RESEARCH PROPOSAL FOR A LONGITUDINAL STUDY OF:

THE SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL EFFECTS ON
CHILDREN RAISED BY LESBIAN MOTHERS

In partial fulfillment of the requirements
of the Degree of Masters of Arts in
Educational Psychology; Guidance & Counseling

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June, 1980
The Thesis of Heidi Candice Serbin is approved:

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Acknowledgements

This research proposal is the beginnings of a project I have been planning since the start of my undergraduate work in psychology. Because of Dr. Ezra Wyeth the plan has become a reality. Due to his consistent and invaluable support, encouragement and efforts, I have been able to undertake this study and obtain the academic endorsement necessary.

Special thanks also to Betsy Ringsmuth, who, busy schedule and all, was always there with valuable information when I needed her, and to Ruth Halpert.
Explanation of Project

This thesis-project consists of the composition of a longitudinal research proposal submitted to the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Public Health Service, Division of Research Grants.

Copies of the application for funding, and cost sheets for the study can be found in Appendix D.
This is a research proposal for a 10 year longitudinal study examining the emotional, social and academic effects on male and female children 5 to 7 years old, raised by lesbian mothers. Questionnaires, the California Achievement Test, and a battery of personality and family inventories will be administered at 2 year intervals to the children. At the end of 5 Years, the preliminary findings will be published, and the study resumed for an additional 5 years.
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The emergence of homosexuality as a recognized lifestyle in the community is a phenomenon that raises varied issues for the person in the helping profession and for the public at large.

A major issue that has arisen is that of the lesbian mother and her children. The philosophical and moral reactions and judgements to the raising of a child in a homosexual household ranges from extreme outrage to expressions of hope for a "new age."\textsuperscript{1} However, the increasing prevalence of custody cases where the homosexuality of the mother becomes the central issue, makes apparent the urgent need for more than conjecture on the effects of homosexual parenting on the child. Clinicians have been asked in custody cases to give a professional opinion as to whether it is in the child's best interests to be taken away from the lesbian parent. It is a professional obligation to be able to answer this question with reliable information, rather than with an opinion based on personal feelings.

**Objectives of the Study:**

This is a proposal for a longitudinal study designed to explore and examine the effects on children raised by lesbian mothers. Male and female children between 5 to 7 years old of single lesbian women, single heterosexual women, and married heterosexual women, will be followed over a 10 yr. period to determine if there are any significant differences in 3 major areas between the children of these 3

sample groups.

The areas that will be examined are:

1. The child's societal integration* and social relationships with peers, family and other adults.
2. The child's academic achievement.
3. The child's self-concept, personality, and emotional characteristics.

*societal integration - for the purposes of this paper, societal integration is defined as the child's adjustment and adaptation to societal norms, values, and laws.

Questionaires, and a battery of personality and achievement tests will be used to obtain the data.

Thus, the objectives of this design is to be able to obtain a comprehensive amount of information on children of lesbian mothers in specified areas in order to ascertain:

In what ways will being raised by a lesbian mother affect the child? Will there be any differences in the child's emotional characteristics, academic achievements, and social relationships when compared to children from heterosexual homes? And, if differences are found, what will they be?

This review is concerned with the research and information actually known about the effects of single homosexual parenting on children.
There has been a considerable amount written on the effects upon children living in a heterosexual, single-parent household, with the father as missing parent.\(^2\) The actual findings of the studies of these families, however, differ widely.\(^3\) In a research review examining 60 studies, 24 studies were found to support the hypothesis that fatherless homes were detrimental to the child, 20 of these studies found the homes no more or less detrimental than the average two-parent home, and 16 of the studies reported mixed results.\(^4\) The need for more refined and controlled studies in this area has been expressed by many of the researchers of the fatherless home.\(^5\)

However, there is an extreme paucity of literature concerning the homosexual one-parent family. In 1975, Barbara Bryant designed a


\(^3\) Growing Up In A One-Parent Family, (ibid), Ferri, Elsa


masters thesis to gather information about lesbian mothers. Working with a sample of 181 lesbian mothers, most of whom had been heterosexually married, she used interviews with the women to specifically:

"....dispel several myths about lesbian mothers:

1. That the lesbian mother will necessarily raise a gay child.
2. That she will be sexually "overactive" around her child.
3. That she will try to instill in her children a dislike for men and heterosexuality in general."

