

Points of Biew

A newsletter from Division 44's Bisexual Issue Committee



Dear Community,

We are excited about the upcoming 2025 APA Convention! We are looking forward to learning from distinguished scholars and connecting with people from the bi+ community.

This newsletter includes important information about Bi+ happenings during the 2025 APA Convention!

Formerly known as News Beyond the Binary, our publication is now proudly named Points of Biew, which is dedicated to all things bi+. Our definition of bisexual+ includes people romantically and/or sexually attracted to more than one sex and/or gender. This includes transgender, cisgender, non-binary, and agender folks who self-identify as bisexual, queer, pansexual, omnisexual, Two-Spirit, fluid, or who choose additional non heterosexual identity labels.

As a reminder, BIC is dedicated to promoting discussion, scholarship, and advocacy about bi+ issues in psychology and society at large. Our revamped newsletter will focus on four areas: 1) highlighting bi+-specific research; 2) amplifying a wide range of bi+ viewpoints; 3) cultivating meaningful discussion and engagement in bi+ issues; and 4) featuring a variety of media and print that either focuses on bi+ stories and/or was created by bi+ individuals. We continue to welcome any content submissions, comments, questions, and compliments at the BIC email address: Div44BIC@gmail.com. We are especially interested in individuals who would like to have their art featured in the newsletter!

Please enjoy our Summer 2025 issue of Points of Biew!
In gratitude and solidarity,

BIC Executive Committee



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Thursday, 8/7

1:00- 2:00pm

Poster Presentation

Title: That's What She Said! Dykes, Bi's and Breeders in the Comedy World

Group: Div 35 - Society for the Psychology of Women

Location: Exhibit Hall A, Solutions Center

Authors: Miranda Kutell (Saint Louis University), Clint E. Johnson, MS, Heather Mitchell (Webster University)

Symposium

Title: Bi+ representation in music videos: That's just the way I kissed a girl and liked it.

IN: Div 46, *"That's just the way you make me feel": Music fandom and media representation among young adults.*

Location: 404, Colorado Convention Center, Street Level

Authors: Rachel Chickerella, PhD, Divya Seshadri, MBBS, Apollo Covington (Antioch University New England), Sophie Whynacht, PhD (Dominican University of California)



Friday, 8/8

9:30- 10:30am

Poster Presentations

Title: Factors Influencing Dating Biases Against Bisexual Partners

Authors: Alexandra Porcaro, MA, Francisco J. Sanchez, PhD, PhD (Arizona State University)

Title: Reducing Suicide in Bisexual+ Adults: The Role of LGBTQ-Specific Support
Combating ACE-Related Risk

Authors: Phoebe G. Shorter, Naira Harutyunyan, Miles Palma, Catherine A. Martinez,
Andye Lam, Adrian M. Valadez, PhD (California State University Northridge)

Title: Examining Bisexual+ College Women's HIV-Related Sexual Health
Communication

Authors: Emma Muscari, PhD, Lisa Campbell, Angela J. Johnson, BS, Laura Palmo
(East Carolina University)

Title: Bi+ adults' engagement in psychotherapy: Associations with demographics
and identity characteristics

Authors: Isabel Benjamin, Kate Dorrell, MS, Emily Bettin, Brian A. Feinstein, PhD
(Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science)

2:30- 3:30pm

Title: Gender, Trauma, and Mental Health: Unique Challenges for Women and
Lesbian/Bisexual Veterans

Authors: Vanessa Harris, MA, Kristine Jacquin (Fielding Graduate University)



Friday, 8/8

11:30-12:30pm

Roadmaps to Bi+ Joy: Advocacy, Activism, and Community Self Care

Division 44 Featured Symposium

Location: Bluebird Ballroom 3B, Colorado Convention Center, Terrace Level

1. Bisexual+ Women's Sexual Well-being: A Test and Extension of Objectification Theory

Emily A. McClintrot, Bonnie Moradi (University of Florida)

2. Flourishing, Sense of Community, and Social Justice Behavioral Intentions in a Diverse Sample of Cis Bisexual Women

Melissa M. Ertl, PhD, Kayleigh Fenton (University of Minnesota)

3. Understanding & acceptance, no questioning": A qualitative look at social connection in bi+ people

Saskia Jorgensen, Patrick Loftus, Nava Blyakher (The George Washington University); Fallon R. Goodman, Emily Bettin, Brian A. Feinstein (Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science)

