



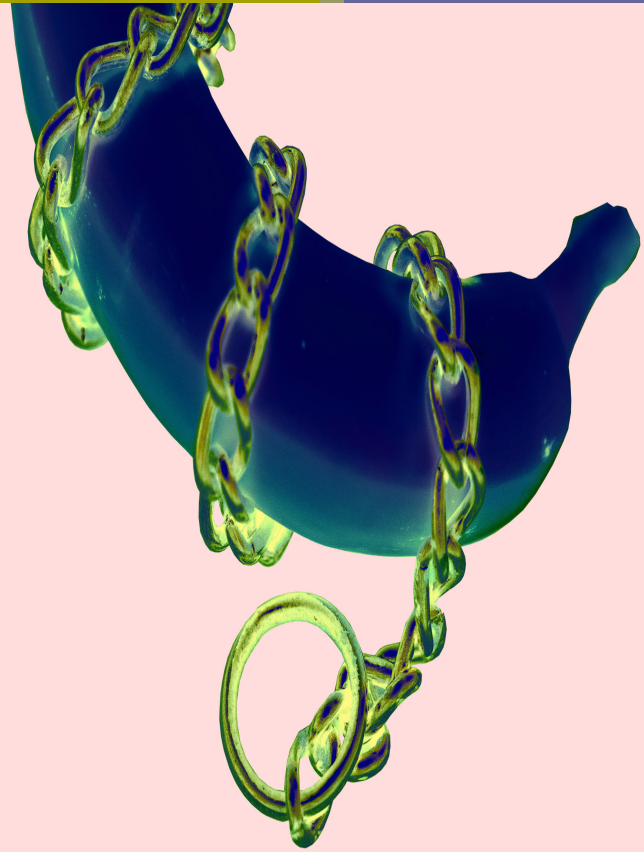
Series: “Sex: A Modern History”

Pornography (6 January 2022)

Sex Work (17 February 2022)

Monogamy (17 March 2022)

Abstinence (12 May 2022)

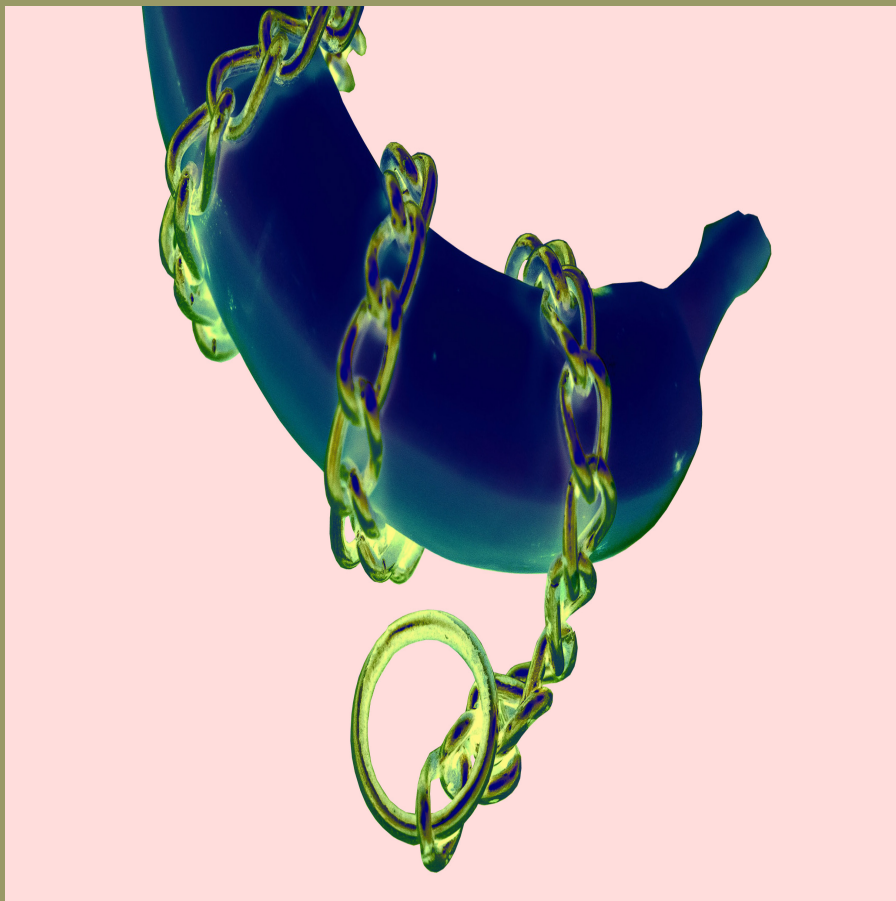


“Perversion”

Joanna Bourke, Gresham Professor of Rhetoric & Professor of History at Birkbeck

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JOIN the SHAMELESS! FESTIVAL of ACTIVISM AGAINST SEXUAL VIOLENCE on 27 November, Battersea Arts Centre:
shame.bbk.ac.uk/events/shameless-festival-of-activism-against-sexual-violence



Rise of
psychiatry or
“alienism”

“Medicalisation
of deviance”

“Sexual
abnormalities”

“Sexual
deviations”

“Perversion”

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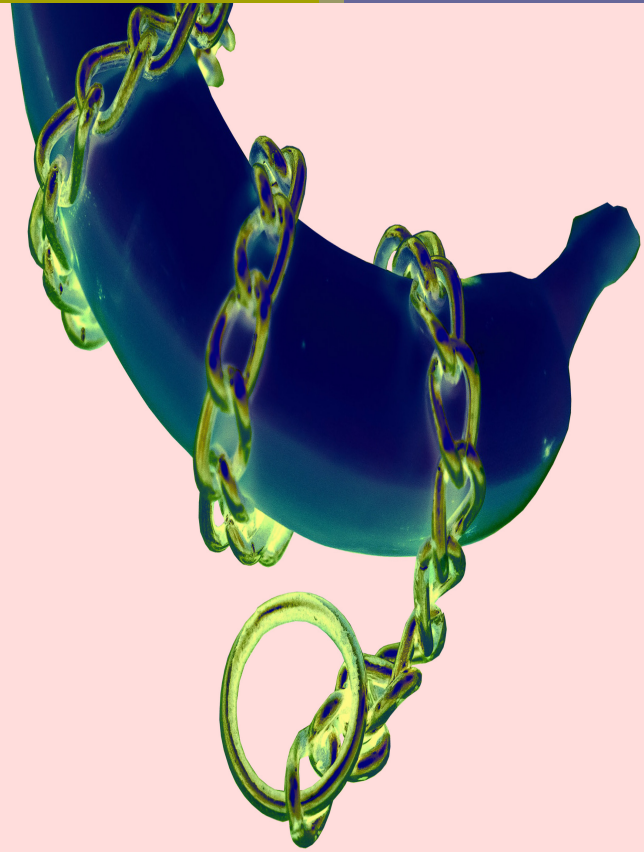
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Paraphilia =

**“para” meaning deviation
&
“filia” meaning attraction**

(Wilhelm Stekel in 1909)



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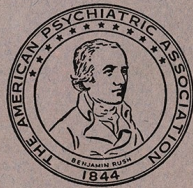
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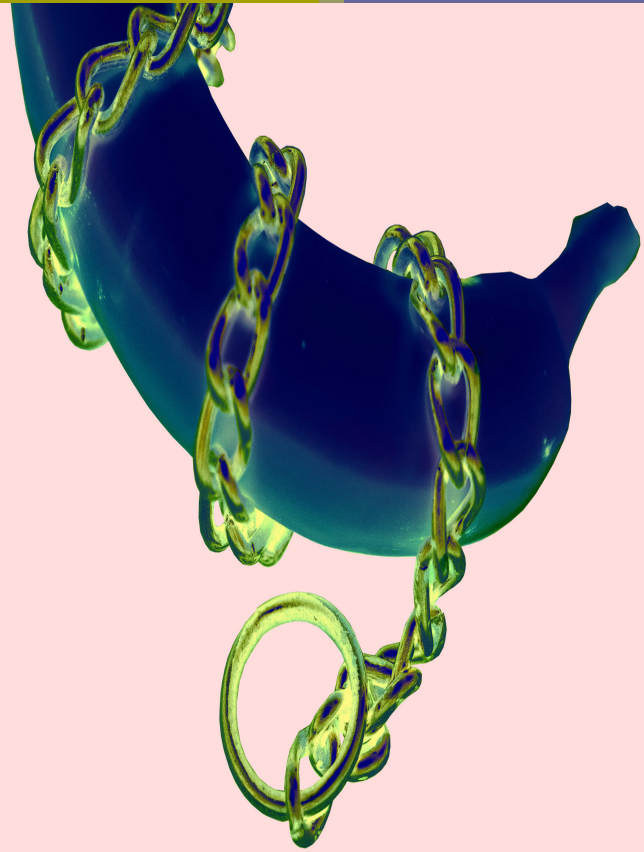


