

Weekly Events

AA MEETINGS:

BURLINGTON — Sundays, 5 p.m., Christ Church Presbyterian, Redstone Campus, University of Vermont.
 — Thursdays, 7 p.m., St. Paul's Cathedral, Cherry Street, Burlington. Call 802.658.4221.
CONCORD (NH) — Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., First Congregational Church, North Main and Washington Streets.
KEENE (NH) — Saturdays, 7-8:30 p.m. Call 603.357.4300.
MANCHESTER (NH) — Sundays, 7:30 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Church, 669 Union Street.
NASHUA (NH) — Mondays, 7:30 p.m., Nashua Unitarian Church.

COLLEGE GROUPS:

On summer break. Check next Fall for new times.

HIV/AIDS MEETINGS:

BRATTLEBORO AREA AIDS PROJECT — For PLWA, friends, and families. 4th Floor, 67 Main St., Brattleboro. Wednesdays, 12:30-1:30 p.m. Call Maryann at 802.254.8263.
SUPPORT GROUP FOR HIV+/AIDS WOMEN — Mondays, 3:30-5:30 p.m., Greenfield MA. Call 413.773.8888.
VERMONT CARES — Support group for gay/bi men living with HIV/AIDS, Mondays, 5:30-7 p.m. Call 802.863.2437.
 Support group for heterosexual men and women living with HIV/AIDS, Thursdays, 1-2:30 p.m. Call 802.863.2437.
 Support group for family and friends of people living with HIV/AIDS, Thursdays, 5-6:30 p.m. Call 802.863.8162.

HUNTINGTON OPEN WOMEN'S LAND (HOWL) — Sundays, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., a potluck brunch. Call 802.864.5595.

KEENE GAY MEN'S SUPPORT GROUP — Tuesdays. Unitarian Universalist Church, 69 Washington St. Keene, NH. Call Brian at 800.639.7903.

MYRIAD NETWORK — For g/l/b/t's in the Berkshires. Fridays, 7 p.m., First Congregational Church, Williamstown MA. Write Box 288, Williamstown MA 01267.

NETWORK NORTH —

Cheap Movie Nights, Tuesdays, 6:15 p.m. at Wilton Mall Food Court, Wilton NY.
 Coffee Nights, Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m. at Uncommon Grounds, Saratoga Springs NY.
 Coffee Mornings, Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. at Uncommon Grounds, Saratoga Springs NY.

OUTRIGHT VERMONT — GLB youth groups (under 23). Fridays, 7-9 p.m. Young men's group (under 22): Thursdays, 7-8:30 p.m. Call 802.865.9677.

P-FLAG GROUPS:

CENTRAL VERMONT — 3rd Sundays, 1 p.m., 2nd Floor Chapel, Unitarian Universalist Church, Montpelier (use School Street entrance). Call Jan at 802.479.9246.

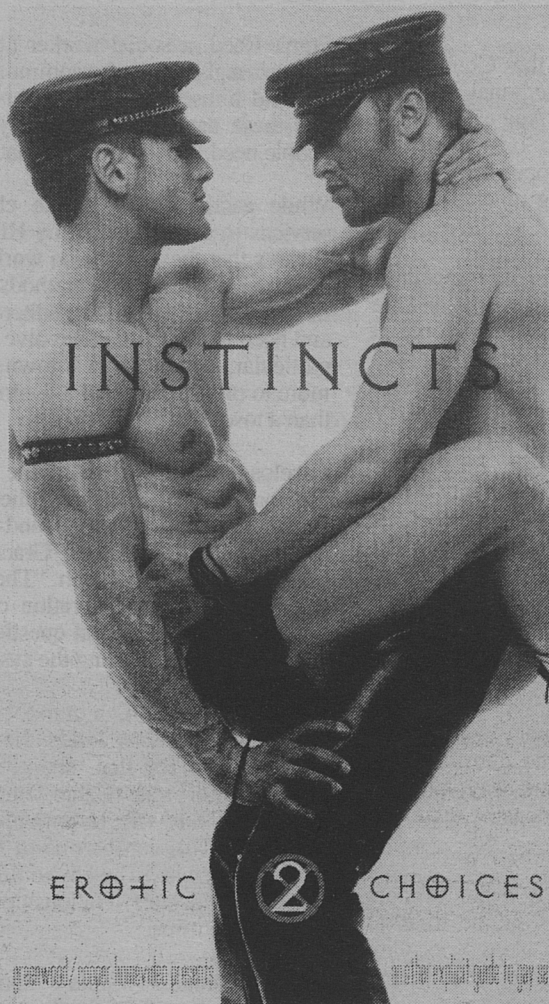
SOCIAL ALTERNATIVES FOR MEN (SAM) — Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. Meeting and social at Hotel Coolidge, White River Junction at 9 p.m. Call 603.543.4136.

STRAIGHT SPOUSES OF G/L/B PARTNERS — Support group, every third Tuesday at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Northampton MA. Call Jane at 413.625.6033. ▼

Review: Videos Address Safer Sex

"Erotic Choices"
 "Erotic Choices 2: Instincts"
 "Well Sexy Women: A Lesbian Woman's Guide to Safer Sex"
 "Getting it Right: A Gay Man's Guide to Safer Sex"

Reviewed by Hugh Coyle and Members of the Middlebury College Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Alliance



The Greenwood/Cooper Homevideo company, a catalog subdivision of Alluvial Entertainment, offers four hour-long videos which address the topics of lesbian and gay sexuality with graphic clarity and a strong focus on safer sex.

