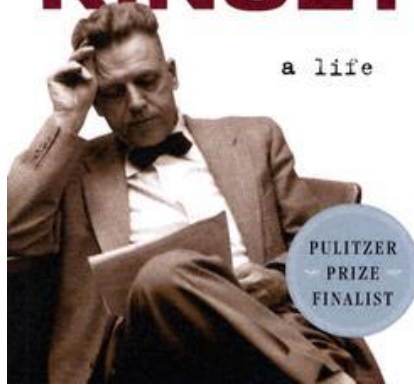


"A fascinating account of a fantastic American."
—Alan Wolfe, *The New Republic*

James H. Jones

ALFRED C. KINSEY

a life



Alfred C. Kinsey: A Life

James Howard Jones

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Alfred C. Kinsey: A Life

James Howard Jones

Alfred C. Kinsey: A Life James Howard Jones

In this brilliant, groundbreaking biography, twenty years in the making, James H. Jones presents a moving and even shocking portrait of the man who pierced the veil of reticence surrounding human sexuality. Jones shows that the public image Alfred Kinsey cultivated of disinterested biologist was in fact a carefully crafted public persona. By any measure he was an extraordinary man—and a man with secrets.

Drawing upon never before disclosed facts about Kinsey's childhood, Jones traces the roots of Kinsey's scholarly interest in human sexuality to his tortured upbringing. Between the sexual tensions of the culture and Kinsey's devoutly religious family, Jones depicts Kinsey emerging from childhood with psychological trauma but determined to rescue humanity from the emotional and sexual repression he had suffered. New facts about his marriage, family life, and relationships with students and colleagues enrich this portrait of the complicated, troubled man who transformed the state of public discourse on human sexuality.

Alfred C. Kinsey: A Life Details

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From Reader Review Alfred C. Kinsey: A Life for online ebook

Jane Anne says

I wanted to hear more DETAILS about the interview subjects. What WERE some of the shocking, unusual findings?

Kerry Connelly says

Must read book (If my stomach can handle some of the disgusting accusations against Kinsey) 3 fold interest- Sexual pioneering time line (history), psychology & controversy.

Seperately, Kinsey & Masters/Johnson are both acknowledged with being 'pioneers in the study of sexual response' (1930s plus for Kinsey, 1950's plus for M/J) ...going into the sexual revolution)

Very quick research of Kinsey indicates he only interviewed subjects where as M/J viewed subjects engaging in various sexual acts and reported data, leading into the development of therapies for sexual disfunction. HOWEVER EXTREME CONTROVERSY - Stating Kinsey was unethical, used falsehoods when collecting his data & had possible attachments with pedophiles, (yikes!) He apparently was also a very strange, tortured, conflicted man, who may have participated in certain acts himself (?) Knowing he was 'bisexual' he also self-circumsizing and inserted multiple implements into his penis- with no anesthetic. (Note: psychology of him leading TO his studies??)

PASSAGE FROM <http://www.thetruthseeker.co.uk/?p=2579>

To begin with, Kinsey was a bisexual who preferred homosexual sex. Summarizing “Alfred C. Kinsey: A Public/Private Life,” the 1997 biography of the scientist by pro-Kinsey author James H. Jones, Salon’s McLemee writes:

He did date a woman, once, and very shortly thereafter asked her to marry him, which she did. Consummation was delayed for quite a while, because of their mutual ignorance of the mechanics involved. At some point in adolescence, Kinsey developed a taste for masochistic practices of a really cringe-inducing variety. (Two words here, and then I’m changing the subject: “urethral insertion.”) He also had some pronounced voyeuristic and exhibitionistic tendencies. On bug-hunting field trips in the 1930s, he liked to march around the camp in his birthday suit, and he interrogated his assistants about masturbation. That his career was not destroyed by such behavior is, in itself, pretty remarkable.

