Archives of Sexuality & Gender, Part III: Sex and Sexuality, Sixteenth to Twentieth Century

Archives of Sexuality & Gender, Part III: Sex and Sexuality, Sixteenth to Twentieth Century contains over 5,000 monographs that provide context to the twentieth-century materials included in Parts I and II. The digitisation of this collection is of immense historical and research value, providing perspectives on history, society, social mores, and changing views of sexuality. With a date range spanning the sixteenth to the twentieth century, the collection examines patterns of fertility and sexual practice, prostitution, religion and sexuality, the medical and legal construction of sexualities, the rise of sexology, and more.
The third collection in the award-winning series Archives of Sexuality & Gender broadens the scope from a specific focus on LGBTQ history and culture in Part I and Part II to the study of sex and sexuality in previous centuries. Part III makes available approximately one million pages of content that’s been locked away for many years, available only through restricted access. Some content remains physically difficult to access, or has been dispersed among broader collections making it harder to see the collection as it was and understand why it was locked away in the first place. Now, this major collection of rare and unique material is available digitally to support students and researchers exploring areas such as medicine, biology, anthropology, law, the classics, art, and erotic literature.

SOURCES INCLUDE:

- The Private Case from the British Library, comprised of printed books segregated from the main library from the 1850s to 1990 on grounds of obscenity. It presents an interesting study in social mores as the definition of obscenity evolved significantly during this time period.

- Special Subject Units from Sex Research: Early Literature from Statistics to Erotica, a collection from the Alfred C. Kinsey Institute for Sex Research dating from 1700 to 1860. This is a portion of Dr. Kinsey’s original library which he used to study human sexual behaviour from multiple perspectives.

- A collection of rare and unique books from the New York Academy of Medicine, consisting of more than 1,400 monographs covering a variety of topics in sex, sexuality, and gender studies. From sex education to erotica, manners to medicine, the Academy collection offers a rich combination of materials from the humanities to the hard sciences.

The latest collection in the Archives of Sexuality & Gender series is the only resource available of this size and scope supporting this field of study.

OPTIMISED FOR DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP

Explore this collection more deeply through Gale’s Digital Scholar Lab—a research experience that integrates an unmatched depth and breadth of digital primary source content with the most popular digital humanities tools, to generate visualisations and provide opportunities for new discoveries and improved outcomes.

FEATURES AND TOOLS

Textual Analysis Tools
Identify and visualise patterns, trends, and relationships to explore content in new ways.

Subject Indexing
Easily find content and view key elements in the text.

Image Viewer
Zoom, rotate, and reverse to create a custom view in full-screen mode.

Downloadable OCR
Now keyword-search monographs, newspapers, and ephemera for a new level of access on all search results.

Stand-alone or Cross-search Capabilities
Use the archive on its own or cross search with other primary source collections like Women’s Studies Archive to reveal connections that foster deeper understanding.

Browse Titles
Provides a unique interface to browse through the content instead of just searching it.