(Bryant, 1970, p. 25)

Bryant reported that: 1) There were men in these families' lives that the children related to and that their mothers saw these relationships as favorable. 2) Most of the lesbian mothers had no preferences as to the sexuality of their children, but wanted their children to have the option to choose. 3) All were concerned with how to help their children deal with society's reaction to homosexuality. Bryant noted that "openness" was the major characteristic of the interaction between mother and child.6

Bryant's study is the first attempt to actually look at the relationship of the lesbian mother to her child, and record these observations. However, though Bryant's work is very important in that it

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paves the way for future studies, the material gathered is completely subjective as it was taken only from interviews between Bryant and the lesbian mothers. Also, the focus is on the lesbian mothers' attitudes and child-rearing philosophies and not on what observable effects these have had on the child.

In 1978 a research study at U.C.L.A. on gender identity was conducted, comparing gender identity in groups of children from single heterosexual parent and single homosexual parent households. All parents were divorced. Preliminary findings were that there was no difference with regard to gender orientation, and both groups of children were experiencing disturbance reactions to the loss of a parent. The final results have not yet been published.

These have been the only actual research studies attempted to explore the dynamics between the homosexual parent and the child. In Lesbian Woman, Martin and Lyon relate a case where a psychiatrist, called upon to make a decision in a custody case involving a lesbian mother and her daughter, tried to find some sort of data on cases where the child has remained with the homosexual parent, in order to assist him in his recommendation. There is no such body of information available.

7 U.C.L.A. study cited in "Lesbian Families" (ibid), as a personal communication.

What is available are personal accounts by the lesbian mothers themselves as to the experience of bringing up a child. Looking for some sort of help to enable them to keep their children, the Lesbians Mothers Union and the San Francisco Family Service Agency are working together to develop a program to meet the needs of these families. In 1972 they asked for a research study which would evaluate the quality of care and home life of the children of lesbians. This is not yet under way.9

Need for Further Research:

There are three questions which the court asks in a custody trial involving a lesbian mother, which are raised under the "best interests of the child" doctrine. 1) Will the child be molested by the homosexual parent if she has custody? 2) Will the child be more likely to grow up homosexual if living with the homosexual parent? 3) Will the child be damaged by the ostracism he or she might encounter by society and by peers if raised by a homosexual parent?10

9 Lesbian/Woman, (ibid).
Studies have shown that the highest incidences of sexual assault involve heterosexual males, with homosexual males following far behind and an extremely small amount of molestations attributed to lesbian women.  

The U.C.L.A. study previously cited on the gender identity in children tentatively has found no significant influence on the heterosexuality of the child when raised with a homosexual parent. However, again the final results have not yet been determined, and there is no other research available to answer this second question of the court.

This is also the case with the question of the effects of ostracism, as there has been no study of the child recording observable effects of lesbian parenting.

There is a continuous plea for more research by the lawyers and judges involved in lesbian parent child custody cases. In the *Custody Trap* a judge reflects upon the danger of only having personal opinion and prejudices on which to judge a custody case, yet points out that that is all they really have.

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13 "The Law and the Problem Parent," (ibid).
Lesbian mothers are afraid of being "found out," and having their children taken away. This is leading to stress in the family, and frequently either a denial of one's homosexuality, or a custody battle,\(^{14}\) where there is no source of information upon which an objective decision for the welfare of the child can be based.

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Method

Purpose

This study proposes to explore, over a period of 10 years, whether there are any significant differences between the children of: 1) single lesbian mothers, 2) single heterosexual mothers, and 3) two heterosexual parents, in three major areas. These are:

I. The child's societal integration, and social relationships with peers, family, and other adults.

II. The child's academic achievement.

III. The child's self concept, personality, and emotional characteristics.

Subjects

The sample for this study will consist of 300 children of both sexes, between the ages of 5 and 7. The children will be divided into 3 groups, 100 children in each, the criterion for selection being their mothers' marital status and sexual preference. Utilizing 2 control groups, consisting of 100 children living in a 2-parent heterosexual home, and 100 children living in a single heterosexual mothers' home, will give a broad range of information on children's behavior. The test group will be composed of the 100 children living with a single homosexual mother.

