

Child-love Literature

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Introduction

- Child-romance literature refers to literary works dealing with erotic love amongst children or between adults and children.
- For more than one hundred years, child-romance has been one of the most, if not the most, severe taboo in human society.
- In recent years, many serious scientific studies have shown a lot of commonly held beliefs about child-love to be either ungrounded or mistaken.

Paedophilia

- “Child-love” refers to sexual love between adults and children.
- “Child-love” is a more neutral term than “paedophilia” or “pedophilia,” which has a psychiatric connotation of mental illness or perversion.
- People who feel sexually and/or emotionally attracted to children are called “child-lovers.”

CHILD-LOVERS IN *LOLITA* AND *YUANWU*

- Humbert, Clare Quilty, Fu Yuchen, and Chengyu's Italian step-step-father, Guido, are undoubtedly child-lovers.
- Humbert: "Lolita, light of my life, fire of my loins";
- Likewise, Fu Yuchen says to Chengyu: "you were my little flame"

THE PSYCHOANALYTIC PORTRAIT OF THE CHILD-LOVER

- Professor West, Howells, Wilson and Cox; Norman Kiell describe the typical child-lover as:
- Shy, immature, timid, isolated, dependent, submissive, effeminate, sexually inhibited

Humbert's Confession

- 有類性罪犯只渴求與女童發生心猿意馬、銷魂蝕骨、肉慾而又不一定是性交的關係，他們大部分皆為匱乏無害，被動膽怯的陌生人，只求社會容許他們追求所謂變態，但實際上無害的行為，批准他們沉迷卑微但熱刺的私人性偏差活動，而不要制裁他們。我們並非色魔...卻隨時為一親某隻小妖精的香澤而犧牲經年的歲月。最重要的是，我們並非殺人兇手。

From the PA pt. of view, the cause of male paedophilia is

- early loss of the mother or her breasts. Oral deprivation prompts the child to attack the mother in fantasy. Consequently, when the child grows up, he would not dare to choose a female who is as mature as his mother to be his erotic object. Instead, he insists on choosing children who represent his infantile self as his love object.

CHILDHOOD SEXUALITY

- Sigmund Freud, Wilhelm Reich, Rene Guyon, John Money:
- children are naturally sexual beings
- Kinsey found masturbation and even orgasm at all ages
- Thore Langfeldt finds that sex play helps children to learn "how to function, reducing anxiety and confirming sexuality as a whole"

Early Sex Important

- Randall: "Ethnographic studies, as well as observations of children in communes, camps, boarding schools, nurseries, and many other places have shown incontrovertibly that even very young children are capable of initiating and enjoying a variety of forms of sexual activity"

●John Money, Professor of Medical Psychology and Paediatrics at the John Hopkins University in Baltimore, considers such early sexual experiences to be essential for sexually healthy adult life



IS ADULT-CHILD EROTIC LOVE ALWAYS HARMFUL?

●There are many researchers who have concluded that consensual adult-child sexual activity, does not cause any harm, whether physical or psychological, to the child other than the problems associated with discovery and intervention (Baurmann; Bender and Blau; Bender and Grugett; Constantine; Ingram; Li Chin-Keung; Money; Plummer; Rasmussen; Powell and Chalkey).



Francis Kilvert

- 19th century, Britain
- Vicar
- Diary
- Clyro, Wales

Baurmann's *Sexuality, Violence, and Psychological After-Effects*

- The total sample is over 8,000, including over 800 boys up to age 14.
- None of the boys experienced force or coercion, and no negative outcomes were observed for any of the boys

Graham Powell and A. J. Chalkley

●both at the Institute of Psychiatry of the University of London, collected and analyzed all the published case-histories of child sexual abuse they could lay their hand on. Their conclusion:

- no long lasting negative effects were observed
- children that were disturbed after the event tended to be those who were disturbed before hand

Secondary Harm to the Kids

- Secondary harm to youngsters in adult-child sexuality can be induced by
- the negative reactions of parents, police, social workers, lawyers and other adults,
- and by internalized guilty feelings about the taboo (Kinsey;Michael Ingram; Frits Bernard; John Randall) .

Adult-child sexuality may even be beneficial

- (Bernard; Constantine and Martinson; Eglinton; John Money; Wilson).
- The Australian social scientist Dr. Paul Wilson studied the detailed records left by 61-year-old pedophile named Osborne about over 2500 boys with whom he had indulged in homosexual activities in the last 20 odd years of his life.

As put by Tom O'Carrol

●The real problem for the children who allow sex play in order to get cuddles ... is getting the affection they so desperately need, and which has characteristically been denied them by unloving and neglectful parents...the paedophile, despite his limitations, represents a solution, not a problem. The paedophile succeeds, in their estimation, where their parents have failed.

CHILDREN'S SEXUAL RIGHTS

●The "Declaration of Sexual Rights" made by the World Association for Sexology in 1999 includes the right to sexual pleasure.

The Philosophy

●To the French psychoanalyst and lawyer Rene Guyon, as to John Money, the real child abusers are those fathers, mothers, teachers, clergy-members, and other moralists who attempt to smother a child's natural drives towards sexual activity

Randall says:

●It seems quite irrational to speak of a child's right to be deprived of sexual knowledge and experience

As argued by Randall,

● **sixteen as the age of consent is unjustifiably high -- “not only does our society attempt to deprive prepubescent children of any opportunity for sexual rehearsal play, it also strives to withhold sexual rights from the post-pubescent for several years after his or her body has reached full functional capacity” (informed consent)**

Michael Schofield :

● **Less than a hundred years ago the age of consent was 13... A hundred years ago half the girls were menstruating by the age of 15, but now half the girls are menstruating by the age of 12. (119)**

The Best Interests of the Child

● **the interests of parents do not necessarily coincide with the interests of children.**

● **“even very young children can have a far better knowledge of what is their own best interests than either the very mother who has given them suckle, or the highly educated social workers who may know a great deal of theory but who cannot always be au fait with practical realities in each case” (O’Carroll 131).**

O’Carroll the mistake is to assume that children in a child-adult sex relationship even need to have a capacity for commitment or responsibility. They do not need to be emotionally mature... It is a myth that that a pleasant experience will lead to a lifetime of consequences that the child doesn’t know about... There is no formal commitment... the adult does not ask the child to marry him.

Power and Inequality

● **the adult, if he has a greater propensity for evil; also has a greater propensity for good...**

● **The fact that a mother’s relationship with her child is not an equal one does not mean that it is inherently untenable or undesirable; the child, the lesser party in terms of power in this relationship stands a gain from the inequality.**

Balance of Power

● **the balance of power could shift to the child’s advantage**

Conclusion

●in accordance with the “Declaration of Sexual Rights” made by the World Association for Sexology, the age of informed sexual consent should be lowered to fourteen or fifteen (this is already lower than the age of consent in many European countries), and consensual, non-penetrative sex play among children themselves should be tolerated by society, especially by parents