



For Immediate Release
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**NEW STUDY EXAMINES RECENT ATTEMPTS TO CUT PUBLIC FUNDING OF
RESEARCH ON SEXUAL TOPICS**

**Conservative Groups Create “Moral Panic” to Control Dissemination of Sexuality
Research Information With Public Health Relevance**

A compelling new article by Steven Epstein, entitled “The New Attack on Sexuality Research: Morality and the Politics of Knowledge” appears in the March issue of *Sexuality Research and Social Policy: Journal of NSRC*. Epstein analyzes recent attempts to create a moral panic regarding publicly funded sexuality research in the United States. He highlights recent cases in which conservative politicians, policymakers, and advocacy groups have all sought to shape the production and dissemination of information about sexuality.

Epstein sees these as both moral struggles around sexual norms and credibility struggles around the production of knowledge. He believes these struggles present important strategic dilemmas for activism and policy work related to sexuality and that they demand a rethinking of how the public participates in scientific debate.

Sexuality Research and Social Policy is a peer-reviewed journal, published by the National Sexuality Resource Center, in partnership with University of California Press, and is available exclusively online at <http://www.SexualityResearch.net>. The Table of Contents for the new issues is at <http://caliber.ucpress.net/toc/srsp/3/1>.

Epstein, a well-regarded sociologist, received his B.A. from Harvard College and his Ph.D. from U.C. Berkeley. He is on the faculty of the University of California, San Diego (UCSD) and has published in journals such as: *Social Studies of Science*, *Body and Society*, *Sociological Forum*, *Social Identities*, and *Science, Technology & Human Values*. Dr. Epstein is also affiliated with the Critical Gender Program and the Ethnic Studies Department at UCSD.

Steven Epstein is available to discuss his research.

To obtain the complete research study for “The New Attack on Sexuality Research: Morality and the Politics of Knowledge” contact Geoffrey Knox at 212-229-0540 or Mona Finston at 212-724-6117.

Additional articles in this month’s issue of the Journal include:

I Do, But I Can’t: the Impact of Marriage Denial on the Mental Health and Sexual Citizenship of Lesbians and Gay Men in the United States, a first-of-its kind study that reveals how marriage denial for lesbians and gay men creates the *mental distress of second-class*

citizenship and inflicts psychological and social harm on same-sex couples. Written by Gilbert Herdt and Robert Kertzner, the study provides an in-depth look at historical and cultural factors in the United States that maintain denial of marriage as an act of discrimination against gay men and lesbians.

Resilience Among Young Men Who have Sex with Young Men in New York City by Marya Viorst Gwadz, Michael C. Clatts, Huso Yi, Noelle R. Leonard, Lloyd Goldsamt and Steven Lankenau

To Have or Have Not: Advance Planning by Same-Sex Couples by Ellen D.B. Riggle, Sharon Scales Rostosky, Russell Couch, Carolyn Brodnicki, Jessica Campbell and Todd Savage.

The National Sexuality Resource Center gathers and disseminates the latest accurate information and research on sexual health, education, and rights. NSRC initiates constructive dialogues—both online and face-to-face—on sexuality to promote social justice and to improve the quality of life in the United States. <http://nsrc.sfsu.edu>

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