The two videos in the "Erotic Choices" series present basic information about sex between men, with advice ranging from the proper handling of a partner's foreskin in the first video to fisting and rimming techniques in the second. The frank discussions are further enhanced by explicit visual illustrations in a variety of settings, from bedrooms to bars, from the blithely romantic to the sadomasochistic.

Information contained in the two videos often overlaps, so back-to-back viewing can be frustrating. Similar soundtracks also lead to a feeling of repetitiveness at times. Even so, the two features fulfill their goals wonderfully, providing gay men (and particularly inexperienced gay men) with a wealth of information about the many possibilities of man-to-man sex.

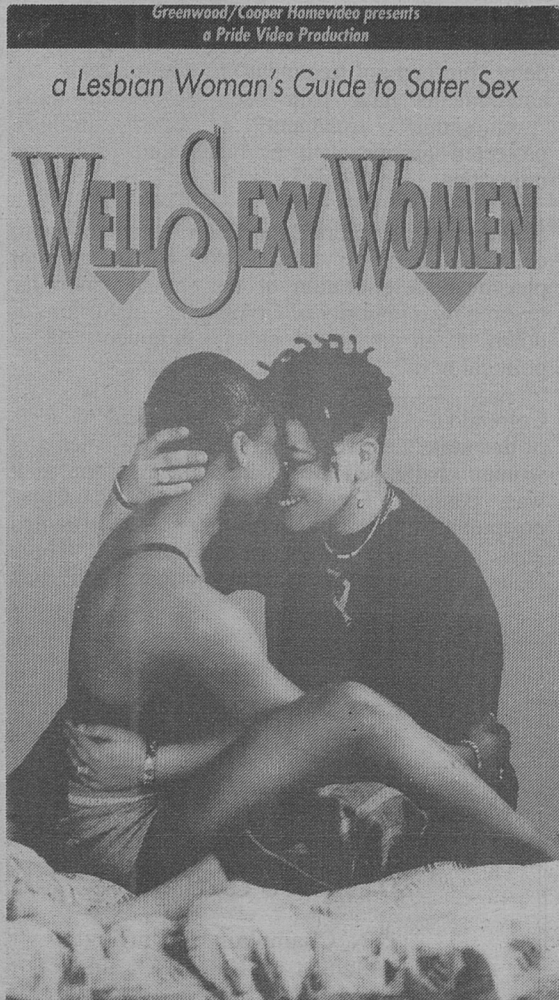
Two other videos deal more specifically with safer sex: "Well Sexy Women: A Lesbian Woman's Guide to Safer Sex," and "Getting it Right: A Gay Man's Guide to Safer Sex." Like the "Erotic Choices" tapes, both feature British presenters (Americans have obviously got a way to go in producing safer sex resources like these), but feature more realistic discussions between people and (at times) less cliched situations.

"Well Sexy Women" revolves around a dinner-table discussion by a dozen or so lesbian women on topics as diverse as female ejaculation and the proper use of sex toys. The group of Middlebury students who watched the video found it to be witty and well-done. One lesbian woman especially liked the fact that these were "real, experienced dykes" who could argue openly amongst themselves about various topics. (The look on the women's faces when the topic of anal sex came up was one of the more humorous highlights for the men in the room as well.) A range of body types in the sexual scenarios also increased the realism of the video, and led to an interesting discussion of body objectification in the gay and lesbian cultures.

"Getting it Right" also received high ratings, particularly since the sexual situations featured the actual presenters, lending an extra touch of realism to the production. Even so, messages which flashed along the bottom of the screen while presenters were talking often distracted the viewers, jarring their ability to take in the information. One student was especially pleased to see a sexual situation involving an HIV+ man.

At times, both films elicited laughter for their stock characterizations and situations. Despite the unintended humor, the messages came through loud and clear. Whether these hour-long videos are being used as part of a safer sex workshop, or just as conversation starters among a group of friends, they're bound to offer something both entertaining and informative for everyone.

The videos reviewed here can be purchased by mail order from the Greenwood/Cooper company. For a catalog and/or pricing information, call Alluvial Entertainment toll-free at 800.959.9843. ▼



Friday, June 14 - Thursday, June 20, 6:30 & 8:30

"THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT' WITH A DIFFERENCE!"
 SNAPPY, GLAMOROUS, ENJOYABLE! A TESTIMONY TO THE POWER OF THE MOVIES."
 — J. Hoberman, PREMIERE

"★★★★★!"
 A SPECTACULAR MOVIE MOVIE!"
 — Bruce Williams, PLAYBOY

"TWO THUMBS UP!"
 — SICKEL AND EBERT

"SHEER FUN!"
 — Janet Maslin, THE NEW YORK TIMES

the closet

a rob epstein - jeffrey friedman film

VISIT THE MOVIE NET site at <http://www.movienet.com>

The Savoy Theater 26 Main St. Montpelier 229-0509

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