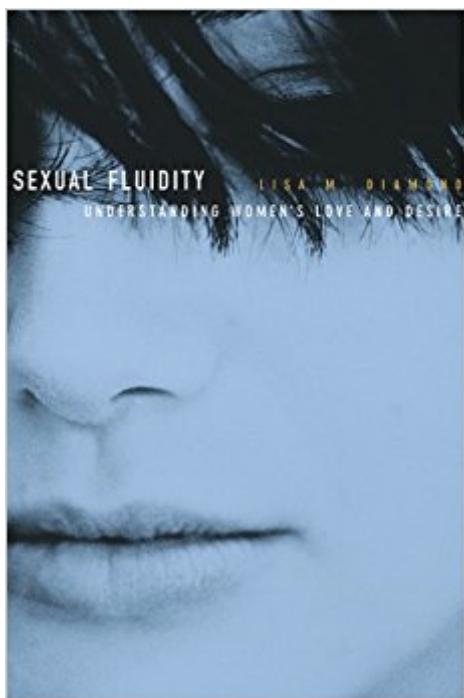


The book was found

Sexual Fluidity: Understanding Women's Love And Desire



Synopsis

Is love à œblindâ • when it comes to gender? For women, it just might be. This unsettling and original book offers a radical new understanding of the context-dependent nature of female sexuality. Lisa M. Diamond argues that for some women, love and desire are not rigidly heterosexual or homosexual but fluid, changing as women move through the stages of life, various social groups, and, most important, different love relationships. This perspective clashes with traditional views of sexual orientation as a stable and fixed trait. But that view is based on research conducted almost entirely on men. Diamond is the first to study a large group of women over time. She has tracked one hundred women for more than ten years as they have emerged from adolescence into adulthood. She summarizes their experiences and reviews research ranging from the psychology of love to the biology of sex differences. Sexual Fluidity offers moving first-person accounts of women falling in and out of love with men or women at different times in their lives. For some, gender becomes irrelevant: à œI fall in love with the person, not the gender,â • say some respondents. Sexual Fluidity offers a new understanding of womenâ ™s sexualityâ •and of the central importance of love.

Book Information

Paperback: 352 pages

Publisher: Harvard University Press (April 15, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0674032268

ISBN-13: 978-0674032262

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.8 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.5 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 starsâ • See all reviewsâ (37 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #371,747 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #33 in Books > Gay & Lesbian > Nonfiction > Bisexuality #514 in Books > Textbooks > Social Sciences > Psychology > Developmental Psychology #648 in Books > Medical Books > Psychology > Sexuality

Customer Reviews

Starting in the mid-1990s, Diamond, a professor of Psychology and Gender Studies at the University of Utah, conducted a longitudinal study that tracked sexual attitudes among a cohort of non-heterosexual identified women from their late teens into their early thirties. From this work Diamond concluded that while a model of sexual orientation in which a person is unswervingly

straight or gay may be appropriate for men, it is too rigid for women. Over the course of a few years, a typical woman in Diamond's study might move from being attracted to other women to being attracted to men, or vice versa, with the nature of the attraction dependent on an individual's circumstances and partner in ways that often rendered simple straight/lesbian/bisexual categorizations too coarse to be informative. This fluidity is not a matter of dilettantish sexual experimentation or repressed lesbianism in the face of homophobia. (Nor, contrary to the wishes of religious traditionalists, does it mean that sexuality is a conscious lifestyle choice that can be reset by bullying therapy.) Instead, Diamond contends, it is a natural course of many women's development which has been overlooked by both the general public and researchers into human sexuality. "Sexual Fluidity" mixes a discussion of Diamond's statistical results and anecdotes about the women she studied, along with theoretical taxonomies of female attraction styles and speculation on why women would be more fluid than men. It is academically rigorous but still pitched at a lay audience. It's a credit to her work that you come away wishing that Diamond could broaden her research to older women, straight-identified women, and men. The only shortcoming is that the book only presents quantitative data in prose, which can be difficult to follow.

