruin a relationship.

Yet many of the 87% who thought sex could not be harmful laughed at any feeling that it could be harmful. They thought sex was like breathing and eating; a natural body function.

Many expressed the thought that nature protected the greedy by limiting sex through glandular locks. In other words, it is impossible to have too much sex.

As is often the case there were discussions over the meaning of “too much.” Most felt too much meant sex that resulted in protracted exhaustion or any kind of pain. It was further stated that sex partners would be foolish to cause themselves discomfort. Therefore, they should protect themselves against too much sex.

Some letters pointed out that at various times in their lifetimes the writers had had too much sex on a particular night. After that, they never had too much again.

Some letter writers appeared to enjoy talking about their sex extravaganzas. For example: “I don't think too much sex can be harmful enough to cause physical damage. But I sure experienced a sex circus that knocked me out for two days. It was when I got my Christmas bonus. I wasn't married then and got myself two paid girls for the night. Well, we just banged away all night because I wanted to be sure and get my money's worth.

“Toward morning I was so crashed out that it took an alcohol rub to give me an erection so I couldn't do it one more time. After that I paid the girls, they left and I slept for forty-eight hours. I was so sore in the crotch I didn't have sex again for two weeks.”

Women in particular pointed out they had made love through a night or through a weekend and were so sore they hurt for a week after. But no physical harm of any permanence was done. Also women, more than men, felt too much sex couldn't be harmful.

There was even a letter from an ex-prostitute who related her record of having at least one affair every night for two years and never having any unfavorable reaction.

CHAPTER XI

The question was asked: “Do you have any trouble achieving orgasm?”

As expected, very few had trouble. And, as expected, the trouble was almost all in the ranks of the girls. The vote was 17% yes and 83% no.

Certainly a psychiatrist could have come in handy reading the answers from those who did have trouble.

Among the men, age was the cause of frequent failures to orgasm. But among the women there was a variety of reasons.

Many married women blamed their husbands, stating that their spouses were only interested in their own pleasure and the wife was left frustrated and unhappy.

Other girls were never able to effect an orgasm, blaming it on sundry causes like physical build, psychological fear of men and unhappy bringing up. One blamed it on “lack of concentration.”

Those who had no trouble achieving orgasm found it hard to understand those who did have trouble. Some took it as a joke. “Are you kidding! I am a man forty-five years of age. I have never had trouble having at least two orgasms a day with girl friends and wives (three). When they were indisposed I masturbated. You mean there are guys who have trouble with orgasm? They must be incipient fags. The way I look at it is, if a man is a man, he'll be happy to have an orgasm any time of the day or night.”

Even the women who did have orgasms looked upon it as an achievement. Many boasted that they had single or multiple orgasms most of the time. One woman wrote: “Sex is terribly important to me. When I had my choice of marrying a rather wealthy engineer who was kind and generous as opposed to a gruff policeman who made me come every time we made love, I chose the policeman. I've never been sorry. We have a conservative three room apartment and seldom go out but when we're making love, which is almost every night, I come all over the place. My God, do I have orgasms. Sometimes I think I'll wear my husband out.

“It's like a giant compulsion—once he starts with me I never want him to stop. Sometimes I wonder if women who have trouble achieving orgasm didn't make the wrong choice in a mate. I think back to the times with my engineer friend when I didn't have an orgasm, or had one very seldom, and realize what my life might have been. I guess this should be a warning for women who are tempted to settle for support and a few luxuries. Don't do it. I know. And I'm happy.”

CHAPTER XII

The response to the next question proved unusual, if not a surprise. It was one of the few tabulations that pointed out there are some areas where people are not quite so sophisticated. The question was: "Do you have intercourse when you are menstruating (or your girl is)?" The answers were tabulated at 51% yes and 49% no. Pretty even.

In sophisticated circles when a girl wants to make love during her period, she merely inserts a small sponge during menstruation. This fixes everything.

But apparently one out of every two couples have some reservations about this or else aren't aware of it. Men in particular call the operation messy and, in most cases, it turns them off.

The statistics were surprising. Psychiatrists tell us that women have a need for sex more while menstruating than at any other time. Also during this period there is no danger of conception.

From our replies it would appear that men more than women eschew sex during menstruation. A typical letter from a man spells it out: "No one likes sex more than I do. I have a wife and a mistress and I cheat on both of them. Yet I never have sex relations when my girls have their periods. There is something repugnant about it. I don't like the blood stains on me or the bedclothes and I hate the smell. It's horrible. Yes, I've tried it more than once at the insistence of my girl but it has never worked out. During my early years I used to think that girls used their periods as an excuse not to have intercourse but I learned fast."

