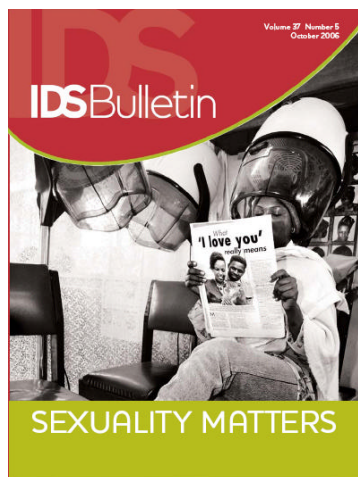


## SEXUALITY MATTERS

Edited by Andrea Cornwall and Susie Jolly



**This Bulletin addresses a theme that mainstream development has persistently neglected: sexuality.** Why is sexuality a development concern? Because sexuality matters to people, and is an important part of most people's lives. Because development policies and practices are already having a significant – and often negative

– impact on sexuality. And because sexuality and the societal norms that seeks to contain and control it have, in turn, a significant impact on poverty and well-being. Development needs to move beyond the current limited and negative approaches, to embrace the significance of sexuality for development in more affirmative ways. We need to go beyond victim approaches that consider only rights to be free from violation. Positive approaches, which include the right to ask for or say “yes” to the pleasures we seek as well as “no” to that which we do not desire, can be an entry point to challenging social and economic inequalities. This Bulletin offers a wealth of joyful and inspirational examples of how this might be done.

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# cutting edge pack

TOPICAL GENDER KNOWLEDGE

Forthcoming

## Gender, Sexuality and Sexual Rights

### Summary

Sexuality can bring misery through sexual violence, HIV/AIDS, maternal mortality, female genital mutilation, or marginalisation of those who break the rules such as non-macho men, single women, sex workers, lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender people. Sexuality can also bring joy, affirmation, intimacy and well-being. How can we make possible more joy and less misery? This Cutting Edge Pack hopes to inspire thinking on this question.

The pack is a concise and practical resource consisting of:

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