

**Scarlet Press lesbian and gay : Lesbians talk (safer) sex : Sue O'Sullivan
and Pratibha Parmar : Lesbians talk queer notions : Cherry Smyth.**

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SCARLET PRESS LESBIAN AND GAY

Lesbians Talk (Safer) Sex

Sue O'Sullivan and Pratibha Parmar

The need for safer sex has revolutionized sexual practice and its discussion within the gay male community and has produced a series of hotly contested debates among lesbians which run far deeper than the issue of safer sex itself. How are lesbians at risk from HIV? Do lesbians need to think about safer sex at all? What has the discussion of safer sex revealed about lesbian sexual practices in general? What is lesbian sex? What is lesbian identity? How have HIV and AIDS affected different lesbian communities? And how can lesbians develop a collective response to the AIDS crisis?

In this essential resource book for HIV and AIDS agencies and workers, health workers, sex educators and anyone who wants to be informed about the latest debates, Sue O'Sullivan and Pratibha Parmar discuss the issues with an international group of HIV and AIDS workers, sex educators and interested lesbians.

From the contents Lesbians and HIV: what's it all about?; HIV debates; What's going down?: teaching safer sex by Beth Zemsky; Talking sex: talking serious, talking dirty; Safer sex: to suck or not to suck; The agnostic position **Plus** 16-page information and contacts section covering HIV and AIDS definitions; Safer-sex accessories and suppliers; HIV and AIDS organizations; Helplines; Information for ex- and current drug users; Information for sex workers; Lesbian/women's health; Bibliography; Filmography

Sue O'Sullivan has worked on *Spare Rib* magazine and for Sheba Feminist Publishers. She is co-editor of *Positively Women: Living with AIDS* (Sheba Feminist Publishers, 1992)

Pratibha Parmar is an independent film-maker whose films include *Re-framing AIDS* and *Khush*.

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SCARLET PRESS LESBIAN AND GAY

Lesbians Talk Queer Notions

Cherry Smyth

The 1990s has produced a new political radicalism within the lesbian and gay communities, with the emergence of activist groups such as OutRage, ACT UP and Queer Nation and their 'we're here, we're queer, get used to it' agenda. But what is this queer politics? Does the new defiance signify a meaningful shift in ideology, or is it merely the wishful thinking of a few white gay men? Are queer politics and feminism in any way compatible? What does queer mean for lesbians, and who is setting the agenda? Is queer a positive alliance or a watering down of lesbian strength? Is there a queer aesthetic? Cherry Smyth describes the development of the new politics and discusses its implications with an international group of activists and their critics.

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