DIAGNOSTIC •
AND
STATISTICAL •
MANUAL

MENTAL DISORDERS



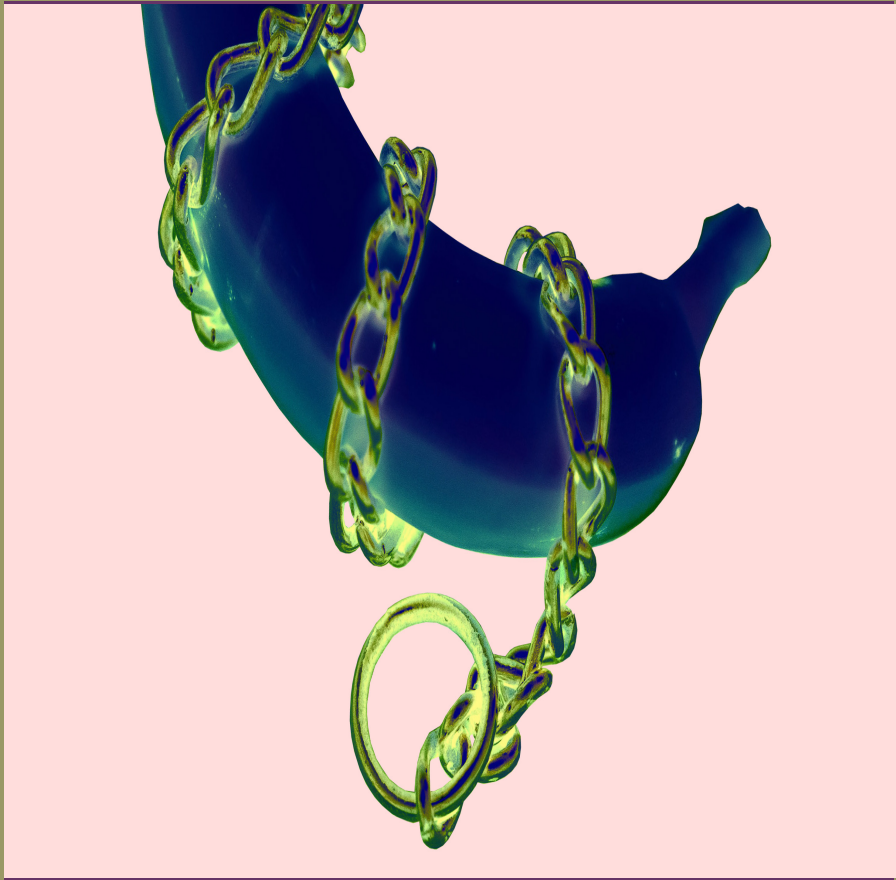
AMERICAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION
MENTAL HOSPITAL SERVICE



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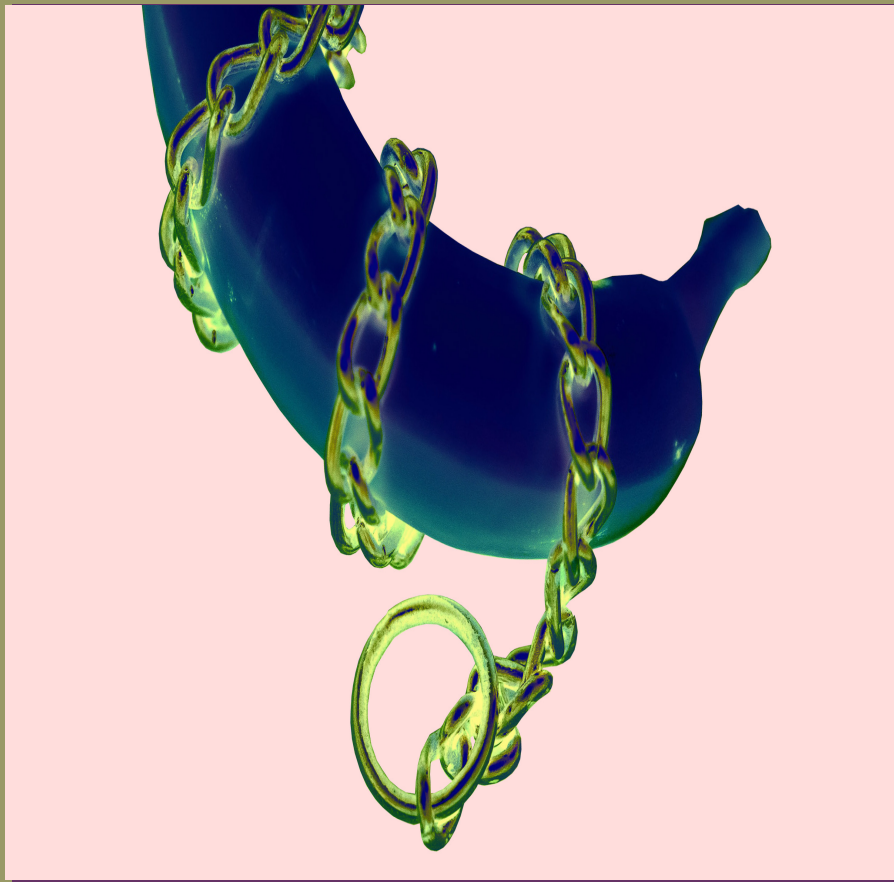
Role of law,
ideology,
morality &
medicine



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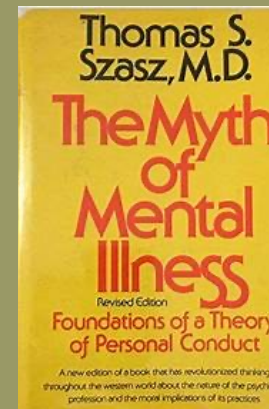
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What is a
“mental illness”?

“Normal”
V
“abnormal”

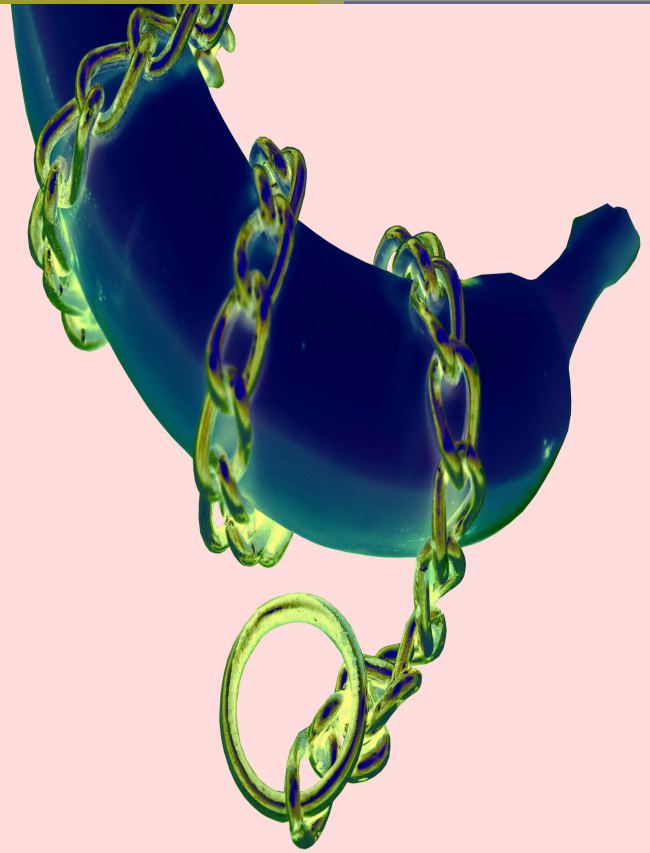


Thomas Szasz
Erving Goffman
Thomas Scheff

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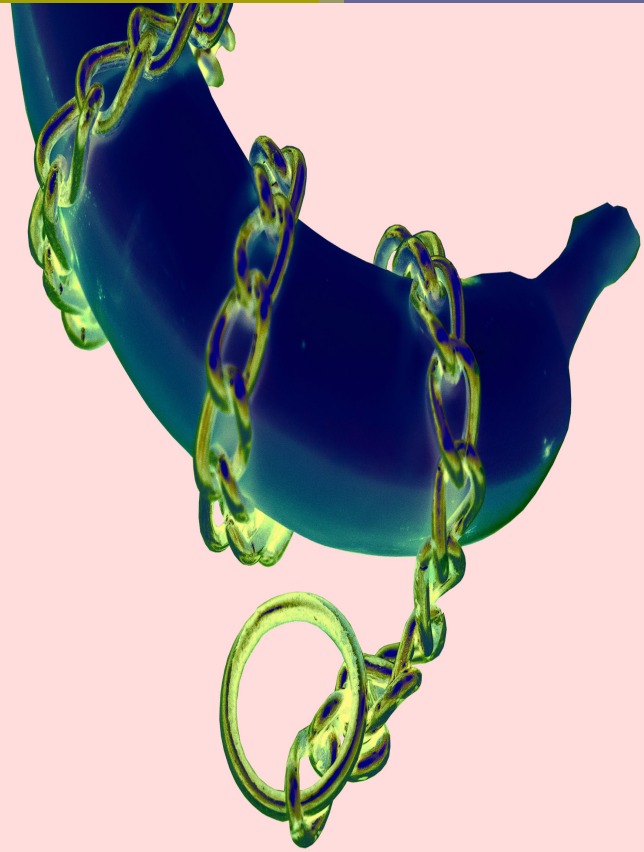
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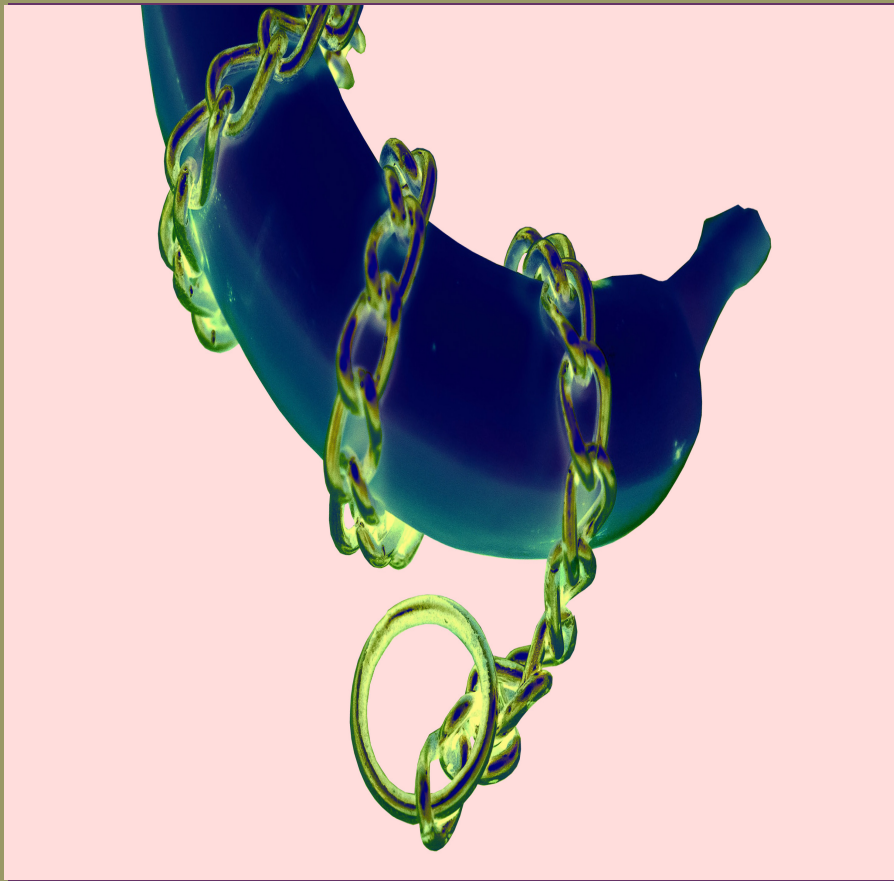
**Feverish excitability
of the human imagination
& desire**



