

Policy Statements on Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Concerns

USE OF DIAGNOSES 'HOMOSEXUALITY' AND 'EGO-DYSTONIC HOMOSEXUALITY'

[Adopted by the American Psychological Association Council of Representatives on August 27 & 30, 1987]

Whereas the American Psychological Association has been on record since 1975 that 'homosexuality per se implies no impairment in judgment, stability, reliability, or general social and vocational capabilities'; and

Whereas it appears that the ICD-9-CM is widely used either by mandate or choice by many psychologists nationwide in connection with third-party reimbursement, institutional-based service delivery, and research; and

Whereas the next revision of the ICD is not anticipated to be completed until 1992 and may, according to current proposals, then contain the 'ego-dystonic homosexuality' diagnosis which APA also opposes; and

Whereas the Council of Representatives already has urged APA members not to use the proposed DSM-III-R diagnoses of Periluteal Phase Disorder, Self-Defeating Personality Disorder, and Sadistic Personality Disorder because they lack adequate scientific basis and are potentially dangerous to women;

Be it resolved, That the American Psychological Association: Urge its members not to use the '302.0 Homosexuality' diagnosis in the current ICD-9-CM or the '302.00 Ego-dystonic Homosexuality' diagnosis in the current DSM-III or future editions of either document (Fox, 1988, p. 529).

REFERENCE

Fox, R.E. (1988). Proceedings of the American Psychological Association, Incorporated, for the year 1987: Minutes of the Annual meeting of the Council of Representatives. *American Psychologist*, 43, 508-531.

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