The families will be involved on a volunteer basis only. The areas from which the families will be selected are the P.T.A., parent groups, single groups and lesbian groups, from San Diego, Los Angeles, and San Francisco. Sign up sheets will be posted in the offices and
meeting rooms of the various parent groups, with a memo explaining the study as a 5 to 10 year research program on alternative life styles. Heterosexual or homosexual women who are married or single, and have children between the ages of 5 and 7, will be asked to sign up as subjects for the study. The researcher will also make personal appeals for volunteers by appearing at meetings and explaining the study and the need for volunteers. Notices will also be listed in the newspapers of the different groups.

By utilizing families from these parent and social groups, it is possible that the parents are more socially involved, and more organizationally minded than perhaps the general population. However, by not utilizing clinical and social service agencies the risk of including dysfunctioning families will be lessened.

The mothers forming the 3 groups will be asked to fill out an information sheet and questionnaire in order to obtain demographic information on the family. This will be repeated annually to keep up to date on all changes and transitions in the families, that might invalidate them from the study. The parents will also be asked to sign a consent form releasing any police records and school records on the sample children, to the researcher upon request.

Procedure

After the sample population and information has been obtained, a battery of tests will be administered to the children by the researcher and by graduate psychology students, over a 2 week period. This will be repeated once every 2 years, alternating the tester each
time if possible. After 5 years the data will be analyzed and pre-
liminary findings will be published. The study will resume for an
additional 5 years, with the battery of tests being administered every
2 years, precisely as before. At the end of this second period the
data will again be analyzed both for the latter 5 year period, and
the complete 10 year period.

To facilitate understanding of the selection of tests used, the
tests will be listed categorically, by the 3 major areas being inves-
tigated:

1. CHILD'S SOCIETAL INTEGRATION AND SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH
PEERS, FAMILY, AND ADULTS:

Tests and Measures:

"Moo's Family Environment Scale:" This is a questionnaire
assessing the social climate of families on the basis of 3 major di-
mensions: 1) relationship, with sub-scales measuring cohesion,
expressiveness and conflict, 2) personal growth of the child, measur-
ing independence, achievement orientation and intellectual/cultural
orientation, moral and religion emphasis, and 3) family system main-
tenance, meaning the basic organizational structure of the family.
Test-retest reliability range from .68 to .86. (Moos, R.H. 1973)

"Relationship Styles Inventory:" This is a measure designed
to assess distinct types of communication in families - dominant/dom-
inant communication, dominant/passive communication, and parallel
communication. The test-retest coefficients are .76, .95 and .93.
(Scoresby & Christensen, 1975).
"Sex-Role Attitude Test:" This is an interview questionnaire to obtain the child's perception of parental attitudes towards children's sex roles, the child's judgement of sex role choices, and permisiveness in accepting cross-sex roles. The reliability data is .84. (McKay, 1964).

II. CHILD'S ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT:

Tests and Measures:

"California Achievement Test:" This will be used as the measure of assessing the child's performance in school. It was felt that the child's school grades are too unreliable as the sole measure of the child's academic achievement, due to teachers and classmates variability. Therefore, the parents of the children being studied are asked to sign a consent of information form, allowing the researcher access to the school records of the Achievement Tests.

III. CHILD'S SELF-CONCEPT, PERSONALITY AND EMOTIONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Tests and Measures:

"16PF Personality Questionaire for Children:" This is a questionnaire measuring personality traits in the child, teenager and adult, (i.e. stability, calmness, aggression, sensitivity, suspicion, etc.) This questionnaire particularly lends itself to longitudinal studies as it structures its items according to the increasing age of the child. Test-retest coefficients are in the .70's and .80's. (Cattell, R.B., 1967).
"Children's Manifest Anxiety Scale:" This is a questionnaire measuring the child's degree of anxiety. Reliability coefficients are .90. (Castaneda, A., McCandless, B.P., & Palervo, D.C., 1956).

