

## New Periodical Puts Emphasis On Sex Laws

If the first two issues are any indication, a new publication devoted to the increasingly important subject of sexual law reform may become an indispensable resource for attorneys, legislators, newspapers, magazines and libraries.

Called the *SexuaLawReporter*, it is published bi-monthly by Thomas F. Coleman, a young Los Angeles attorney, and edited by Joel Tlumak, a veteran newsman and former staff reporter of the *Advocate*.

The newsletter-format publication contains no advertising and is relatively expensive. Single copies cost \$3 and one-year subscriptions are \$10 for students, \$15 for other individuals and \$25 for libraries.

However, each issue contains an exhaustive roundup of information not available in any other single publication, ranging from in-depth reports on such topics as child custody *vs.* sexual lifestyle to news briefs on important rulings in the courts.

For example, Issue 2 covers decisions in various state and federal courts on such questions as: soliciting for prostitution (Michigan), police surveillance in public restrooms (Pennsylvania), harassment of transvestites (Washington, D.C.), the broadcasting of rape victims' names (Georgia), mass arrests in public baths (Miami), indecent exposure (Maryland), obscene language directed at policemen (Ohio) and discrimination against gay students (Maryland).

Under the heading of "Legislation," the same issue lists no fewer than 56 landmark bills related to sexual lifestyles in Congress, state legislatures or city councils.

The reader learns, for instance, that the Wisconsin Legislature is considering a bill to legalize private consensual sex, homosexual marriages, abortion, prostitution and incest while reducing the age of sexual consent to 14.

While both Coleman and Tlumak are gay, their newsletter runs the gamut of legal activities affecting heterosexuals as well as homosexuals. Thus, the current issue describes a bill in Congress which would extend to single persons some of the tax-rate benefits now enjoyed by married couples.

Another regular section headed "In Question" briefly contemplates the possibly harmful consequences of new "reform" legislation and recent developments in law enforcement procedures. On the San Francisco Police Department's new policy of issuing citations for marijuana possession and sex offenses, the newsletter asks: "Will this new practice give police a license to crack down further . . . since it is the convenience of citation that is being hailed? While persons cited don't face the trauma of jail before a court appearance, they will still be booked and charged with a crime. The new program doesn't ease any of the penalties for the offenses."

In setting forth its purposes, the *SexuaLawReporter* states in an editorial:

"There is so much happening today in the field of sexual reform, but without a reliable means of communication few people really know what's going on. . . . How do lawyers in New York City and Los Angeles, for example, learn that they may be working on similar cases and could benefit from each other's experience and research?"

Single copies and subscriptions are obtainable by writing to the *SexuaLawReporter*, 3701 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90010.