4:00pm - 6:00pm

Bi+ Issues Committee Social

Location: Buddies Denver

504 E Colfax Ave Denver, Colorado

Bi+ Scholarship Across Time

By Jordan Keough, BA, BIC Student Campus Rep
Werklund School of Education University of Calgary



As a student focused on 2SLGBTQIA+ psychology I have had the privilege of learning about the history of queer scholars and community members that came before me. To me, many of these stories have been a testament to the resilience, wisdom, and bravery of this diverse community that paved the way for queer folks today. However, I have often found myself missing a piece of this history as I struggled to find the stories of bi+ communities in scholarship and activism. As a bi+ person I wanted to feel connected to this community and the history behind it. Yet this challenge of uncovering bi+ histories is not new. Bi+ identities have been consistently neglected in sexualities scholarship and accounts of 2SLGBTQIA+ history (Angelides, 2001; Monro et al., 2017). For many bi+ folks, the unique history of plurisexuality has been erased from history books, journal articles, and community discussion.

What is so important about making bi+ history visible? Scholars have stressed that uncovering 2SLGBTQIA+ history plays a pivotal role in connecting communities and forwarding systemic change (Jetté, 2019). By historicizing queer existence, we can enrich our community connections and identities through shared experiences and subjectivities stretching far beyond the present. For bi+ communities in particular, historical accounts of plurisexuality and bi+ resistance challenges the erasure of these communities by demonstrating that despite efforts to render bi+ subjectivities invisible, they have persisted throughout time.

Being a bi+ student who came out in adulthood, I often felt the impact of bi+ invisibility; feeling little connection to my community and uncertainty about my identity. In graduate school I felt a pull to connect with bi+ history as a way of building a relationship with communities that came before me and giving voice to this silenced history. This led me to explore the history of bi+ identities in social science scholarship for my thesis. Over the last year I have had the privilege of immersing myself in books and articles that have made the invisible history of plurisexuality visible.

Through this practice I found my relationship with my identity shifting; as I read about the bi+ researchers and community activists who challenged sexual and gender binaries I gained a newfound pride in my identity and felt motivated to continue in the footsteps of my bi+ elders. While at times academia can be an isolating experience, my work brought me infinitely closer with a history and community I did not realize I had.

A major takeaway from my experience thus far is an amazement at the resilience and resistance demonstrated by bi+ communities. Despite the pervasive stigmatization and erasure that exists in early accounts of plurisexuality, we have persisted. Seeing the incredible strides made by the bi+ community over time gives me a deep sense of hope for the future and an intense gratitude for those who have fought tirelessly for our recognition, safety, and well-being. While there was a time where I saw my bisexuality as an individual identity, I have come to see now that my identity was shaped long before my time and that I am forever indebted to those that came before me. It is because of their research and activism that my work is possible.

Suggested readings:

A history of bisexuality by Steven Angelides

Bi: The hidden culture, history, and science of bisexuality by Julia Shaw

References

- Angelides, S. (2001). A history of bisexuality. The University of Chicago Press.
- Jetté, M. M. (2019). Through the queer looking-glass. *The Public Historian*, 41(2), 6–18. <https://doi.org/10.1525/tph.2019.41.2.6>
- Monro, S., Hines, S., & Osborne, A. (2017). Is bisexuality invisible? A review of sexualities scholarship 1970–2015. *The Sociological Review*, 65(4), 663–681. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0038026117695488>

Josephine Baker: Civil Rights Activist and Bisexual Icon

By: Zak Clements, Newsletter Coordinator



Josephine Baker, also known as the “Black Pearl” and the “Creole Goddess,” is a twentieth-century superstar and has been posthumously considered to be bisexual. Born in St. Louis, Missouri, on July 3rd, 1906, Baker grew up as a Black girl in a deeply segregated Missouri. Instead of finishing school in St. Louis, she moved to New York to become a singer, taking a role in the musical *Shuffle Along*, one of the first all-Black musicals on Broadway.

In 1925, Baker relocated to Paris to attempt to escape the extreme overt racism in the U.S., beginning her rise to fame and becoming a world-famous performer. Only two years later, in 1927, she became the first Black woman to star in a major motion picture, *Siren of the Tropics*. Baker wrote and performed a song, one of her most famous, *J'ai Deux Amours* (“I Have Two Loves”), originally interpreted as a tribute to her love of both the U.S. and France. However, many today consider this song to be a subtle reference to her bisexuality and relationships with both men and women.