"Dependence Proneness Scale:" This is a self rating scale measuring the child's degree of dependence on family and peers. The test-retest reliability coefficients range from .73 to .91. (Flanders et al., 1961).

Additional Information on Procedure

When the children reach 13 years of age, they will be given a questionnaire to fill out, (Appendix B), and will repeat this every year, until the 10 year research period is over. This questionnaire will attempt to assess the teenager's usage of drugs and alcohol, sexual experimentation and fantasies, and heterosexual and homosexual fantasies and acts. Due to the personal nature of this questionnaire, the subject will not be asked to identify her or himself, but to simply mail the questionnaire into the researcher. The questionnaire will be color-coded, (color of type identifying the 3 groups), and the sex and age of the subject is included in the questionnaire. Thus, the group which the child is in will be identified, and the chances of receiving reliable information will be increased.

Once the 10 year period is over a follow-up questionnaire and information sheet will be mailed out to the subjects. (Appendix C) This will be repeated at the end of a year and will conclude the gathering of data for the study.
Appendix A

Cover Letter and Questionnaire
NAME: ________________________________
ADDRESS: ________________________________

TELEPHONE:  HOME ________________________________
             WORK ________________________________

The following questions are designed to provide the information and background necessary to include your child/children, in this study. The purpose of this 10 year research program you have volunteered for, is to give an in-depth, comprehensive picture of traditional, and alternative family lifestyles.

All information is confidential, the results of this study will be used to help further the information on children raised in today's families.

If you have any questions or comments on this study at any time, please feel free to call or write to me. Your participation is greatly valued and appreciated.

Sincerely,

Heidi Serbin
Information Sheet and Questionnaire

1. Please state your age _____

2. Ethnic background

__________ Black

__________ Asian

__________ Native American

__________ White

__________ Latina

__________ Other (please specify)

3. Religion

__________ Jewish

__________ Catholic

__________ Agnostic

__________ Protestant

__________ Atheist

__________ Eastern

__________ Other (please specify)

4. How often on the average do you attend religious services?

__________ Once a year or less

__________ Once a week

__________ Several times a year

__________ Twice a week or more

__________ Once a month or more

5. Circle the number which represents the highest grade of schooling which you have completed:

    1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

    Grade School High School College Post Graduate

6. Economic Status

__________ supported by husband

__________ supported by former husband

__________ supported by partner, not legal husband

__________ working
6. (Cont'd.)

- ________ on welfare
- ________ other source of income (please specify)

7. What is your approximate annual income? ______________________

8. What is your usual occupation? ______________________

9. Marital status:

- ________ presently married
- ________ separated
- ________ divorced
- ________ never married
- ________ married more than once

10. If presently married, what is the length of your marriage? __________

11. If once married, what was the length of the marriage? ________

12. In what state were you raised? ______________________

- ________ rural
- ________ suburban
- ________ urban

13. In what city do you now live? ______________________

- ________ rural
- ________ suburban
- ________ urban

14. Number of children __________

(Please indicate the age and sex and grade level of each one)

15. Who lives in your home?

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<th>Relationship</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Education Level</th>
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16. Any other children?

Name: ________________________________

Relationship: ________________________

Age: _____

Where Living: ________________________

Educ. Level: _________________________

17. Are there any other adults beside yourself living at home now?

Yes ________    No _________

18. Any other adults living in your home in the last two years?

Yes ________    No _________

Who? ______________________________

19. For how long have you been in your present living situation?

____________________________________

20. Do you belong to any clubs, school organizations, church or temple groups, lodges, unions, volunteer groups or other organizations?   Yes ________    No _________

21. If yes, please list in the spaces below and indicate whether you attend: A. Regularly     B. Sometimes

C. Rarely     D. Hold Office

Attendance          Type of Organization
22. Do you receive child support? (Omit if presently married)

_________ Always
_________ Sometimes

_________ Usually
_________ Never

23. How much time do your children spend with their father?

_________ Hours per day
_________ Holidays only

_________ Hours per week
_________ Never see him

_________ Monthly

24. By what process did you become a mother?

_________ heterosexual marriage

_________ unplanned result of heterosexual relationship

_________ artificial insemination

_________ sexual intercourse with male, not husband, for purposes of procreation

_________ rape

_________ legal adoption

_________ legal foster child

_________ raising someone else's child (please explain)

_________ other (please explain)

25. Have you ever been in counseling? Yes ____ No ____

Currently ____
26. If so, what kind?

