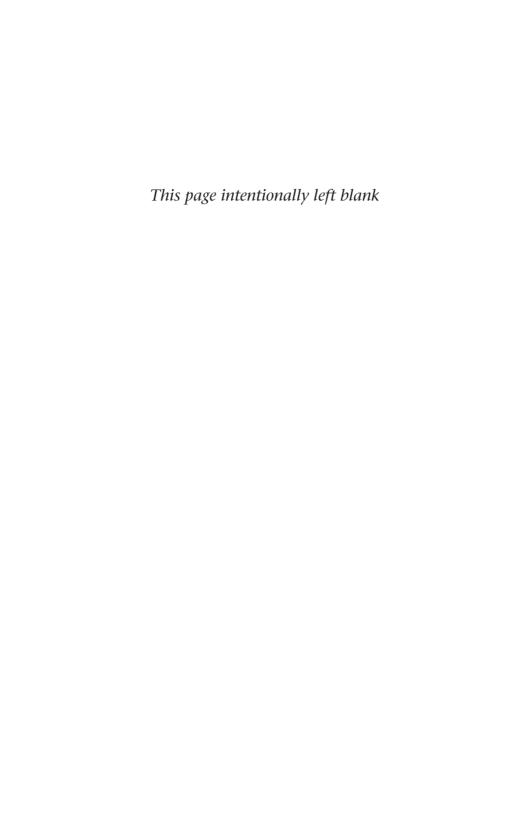


### Queering Criminology



# **Queering Criminology**

Edited by

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## Contents

List	of Figures and Tables	vii
Acknowledgements		viii
Not	Notes on Contributors	
1	Queering Criminologies  Angela Dwyer, Matthew Ball, and Thomas Crofts	1
Pa	rt I Queer Criminology: Past, Present, and Future	
2	Reflections on the Emergence, Efficacy, and Value of Queer Criminology Derek Dalton	15
3	The Past Is the Past? The Impossibility of Erasure of Historical LGBTIQ Policing Angela Dwyer and Stephen Tomsen	36
4	The 'Prison of Love' and Its Queer Discontents: On the Value of Paranoid and Reparative Readings in Queer Criminological Scholarship Matthew Ball	54
	rt II Uncomfortable Subjects in Queer iminology	
5	Disturbing Disgust: Gesturing to the Abject in Queer Cases Senthorun Raj	83
6	Who Is the Subject of Queer Criminology? Unravelling the Category of the Paedophile <i>Dave McDonald</i>	102
7	International Legal Norms on the Right to Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity: Australian Reforms Contextualised Wendy O'Brien	121

Part III Queer Experiences of	Crime and Justice
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8	Rainbow Crossings and Conspicuous Restraint: LGBTIQ Community Protest, Assembly, and Police Discretion Thomas Crofts and Tyrone Kirchengast	143
9	No Place Like Home: Intrafamilial Hate Crime against Gay Men and Lesbians Nicole L. Asquith and Christopher A. Fox	163
10	Queering Safety: LGBTIQ Young Adults' Production of Safety and Identity on a Night Out Bianca Fileborn	183
11	Sexual Coercion in Men's Prisons Paul Simpson, Joanne Reekie, Tony Butler, Juliet Richters, Lorraine Yap, and Basil Donovan	204
12	Intimate-Partner Violence within the Queensland Transgender Community: Barriers to Accessing Services and Seeking Help Natasha Papazian and Matthew Ball	229
Ind	PY	248

# Figures and Tables

#### **Figures**

9.1	Victim/offender relationship data recoding	170
Tabl	es	
9.1	Themes of verbal–textual hostility	169
9.2	Frequency of known offenders	171
9.3	Frequency of type of known offenders	172
9.4	Frequency of familial and non-familial offenders	173
9.5	Frequency of familial offender x type of offence	173
9.6	Logistic regression (familial relationship)	174
10.1	How safe survey participants felt in the venues they	
	usually go to	189
11.1	Participant- and prison-related characteristics	212
11.2	Factors associated with reported having been threatened	
	with sexual coercion in men's prisons	214
11.3	Factors associated with reported having been sexually	
	coerced in men's prisons	217

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## 1

### **Queering Criminologies**

Angela Dwyer, Matthew Ball, and Thomas Crofts

Since the 1990s, there has been a move towards an academic articulation of the nexus between queer and criminology. This move is significant because previously criminology and queer theories/methodologies have been somewhat awkward and perhaps dangerous bedfellows (Ball forthcoming). This is not to say that criminological research has not engaged with issues around sexuality, gender, and sex diversity. On the contrary, people who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, and queer (LGBTIQ),1 and with many other fluid categories of sexuality, gender, and sex diversity, have been the subject of many research studies, but in the past these studies have been informed by a 'deficit' or 'deviancy' model (Groombridge 1999: 540; Woods 2014). Early criminological work was steeped in the notion that people who displayed characteristics of homosexuality, for instance, were considered a 'defective sexual species' (Tomsen 1997: 33) and were studied by criminologists and other social scientists in terms of how they might be cured and controlled. Legislative structures and other governmental mechanisms developed along with these ideas and resultantly criminalised behaviours that queered heterosexuality, and, in particular, sexual contact between men (LeVay 1996; Rydstrom & Mustola 2007; Gunther 2009; Nussbaum 2010). Appearance and clothing that queered gender roles was also regulated by legislation in various times and places in an attempt to shore up normative gender roles - in the United States, for instance, people were required to always be wearing three items of clothing that reflected their 'natural sex' in order to avoid prosecution (Faderman 1991). Police were the central mechanism through which these legislative controls were administered, leading to discriminatory and sometimes violent interactions between police and LGBTIQ people (Dwyer 2014). Such discriminatory treatment and harassment by police,