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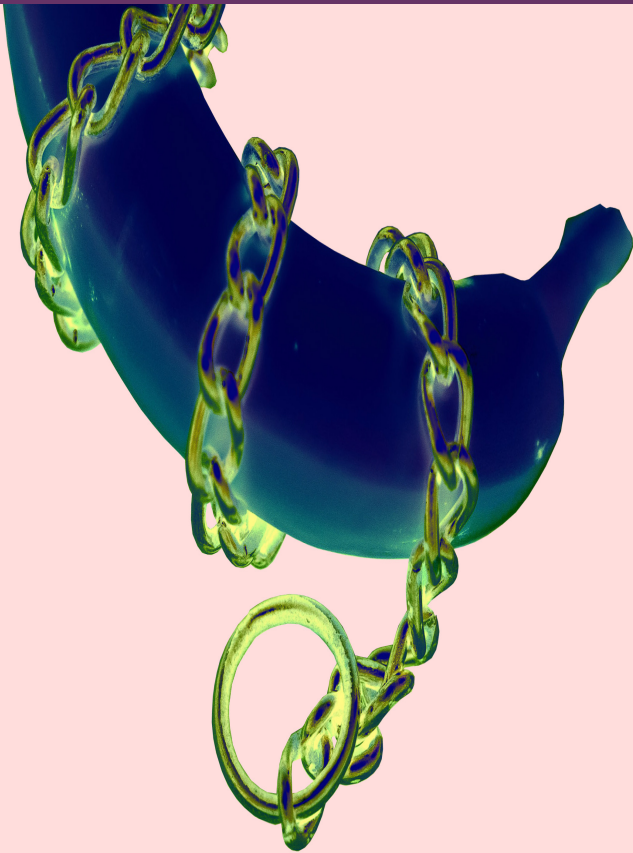
Exhibitionists

Committing an
“act”,
not exhibiting a
specific
“identity”

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Term 1st used by
Charles Laséque
in 1877

English: 1st used
in Charles
Gilbert
Chaddock's
translation of
Psychopathia
Sexualis (1893)

The exhibitionist
became a
persona

Shift from legal
term to
psychiatric one

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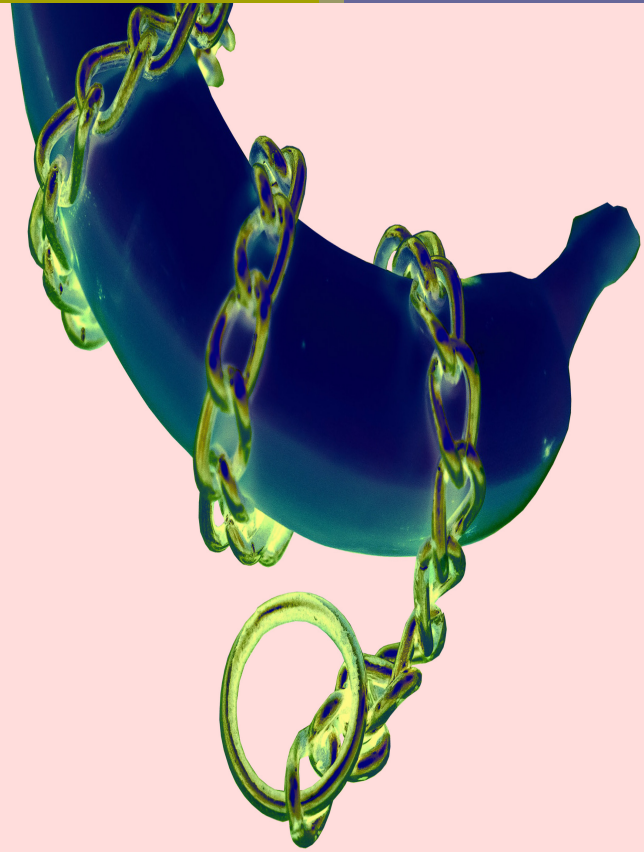
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Foucault:

The homosexual “became a personage, a past, a case history, and a childhood, in addition to being a type of life, a life form, a morphology...

Nothing that went into his total composition was unaffected by his sexuality”.



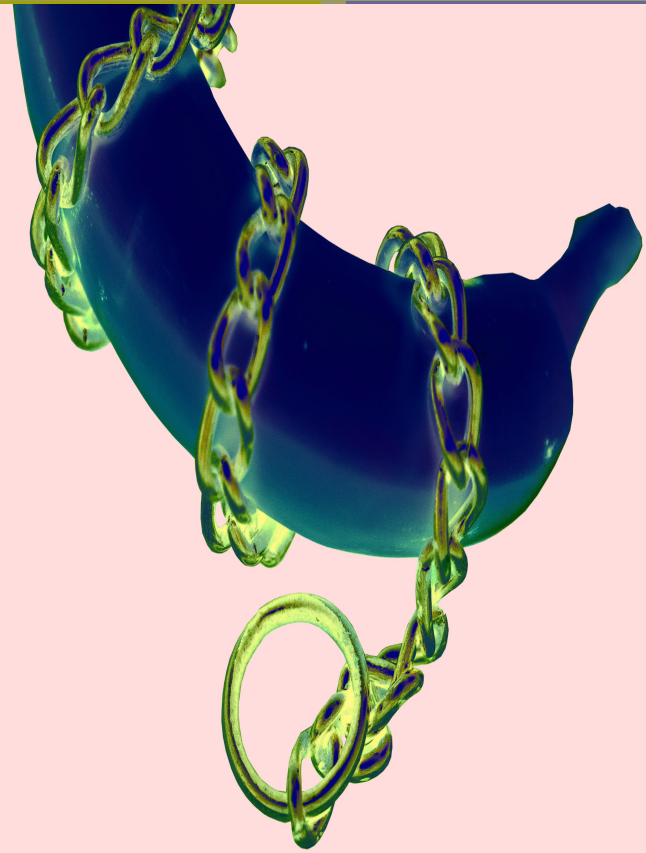
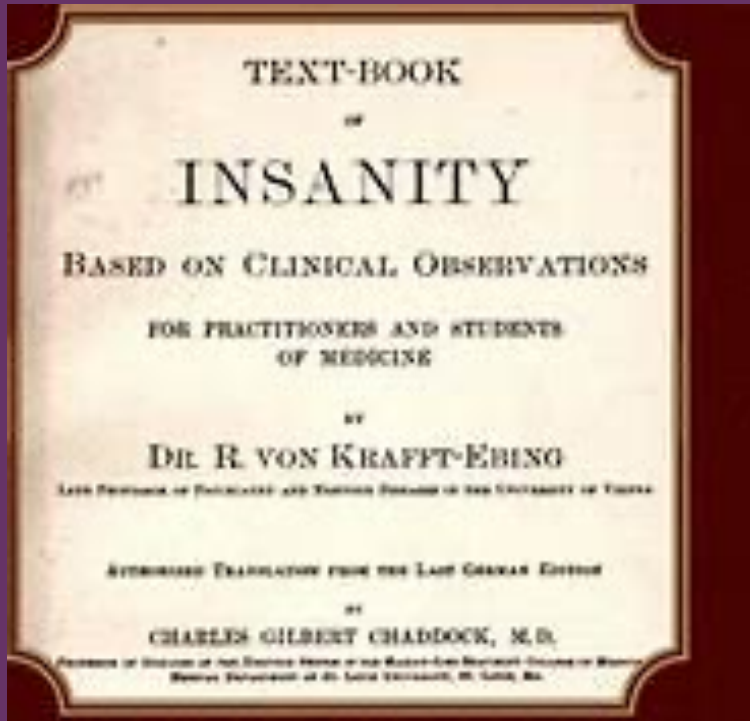
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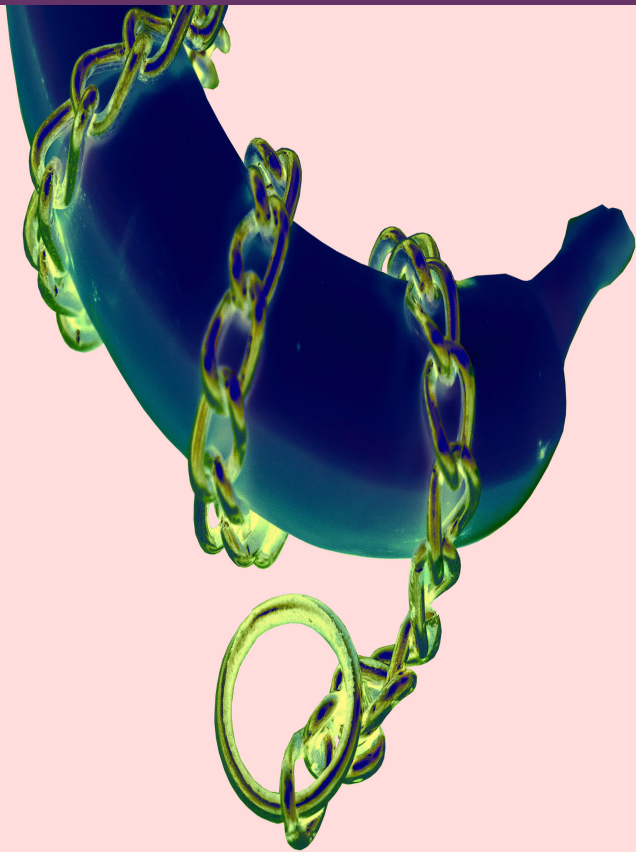
Degenerates