The girl's point of view is best expressed by this letter: "There are thirty days in a month and twenty-five of them allow for plenty of love and sex without any sanitary problems. So why mess up the love act with obstacles? Oh, I've had sexual intercourse when I've had my period but not before warning my lover beforehand. I always thought that if a man is willing to experience it, then it's all right with me. I've never been quite comfortable with it. I prefer not having intercourse at this time."

According to the letters that accompanied the surveys, men of early years take it for granted that a menstruating woman means no sex. But as a man grows older, he realizes it does not necessarily mean a turn down. He tries to work it out.

As for those who espouse the sponge: "I don't like my boy friend to know about my periods. It's a personal thing and if I can't subtly steer him away from sex during that time of the month, then I insert a sponge just before making love and he doesn't know the difference. Or, let's say he gives no indication of knowing it. This system has worked out well."

CHAPTER XIII

If we remember correctly, at the time of the Kinsey Report the public was shocked that there was such a high incidence of cheating by married men and women. According to the Confidential Social Survey this hasn't changed.

The question was: "Have you practiced extramarital intercourse?" The yes votes were 55%; the no

votes were 45%. More than half were unfaithful and less than half were faithful.

~~As expected, among the men the incidence of infidelity was higher. However, those who were unfaithful seemed to think everyone was unfaithful. Among those who were faithful, they seemed to think most people were faithful.~~

Among those who were unfaithful it seemed to be a way of life for them. Very few had one affair and then were faithful again.

The reasons for being unfaithful were many. Most said it was because they were bored with their partner and also because married people weren't supposed to be faithful anymore.

As for those who were faithful, they either were faithful because they loved their partner or were ruled by a religion or morality that kept them faithful. Many of those who were faithful preached the morality that made them faithful and pointed a finger at the sinfulness of the unfaithful.

A young married woman of twenty-three wrote:

"I had been brought up by parents who had been faithful to each other all their lives. So I had full intentions of having our life be the same. But after two years of a faithful marriage and one child my husband confessed his infidelity to me. And not with just one woman. His excuse was that when our doctor said we couldn't have intercourse during the last month of pregnancy, he just couldn't go without it. Then when I traveled out of town for two weeks to show our baby to my parents, he again was unfaithful.

"Because of the baby I wasn't about to break up our marriage. But the first opportunity I had, I had an affair with a neighbor. Now both of us swing on the outside. I'm not in favor of it, but it's done. I can't be a hypocrite to say I didn't enjoy some of it but my conscience constantly bothers me. I think someday my husband and I will have a long talk and we'll become faithful again. I really hope that will happen."

This young lady's letter was full of pathos but many of the unfaithful said they were just out for the thrill.

There was a surprising percentage of couples over forty who were unfaithful and stated they intended to stay that way.

CHAPTER XIV

"Do you think cheating helps a marriage?" That was the next question. The question was based on the sophisticated theory that a change of partners once in a while lets a fresh breeze blow through the marriage.

Of those who answered, 25% voted yes and 75% no. So about one of every four married people believe cheating helps a marriage.

We think what makes this statistic interesting is that when paralleled with the results of extramarital intercourse, it is clear that most partners who cheat believe it is bad for the marriage. But they do it anyway.

Those who voted yes had some pretty good stories to back up their theories. "I was married for ten years and my wife died. It was a dull marriage and I was always unfaithful. I'm sure she was too. Then I married again. My wife is twenty and I'm forty-three. I cheat and I tell her I do. She loves me

terribly, probably because she can't have all of me. I love her very much and our marriage is a good one. ~~My first marriage was dead and this one is alive.~~

“It's alive because I cheat so there's no boredom in our marriage. That's all. I rest my case.”

Those who cheat have all sorts of reasons why. Some are very honest; they can't stop from cheating, they love the thrills, it's a game and they enjoy playing it.

Some who don't cheat would like to and admit it but the opportunity doesn't arise. Or they want to hold onto their marriage and are afraid that if they cheated, they'd be caught.

An unsigned letter from a high school principal explains the complications cheating can cause: “I was married for six years and, I believed, happily. Then a substitute teacher came here I had to work closely with. I recognized the danger the day I met her because I had a simpatico with her. I fought it but one day I took her home. It was raining and when I got her inside the house she excused herself because her clothes were wet. When she came out in sheer lingerie I was doomed.

“I realized the danger and after having an affair for three months tried to break it off. No go. She said she loved me and wanted to marry me. When I refused to ask my wife for a divorce, she called on my wife. That broke up my marriage. Well I got rid of my substitute teacher finally. Then I didn't have a girl or a wife.

“Now I'm alone and afraid to make any sort of permanent alliance. So that's what giving in to temptation can do to you.”

