

Zeitschrift:	Der Kreis : eine Monatsschrift = Le Cercle : revue mensuelle
Band:	28 (1960)
Heft:	9
Rubrik:	Cuttings from English Newspapers

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 31.01.2026

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

Cuttings from English Newspapers

Homosexuality

Sir. — The whole subject of homosexuality seems be-devilled by two considerations: the question of what is natural and unnatural, and whether it is a disease. Could we see clearly on these two issues, without emotion or prejudice, we should be able to make a true assessment of the subject and thereby give the greatest help to homosexuals.

It seems to me that to speak of homosexuality as unnatural is to misuse terminology: natural can either mean that which is according to the nature of man, whether physical or spiritual, or that which is according to the particular nature of a particular individual. On neither of these grounds can homosexuality be regarded as unnatural: physically speaking, man belongs to the animal world; and that world, judging by its behaviour, is relatively indifferent to sameness or difference of sex in its sexual desires. Spiritually speaking what differentiates the human from the animal is that the human does not regard sexual desire as the only motive for action — in other words lust is unnatural, love of any kind is never unnatural. If, on the other hand, we are speaking of that which is according to the nature of a particular individual, then surely homosexuality is natural to a homosexual, as certainly as heterosexuality is natural to a heterosexual. The only way in which the term unnatural can be used of sexual relations between the same sex is from a purely biological standpoint, in that bodies of the same sex are obviously not formed for sexual fulfilment in the same way as bodies of opposite sexes. That, however, is to restrict the term natural to a purely biological sense and to forget emotional motivation and physical desire, which are as natural to man as biological necessity.

Nor can I see any evidence which would lead one to think of homosexuality as a disease or even a neurosis in the sense in which the latter word is usually used. In certain societies, notably the Greek world, homosexual relations were regarded as the most noble and right relations and were almost universal: are we then to think that all Greeks had unhappy home backgrounds? Or is it not rather a matter of what is or is not socially acceptable? I am very dubious, from the evidence of many a psychologist who has spoken to me, whether homosexuality can ever be 'cured': most of the so-called 'cures' I suspect are really of bi-sexuals rather than of homosexuals. All that can be said of homosexuality is that it is probably a retarding of sexual development, which yet has little or no effect on the rest of the personality.

If we were to stop thinking of homosexuality as either unnatural or a disease, we should understand how best to help the homosexual, which is surely to encourage him to develop his personality to the full in the highest rather than the lowest way: to help him to find someone whom he can love, rather than let him waste his energies and his life in promiscuous and unsatisfying physical desire; and not to place any legal or social barriers in the way of his finding that love. If he could do so, his life would be as fulfilled as is the life of any other human being and he would no longer need furtively to try to find temporary satisfaction of a physical need. It is going to be difficult enough for him to find such love even if society helps him, it is going to be impossible if society pursues its present path of pursuing him with the law and with social ostracism. If we wish homosexuals to go on in their present corrupted and lustful pattern of life, we are doing all we can to encourage them in the present state of public opinion. As a Christian priest I would say that the fulfilment of love is never wrong, the mere satisfaction of animal lust is always wrong. *D. A. Rhymes, Vicar*

ONE The Homosexual Magazine of America

Fiction, poetry, essays, scientific research, legal reports, written for readers of all ages and for acceptance in every home.

Six dollars per year, 1st class (scaled); ten dollars for 2 years; single copies 50 cents. Airmail rates on request.

Write to ONE, Inc., 232 South Hill Street, Los Angeles 12, California, USA.

Mattachine Review (from U.S.A. in English)

Magazine of distinction which seriously examines and discusses human sex problems, especially homosexuality, with emphasis on legal, medical, social, religious and cultural aspects. Published monthly by MATTACHINE SOCIETY, INC., Office of Publication: Room 312, 693 Mission Street, San Francisco 5, California, U.S.A. Foreign subscription rate: Dollars 5 per year. Single issue. 60 cents.

Kameradschaftliche Vereinigungen und Zeitschriften des Auslandes:

Die ausführlichen Angaben finden Sie im Juliheft.

Ein schönes Geschenk

sind immer noch unsere gebundenen Jahrgänge. Kameraden finden darin vieles Wissenswerte und Schöne, wissenschaftliche Auseinandersetzungen, Kurzgeschichten und Lyrik in drei Sprachen. Auch mancher bildnerische Fund, sei es in der Malerei, in der Plastik oder in der Graphik, wird Ihrem Freund sicher oft eine festliche Stunde bereiten. Der Außenstehende, der sich gerne über unsere Art orientieren möchte, wird Vieles entdecken, das ihm die homoerotischen Beziehungen verständlicher macht und klarer sehen lässt. Wenn Sie also ein Buch suchen, so denken Sie auch an unsere gebundenen Jahrgänge 1949—1959; sie kosten Fr. 30.— inklusive Porto pro Jahrgang. Beim gleichzeitigen Kauf von 3 Exemplaren 10% Rabatt.