



# Sexuality: An Illustrated History

By Sander L. Gilman

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## Sexuality: An Illustrated History By Sander L. Gilman

In this fascinating book, Sander L. Gilman traces the history of how sexuality has been represented in Western civilization since the advent of Christianity. In so doing, he shows how these cultures define themselves and are shaped by their concepts of beauty and ugliness, masculinity and femininity, health and sickness, the sacred and profane. Gilman demonstrates how such concepts are elements in the greater tapestry of Western culture, through which run threads that have remained unbroken for nearly two millennia.

With the help of over three-hundred and twenty pictorial representations produced throughout the ages (most of them unavailable elsewhere), he provides a thorough, comparative look at the foundations and mechanisms of Western sexual constructs and their impact on every aspect of life. From the Middle Ages through current myth-making about AIDS, he draws on materials from medicine, anatomy, pathology, art, and literature to show how ideas of the body and the sexual are and have been portrayed.

*Sexuality: An Illustrated History* is a fascinating-and sometimes disturbing-contribution to the current discourse on sexual ethics and politics. It helps in defining sexuality and the understanding and portrayal of the body as a social and historical phenomenon while exposing the sources and mechanisms of cultures' most deep-seated prejudices.

**Sander L. Gilman, PhD**, is a distinguished professor of the Liberal Arts and Sciences as well as Professor of Psychiatry at Emory University. A respected educator, he has served as Old Dominion Visiting Professor of English at Princeton; Northrop Frye Visiting Professor of Comparative Literature at the University of Toronto; Mellon Visiting Professor of Humanities at Tulane University; Goldwin Smith Professor of Humane Studies at Cornell University; and Professor of the History of Psychiatry at Cornell Medical College. He has written and edited several books including *The Face of Madness* and *Seeing the Insane*.

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## **Editorial Review**

From the Publisher

A pictorial cultural history of the images and iconography of sexuality in the Western world, from the Middle Ages down to the present. The first book of its type, this beautifully illustrated work contains 328 plates, many heretofore unknown, which comprise the visual tradition of human sexuality. Traces mythmaking about the sexual form, from the early cultural roots of Christianity to more recent mythmaking about AIDS, drawing on material from medicine, anatomy, pathology, art, and literature to show how our idea of the body and its sexuality has been portrayed. Includes new material on Jack the Ripper, and new interpretations on the contributions of Da Vinci and Goethe.

## **Users Review**

**From reader reviews:**

**Mario Berry:**

Do you have favorite book? If you have, what is your favorite's book? Publication is very important thing for us to be aware of everything in the world. Each e-book has different aim or perhaps goal; it means that e-book has different type. Some people experience enjoy to spend their time to read a book. These are reading whatever they have because their hobby is usually reading a book. What about the person who don't like reading a book? Sometime, man feel need book once they found difficult problem or exercise. Well, probably you will require this Sexuality: An Illustrated History.

**James Davis:**

Playing with family in the park, coming to see the marine world or hanging out with good friends is thing that usually you might have done when you have spare time, then why you don't try issue that really opposite from that. Just one activity that make you not feeling tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you already been ride on and with addition associated with. Even you love Sexuality: An Illustrated History, it is possible to enjoy both. It is very good combination right, you still wish to miss it? What kind of hangout type is it? Oh seriously its mind hangout people. What? Still don't obtain it, oh come on its named reading friends.

**Ronald Moffatt:**

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**Katrina Scofield:**

Are you kind of stressful person, only have 10 as well as 15 minute in your day to upgrading your mind proficiency or thinking skill actually analytical thinking? Then you have problem with the book than can satisfy your short space of time to read it because all this time you only find publication that need more time to be go through. Sexuality: An Illustrated History can be your answer since it can be read by you who have those short time problems.

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