Dr. Lisa Diamond has a fairly simple thesis: male homosexuality is different from female homosexuality. In short, homosexual males are born not made and the opposite is true for lesbians. There is evidence to support this. The study Diamond refers to is the Blanchard et. al. "fraternal birth order effect" studies which reported that the likelihood of male homosexuality increases when a woman gives birth to successive males. No similar correlation can be found for lesbians. If lesbians are not formed at birth then it seems likely that they become so later in life. But, as Diamond points out, what often gets a lot of press are the lesbians who become straight later in life: Anne Heche, Holly Near. Diamond has other anecdotal evidence that comes from one rather non-random sample: the students in a women's studies class. Diamond conducted interviews with many women from this class who answered her request to talk with women who are gay or bisexual or any other alternative status. Diamond does not consider the evolutionary basis of homosexuality until page 223. Even the few scant paragraphs spent on evolution sound off base. Terry Coyne's book "Why Evolution is True" says that evolution is only interested in characteristics that improve the ability to survive and to spread one's genes. So the evolutionary case for homosexuality must improve a group's ability to survive. That case can be made in a better fashion. Obviously, if there are too many males the often tragic competition for females can be reduced if some of the males are matching up themselves. Considering that males are preferentially conceived (Y sperm can swim faster than X sperm) the

possibility of too many males is a real possibility.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Sexual Fluidity: Understanding Women's Love and Desire The Comfort Women: Sexual Violence and Postcolonial Memory in Korea and Japan (Worlds of Desire: The Chicago Series on Sexuality, Gender, and Culture) The Way of the Superior Man: A Spiritual Guide to Mastering the Challenges of Women, Work, and Sexual Desire Savage Desire [Desire, Oklahoma: The Founding Fathers 3] (Siren Publishing Menage Everlasting) Paranormal Romance: Dragon's desire (Dragon Shifter Romance Billionaire Romantic Comedy Book 2) (Paranormal Action Adventure Shifter Romantic (Dragon's desire) Understanding Bergson, Understanding Modernism (Understanding Philosophy, Understanding Modernism) The Impotence Epidemic: Men's Medicine and Sexual Desire in Contemporary China (Critical Global Health: Evidence, Efficacy, Ethnography) Roots of Desire: The Myth, Meaning and Sexual Power of Red Hair Love and Respect in the Family: The Respect Parents Desire; The Love Children Need Kama Sutra: Your Desire of Love Making with the best essential Kama Sutra love Making Techniques, Ancient, Modern Touch! (Kama Sutra Series Book 1) The Politics of Passion: Women's Sexual Culture in the Afro-Surinamese Diaspora (Between Men-Between Women: Lesbian and Gay Studies) How to Cure Erectile Dysfunction: Overcoming Erection Problems through Diet, Exercises, and Natural Remedies (Men's Health, Impotence, Sexual Health, Natural Cures, Sexual Problems, ED) Sexual Futures, Queer Gestures, and Other Latina Longings (Sexual Cultures) Sexual Abuse and the Sexual Offender: Common Man or Monster? (Forensic Psychotherapy Monograph Series) Counselling Skills for Working with Trauma: Healing From Child Sexual Abuse, Sexual Violence and Domestic Abuse (Essential Skills for Counselling) Extended Massive Orgasm: How you can give and receive intense sexual pleasure (Positively Sexual) The Sexual Healing Journey: A Guide for Survivors of Sexual Abuse, 3rd Edition Una Vida Sexual Mas Feliz/A Happier Sex Life: Study in Modern Japanese Sexual Habits Sexual Anorexia: Overcoming Sexual Self-Hatred #Love: #Love is Book #1 in the Adult Book Series Celebrating Love and Friendship (#Love, #Pretty, #Beautiful, #Beauty, #Me) (#Coloring #Book Series of Adult Coloring Books)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)