

## DECISION OF THE TRIBUNAL

ONE copy of this magazine was submitted on 3 June 1970. It was mislaid and only recently found and placed before the Tribunal for its consideration.

The magazine is devoted to the relationship of women with women.

The Tribunal's decisions Nos. 157 and 158, published in the *New Zealand Gazette* on 18 September 1969, laid down the criteria in respect of this type of magazine. It is the view of the Tribunal that many of the photographs are objectionably suggestive and are not intended to inform or attract but rather to disturb and pervert. Parts of the text also deal with sex perversion in a manner which in the view of the Tribunal is injurious to the public good.

The Tribunal classifies this magazine as indecent.

R. S. V. SIMPSON, Chairman.

12 October 1971.

No. 353

*Decision of the Indecent Publications Tribunal*

IN the matter of the Indecent Publications Act 1963, and in the matter of an application by the Comptroller of Customs for a decision in respect of the book *Women Without Men* by Jessica Simmons, published by Sphere Books, London.

There was no appearance of the applicant nor of the publisher's representative in New Zealand. Accordingly no submissions were made.

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THIS story centres around a club for lesbians. The lesbian relationships of various members are recounted in detail. However, the story is told with a certain degree of restraint but because of the specific description of lesbian activities the Tribunal is inclined to the view that it is unsuitable for young people.

The Tribunal classifies this book as indecent in the hands of persons under the age of 18 years.

R. S. V. SIMPSON, Chairman.

12 October 1971.

No. 354

*Decision of the Indecent Publications Tribunal*

IN the matter of the Indecent Publications Act 1963, and in the matter of an application by the Comptroller of Customs for a decision in respect of the magazine *Kingsize*, Vol. 2, published by American Art Enterprises, California.

There was no appearance of the applicant nor of the publisher's representative in New Zealand. Accordingly no submissions were made.

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APART from a few short stories and some snippets of sexual gossip this magazine consists entirely of photographs of models in grossly suggestive poses. Everything in the magazine's treatment of sex, in pictures and text, debases and distorts and the magazine is clearly indecent within the meaning of the Act.

The Tribunal classifies this magazine as indecent.

R. S. V. SIMPSON, Chairman.

12 October 1971.

No. 355

*Decision of the Indecent Publications Tribunal*

IN the matter of the Indecent Publications Act 1963, and in the matter of an application by the Comptroller of Customs for a decision in respect of the book *In the Hands of the Inquisition* by Maria Deluz, published by Canova Press Ltd., London.

There was no appearance of the applicant nor of the publisher's representative in New Zealand. Accordingly no submissions were made.

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THE lurid cover of this book matches the tone of the text. The sexual and sadistic practices described are offered for prurient savouring and the experiences of the heroine, despite the protestations about her suffering, are rendered without feeling or honest concern.

The book exploits sensational material and deals with sex and violence in a manner that violates the Act.

The Tribunal classifies this book as indecent.

R. S. V. SIMPSON, Chairman.

12 October 1971.

No. 356

*Decision of the Indecent Publications Tribunal*

IN the matter of the Indecent Publications Act 1963, and in the matter of an application by the Comptroller of Customs for a decision in respect of the book *Quiet Days in Clichy* by Henry Miller, published by Grove Press, New York.

There was no appearance of the applicant. Mr P. J. Downey, solicitor, appeared on behalf of the publishers and made submissions.

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THE Tribunal has considered other works by Henry Miller in earlier years. This further book was written in 1940 but substantially revised before publication in 1956. It revokes with characteristic frankness and colour brief moments in Miller's life in Paris in the thirties. Its vivid reminiscence of sexual experience will offend some readers, but considering the book as a whole, and giving weight to section 11 (2) of the Act, as was done in the earlier decisions referred to, the Tribunal concludes that *Quiet Days in Clichy* should take its place among Miller's works that are freely available.

The Tribunal classifies the book as not indecent.

R. S. V. SIMPSON, Chairman.

12 October 1971.

No. 357

*Decision of the Indecent Publications Tribunal*

IN the matter of the Indecent Publications Act 1963, and in the matter of an application by the Comptroller of Customs for a decision in respect of the book *The Laughing Woman* by Hadrian Reeve, published by Audubon Books, New York.

There was no appearance of the applicant nor of the publisher's representative in New Zealand. Accordingly no submissions were made.

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THIS novel presents a sadist's treatment of the latest of the female victims he has acquired. She turns out to be the last of his victims as well, for at the climax of the book she reverses their roles and her master drowns both in ecstasy and in his swimming pool. It emerges that she has been playing the role all along and in the final pages she is identified as a successful liquidator of "foolish males" and as the priestess of a new religion devoted to the triumph of women.

The fact that the sadist is disposed of and the presence in these final pages of the topical theme of women's liberation do nothing to offset the impression given by everything that precedes. The various bizarre tortures and fantasies are dwelt on with a relish that panders to perverted and morbid interest in sexual exploitation and violence.

The Tribunal classifies the book as indecent.

R. S. V. SIMPSON, Chairman.

12 October 1971.

No. 358

*Decision of the Indecent Publications Tribunal*

IN the matter of the Indecent Publications Act 1963, and in the matter of an application by the Comptroller of Customs for a decision in respect of the magazine *Avant Garde*, No. 14, by Ed. L. Gisszburg, published by Avant Garde Media, New York.

There was no appearance of the applicant nor of the publisher's representative in New Zealand. Accordingly no submissions were made.