As Jones, Kinsey’s key biographer, tells it: “On one occasion when his inner demons plunged him to new depths of despair, Kinsey climbed into a bathtub, unfolded the blade of his pocketknife, and circumcised himself without the benefit of anesthesia.” But Jonathan Gathorne-Hardy, who published another Kinsey biography, “Sex, the Measure of All Things: A Life of Alfred C. Kinsey” in 1998, said the scientist’s gruesome self-circumcision was part of his ongoing exploration of the relationship between pain and sexual pleasure. Ah, always the diligent scientist.

Other Links:

<http://www.businessinsider.com.au/why...>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alfred_...

Film 2014 Kinsey

Doco (pbs america) Kinsey

On you tube: 'Kinsey's Pedophiles', 'The Kinsey Syndrome' and 'Kinsey sex study fraud' (a woman says she is a victim)

Richard Jaspers says

Absolutely astounding biography for a number of reasons:

- 1) Kinsey's private life of masochism and how it sprang from a tortured childhood. **The “Kinsey”: he attached a rope . . . wrapped it around his scrotum, tossed the other end of rope over a pipe above him, stood on a chair, holding this end of the rope . . . and jumped off.** It was a “punishment” for failing to receive a Rockefeller Foundation grant.
 - 2) Professionally, Kinsey doggedly pursued huge research numbers in all his scientific research whether it was the gall wasp or human sexual behavior.
 - 3) Kinsey filmed individuals in various sexual acts, using the attic of his home.
-

Melissa McClintock says

This book may be biased, but it is worth reading. Mainly it shows how the "studies" were skewed to get results etc. A ton of what I think is hedonistic sexual practice and the "studies" with the kids and babies, come ON.

I need to read another book on this I saw in regards to the social context.

What really pisses me off is that I really thought the whole thing about women wanting more sex as they get older and men wanting more as they get younger etc was true. But reading the charts and evidence of that study, you know, it is so obviously NOT.

Which is great, because I didn't fit into that at ALL AND was wondering if there was something wrong with me! sheesh!

What's scary is I am wondering at the time the institutes first studies were released, did any reputable source have a chance to look at the records/evidence so called?

The thing that makes me angry is that I just think this guy wanted to try out a lot of sexual antics b/c he was so repressed, and as a backlash against society. Of course we tend to go to one extreme to another when we shift societal mores.

For example, all child abuse permitted (dont' ask , don't tell) to the other extreme where I'm not supposed to spank my child.

However, DO NOT do this whole personal vendetta interest social interaction pleasure seeking experimentation and CALL IT SCIENCE.

I don't know what is worse!
The deception
OR the fact that our culture bought it to be truth.

okay from the whole "if it feels good do it" , this pretty much fits.

I'm not implying that there is anything wrong with sexual experimentation, I mean, I may not agree morally but I do respect others right to experiment with other old enough age consenting adults.

But to just sort of have something to prove and hide behind crappy manipulated evidence , is just WRONG.The whole thing just makes me want to cuss someone out.

Annika Cleeve says

Such a very unique and complex man. I loved this book, it inspired me.

Shinji007 says

A good biography, not a great read by any means. At times the story gets weighed down by the internecine fighting that occurred between the Kinsey, his research and the foundation(s) that supported him. A "fantastic American" he was not, but, and complex, Janus-faced one, that he was indeed!

Christine Ward says

"Kinsey: A Life" is based on exhaustive research - thousands of letters, personal interviews (how Kinsey would have appreciated that!) - which forms the basis for Jones' masterful biography of the father of modern sex research. An unquestioned genius, Kinsey was also a deeply conflicted man who was able to channel his personal struggles with homosexuality into a scientific quest to better understand human sexuality. Jones' devotion to his subject matter as well as his ability to examine all aspects of Kinsey's life result in a biography that is a true character study, but one that reads like a highly engaging, yet scholarly, novel.

Highly recommended.

Sarah says

Fascinating man. Scientists are men and women to be respected. They put themselves on the line to research their interests to minute details. I applaud Alfred Kinsey, the scientist for having the strength to push the taboo into the lap of the world. Alfred Kinsey the man, was an uptight, some what insecure man that pushed his family to their limits.

Straker says

A very, very strange man.
