



Intimate Matters: A History of Sexuality in America

John DeMillo, John D'Emilio, Estelle B. Freedman

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The first full length study of the history of sexuality in America, *Intimate Matters* offers trenchant insights into the sexual behavior of Americans, from colonial times to today. D'Emilio and Freedman give us a deeper understanding of how sexuality has dramatically influenced politics and culture throughout our history.

"The book John D'Emilio co-wrote with Estelle B. Freedman, *Intimate Matters*, was cited by Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy when, writing for a majority of court on July 26, he and his colleagues struck down a Texas law criminalizing sodomy. The decision was widely hailed as a victory for gay rights" and it derived in part, according to Kennedy's written comments, from the information he gleaned from D'Emilio's book, which traces the history of American perspectives on sexual relationships from the nation's founding through the present day. The justice mentioned *Intimate Matters* specifically in the court's decision." Julia Keller, *Chicago Tribune*

"Fascinating. . . . [D'Emilio and Freedman] marshal their material to chart a gradual but decisive shift in the way Americans have understood sex and its meaning in their lives." Barbara Ehrenreich, *New York Times Book Review*

"[With] comprehensiveness and care . . . D'Emilio and Freedman have surveyed the sexual patters for an entire nation across four centuries." Martin Bauml Duberman, *Nation*

"*Intimate Matters* is comprehensive, meticulous and intelligent." Jonathan Yardley, *Washington Post Book World*

"This book is remarkable. . . . [*Intimate Matters*] is bound to become the definitive survey of American sexual history for years to come." Roy Porter, *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences*

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