

REQUEST FOR AN APPROPRIATION OF \$10,000 TO THE BUREAU  
OF SOCIAL HYGIENE TO BE USED IN PROMOTING THE WORKING  
OUT OF A PLAN FOR RESEARCH IN THE FIELD OF SEX.

PURPOSE

It is generally realized by scientific men that the problem of sex in its individual and social manifestations has as yet been untouched. Personal interviews with psychologists, psycho-pathologists, physiologists and biologists indicated that they believe in the need of such study and in general in the feasibility of the procedure outlined in order to make a beginning. It is conceded that the field is too large and too difficult for much to be accomplished by individual effort. Such a program should <sup>not</sup> be undertaken by any organization or agency whose specific work is that of propaganda.

It is proposed -

- I. To secure the approval of the National Research Council as to the general aspects of the proposed plan.
- II. To request it to appoint a special committee composed of scientists in the various fields which touch sex at any point.
- III. To call this special committee together to outline a research program and method of procedure. Also, to determine the portions of the study which could be most practically undertaken at this time.
- IV. When the special problems are specifically formulated, the National Research Council is to present the project to some one or more of the great foundations to secure their financial support.
- V. This special committee to determine what agencies or individuals undertake each specific item of research.

PROPOSED BUDGET

Salary of Earl F. Zinn for one year	\$4,000	
Traveling expenses in interviewing scientific men (Or as much thereof as may be necessary)	2,000	
Expenses of calling one or more conference in New York City of a special committee to be appointed by the National Research Council to map out a systematic program of research and to determine what portion of the problem outlined it is desirable to attack first.		
(Or as much thereof as may be necessary)	<u>4,000</u>	\$10,000

The attached pages were prepared by Mr. Zinn at the request of Dr. McCoy, Chairman, Division of Medical Science, National Research Council, as a purely tentative outline of the field to be covered.

## OUTLINE PRESENTED BY MR. ZINN

In transmitting this to Dr. McCoy, Chairman, Division of Medical Science, National Research Council, Mr. Zinn says: "It seems to me that any attempt on our part at a more detailed statement of the problems and technique for their study would be presumptuous. This can only be done by specialists in the respective fields."

### The problem stated:

To undertake systematic comprehensive research in sex in its individual and social manifestations, the prime purpose being to evaluate conclusions now held and to increase our body of scientifically derived data.

This involves research concerning:

- I. The sex instinct
  1. Objective aspects
    - a. Physiological
    - b. Psychological
  2. Subjective aspects
    - a. Personality as influenced by sex
  3. A genetic study of the sex instinct.

For example, in the analysis of the sex instinct, the question of "infantile sexuality" the "conditioning of the sex impulse", and the problem of "individual differences" (norms and variations) are pertinent.

- II. Continence - (Abstinence (??))
  1. Physiological aspects
  2. Psychological aspects

What are the individual psychological effects of continence?

- III. Masturbation
  1. Physiological aspects
  2. Psychological aspects

There are three distinct positions held at present:

1. It is ethically wrong and physically harmful.
2. It is perfectly normal during childhood and adolescence.
3. It is normal in the absence of opportunity for normal intercourse is necessary and beneficial.

IV. Intercourse

1. Physiological aspects
2. Psychological aspects

e.g. The question of a psychology of coitus in relation to marital maladjustments is pertinent here. In addition there are sociological implications with regard to pre-marital and extra-marital intercourse.

V. Aberrations

1. Pathological aspects
2. Psycho-pathological aspects
3. Sociological aspects

For instance, to what degree can conclusions arrived at here, be applied to so-called normal individuals.

VI. Prostitution

1. Psychopathological aspects
2. Medical aspects with particular regard to venereal disease
3. Sociological aspects

Prostitution has been studied both from the standpoint of the individual and society. However in the search for causal factors, individually considered, comparatively little emphasis has been placed upon temperamental and emotional factors. Of these more should be known.

VII. Venereal disease

1. Medical aspects both preventive and curative
2. Sociological aspects

Our knowledge here is perhaps more accurate than in any other phase of the sex problem. However, on the preventive side the question of prophylaxis as a medical and social problem is both unsettled and pertinent.

VIII. The family

1. Individual psychological aspects of monogamy
2. Socio-historical evaluation of various family forms

IX. Divorce, separation and desertion

1. Essentially a sociological problem studying more particularly the causes.

X. Birth control (contra-ceptives)

1. Sociological aspects
2. Medical aspects

XI. Education in relation to sex

1. Educational psychology. Research here seeking to evaluate present methods; to determine additional ones; to study the problem of sex attitudes, their genesis and development; and negatively to study the process of their disintegration.