

Sex



Bonding activity between individuals in a highly developed relationship.



Social activity performed for purposes of psychological hygiene.

Measured by the neutral scale of theory rather than simply accepting the results of western history, it seems relatively obvious that sex is political.

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In mediocracy, the concept of sex is crucial. It is seen as the main driving force of the individual, and the key cultural ingredient. Its ideological function is to prove we are all equal, i.e. equally mechanical. It is emphasised in every area of cultural output, from advertising to opera, sociology to literary criticism. It is portrayed as being, at the same time, both supremely important and irredeemably trivial.

Sex is the criterion of normality in a mediocracy. Abstinence is unhealthy, low levels of sexual activity a sign of psychopathology calling for treatment. Successful sex requires training, which is to be provided from an early age by the education system.

The point is not to encourage toleration of human desires, but to celebrate our degradation. This is achieved by means of an ambivalent attitude, promoting sex on the one hand while sneering at it on the other. Sex is to be regarded as invalidating any idealistic or romantic notions that people might have, particularly about themselves.

Sex is presented as individualistic, but is used to emphasise our role as social agents entering into adult community activities. An

individual's sexuality and sexual activity become matters with a public dimension. They are available for inspection by society, with mass media playing an important role in providing *publicity*.

In a mediocracy, a person's allegiance to their sexual partner is at odds with their allegiance to society. The partnership over, any loyalty to the other person evaporates, and they may decide to pass information about them to the community, or to punish them for socially unacceptable behaviour on behalf of the collective.

A mediocracy inundates its citizens with advice on mechanical procedures, e.g. how to use contraceptives. One is expected to be proficient at the physical aspects of sex, which are assumed to be the same for everyone. Psychological aspects are considered relatively unimportant. This is consistent with the model of the individual as a predictable entity with no meaningful inner life.