

## ***We Are Here to Dance Together***

And dance we did, until the domestication project known as civilization managed to tame us and remove most of the joy from our lives, rendering us socially and sexually dysfunctional in the relatively short period of 10 to 20 thousand years. Taking us from a veritable Pandora's Box of sexual paradigms to a rigidly scripted exercise in sexual neurosis and dysfunction that dictates among other things, sex is only to occur between a man and a woman and, by the way, don't enjoy it too much. Goodbye wild, hello banal. In other words, no more dancing.

Due to our becoming an almost totally domesticated species, we also seem to have become collectively ashamed of our natural sexual impulses, our wild sexuality. Confused and frustrated, this collective neurosis leads us to behave in ways that take the joy out of sex and life itself, making our learned sexual behavior the antithesis of a fully realized life. Leading, in turn, to a sexual life of accommodation and settling for less than our wild selves would normally demand.

This dysfunction is rooted in the patriarchal religions that dominate our species. The sacred texts of every major religion reek with the hatred and oppression of women and the glorification of war and murder in the name of God or the Gods, from the Hindu and Buddhist Mahabharata to the Jewish Torah, Christian Bible, and Islamic Qu'ran. Despite the layers of beautifully sounding platitudes plastered over the top of these religious dung heaps, the stench remains and projects itself into the unnatural and mediated spectacle that is the modern world.

Is it any wonder then, that a 16-year-old girl, who passed out at a party, was stripped naked and raped by the stars of a high-school football team in Steubenville, Ohio on August 11, 2012. Or, that a 23-year-old female medical student was kidnapped, tortured, gang-raped, and left for dead on the side of a road by a group of men on a bus near Delhi, India, on December 16, 2012, before eventually dying of her injuries. Who do you think is worse off? The girl who survived, and gets to relive the nightmare for the rest of her life, or the woman who died?

It is our learned sexual behavior, not our wild sexual nature, that leads to this nightmare of sexual dysfunction. What else could possibly cause a man to become sexually excited, and maintain an erection, while raping a terrified woman, young girl or child? One in three women will be beaten or raped in their lifetime, while child rape and molestation has become a veritable pandemic. Ultimately, we are all responsible and it's crucial we understand our wild selves, our natural sexuality, therefore, each other, so as to end this nightmare. Sexual intercourse has the potential to be the deepest and most spiritual of connections between ourselves and others. Unfortunately, our learned sexual

behavior and its inhibitions infect our sexual unions, which causes sexual frustration and the horror of the aforementioned crimes. Crimes which are now occurring at an astonishing rate throughout the world. Banality and dysfunction is all that can be expected from sexual behavior that is learned from fairy tales, television, porn, and in school locker-rooms. Banality and dysfunction which leads to the horror show of our sexual misbehavior as reported so pruriently by the media.

As such, it's hardly a surprise when a girl raised to look for her Prince Charming is horrified when, instead, she's confronted by a smirking schoolboy looking to "score" - the "old in-out," in the words of Alex, the protagonist in *A Clockwork Orange*. Likewise, the boy, expecting a girl to dissolve into a paroxysm of orgasm upon the deliverance of the "old in-out," is surprised to discover, if he ever does, that that kind of sex just doesn't mean much to the girl. Those with different sexual orientations are likely to be similarly disappointed.

Unfortunately, these disappointments are masked by many sexual partners', primarily women, willingness to accommodate the other. In the case of women, this accommodation includes faking orgasms and sexual satisfaction. Men, in turn, accommodate the woman, or man, in their life by being less sexually demanding, usually seeking sexual satisfaction elsewhere, and more demanding in other areas in an effort to assert their patriarchal proclivity to dominate. In the end, societal pressure to have a mate, and to marry, force both men and women to settle for far less than their initial childhood expectations promised.

Thus, it seems clear that mediated sexual imagery lends to the infantilization of sexual behavior, with the resultant sexual dysfunction pervading the world and, especially, America. Naturally, all this would be avoided if we could go back in time and eliminate civilization and its very ideas from the planet and our minds, respectively. Since this isn't going to happen, we can and must alter our sexual behavior so that it becomes more natural and fulfilling, instead of unnatural and disappointing. In the words of Raoul Vaneigem, "We have a world of pleasure to win and nothing to lose but boredom."

This may be accomplished by allowing children to engage freely in sexual play as they're growing up, without the threat of eternal damnation to some imaginary Hell. Moreover, as our children come of age we, both men and women, must engage them in a frank and honest discussion about sex, its potential for both great pleasure and deep connection with each other and nature - the very life-force of the planet itself. This discussion should include details of sexual play, especially foreplay. This way, our children's learned behavior will not continue the spirit-crushing disaster of dashed hopes, confusion and frustration that has been endured by so many in the preceding generation.

Instead of sexual behavior learned via the media and in whispered conversations, particularly, in school locker-rooms, where the participants equate sex with a game,

replete with "scoring," which leads to the horrifying atrocities like those that occurred in Steubenville, Ohio, or Delhi, India, let us all, every single being on this planet, learn to come together and dance.

-Rand W. Gould & Maureen A. Kane