____________ Family  ___________ How long?

____________ Individual  ___________ How long?

____________ Group  ___________ How long?

27. Have your children ever been in counseling?

____________ Yes  ___________ No  ___________ Currently

28. If so, what kind? (and specify which child/children)

____________ Family  ___________ How long?

____________ Individual  ___________ How long?

____________ Group  ___________ How long?

29. Have you found counseling to be:

For Self:  Very helpful  ___________ Helpful  ___________

Not very helpful  ______  A waste of time  ______

For Children:  Very helpful  ___________ Helpful  ___________

Not very helpful  ______  A waste of time  ______

30. Are there men in your life your children relate to? Please explain. (Omit if you are presently married)

31. Do you consider your children to be well adjusted? Please explain. If not, what seems to be the chief problem? Be specific as to which child, and type of problem.
32. What is your political affiliation?

_________ Republican  _________ Socialist
_________ Democrat  _________ American Independent
_________ Peace and Freedom  _________ Not registered

33. What is your relationship to the Women's Movement?

_________ no involvement
_________ some involvement
_________ very involved

34. If you could choose the sexuality of your children, what would you choose and why?

35. Please check your sexual preference. Elaborate if necessary.
(Omit if presently married)

_________ Heterosexual
_________ Lesbian
_________ Bisexual

36. Do your children know that you are Heterosexual/Lesbian?

Yes, they all know _________

No, none of them have been told _________

Some know, some do not (please explain)

No questionnaire can possibly ask all the right and pertinent questions. If there are any areas you feel have not been covered, or if you just have anything you would like to add, or comments you would like to make, please feel free to do so.
Appendix B

Cover Letter and Questionnaire for

Sample Teenagers 13-17 yrs.
Hi,

This is a questionnaire that will probably ask you about things you feel are very private and nobody's business! I certainly can understand your feeling that. However, so many times parents and other adults in our society misunderstand teenagers, they don't understand what it's like to have all sorts of feelings, desires, frustrations. They don't understand what it's like growing up in today's world. They might react to you with confusion, hostility and ignorance.

The purpose of my asking you to fill this information sheet out, is to gather knowledge on what it's really like for you - being a teenager in this world; to find out in real detail what makes up parts of you, so that with this information, people can get a realistic picture on what's happening. To go past all those stereotypes and judgments about sex and dope and really find out what's going on.

Nobody will know, including me, who has filled this out. I don't want to know your name, it does not matter. What does matter is that you do please fill this out, as completely and honestly as you can, and mail it back to me in the enclosed stamped, addressed envelope.

I really appreciate your doing this. It means a lot to the study, and to me personally.

Thank you,

Heidi Serbin
1. Please state your age _____ sex _____ and grade level _____.
   not in school _____

2. Where are you currently living?
   ________ at mother's home
   ________ away from mother's home. Please explain ________

3. Do you have a job right now?
   ________ No
   ________ Yes, if so, what kind, and how many hours a week do you work?

4. How would you describe your interest in school?
   ________ very interested
   ________ somewhat interested
   ________ no big deal
   ________ somewhat disinterested
   ________ very disinterested
   ________ not in school, (please explain) ______________

5. Which do you feel right now is most important to you?
   ________ family       ________ girlfriend
   ________ friends      ________ boyfriend
   ________ school       ________ job

6. How do you consider yourself with your peers at school?
   ________ very popular   ________ somewhat unpopular
   ________ somewhat popular ________ very unpopular
   ________ not that many people know me
7. Who do you find it easiest to talk with?
   _______ girls    _______ boys    _______ both

8. How old are the people you are most comfortable with? _______
   Are they male or female? ______________________

9. How often do you drink alcohol, (including beer and wine)?
   _______ once a month or less
   _______ once a week or less
   _______ twice a week or more
   _______ once a day or more

10. How often do you smoke marijuana?
    _______ once a month or less
    _______ once a week or less
    _______ twice a week or more
    _______ once a day or more

11. What drugs do you use? Please list the name of the drug and
    amount of usage. ___________________________

12. When you're feeling good, how do you like to spend your time?
    _______ alone        _______ with friends
    _______ with boyfriend _______ with family
    _______ with girlfriend

13. When you fantasize about sex, is it a romantic or mostly
    physical fantasy?
    _______ very romantic   _______ somewhat physical
    _______ somewhat romantic _______ both very romantic
    _______ very physical    _______ and very physical
14. When you let your mind drift, who do you fantasize about?

