



Sex & Politics in South Africa

edited by **Neville Hoad, Karen Martin and Graeme Reid**

Sex and Politics in South Africa tells how South Africa came to lead the world in enshrining sexual equality in the Bill of Rights of our Constitution. There is a complex story behind this achievement. This book draws on the experiences of lesbian and gay activists, whose work during the 1980s evoked hostility from the apartheid state and was dismissed as irrelevant by conservative elements within the liberation movement. Indeed, the end of apartheid did not automatically guarantee that sexual equality would be realised.

Sex and Politics in South Africa draws on the rich collections of the Gay and Lesbian Archives of South Africa, incorporating fascinating first-hand documents from the time, as well as essays by participants in the events and later commentators.

Author Detail

Neville Hoad is an assistant professor of English at the University of Texas. He received a PhD in English and comparative literature from Columbia University, and has held post-doctoral fellowships at the University of Chicago. He has published articles on lesbian and gay politics in South Africa in *Development Update*, *Public Culture* and *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies*, and articles on the relationship of sexual identity politics to globalising neo-liberalism in *Postcolonial Studies*, *Cultural Critique* and in edited anthologies. He is completing a book manuscript entitled *African Intimacies: Race, Homosexuality and Globalization in African Literature and History*

Karen Martin is a professional editor. She also does archival research from time to time, and was the archivist at the Gay and Lesbian Archives of South Africa (GALA) in its early day. She is the co-editor with Joanne Bloch of *Balancing Act: South African Gay and Lesbian Youth Speak Out (2005)*, a

collection of interviews. She has an honours degree in linguistics and a post-graduate diploma in African studies from the University of Cape Town.

Graeme Reid is a researcher in the Cultures of Sexuality and Power programme at the Wits Institute for Social and Economic Research (Wiser), Johannesburg. He has an MA in social anthropology and is currently registered for a PhD at the Amsterdam School for Social Science Research, University of Amsterdam. His research proposes to understand the elaboration of gay lifestyles and their reception in South Africa in the context of broader debates about sexuality, culture and race. He has published articles and co-directed a video documentary on gay cultural identities in South Africa. He is one of the editors of *Refiguring the Archive* (2002), a co-author with Liz Walker of *Waiting to Happen: HIV/AIDS in South Africa* (2004) and co-editor with Liz Walker of *Men Behaving Differently: South African Men Since 1994* (2005)

Publication Detail

Title	Sex and Politics in South Africa
Authors	Neville Hoad, Karen Martin and Graeme Reid
ISBN	1-7701-301-5-2
Publisher	Double Storey Books
Page	256
Price	R 175.00
Binding	Paperback
Availability	August 2005

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