

Shovelware

Comments: Sex Organs Sprout Everywhere

Very interesting post. Linked here from Boing Boing. Is there more coverage of this conference on the web anywhere?

"They're porn because they poke a stiff little finger into the killer-ape part of our brains, right where the desire to fuck gets confused with the urge to fuck shit up."

I really like that quote. Fanstastic. My only crit is that it feels like you stop short. I feel like your on the way to a conclusion overall but stop at sex and violence failing to tie back into the bizarre.

My own thoughts to add would be pointing out not only how bizzare some of the fetishism is getting but how extensibly nitch they can get with enough of a fan base. Related also, is the exploratory nature of pornography and the internet. Due to the hyperlinked nature of the internet... once one explores the open realm of straight forward "traditional" (if one can claim such a think) pornography, once is almost immediately mentally hyperlinked into fetishism as the brain begins to specialize in what aspects of that pornography appeal to them.

And say one were entering the 'pornographic fray' today as many youth of today likely are, there already exists an extensible supporting framework for these fetishes.

For myself pornography is a personal thing, and what distrubs me is that I'm sure that are innumerable people out there who enjoy this "warcore" porn who are also very introverted around it. Yeah, you have the guys who get together and look at this material; but for at least every one of those guys who do it socially, due to the frowned upon nature of porn in western society, I would imagine there are at least two additional people who don't openly enjoy such material. Which intriges me in a terrifying sort of way. How long does repeated suppressed exposure to sex/violence infused material does it take to cause transference from fantasy to reality?

Yikes.

Posted by Dranore at October 6, 2005 09:23 PM

"There is talk that many Vietnam films are antiwar, that the message is war is inhumane and look what happens when you train young American men to fight and kill, they turn their fighting and killing everywhere.... But actually, Vietnam war films are all pro-war, no matter what the supposed message, what Kubrick or Coppola or Stone intended. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson in Omaha or San Francisco or Manhattan will watch the films and weep and decide once and for all that war is inhumane and terrible, and they will tell their friends at church and their family this, but Corporal Johnson at Camp Pendleton and Sergeant Johnson at Travis Air Force Base and Seaman Johnson at Coronado Naval Station and Spec

4 Johnson at Fort Bragg and Lance Corporal Swofford at Twentynine Palms Marine Corps Base watch the same films and are excited by them, because the magic brutality of the films celebrates the terrible and despicable beauty of their fighting skills. Fight, rape, war, pillage, burn. Filmic images of death and carnage are pornography for the military man.... It doesn't matter how many Mr. and Mrs. Johnsons are antiwar -- the actual killers who know how to use the weapons are not."

- Anthony Swofford, a former U.S. Marine corporal, from his memoir of the First Gulf War, "Jarhead: a Marine's Chronicle of the Gulf War and Other Battles."

Posted by JJ Jacobson at October 7, 2005 09:23 AM

You talk about how the imaginary obsession depicted in Extraterrestrial Sex Fetish is starting to sound plausible -- it's quite true. You'd be amazed how many people have written to Supervert since the book's publication to confess how it struck a chord with their sexual fantasies. Although Supervert coined the term "exophilia," it's become apparent that the fetish was already out there, lurking, unnamed.

Meanwhile, you might be interested to know that on Halloween Supervert will be announcing the publication of a new book. Visit supervert.com on or after October 31, 2005, for details.

Posted by [Supervert](#) at October 8, 2005 10:35 AM

Whoa, an avalanche of sharp comments. Thanks for the insights, Dranore. In my defense, I should note that the excerpt from my essay quoted in my post is just that--a brief passage from a much longer work--in which I make the point you usefully underscore, namely that the garden-of-forking-paths nature of the Web leads even unsuspecting Websurfers to stumble on paraphilias Freud never imagined, even in his wildest dreams. And, as you also note, the online tendency to clustergeek in small-world communities reinforces and, arguably, publicizes fetishes that would previously have remained underground. I'd be curious to know if you think there's an upspike in fringe sexualities simply because the younger demographic (who are presumably more likely to explore non-normative lifestyles than older Websurfers) is more exposed to them than in previous eras.

Posted by M. Dery at October 8, 2005 11:45 AM

JJ Jacobson: Killer quote! I'm very much in your debt for that one, which I'll squeeze into my essay, if it takes a crowbar.

Posted by M. Dery at October 8, 2005 11:46 AM

A post from Supervert! How cool is *that*? I am not worthy. Seriously, though, I'm honored to have you swoop by. Alien sex is as old as contactee experiences themselves, seemingly; Whitley Streiber's kooktopian fantasies wear their Freudian subtext on their sleeve. And wasn't there a cyberpunk anthology (populated mostly by female writers, if memory serves) called ALIEN SEX? The feminist film critic Vivian Sobchack wrote a wonderful essay (or was it someone else? Pardon my senior moment. Anyway, it's in Annette Kuhn's collection, ALIEN ZONE) called "The Virginity of Astronauts," about SF's historical hostility toward sex. It seems relevant, now that I think of it.

For those of who you haven't heard of Supervert, here are my

Top 10 Reasons to Visit Supervert's Site:

(Note: Something about the COMMENTS system 404's these links, so you'll have to cut and paste them into your browser's address field. Sorry.)

10.

http://supervert.com/elibrary/rudolf_schwarzkogler/, a page devoted to the Viennese "aktion" artist who turned self-mutilation and simulated castration into a career choice for highly motivated young performance artists.

9.

http://supervert.com/surveys/computer_sex_results, a survey attempting to trace the EEG readout of the mass libido in the Digital Age. Given the scandalous fact that America hasn't submitted to a full-cavity search of its sexual imagination since Kinsey, this is long overdue.

8.

<http://supervert.com/shockwave/shockometer/>, a "software device for the self-determination of shock-resistance capacity. Presenting itself as a kind of game, it utilizes shocking, violent, horrible imagery to enable you to determine your ability to withstand shock. [...] Each picture successfully endured by the user earns him or her a certain number of points, and these points are finally utilized by the proprietary Shockometer algorithm to determine the user's shock-resistance capacity." Stanley Milgram meets the videogame, with a little Ludovico Technique thrown in, for laughs.

7. <http://supervert.com/nea/>, "Necro Enema Amalgamated, a Devil's Advocacy group and entrepreneurial innovator of manipulative software, coercive advertising, and subliminal semiotics." Okay, I'll admit it: I just like saying "Necro Enema Amalgamated."

6. http://supervert.com/essays/art/animal_sex_machines, an essay on "Animal Sex Machines." Somewhere, in the darkest heart of Norway, at this very moment, a Satanic death metal band is stealing that title as its name. Cthulhu rocks!

5. http://supervert.com/essays/perversion_and_terror/, an essay on "Perversion and Terror." Is this not brilliance enough? What more do you want, you baying, insatiable mob, you? Supervert's heart torn from his chest and borne to you, still beating, on a silver salver?!?

4. http://supervert.com/nea/sex_for_pleges/, a little meditation on technologically enabled sex among paraplegics. Don't say I didn't warn you.
3. <http://supervert.com/nea/slasher/>, "Diary of a Self-Slasher." Oh, dear.
2. Extraterrestrial Sex Fetish. More about that on his site, but also at http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/tg/detail/-/0970497105/ref=ase_superv32cinc/104-8684658-9778359?v=glance&s=books

And the Number One reason to visit Supervert, is...

<http://pervscan.com/>,

PervScan!

One-stop shopping for psychopathia sexualis!

Posted by M. Dery at October 8, 2005 12:16 PM

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