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Obsessive or
compulsive
disorders

Dangerous rather
than “silly”

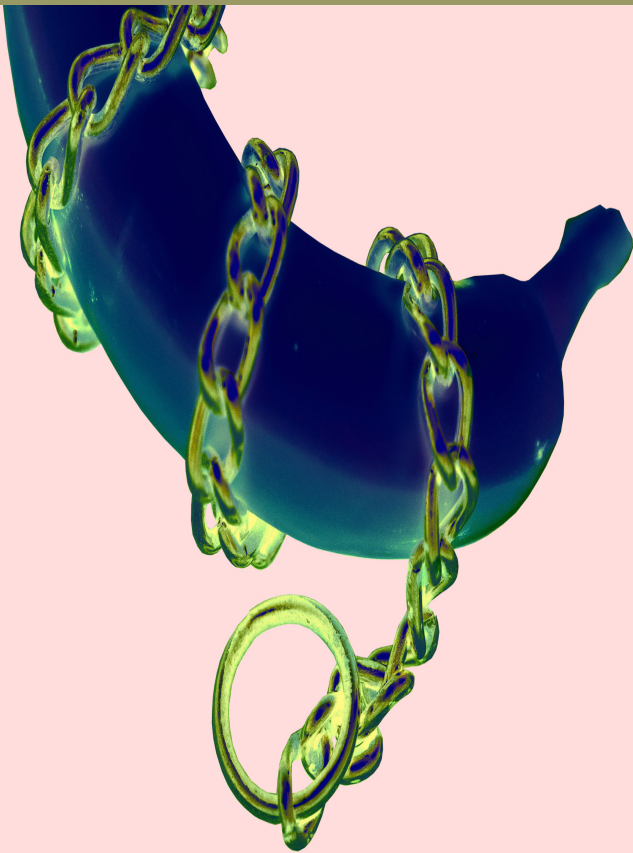
1900:
“irresistibility of
the need”

1900:
“anguished
struggle”

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Satyriasis
or
male form of
nymphomania

Compulsive urge
to “expose his
person in
public...

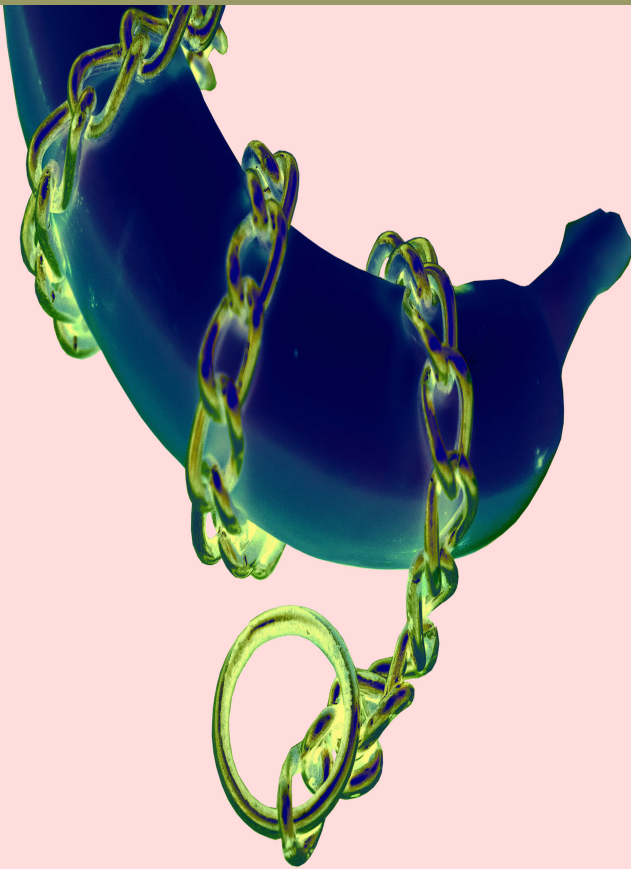


.... even if it
ruined his
reputation as a
clergyman or
dignified
banker”

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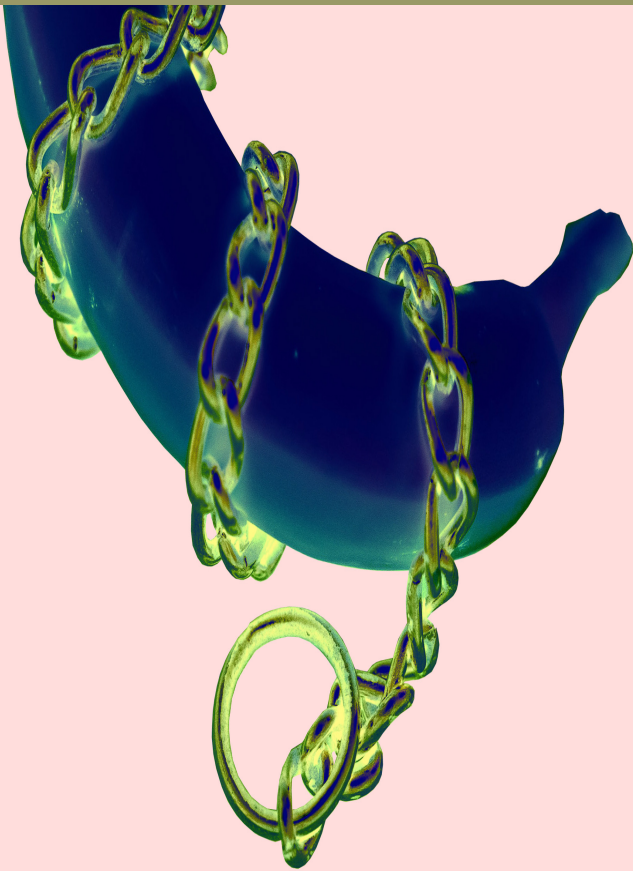
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Satyriasis
or
male form of
nymphomania

Was he a victim
of “feminine
morbid
eroticism”?

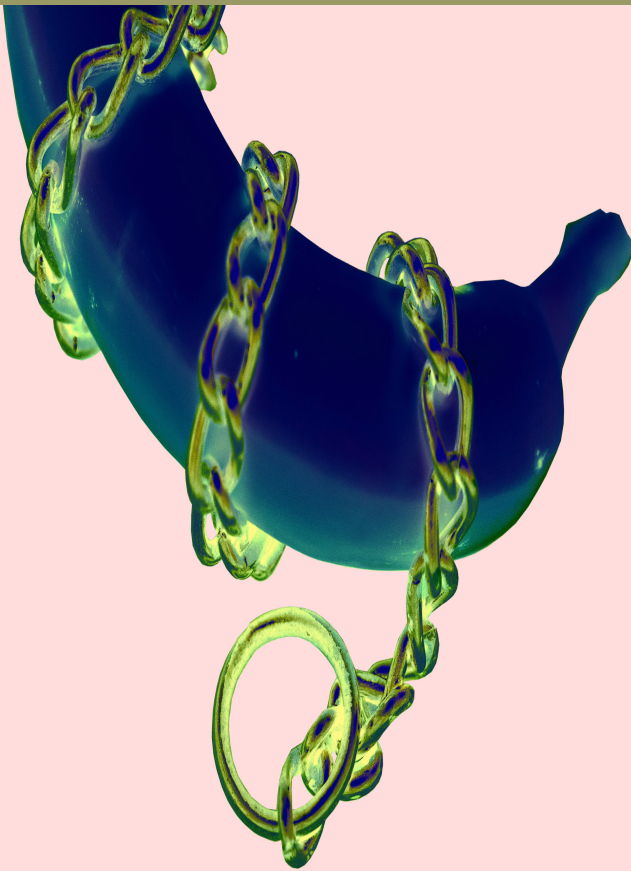


Whiteness,
respectability,
religiosity,
conformity to
middle-class
masculine
norms

“Perversion”

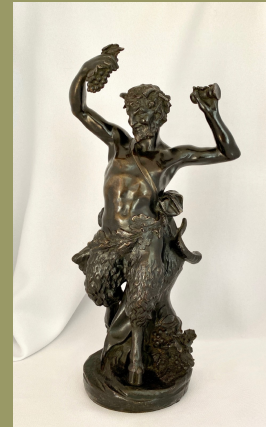
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Exhibitionism
was an (active)
male violation of
the (passive)
visual field of
women &
children

Primacy given to
the male sex
organ



The
“divine
penis”
story

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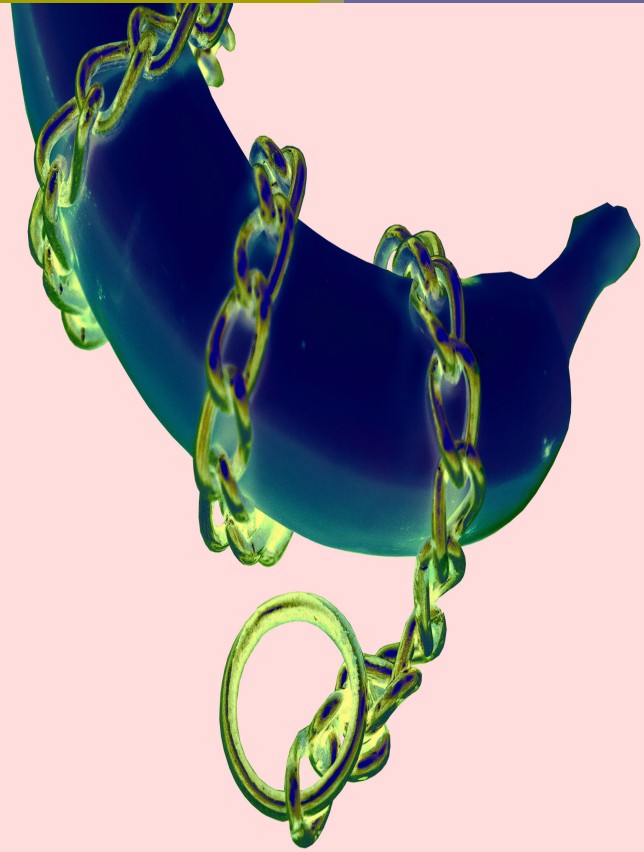


Debates about exhibitionism made distinctions between “vagabonds” (*inadequate* masculinity requiring punishment)

v

“perverts” (*insecure* masculinity requiring discipline).