It appears, on looking over the letters, that a non-cheating life gives you peace of mind while cheating gives you thrills and troubles. You have your choice.

CHAPTER XV

“Does your wife or girl friend use the pill regularly (or do you)?” You'd think with all the publicity the pill has been getting the answers here would be 100% yes. Instead, the answers were 30% yes and 70% no. We thought that was an astounding response. Even a 50-50 answer would have surprised us but two-thirds not using the pill is quite unbelievable.

What also surprised us is the popularity of some old-fashioned (by our standards) contraceptives in use by couples who mistrusted the pill and pointed out that the pill was considered unsafe in many quarters.

Many men still used the old-fashioned condom; women still used the diaphragm along with all the jellies that go with it. The coil and the douche also were highly recommended by some and of course many couples tried to avoid pregnancy by the rhythm method.

While, in the beginning, some after-effects of the pill were discovered by doctors, today it is just about 100% without any danger or residual effects. That's why we can't understand it not being more popular in that it is 100% effective as a birth preventative.

Here are some of the letters: “I've used a diaphragm and douche since I got married fourteen years ago and have never had a slip up. We have four children, but they were all planned. My girl friends are always worrying about their periods and most of them use the pill.

“I trust the diaphragm and I would never switch to the pill.”

Then this letter came from a Long Island butcher: “I wouldn't let my wife use the pill because

have heard of cases where women got sick from the pill. My daughters (two) take the pill and I can stop them but I've warned them. Every once in a while, one of them won't remember if she took the pill or not and then there is a panic. I use a rubber and my wife never has a worry."

There's the other side of it: "I say thank goodness for the pill. I am only nineteen but I've taken the pill for two years. One of my friends has put on a little weight because of the pill and another gets an occasional wave of nausea. But I've never had any reaction. I have a steady boy friend and we haven't had a worry since we've been going together, which is more than a year. Before the pill I was always worried. Also, I have memories of my mother having to go to the toilet and fix in her diaphragm every time my father wanted to make love. And it was freezing cold in our house during the night. The next morning after they made love, my mother would get up again and douche. Do you know what that is like? Sitting on a cold John at two in the morning, shooting streams of water up you? Believe me, there's nothing like the pill. I'll always be thankful."

CHAPTER XVI

"Do you believe in less strict abortion laws?" The answers were 66% yes and 34% no. This is a thought question and in most cases doesn't affect the respondents personally, except if the person who answered had an abortion in the family. However the answers do give a clue to the moral temper of the country. With a more than two to one vote for easing of the abortion laws it is easy to see where sympathy lies.

This sympathy apparently has been with us a long time and it is strange that the law-makers (who always move slowly) haven't as yet fixed the laws to please the public who have to live with them.

This note from a reader perhaps best covers the situation: "No one in my family for 200 years has been in jail or, to my knowledge, has broken a law. Now my daughter found she was pregnant and decided she didn't want to marry the man responsible. We decided an abortion was the best way out. We quickly learned our family doctor or friends would have no part of it. For the first time in our family history we found we'd have to break the law in order to get an abortion.

"We analyzed the alternatives and arranged through a Beverly Hills (California) doctor to have the abortion in a Tijuana clinic. After a two-day wait in the clinic the abortion was performed for \$500. Then there was a forty-eight hour stay in bed while blood poisoning was fought with sulfa drugs. I kept asking myself, 'Is this happening to me?'

"We were a God-fearing, moral, lawful family. What had happened? Well, there were some minor complications after my daughter came home. Now she is all right again. The effect on her mental and psychologically is that she will not even go out with a man, let alone be intimate with one. She sits and stares all day.

"The total cost was well over \$1000 and my husband, who wanted my daughter to have the child, doesn't talk to either of us. So you tally up the score; a heavy strain on our finances, my daughter hopelessly twisted, my husband through with both of us and me broken-hearted. The rest of the family look upon us as law-breakers.

"Just think how different it would have been if abortions were legal. You pay a small fee at a hospital near you and it's all over. So I beg you, do what you can to ease these foolish and restrictive laws."

It's a pitiful letter and we had several of them. On the other hand, the reasons for maintaining strict abortion laws were obvious. Many were based on religious convictions and the fact that if there weren't abortion laws, couples could toss discretion to the winds and have children promiscuously. We don't believe that. That is the old-fashioned viewpoint.

But most important, what comes through the survey is that the law-makers should make laws that please the people they're working for.

CHAPTER XVII

You can discover how far permissiveness has gone by the results of our next survey question. In fact, after seeing these results you might come to the conclusion that what they're showing on Broadway in the way of nudity will soon be seen on TV right in the middle of your own living room.

