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Kinsey's skewed research softened sexual offender laws

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Editor's note: What follows is the third in a four-part series about the efforts of Dr. Judith Reisman and an organization called RSVP America to discredit the work of sex researcher Dr. Alfred Kinsey, and to remove his influence from American society.

It all began for Dr. Judith Reisman when her 10-year-old daughter was raped by a 13-yearold boy. That's when the questioning began.

What caused things like that to happen in America? Dr. Reisman wanted to know. Why were sex crimes against children skyrocketing? It wasn't always that way. What had gone so terribly wrong?

It was years before the researcher turned crusader began to understand the dynamics of the cultural shift that had set America on its collision course with sexual anarchy.

"I'm here to tell you that it didn't begin in the 1960s with sex, drugs and rock and roll," Dr. Reisman said, when she was in Louisville last month to speak to the Louisville Rotary Club. "If you want to know who's to blame for many of the fundamental problems we face in

America society today—soaring divorce rate, teenage pregnancies, pornography, and sex crimes against children—look north to Bloomington, and thank Dr. Alfred Kinsey."

Dr. Kinsey published the book that detonated like a "social atom bomb" across America in 1948. The book was called *Sexual Behavior in the Human Male*. It was followed five years later by

Sexual Behavior in the Human Female. The fallout from Dr. Kinsey's social bombshell was formidable. An October USA Today story about Dr. Kinsey pointed out that "For better or worse, [after Kinsey] Americans never thought about sex in quite the same way again."

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That story also pointed out that another professor, University of Houston historian James Jones. had dropped another bombshell early this year in a new biography about Kinsey. In that biography, Jones says the IU Bloomington sex researcher was not the "dogged, disinterested scientist" he claimed to be. Instead, Jones says, Kinsey was a closeted homosexual and masochist who was obsessed with sex and driven by his own sexual demons to free his fellow citizens from the grip of Victorian repression.

Dr. Reisman said last month in Louisville that Dr. Kinsey did indeed succeed in re-writing America's sexual constitution. But she said that his methods were suspect, his results were skewed and the effect he has had on American society has been both far-reaching and profoundly detrimental.

"When you have studied Dr. Kinsey's character and his methods like I have," she said, "You realize that Alfred Kinsey really was more than original dirty old man. The data he used to reach his conclusions was grossly unrepresentative of the general population. Kinsey's Reports would have been better named 'Sexual Behavior in the Human Deviant."

His sample of 5,300 males included piston inmates, 1,400 of whom were sex offenders, and several hundred male prostitutes. He claimed that 28 percent of eighth grade boys-in the 1940s-had engaged in sexual intercourse, but in his supporting data, the 28 percent refers to only 678 adult men who reported to Kinsey that they had had intercourse by age 14.

Kinsey claimed that girls benefited from sexual contact with adult men, vet a 1994 authoritative study on the subject says that early sex with adult males is associated with sexual dysfunction in women.

Kinsey asserted that most American men had premarital sex, half committed adultery, 10 to 37 percent were latent homosexuals, and most were bisexual. But a 1994 study based on the most up-to-date sampling methods found lower levels for most non-marital sexual activities than Kinsey found in the 1940s and 1950s. And the study found that only 9 percent of men had ever had a homosexual experience in their lives.

The Kinsey reports contain graphic descriptions of young children under prolonged sexual stimulation by a pedophile, Dr. Reisman said. Those descriptions included the children's screams and struggles to get away, yet Kinsey claimed that the victims derived "pleasure" from the incidents.

"The real issue is not just that Dr. Kinsey's findings were wrong, but that those findings have been used to shift our culture toward sexual anarchy," she said. "Laws and public policy have been changed against Christian principles on the authority of the research of Dr. Alfred Kinsey."

Dr. Kinsey personally testified before the California General Assembly's Subcommittee on Sex Crimes in 1950, on behalf of liberalizing state laws regarding sex offenders. He argued specifically for granting immediate paroles to child molestation suspects.