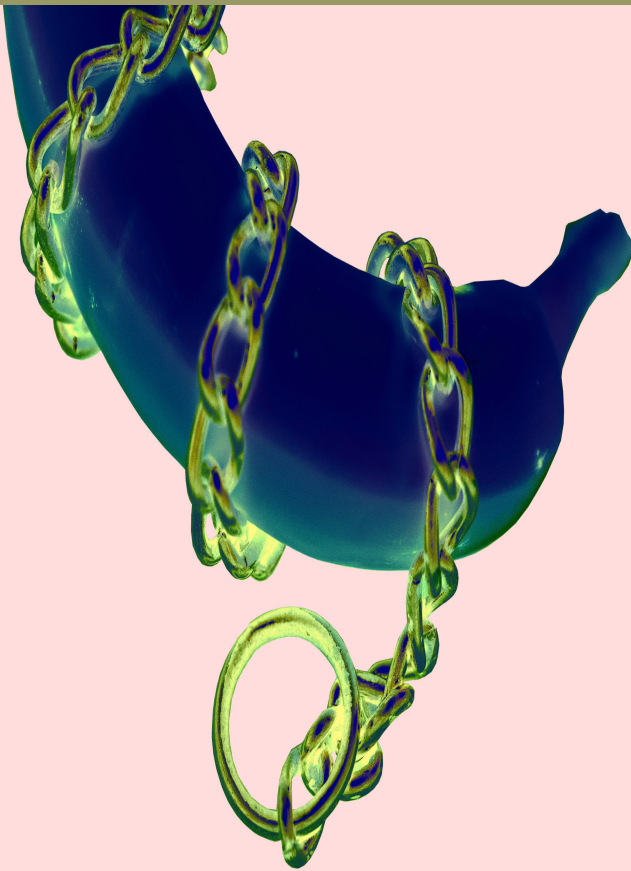
Sadism: “normal” v “excessive” masculine sexuality



“Perversion”

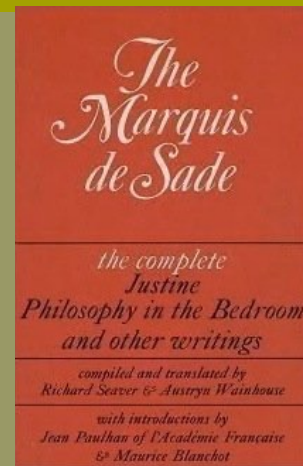
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“Cruelty is very far from being a vice....

.... because it is “the 1st sentiment Nature injects in us all”.



But, “the design is for man” (not woman)

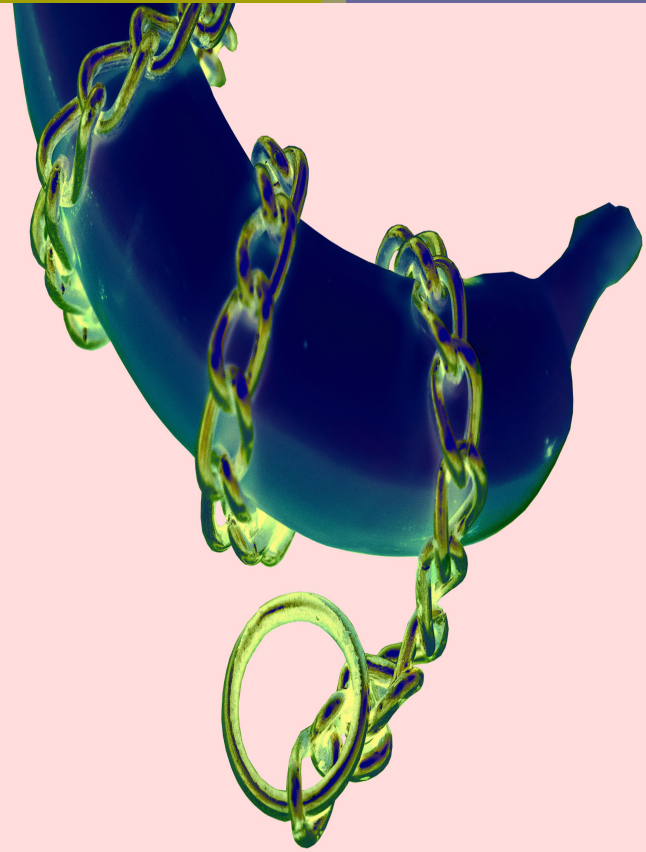
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Pierre Claude Victorire Boiste's
Dictionnaire universel de la langue
française (1835)



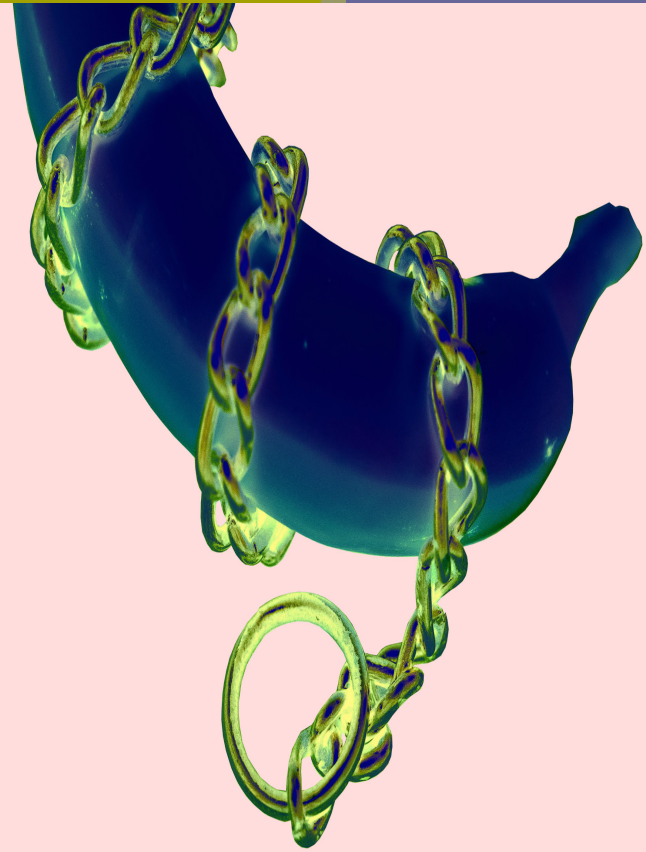
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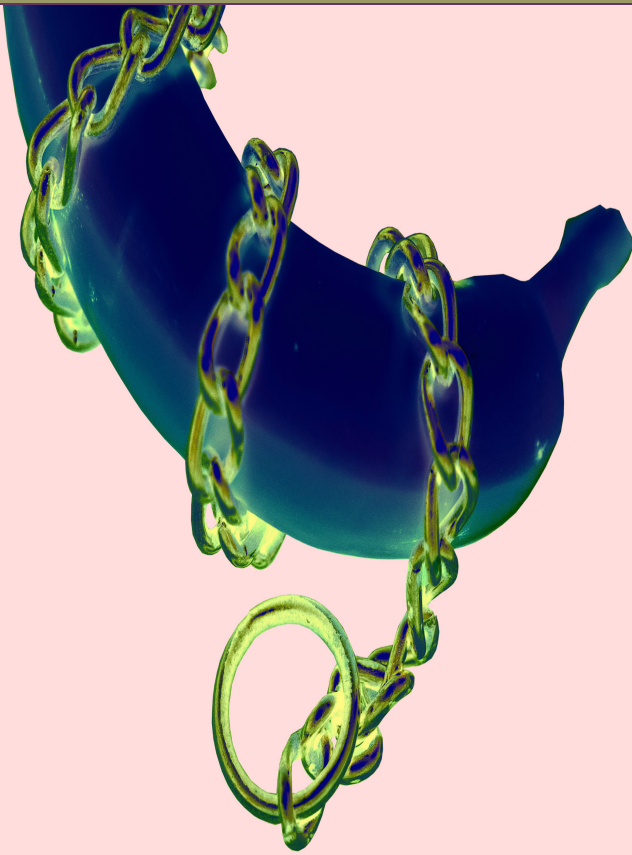
Richard von Krafft-Ebing



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Degenerates...
psychopathic...