The question was: "Do you object to nudity on the screen?" The yes votes scored 21% and the no votes 79%. We assure you that twenty years ago the yes vote would have been overwhelming.

Why do people object to nudity on the screen? For one, there are religious reasons. Many people resent it because they don't want their children to see nudity on the screen for fear it will be demoralizing. Others are embarrassed by nudity on the screen when seen by a mixed audience.

What of the many people who don't object to nudity on the screen? The truly sophisticated can understand why anyone would object to nudity on the screen. After all, they see it in their own living room or the living rooms of their friends.

There is a group that not only doesn't object to nudity on the screen, they love it. They search out nudity and, judging from the box office receipts of films with nudity, there's a lot of them.

For example, we had this letter from a thirty-year-old man who is a lighthouse keeper (lighthouse keepers these days get six days off a month to leave their post). "I don't get around much, I'm single and shy. I think the movies are educational these days, for me anyway. I get all the thrills I need out of life just by going to the movies. Not only that, but as I watch the different girls in the altogether I can decide the kind of girl I want when I finally get married; fat, thin, tall, short, big bust or small. I'll tell you, for a couple of dollars a guy can be very happy these days."

An actress who has performed in the nude or semi-nude was quite irritated at our question on the survey. She can't believe anyone could object to nudity which she calls art. She thinks the question itself doesn't belong. Her letter reads: "Is it or is it not normal to be nude? What in the world is wrong with it? Especially if you behave yourself with your clothes off. I have been in a dozen films in the nude and when I meet people who have seen them, they compliment me on my performance and say how much they like my figure. No one has ever expressed disappointment with me. And as for people who object to nudity on the screen, why are they in the theater? Surely they must know beforehand what is in the picture. They have to be hypocrites. Wait until TV runs such films and the day is coming."

CHAPTER XVIII

~~The next question definitely sets up a battle between the realists and the idealists. The question was: “Do you think love and sex are inseparable?” The votes were yes, 39%, and no, 61%. In other words, many more people believe sex and love are two separate feelings. They claim they are the realists. That love is a more all-encompassing emotion. Sex can be part of it yet is no more necessary than other ingredients. They believe sex is one thing and love is another.~~

The dreamers cogitate on what a beautiful world it would be if you could only have sex with someone you love. But such is not the case. However, read the interesting letter we received from a professor at a Midwestern University:

“When I was a younger man I responded, as most younger men do, to sexual urges without an accompanying thought or conscience. I slept with most every attractive girl I could without giving a thought to tomorrow.

“Somehow I got out of it unscathed. I married and then divorced. Some twenty years have passed and I assert that I couldn't behave now physically or mentally as I did then. For one, I am protected by nature. I find it impossible physically to have an affair with a girl I don't have some feeling for. In other words, my genitals are the best barometer of my true feelings. Today I cannot separate sex and love. If I marry again I know I must marry someone I love a great deal or there will be no sex.

“Oh, one more thing. Men are inclined to react instead of act. If a girl shows them a great deal of attention, they have an affair with them—even marry them. What a mistake! Even if it is a natural one.”

The professor makes sense. But here is the other side of the coin, a letter from a reporter on a West Coast newspaper: “Love is a here-today-gone-tomorrow emotion. It is unreliable and often a terrible burden. Sex is a thrill, a momentary thrill that seldom if ever disappoints. I believe a strong man should forget love or not take it too seriously. It will disappoint you every time. I believe the younger generation is beginning to think that way. The trend today is toward short-term associations. Maybe we are all fooled by sex. Maybe sex is love and love is sex. You may say this is animalistic yet I can tell you that it is hard to find someone who hasn't been disappointed by love at one time or another. I believe a man should just have a ball and sleep with as many girls as he likes and can handle.”

CHAPTER XIX

The question this time was: “Do you like a shy sex partner?” You'd think at least the men would like a shy sex partner. Haven't we been led to believe that the woman should be the passive one of the sexual romance? Then glim these figures: yes 14%, and no 86%. One out of every seven men and women wants a shy partner. The other six do not. If you believe these figures—and we have no reason to doubt them—then regulate your sex life accordingly. Be a tiger. It will pay off.

You'd be surprised how vehement so many of our responses were. This answer for example: “Shy is always phony. That's always phony. Women who appear to be shy are phonies. They are just putting on an act. Sex and shy just don't go together. Sex is an earthy, animal emotion and action. A woman is asked to discard all inhibitions. If she doesn't, the act is ruined.”

Or this letter from a young girl: “If a man was shy with me, I'd throw him out. Only a moron would be shy in a bedroom where he was one of two consenting adults. When I have sexual relations I want

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