

Bi the way Homo it isn't

The tone and slant of Gay Liberation tends to be focussed primarily on the oppression of homosexuals. Bisexuality seems to be viewed as a perversion of "pure" homosexuality, and almost as a compromise between homosexuality and heterosexuality.

This approach has been revealed by many homosexuals in their attitude towards us. They tend to reject us as an inferior type of homosexual, without considering that we experience an oppression which is as hostile, if not more traumatic, than that which most homosexuals encounter. Although there has been much written on the oppression of homosexuals, scant consideration has been given to the particular problems which are concomitant with bisexuality. However it is not sufficient to merely classify bisexuals under the broad heading of homosexuality, for it is distinct from homosexuality, as homosexuality is a class apart from heterosexuality. By our very nature, trapped somewhere in between the two, bisexuals suffer from an unfulfilling identity.

This position is further aggravated when the individual bisexual desires a permanent relationship which necessitates a choice. It is a difficult situation when a woman/guy is very much in love with a guy/woman, and wants to get married, have a family, home, etc, but also has a homosexual love. Here there is no obvious remedy, and the problems are evident. It is frustrating, unsatisfying and provides no clear-cut course of action. It is also very demanding, for to love two people at the same time, poses difficulties of a temporal, emotional and spatial nature. Yet if a choice between the two has to be made it is a very difficult one, for it means denying a definite and integral part of your own sexuality. To this extent it is a far more traumatic position to be in than either a heterosexual or a homosexual one. The bisexual position, like that of the half-caste, is that we are not accepted by either group. This reinforces feelings of isolation and rejection, resulting from being stranded between two poles of sexuality.

Contrary to the grape-vine's whisper, it is not a matter of getting the best of both worlds, but of enduring the oppression of both.

If Gay Liberation recognises an individuals right to be able to express his o n sexuality, then it should equally recognize and accept bisexuality. If it is to a fighting force against bigotted attitudes of proscribed methods of personal relationships, then all bisexuals should be able to unite under its banner with equal acceptance.

by Sandy and Di