Degenerative
“soils”

Mothers:
suffered “mania
menstrualis
periodica” &
hysteria

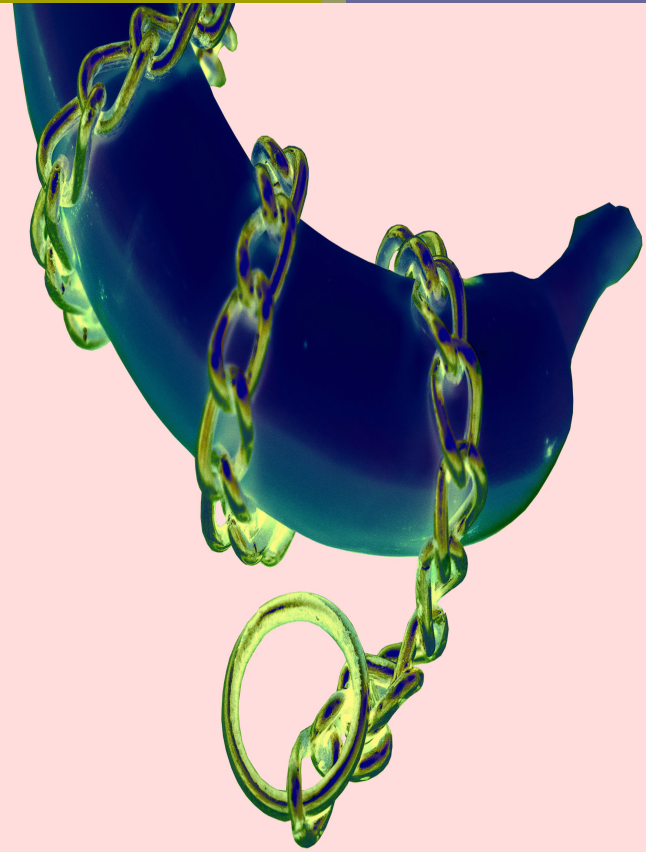
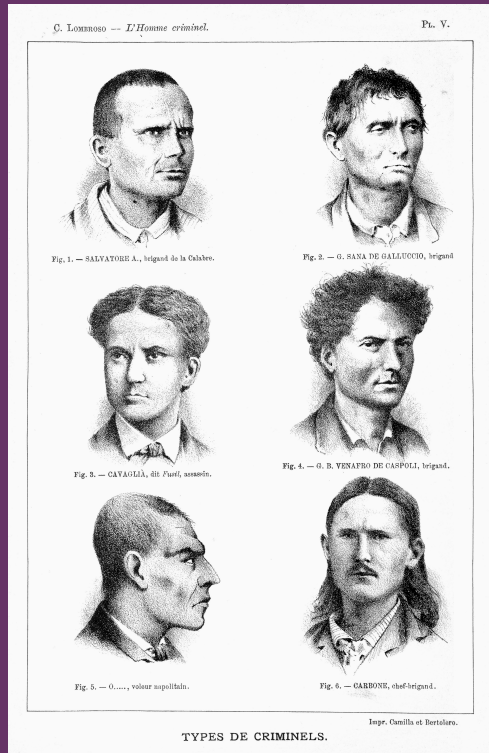
Fathers:
drunkards,
syphilitic,
practiced
onanism
(masturbation)

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+ Lombroso-like physical signs



“Perversion”

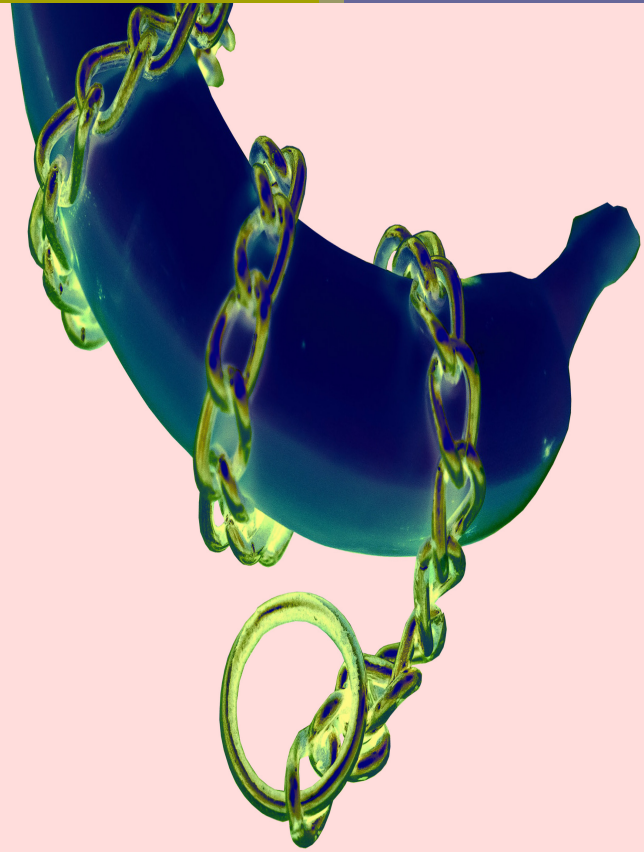
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Krafft-Ebing:

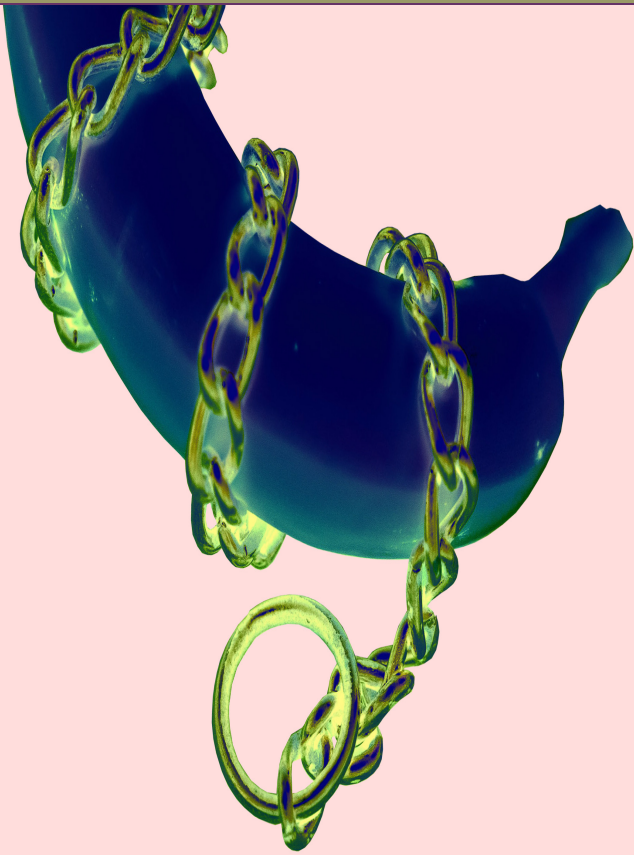
**Sadism is an extension of “normal”
male sexuality**



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Sadism was male

It was an
excess of
heterosexuality

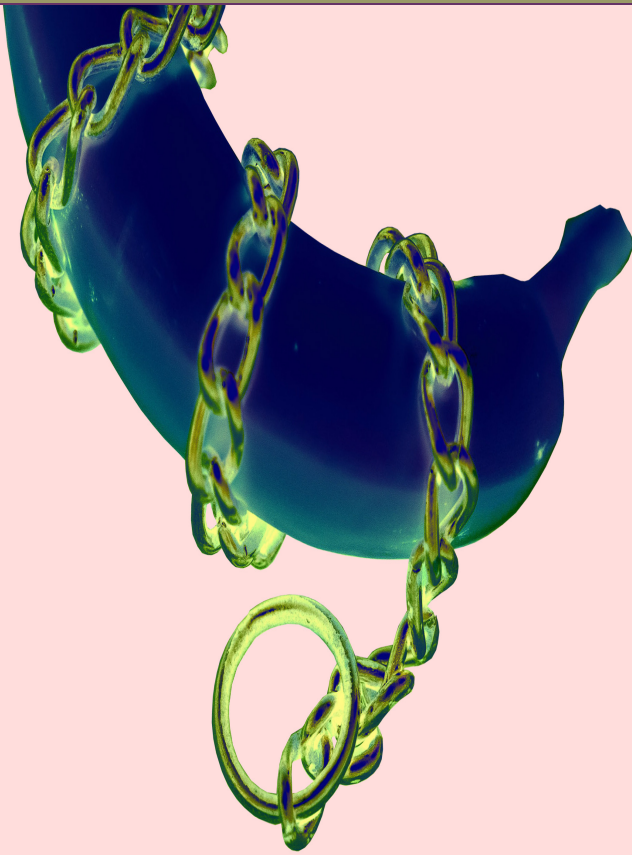
Shift from
degeneracy to
middle-class
ordinariness

Typical in
animal
“courtship”

“Perversion”

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James Kierna's
"Responsibility
in Active
Algophily"
(1903)

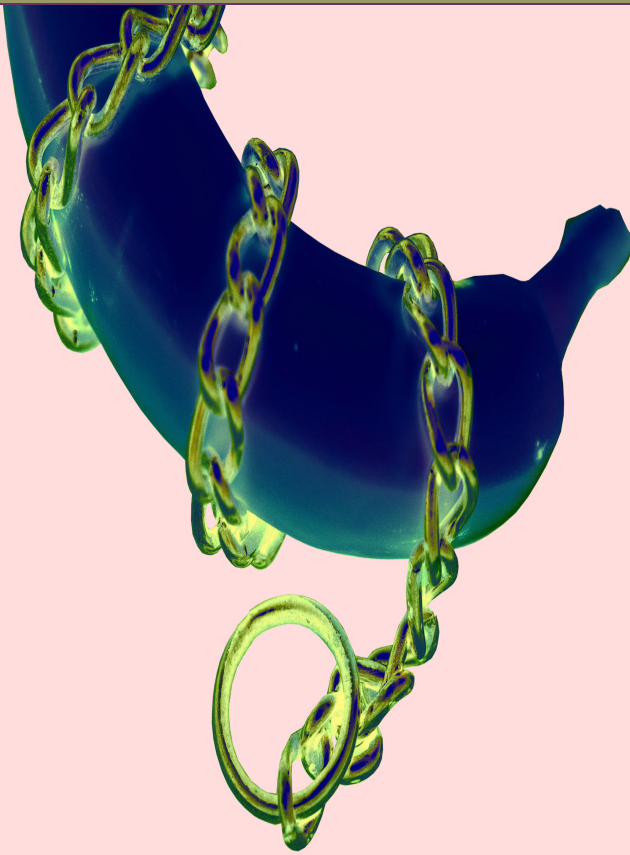
Confusing
consensual
sadoomasochism
with violent rape



"Perversion"

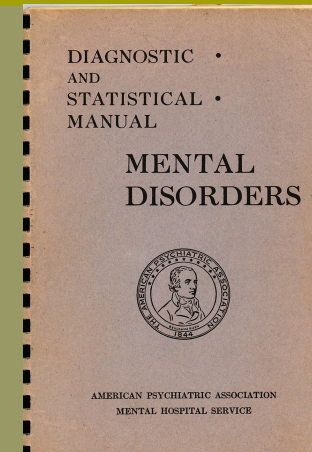
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Homosexuality:
a sin.
an evil.
a “perversion”