_____ a boy you know
_____ a girl you know
_____ a boy you've never really met
_____ a girl you've never really met
_____ other, please explain ____________________________

15. If you have not yet made love, ('sexual intercourse'), in which situation might you want to? (Skip if you already have)

_____ with a girl you love
_____ with a boy you love
_____ with a girl you like
_____ with a boy you like
_____ other, please explain ____________________________

16. If you have made love, which of the following statements most closely describes your situation? (Skip if you have not)

_____ I made love to a boy I care about.
_____ I made love to a girl I care about.
_____ It was a casual experience with a girl.
_____ It was a casual experience with a boy.
_____ other, please explain ____________________________
17. How old were you when you first made love? ________________
   How frequently do you make love now? (Skip #17 if not applicable)
   _____ once a month or less
   _____ once a week or less
   _____ twice a week or more
   _____ once a day or more

18. I am comfortable with my sexuality.
   _____ very comfortable
   _____ somewhat comfortable
   _____ somewhat uncomfortable
   _____ very uncomfortable

19. A fear I have about my sexuality is _________________________

20. My mother is:
   _____ lesbian   _____ bisexual
   _____ heterosexual  _____ don't know

21. My mother's sexual preference is:
   _____ O.K. with me
   _____ Not O.K. with me
   _____ Doesn't matter

22. If I had to put a label on myself, I would consider myself:
   _____ bisexual   _____ heterosexual
   _____ homosexual  _____ don't know yet

No questionnaire can possibly ask all the right and pertinent questions. If there are areas you feel have not been covered, or if you
just have anything you would like to add, or comments you would like to make, please feel free to do so.
Appendix C

Cover Letter and Questionnaire For:

Follow-Up
The contributions you have made by your involvement in this research study are invaluable and greatly appreciated. Now it is necessary to obtain some up-to-date information on your current lifestyle.

All information is confidential, please fill out the enclosed information sheet as completely and accurately as possible.

Again, your help is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions or comments on this study at any time, please feel free to call or write to me.

Sincerely,

Heidi Serbin
1. Please state your age __________

2. Ethnic background

__________ Black __________ White
__________ Asian __________ Mexican-American
__________ Native American __________ Other (please specify)

3. Religion

__________ Jewish __________ Protestant
__________ Catholic __________ Atheist
__________ Agnostic __________ Eastern

__________ Other (please specify)

4. How often on the average do you attend religious services?

__________ Once a year or less
__________ Several times a year
__________ Once a month or more
__________ Once a week

__________ Twice a week or more

5. Are you currently in school?

__________ yes - what grade are you in? ________________
__________ no - what grade did you complete? ________________

6. What job do you have? State type of job and hours per week.

(Leave blank if you do not have one)
7. Marital status

________ presently married
________ separated
________ divorced
________ never married
________ married more than once

8. If presently married, what is the length of your marriage? _____

9. If once married, what was the length of the marriage? ______

10. Do you have any children? _____ No _____ Yes
    If you do, please indicate age and sex of each one

11. Who lives in your home?

    Name                  Relationship  ______ Age____

12. For how long have you been in your present living situation?

    __________________________

13. Do you belong to any clubs, school organizations, church or
temple groups, lodges, unions, volunteer groups or other
organizations?

    _______ Yes  _______ No
14. If yes, please list in the spaces below and indicate whether you attend:
   A. Regularly  B. Sometimes  C. Rarely  D. Hold Office

   Attendance                      Type of Organization

15. Have you ever been in therapy?
   ________ Yes
   ________ No
   ________ Currently

16. If so, what kind?
   ________ Family  ________ How long?
   ________ Individual  ________ How long?
   ________ Group  ________ How long?

