

Brief Notices

Special issue on homosexuality,
AMCAP Journal 19, no. 1 (1993)

Few subjects offer more opportunities for missteps by Christian-oriented professionals than discussions of male and female homosexuality. It is a credit to the integrity and the ability of those who produced this special issue of the journal of the Association of Mormon Counselors and Psychotherapists that they avoided such missteps. One misstep would have been to produce a parochial apology for LDS views. The second most tempting misstep would have been to give undue space to the politically driven views of homophilic clinicians. Instead they have brought under one cover useful articles about the ongoing biological debate, secular clinical approaches that apply to Latter-day Saint clients, historical perspectives on policies of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and insights from people who personally have struggled with homosexual thoughts and behaviors.

This volume is a necessary tool for any responsible student of the subject, any competent therapist, and perhaps most usefully, for those who have experienced homosexual emotions.

The effectiveness of this edition underscores a larger need, however. Those who insist on using the term "homosexual" as defining a

complete human being and "homosexuality" as a functional culture betray the hopes of so-called homosexuals who would reorient themselves to a full range of life-giving emotions and relationships. Homosexuality no more defines the complete person than does heterosexuality!

One anticipates the day when LDS social scientists address the far larger subject of *human* sexuality and its encompassing ramifications.

—Victor Brown Jr.

Rocky Mountain Divide: Selling and Saving the West, by John B. Wright (University of Texas Press, 1993)

John B. Wright's *Rocky Mountain Divide: Selling and Saving the West* contains a unique examination of Mormon attitudes toward land conservation. In spite of inaccurate statements about Mormon history, doctrine, and practice, the book is a valuable resource on land conservation in the West and a careful examination of the present status of conservation efforts in Utah and Colorado.

Wright's book is intended to be a call to arms for voluntary land conservation through land trusts—"private, nonprofit citizen groups which engage in land protection activities" (14). The mission of the