Harmful
mothering,
inadequate
fathering,
intrauterine
hormonal
exposure

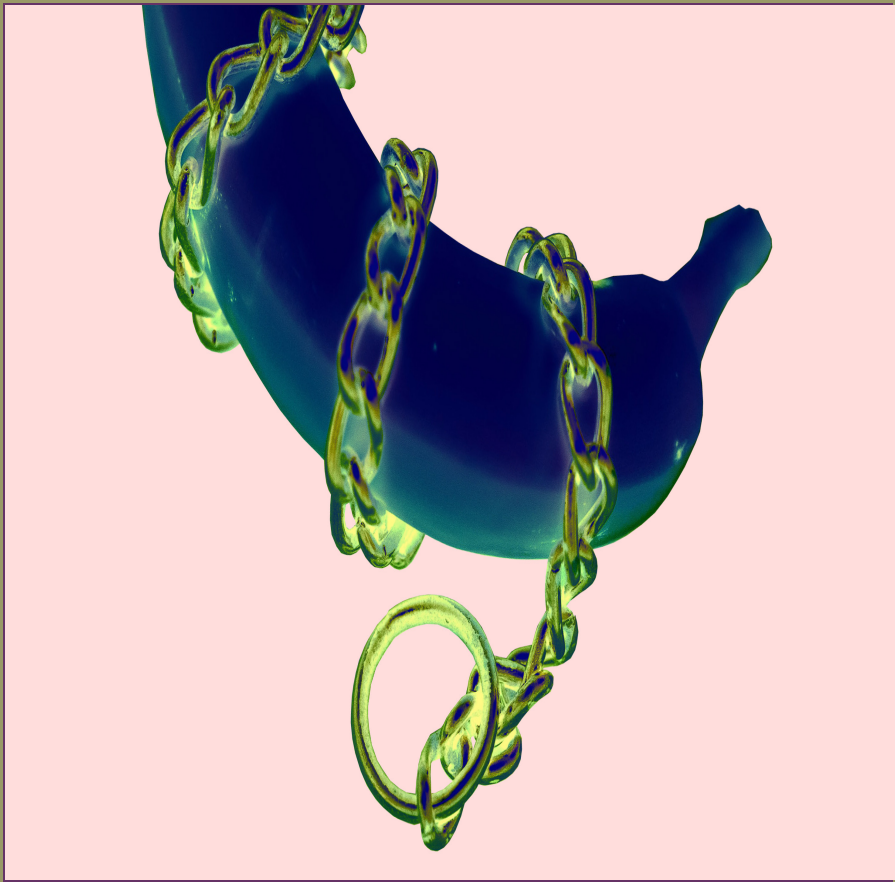


Intergenerational
degeneration;
developmental
immaturity

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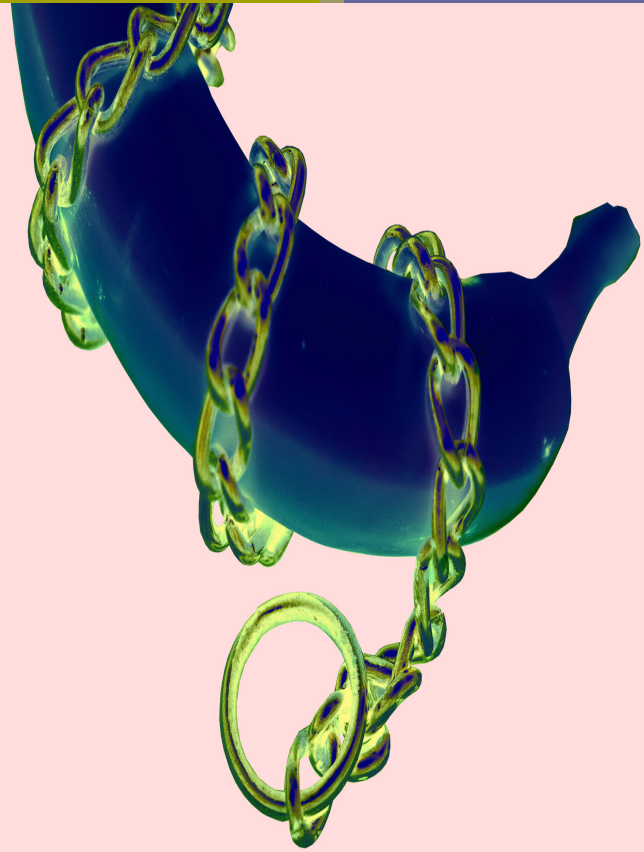
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**Successful resistance to
pathologisation**



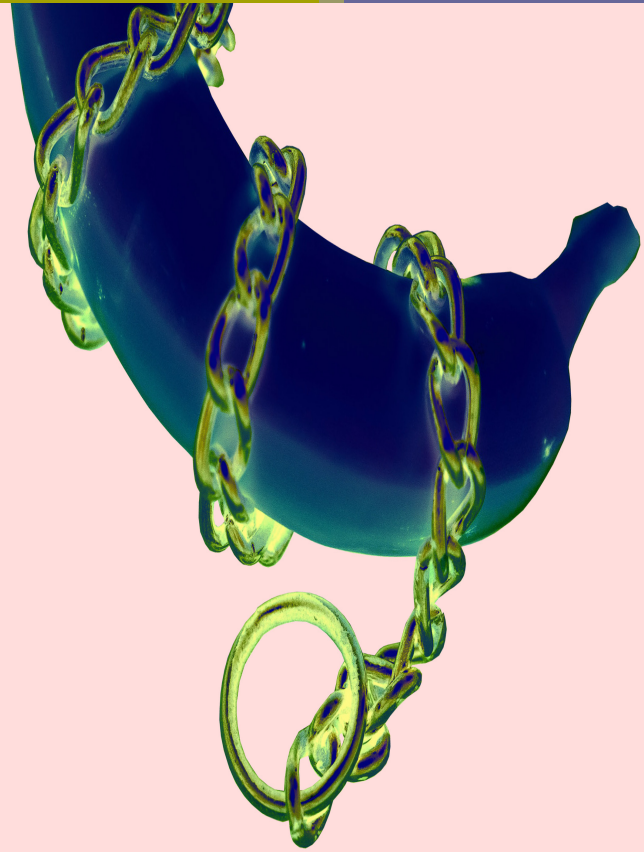
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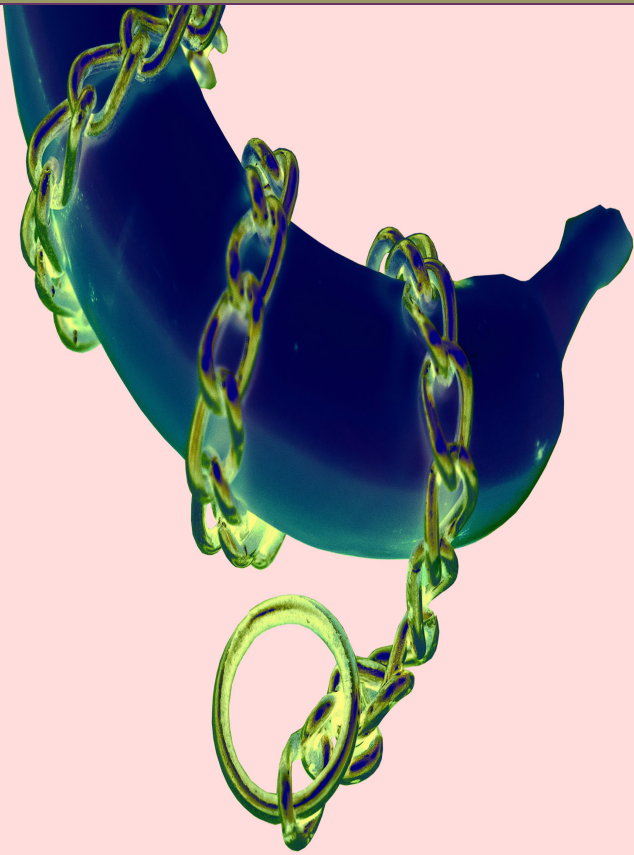
Alfred Kinsey and Evelyn Hooker



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APA moved away
from
psychoanalytical
perspectives...

...and towards
more
biopsychiatric
models



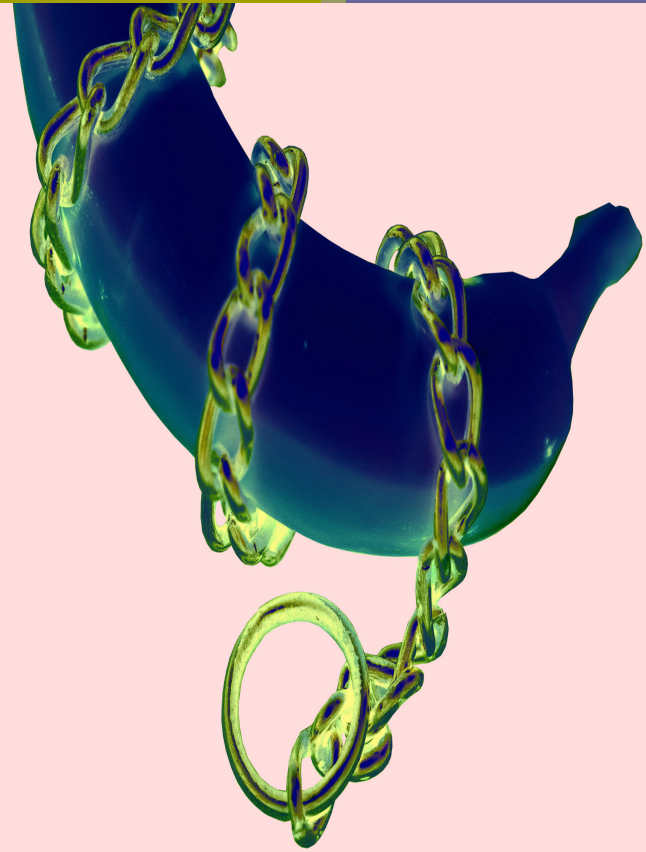
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“Distress”/“impairment” crucial in
defining a “disorder”