17. Have you found therapy to be:
   ________ Very helpful
   ________ Not very helpful
   ________ Helpful
   ________ A waste of time

18. What is your political affiliation?
   ________ Republican  ________ Socialist
   ________ Democrat  ________ American Independent
   ________ Peace and Freedom  ________ Not Registered
19. What educational and career goals do you have?

20. Are you satisfied with your present living situation? If not, please explain.

21. How would you describe the frequency of your sexual activity?

- ________ virgin
- ________ once a year or less
- ________ once every 6 months or less
- ________ once a month or less
- ________ twice a month or more
- ________ once a week or more

22. What is your sexual preference?

- ________ bisexual
- ________ heterosexual
- ________ homosexual
- ________ don't know yet

23. Are you comfortable with your sexuality? Please explain.

24. How often do you drink alcohol, (including beer and wine)?

- ________ once a month or less
- ________ once a week or less
- ________ twice a week or more
- ________ once a day or more
25. How often do you smoke marijuana?
   _______ once a month or less
   _______ once a week or less
   _______ twice a week or more
   _______ once a day or more

26. What drugs do you use? Please list the name of the drug and amount of usage.
   __________________________
   __________________________
   __________________________
   __________________________

27. What about your life would you change if you could?

28. Do you have any close relationship with your peers? Please indicate how many, their age and sex, and type of relationship.

29. Do you find it easiest to talk with:
   _______ men
   _______ women
   _______ both equally

30. When are you most comfortable?
   _______ alone        _______ with girlfriend
   _______ with family  _______ with boyfriend
   _______ with friends _______ with spouse
   _______ other - please explain __________________________
           __________________________

Omit next question if not applicable

31. What effects, if any, do you think your mother's lesbianism has had on your social relationships? Please be as specific as possible.

No questionnaire can possibly ask all the right and pertinent questions. If there are areas you feel have not been covered, or if you just have anything you would like to add, or comments you would like to make, please feel free to do so.
Appendix D

Copies of Application to N.I.M.H.
CHECKLIST FOR RESEARCH GRANT APPLICATION
( nik-398)

Principal Investigator
Heidi Serbin, M.A.

Complete and forward this sheet with your application.

A. TYPE OF APPLICATION:

x New (A research project for which PHS support is being sought for the first time.)

Revision of Application No. 
(An application which replaces the prior version.)

Change of Principal Investigator 
(Identify previous investigator if applicable.)

Renewal of Grant No. 
(A request for funds to support a research project beyond the current project period.)

Supplement to Grant No. 
(A request for additional funds during an approved project period. A supplement may not extend the previously approved project period.)

B. AUXILIARY INFORMATION IN CONNECTION WITH:

Civil Rights:

Assurance Filed

Assurance Not Filed

Cost Sharing:

x Institutional Agreement dated 5/5/80

No Institutional Agreement

C. CONTENTS OF PACKAGE

1. Formal Application Prepared on Form NIH-398 Assembled in Following Order:

Section I

x Page 1, Face Sheet, All items completed or NA (Not Applicable) inserted. Signature of institution official included.

x Page 2, Research Objectives, (Limited to space provided)
C. (Cont'd)

Section II

x Page 3, Detailed Budget for first 12 month period. (Justification included as required.)

x Page , Budget estimates for all years of support. (Justification included as required.)

x Page , Biographical sketches for all professional personnel.

x Page , Research plan.

x Page , Progress Report (Required for renewal and supplemental applications.)

x Page , Signature of principal investigator

2. Application receipt record, Form NIH-1804 (Perforated Card)

3. x Checklist attached to original copy with paper clip.

4. Appendix (Optional) if included, provide six copies and list contents below:

D Mailing:

Seven copies of the application (the original sheets forming one set, which is not to be stapled but secured with a paper clip), and six sets of any appendix material, together with the checklist, are to be mailed to the division of research grants, using the label provided.