In the 1930s, Baker became a French citizen, eventually becoming a spy for the French Resistance during World War II. Baker was known to relay important messages while performing across Europe, sometimes through invisible ink on her sheet music. She was also known to shelter Jewish refugees in her home. For these services, she received the Croix de Guerre and the Legion of Honour- two of France's highest military honors.

In the 1950s, after her service to the French Resistance, Baker increased her involvement in civil rights activism. She adopted approximately 12 children, called the “Rainbow Tribe” due to their diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds. Baker was known to refuse performances in the U.S. at venues that upheld segregation. She is credited with leading desegregation efforts in Las Vegas, and did not perform in her hometown of St. Louis until 1952. However, shortly after, Baker was accused of being a “communist sympathizer” during the Red Scare of the 50’s, and had her work visa revoked, not being able to return to the US for a decade.



When she finally returned to the US, Baker was invited to speak at the 1963 March on Washington, where she was the only official woman speaker. She later was invited to perform in Carnegie Hall in 1973. Baker died on April 12th, 1975, four days after a performance in Paris celebrating her 50-years career. Her funeral was marked by full French military honors, including an honor guard, gun salutes, and an alleged 20,000 people mourning her passing in the streets of Paris

Throughout her life, Baker was admired by her fans, peers, and civil rights leaders. It is rumored that Picasso drew a painting of her, Ernest Hemingway lauded her as the most interesting person he had ever met, and that her affairs with women included Clara Smith and Frida Kahlo. She was reported to have a pet cheetah, which was gifted to her after a show, as well as a pet goat and pig.

In June of 2006, Beyoncé celebrated Baker's 100th birthday with a performance of *Déjà Vu*, inspired by Baker's Banana Dance. In 2021, Baker was inducted into the Panthéon- the first Black woman to be inducted. This cemented her legacy as a symbol of artistry and resistance.

Suggested Readings and Citations

Josephine Baker in Art and Life (by Bannetta Jules-Rosette)

Josephine: The Hungry Heart (by Jean-Claude Baker)

<https://www.them.us/story/josephine-baker-activism-history->

<https://historycollection.com/40-fascinating-facts-about-the-fabulous-josephine-baker/>

2025 APA Division 44 Bisexual Issues Committee Awards winners!

Bisexual Issues Committee (BIC) Community Engagement and Advocacy Award:

Tania Israel, PhD

Professor, Counseling Psychology, University of California, Santa Barbara

The BIC Community Engagement and Advocacy Award is an award to recognize individuals who have made impressive contributions in advancing the well-being of plurisexual people.

The Bisexual Foundation Scholarship Award:

Kasey Vigil, MA

Doctoral Candidate, Counseling Psychology, University of Kentucky

The Bisexual Foundation Scholarship is an annual fund awarded to selected graduate students to advance research on the psychology of bisexuality.

Congratulations to Dr. Israel and Kasey Vigil receiving these awards!

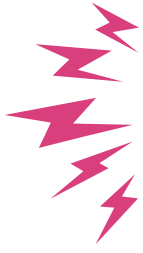
Please join us in celebrating our award winners

at the Division 44's Award Ceremony at APA

Friday, August 8th, at 4:00pm



**Society for the Psychology of
Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity**



BIC News and Shout Outs

- #StillBisexual Bi+ Therapists Directory
 - <https://stillbi.org/bi-plus-therapists-directory/>
- Bi+ Research Virtual 4th International Bisexuality+ Research Conference is on **October 4th-5th**
 - Call for papers due **August 8th, 2025**
<https://www.bisexualresearch.com/ibrconference2025cfp>
- Portuguese-language guide on writing about bisexuality
 - <https://tropego.com/guia-de-boas-praticas-para-coberturas-jornalisticas-sobre-bissexualidade/>
- BIC is conducting a needs assessment to understand how we can best support LGBTQIA+ and allied students in psychology. **If you are a student, please complete this short, anonymous survey** to let us know how we can support you, especially during this hostile and isolating time. If you know LGBTQIA+ psychology students, please share this with them. Thank you!
 - Link to survey:
https://rosalindfranklin.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bk26mU3ogswrnDg

