

Kinsey criticism rekindled

By JR Ross
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Judith Reisman spoke at IU to tear down one of its most sacred institutes — the Kinsey Institute.

But Reisman was met by a barrage of students during her presentation at the IU School of Law Tuesday coming to the defense of the late Alfred Kinsey and the institute he founded. She also came up against several of Kinsey's former colleagues.

The major focus of Reisman's speech concerned the Kinsey Institute's research on pedophiles and their experiences with boys as young as two months old. In Reisman's 1990 book, "Kinsey, Sex and Fraud," which she co-authored with Edward W. Eichel,



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she writes about what she calls the "criminal childhood sexuality experimentation" in Kinsey's research.

She sharply criticized the Kinsey Institute in her speech for conducting this type of research, in which the institute interviewed pedophiles and recorded the number of orgasms pre-adolescent boys are able to achieve and the time spans in which they did so.

Some critics of Reisman's book have contended that she goes as far as to imply Kinsey himself was one of the pedophiles who participated in the research with children. She denied that charge in the question and answer period after her presentation.

But Bill Dellenback, who worked with Kinsey for six years in the 1950s, said Reisman did more than imply that

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Kinsey was a part of the research.

"I think she's saying it, by God," Dellenback said. "It's simply not true. He never abused anybody."

Reisman also compared the research with pedophiles to the research done by the Nazis on Jews in World War II.

"Anybody who reads this material and believes it has to ask themselves how much they have been brain-washed," she said.

Former Kinsey associate Henry Reimack badgered Reisman for her comparison of the research to that in Nazi Germany.

"I was born a German Jew, and I deeply resent you to compare Kinsey's research to what they did," he said. "He never entered the research."

Reisman told the crowd she was also a Jew and saw quite a similarity in the two circumstances.

She continually asked throughout the speech, "What about the children?"

Reisman said the children she was referring to were those abused by the pedophiles that Kinsey interviewed.

"What we do in science is do follow-up," Reisman said. "If those kids were damaged, this University owes them. I think anybody who cares about this issue is going to try and find these kids."

But Reisman said she was not interested in doing the research.

Reisman also dismissed the work of the Kinsey Institute as a whole. The institute's research with pedophiles invalidates all of their research, Reisman said.

"I'm suggesting that the sexual bias is so extreme, there is no reason to trust what they say about adults," she said. "What we're talking about is sexual politics."

She also said human sexuality is not a valid science in any way.

Reisman has had a history with IU that predates her speech. In 1991, she filed a lawsuit against the Kinsey Institute, claiming the institute defamed her and violated her first amendment rights.

Her \$5 million lawsuit claimed the Kinsey Institute and its director, June Reinisch, attempted to squelch publicity for the book because it is very critical of the institute and its experiments.

She claimed Reinisch and the institute threatened radio stations with legal action if they allowed Reisman to discuss her book on the air. Reinisch would not comment on the lawsuit because it is still pending litigation.

Robert Johnstone, an Indianapolis lawyer representing Reinisch, said Reisman has dismissed IU in the lawsuit, in addition to a number of her claims.

"If those kids were damaged, this University owes them."

- Judith Reisman,
Author

"Now she claims she was defamed by what was said by the institute and in a number of articles throughout the country (of which the institute provided copies)," Johnstone said. "She claims that by providing those copies to others, they defamed her."

Reisman has a Ph.D. in communications from Case Western Reserve University and first began publishing her theories in 1981 with a paper entitled "The Scientist as Contributing Agent to Sexual Abuse: A Preliminary Consideration of Possible Ethics Violations."

She also did a study for the Justice Department titled "Images of Children, Crime and Violence in Playboy, Penthouse and Hustler." According to an article in the Village Voice, she was awarded a \$734,000 grant for the project, more money than was allotted for former Attorney General Ed Meese's entire report on pornography. But it was shelved by the Justice Department.

In the forward of her book, Reisman is critical of filing away her report, claiming it "was wrongfully gutted and subverted by her Washington, D.C. host academy, the American University."