PHS 398 (Checklist)
Rev. 6/75
**Grants Application**

**Title of Proposal**: Longitudinal Study of Social and Emotional Effects on Children Raised by Lesbian Mothers

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>I. Name</strong></td>
<td>Heidi C. Serbin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>II. Title</strong></td>
<td>Masters in Counseling CSUN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>III. Address</strong></td>
<td>18551 Prairie St., #22, Northridge, CA 91324</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>IV. Degree</strong></td>
<td>M.A. in Social Security, 1984-1989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>V. Phone</strong></td>
<td>(213) 385-2808</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>VI. Department</strong></td>
<td>Dept. of Psychology, CSUN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>VII. Major Subdivision</strong></td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>VIII. Applicant Organization(s)</strong></td>
<td>C.S.U.N.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>IX. Applicant Organization(s) Address</strong></td>
<td>Nordhoff St., Northridge, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>X. Name, Title, and Telephone Number of Official Signing</strong></td>
<td>Nora Wockler, Ph.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>XI. Telephone Number</strong></td>
<td>(213) 885-3901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>XII. Name, Title, Address, and Telephone Number of Official in Business Office Who Should Also Be Notified If an Award Is Made</strong></td>
<td>Joan Steele, Research Coordinator</td>
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**Field Sites:**
- Subject: Leave school from San Diego, San Francisco, Los Angeles
- Site 1: San Diego
- Site 2: San Francisco
- Site 3: Los Angeles

**Inventions (Renewal Applicants Only - See Instructions)**
- A. NO  B. YES (Reported Previously)
- C. YES - Pending Review

**Responsible Administrative Authority**
- (Name 8 through 13 and 18-19)

**Type of Organization**
- Federal
- State
- Local
- Other (Specify)
- School of Psychology

**Entity Number**
- (Formerly PHS Account Number)

**Signature**
- A. Signature of Principal Investigator
- B. Signature of Person(s) Named in Item 10

**Funding Period**
- 6/80 through 6/85

**Grant Application**

**Section I**

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<th>Type</th>
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**Council (Month, Year) Date Received**

**FEDERAL & LOCAL OTHER (Specify)**

**Grant Application**

**Date**

**Signature**

A. Signature of Person(s) Named in Item 10

**Signature**

B. Signature of Person(s) Named in Item 10

**Date**

**NIH**

**FORMERLY PHS**

**Rev. 1/73**
### Detailed Budget for First 12-Month Period

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>From</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Name</strong></td>
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<td>Heidi Serbin, Principal Investigator</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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#### Personnel Costs

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title of Position</th>
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<th>Wage</th>
<th>Salary</th>
<th>Fringe Benefits</th>
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<tr>
<td>Heidi Serbin</td>
<td>Principal Investigator</td>
<td>700 hrs.</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
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#### Consultant Costs

- Supplies
  - Paper, envelopes, stationary: $1,500

#### Travel Costs

- Domestic: $200

#### Other Costs

- Other expenses (See instructions)

#### Total Direct Cost

- Total: $3,700
## SECTION II - PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATION

### BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR ALL YEARS OF SUPPORT REQUESTED FROM PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

<table>
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<tr>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>1ST YEAR (BASE EXPENSES)</th>
<th>ADDITIONAL YEARS SUPPORT REQUESTED (This application only)</th>
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<tr>
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<td>CONSULTANT COSTS</td>
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<td>PATIENT COSTS</td>
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<td>ALTERATIONS AND RENOVATIONS</td>
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<td>OTHER EXPENSES</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL DIRECT COSTS</td>
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**TOTAL FOR ENTIRE PROPOSED PROJECT PERIOD** (Enter on Page 1, Item 4) $18,500

**REMARKS:** Justify all costs for the first year for which the need may not be obvious. For future years, justify equipment costs, as well as any significant increases in any other category. If a recurring annual increase in personnel costs is requested, give percentage. (Use continuation page if needed.)
Bibliography


10. Burden; Houston, Kirpke, Simpson; Stubotz; eds., Single Parent Family Proceedings, University of Iowa, Iowa, 1976


20. Gibson, Gifford; with the collaboration of Risher, Mary Jo, By Her Own Admission, Doubleday & Co., Inc., Garden City, N.Y., 1977.


22. Hamilton, Gilbert; Leyman, Gershan, On the Cause of Homosexuality: Two Essays "Homosexuals and Their Mothers" and "Fathers and Sons"), N.Y., Friends of the Oscar Wilde Society, 1940.