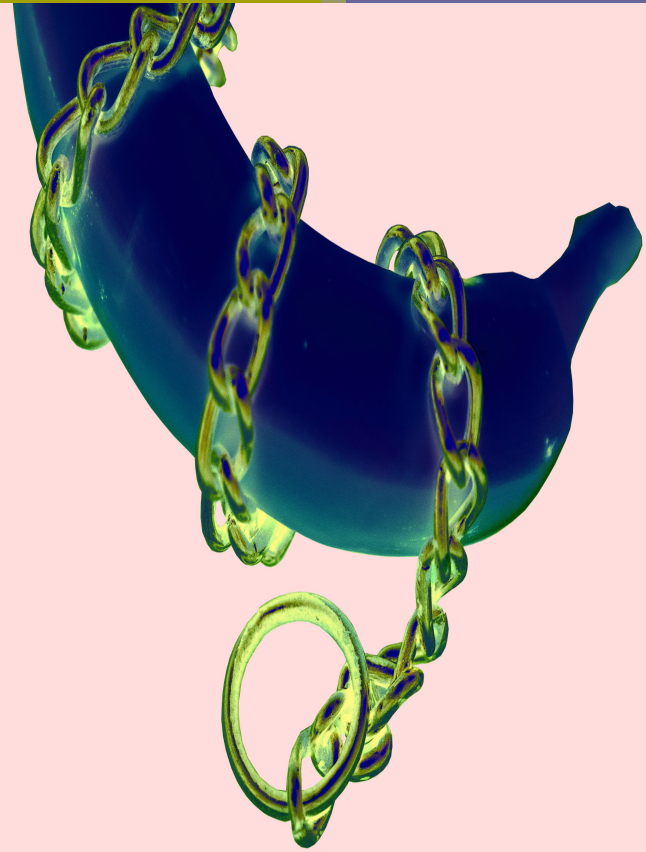
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1970-71 disrupted APA conferences



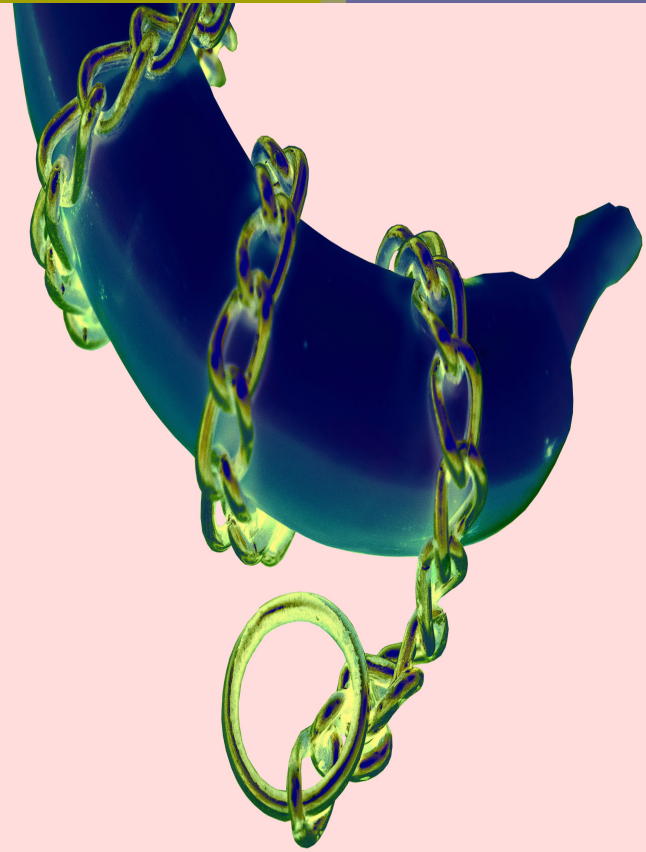
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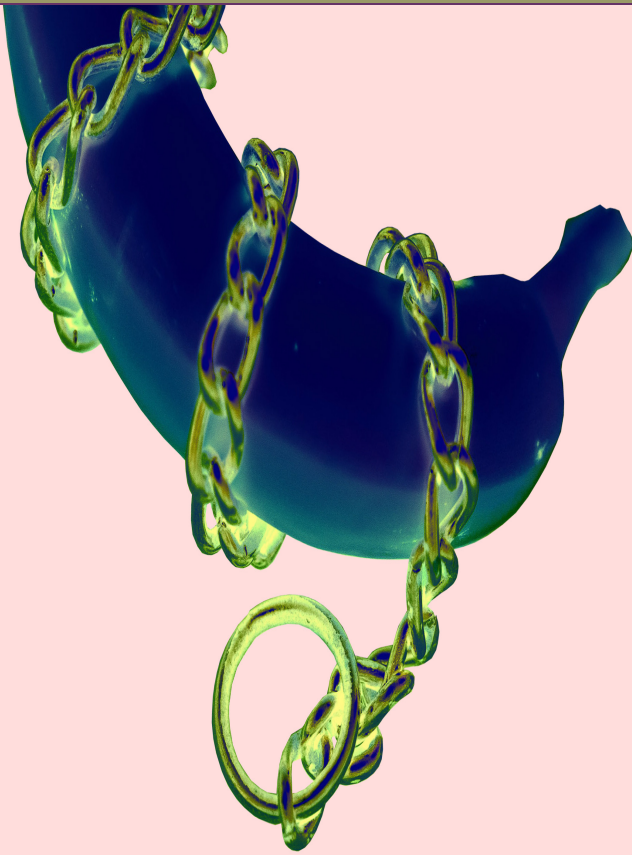
1973, vote of 10,000 members of the APA decided by a majority of 58% to accept the decision of the APA's Board of Trustees to remove homosexuality from the manual of psychiatric diagnoses.



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“Sexual
orientation
disturbance”

“Ego-dystonic
homosexuality”

Reclassified, not
eradicated.

“Sexual
Disorder not
otherwise
classified”

“Perversion”

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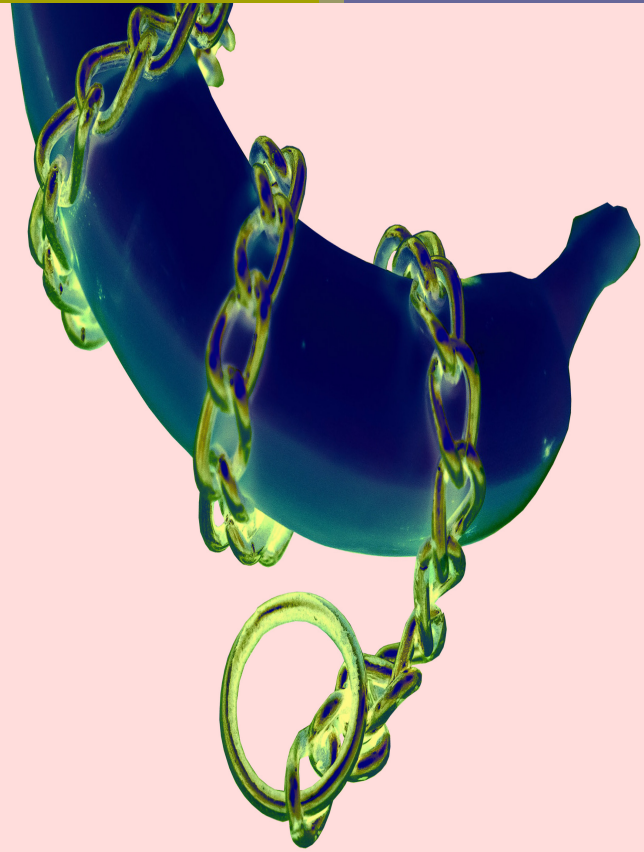
Series: “Sex: A Modern History”

Pornography (6 January 2022)

Sex Work (17 February 2022)

Monogamy (17 March 2022)

Abstinence (12 May 2022)



“Perversion”

JOIN the SHAMELESS! FESTIVAL of ACTIVISM AGAINST SEXUAL VIOLENCE on
27 November, Battersea Arts Centre:
shame.bbk.ac.uk/events/shameless-festival-of-activism-against-sexual-violence



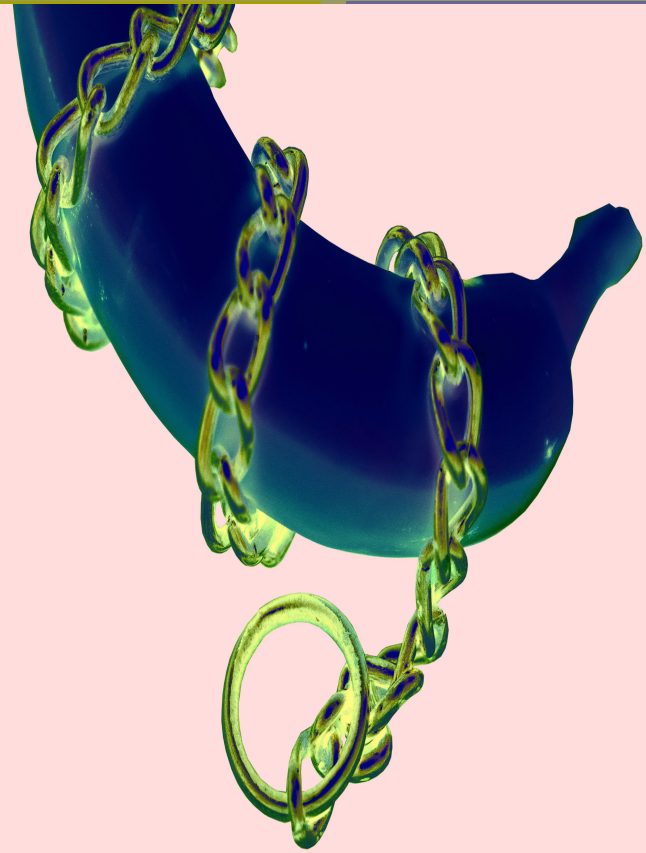
**And please join us for the
Shameless! Festival of Activism
Against Sexual Violence**

**Co-organised by SHaME and the
WOW Foundation**

27 November 2021, all day

TICKETS:

<https://shame.bbk.ac.uk/events/shameless-festival-of-activism-against-sexual-violence>



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