As a result of Kinsey's research, laws on sex crimes have softened.

The shift began when Dr. Harry Benjamin, physician, endocrinologist, international sexologist and close friend and mentor of Dr. Kinsey wrote in the introduction to the Judge Rene Guyon book Ethics of



Sexual Acts, first published in English a few months after Dr. Kinsey's 1948 text. (Judge Guyon was a French pedophile judge and founder of the Rene Guyon Society, which advocates childadult and child-child sex with the slogan "sex by age 8 or it's too late.")

Dr. Benjamin wrote that America "must completely revise our legal and moral codes" based on the data provided by Dr. Kinsey.

"It probably comes as a jolt to many," he wrote, "even to openminded people, when they realize that chastity cannot be a virtue because it is not a natural state."

Morris Ernst, an American Bar Association attorney and the founder of the American Civil Liberties Union was Dr. Kinsey's attorney. In the early 1950s, he called the Kinsey report the "single greatest contribution of science to the rule-making part of the law in my lifetime" and he urged every bar association in the country to establish a committee on the laws of sexual behavior.

And they did. What came out of those committees was the creation of the American Law Institute's Model Penal Code. Morris Plascowe, a highly respected magistrate and a lead author of the Model Penal Code said of Kinsey's findings that "it is obvious our sex crime legislation is completely out of touch with the realities of individual living...the law attempts to forbid activities which responded to a wide human need."

Speaking against a growing public demand in 1955 for tougher sexual psychopath laws to stem escalating rates of rape and child sexual abuse, Plascowe pointed out that one of Kinsey's conclusions was that "the sex offender is not a monster...but an individual who is not very different from others in his social group, and his behavior is similar to theirs.

"This recognition that there is nothing very shocking or abnormal in the sex offender's behavior should lead to other changes in sex legislation," Plascowe said. "Penalties should be lightened. In the first place, it should lead to a downward revision of the penalties presently imposed on sex offenders."

The Model Penal Code was disseminated to state legislatures across the country, and many states adopted it, fully or in part. The code has helped eliminate and or trivialize prior sex offenses, eventually aiding the reduction of original penalties for murder, rape, statutory rape, wife and child battery, desertion, seduction, adultery, prostitution, contributing to the delinquency of a minor, soliciting for masturbation, sodomy, public sexual exhibition, unfit parentage, alienation of affection, obscenity, as well as infanticide, abortion, and premeditated transmission of AIDS and VD.

"The Kinsey Institute's fraudulent data were cited to eliminate or lighten penalties for rape and other sex crimes at a time when

three states mandated death for rape and half allowed death or life, with the rest stipulating at least a 20-year term," Dr. Reisman said. "Thanks to the Kinsey Institute, sexually violent criminals, including rapist-murderers, are commonly paroled within 5 to 10 years."

Dr. Reisman said what while some might be morally offended by Kinsey's lies and the normalizing of what they consider to be sexual perversion, others might say that Kinsey "loosened us up," and the country is better for it.

"But are we, as a nation, better off if every indicator of sexual disease and dysfunction is off the charts post-Kinsey? Despite contraceptives sold everywhere and abortion available up to the third trimester, our out-of-wedlock births have soared. So while Kinseyan sexuality is alive and well, America is much sicker and weaker for it."

Dr. Reisman urged the crowd at the Louisville Rotary Club meeting to join with the nationwide offensive grassroots campaign called RSVP America to end government-sponsored sex education using the Kinsey model, and to demand the federal investigation of the Kinsey Institute to provide to the world the truth about his methods and his madness, once and for all.

"When the movies at your neighborhood theater feature total nudity and when your upscale suburban bookstores stock child pornography in the 'art' section, and when your granddaughter tells vou she learned how to use condoms in school today, these are the cold, dead hands of Professor Kinsey at work," Dr. Reisman said. "We must do everything in our power to root out every last trace of the Kinsey Institute and their frauds and crimes against children."