

# Dean Grigg Discusses Homosexuality

By Katherine Carter

"A distorted expression of one of the most basic, tender human emotions," homosexuality, received the focus of Dr. Austin Grigg, dean of Richmond College, last Thursday in a REW seminar.

Although "statistics are difficult to come by," Dr. Grigg estimated the incident of homosexuality from 3 to 11 percent.

"Mutual sexual play in childhood is not a precursor of homosexuality," Dr. Grigg attested. In early childhood, any sexual stimulation which might occur is simply a physiological response, like a craving for chocolate.

However, in early adolescence, abnormalities may develop into a homosexual pattern.

All boys develop a close relation with a pal of the same sex as a "useful step in personality development." At times there is a mutual sexual stimulation and some may develop a homosexual pattern.

This "chum age" in girls is less easy to pinpoint, said Dr. Grigg, since girls form closer ties all along. During this period though, there may be mutual sex curiosity.

"If the adult world doesn't get in, it's just an episode," he emphasized. The participants will simply change out of it. On the other hand, if adults interfere, they may arouse a guilt feeling, and fix them in a homosexual pattern.

Due to improved techniques of examining human tissue, scientists have found that some homosexuality reflects constitutional biological factors." Dr. Grigg predicted that less than half of all homosexuals have this basis.

In the Freudian theory, a boy with a close identification with his mother may develop a guilt feeling and progress to an aversion to all women.

A girl may acquire this aversion through the training of her mother. If the mother stresses the idea that sex is evil and sinful, she may come to feel that physical stimulation with men is evil, but not with other girls.

Although the college-age homosexual may be completely contented

with his position, "I have never met a mature homosexual who was happy," Dr. Grigg confirmed.

When he reaches 40 or 50 years of age, even though successful in business, he sees his social life narrowed, his classmates married, and many become suicidal. "Those same people who 20 years before scorned aid now beg for help."

In trying to make contacts, a homosexual may face many risks. Dr. Grigg explained that some people, if forced into a homosexual position, seem to go along, then experience "homosexual panic" and try to kill the deviate.

Cures for homosexuality, if complete, take several years. First the patient must decide whether he wishes to change or learn to accept his present condition.

Without the desire to change, the psychologist can do little to help. In fact, he may arouse such guilt feelings that the patient attempts suicide.

With motivation, though, the minimum time for a cure is two years. The psychologist must "condition away from aversion" toward the opposite sex, and strive to make an "adequately adjusted sex partner."

At the University, the incidence of homosexuality is "the lowest I have ever run into," Dr. Grigg commented, comparing it to the University of Iowa and the University of Texas.

Since homosexuals "don't feel naturally criminal," they cannot see the justification of homosexuality being classified as a crime.

Dr. Grigg said that the deviate feels that "it's not a crime to be heterosexual, yet there are laws against rape, seducing a minor or statutory rape. Why not laws against certain types of homosexuality?"

Although tried in England but never passed, this kind of thinking "may be a more humane legal attitude," Dr. Grigg concluded. "Perhaps society is too vicious."

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