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# Bi America: Myths, Truths, and Struggles of an Invisible Community (Bisexuality)

*William Burleson*

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## BI AMERICA

MYTHS, TRUTHS, AND STRUGGLES  
OF AN INVISIBLE COMMUNITY

WILLIAM E. BURLESON

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**William Burleson : Bi America: Myths, Truths, and Struggles of an Invisible Community (Bisexuality)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bi America: Myths, Truths, and Struggles of an Invisible Community (Bisexuality):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An worthwhile read for all bisexuals...By John Paul Sassone Even though this book is slightly outdated I think its an important read for anyone interested in bisexuality and how we relate to the rest of society. It makes the point we are not part of straight society and yet we are often rejected by the gay community as "not one of them." Burleson hits heavily on the idea of a bi love community, does one exist or is

there even the need for one. Are we better off forming our own community or trying to work within the existing LGBT organizations? He also goes on to discuss the ideas people have about bisexuals, whether bisexuality is even a real thing. Are we confused? Are we fence sitters? Are we promiscuous and out for everyone we can do? It would be great if the book was updated, he mentions how gays can't serve in the military, which of course they now can, since things have changed since he wrote this. Or have they? 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Wow, what a great book! By Mike Diaz This is a must read for any one who identifies as bisexual or who wants to learn about bisexuality. This book helped me to understand and accept myself as a bisexual man. 26 of 26 people found the following review helpful. A breakthrough book! By Jesse Liberty The first book to really tackle the issue of bisexuality that is not meretriciously academic, nor is this pop-sociology. This book is a serious attempt to address the invisible and twice despised bisexuals, marginalized by straight America and held suspect, if not despised, by gay America. There are few resources for true bisexuals, and this book is indispensable, especially given the general homophobia of the majority and the biphobia of much of the queer community. Highly recommended.

Gain an in-depth understanding of the unique struggles of the bisexual community! To me the gay and straight worlds are exactly the same; equally limited, judgmental, and bourgeois . . . just mirror images of each other. I truly like and overlap with some of the gay world, but my roots refuse to take hold there and grow. Unfortunately, my well-established roots in the straight world are simultaneously shriveling and dying too, leaving me feeling extremely unstable. Cool, a bisexual woman involved in a support group! There are at least five million bisexual people in America, generally invisible to straight society, the gay community, and even to each other. While the vast majority of these five million live within the straight or gay world, there are a few who have formed a community of their own. *Bi America: Myths, Truths, and Struggles of an Invisible Community* offers an inside look at the American bisexual community and gives an understanding of the special circumstances unique to being bisexual. The book takes the reader to bi community events from picnics, to conferences, to support groups, to performances in order to expose the everyday trials of the bisexual community. *Bi America* includes very personal stories that let the voice of everyday bisexuals be heard through interviews, the Bisexual History Project, in which ten bisexual people tell their life stories, and the Online Support Group, a group of about 75 people who meet in cyberspace to talk about their lives and challenges. The book also includes the findings of a 2002 survey of about 300 bisexual people conducted via the Internet, an appendix that offers a concise list of resources for further study and personal enrichment, and an unabridged transcript of the Bisexual History Project. Get the answers to these questions in *Bi America*: What is bisexuality? Is there a bisexual community? What is the culture of the bisexual community? What are commonalities and differences between the experiences of bi men and bi women? What is the special relationship between the bisexual and the transgender community? How have bisexuals and the bi community been affected by HIV/AIDS? What is the future of bisexual activism, if any? and many more! *Bi America* is a fascinating resource that exposes the challenges, struggles, and triumphs of bisexuals in America. Bisexuals, especially those newly coming out, can use this book to help understand their identity, and family members and friends seeking some insight into the unique circumstances faced by their loved ones will also find it helpful. This book will interest those concerned with the sociology of deviance or with subcultures in general. It is also appropriate for undergraduate sociology and cultural anthropology, as well as feminist studies and LGBT studies classes. This book offers one of the few accessible, nonacademic looks at this unique and interesting community. Visit the book's Web site at <http://www.bi101.org>

"Enjoyable and informative. . . Will provide readers with a better understanding of social, sexual, political, and HIV-associated situations of bisexuals." -- Martin S. Weinberg, PhD, Professor, Department of Sociology, Indiana University; Co-author of *Dual Attraction: Understanding Bisexuality*