

*Indecent Publications Tribunal*

I, Jack Alexander McLeod Kean, Comptroller of Customs, give notice that I have applied to the Indecent Publications Tribunal for decisions as to whether the books described below are indecent or not, or for decisions as to their classification.

1. Title: *Penthouse Magazine*, 1972, Vol. 7, No. 1.  
Publisher: Penthouse Publications Ltd., London W. 14.
2. Title: *Penthouse Magazine*, 1972, Vol. 7, No. 2.  
Publisher: Penthouse Publications Ltd., London W. 14.
3. Title: *Penthouse Magazine*, 1972, Vol. 7, No. 3.  
Publisher: Penthouse Publications Ltd., London W. 14.
4. Title: *Penthouse Magazine*, 1972, Vol. 7, No. 4.  
Publisher: Penthouse Publications Ltd., London W. 14.

No. 510-515

*Decision of the Indecent Publications Tribunal*

IN the matter of the Indecent Publications Act 1963, and in the matter of an application by Seven Seas Pty. Ltd. for decisions in respect of the following books: *Mayfair Mistress* by Sheila Foster, *The Party* by Renee Auden, *High Thrust* by Renee Auden, *The Saline Solution* by Marco Vassi, *The Gentle Degenerates* by Marco Vassi, *Busy Bodies* by Ed Martin; all published by Olympia Press Incorporated, New York.

Mr Downey, solicitor, appeared on behalf of the applicant and made submissions.

## DECISION OF THE TRIBUNAL

THE above six books do not deserve detailed description. The object of the authors is to create characters (if they can be named as such) and around them weave a story of sexual activities largely of a perverted and degrading nature. The books have no literary or social merit and have not been written with any honesty of purpose.

The Tribunal classifies these books as indecent.

R. S. V. SIMPSON, Chairman.

17 July 1972.

No. 516

*Decision of the Indecent Publications Tribunal*

IN the matter of the Indecent Publications Act 1963, and in the matter of an application by Marketing Services (N.Z.) Ltd. for a decision in respect of the book *House of Pleasure* by Joe Green, published by Gold Star Publications (Australia) Pty. Ltd.

Mr Downey, solicitor, appeared on behalf of the applicant and made submissions.

## DECISION OF THE TRIBUNAL

THE story which this paperback novel tells is about real people. Although the characters are not attractive, they are well drawn and there is no undue emphasis on sex. A San Francisco madam is the confidante of powerful figures in politics, in the world of business, and in the shadowy world outside the law. The book is not obscene or corrupting.

The Tribunal classifies this book as not indecent.

R. S. V. SIMPSON, Chairman.

17 July 1972.

No. 517

*Decision of the Indecent Publications Tribunal*

IN the matter of the Indecent Publications Act 1963, and in the matter of an application by Seven Seas Publishing Pty. Ltd. for a decision in respect of the book *Diary of a Transsexual* by Lyn Raskin, published by Olympia Press Incorporated, New York.

Mr Downey, solicitor, appeared on behalf of the applicant and made submissions.

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## DECISION OF THE TRIBUNAL

"THIS is the personal true diary of a man who became a woman—heart, body and soul"—according to the cover note, but we cannot accept that it is genuine. The diary of Mr Ed Rankin purports to begin in September 1953 and ends in March 1971 with a poem, entitled *I am a Woman* written by Miss Lyn Raskin, the former Mr Ed Rankin. Between those two entries the diary records in detail the events leading to a transsexual transformation. It becomes tedious. Because of the detailed description of the sexual changes the Tribunal considers that it should not be readily available to 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.

17 July 1972.

No. 518-9

*Decision of the Indecent Publications Tribunal*

IN the matter of the Indecent Publications Act 1963, and in the matter of an application by Seven Seas Publishing Pty. Ltd. for decisions in respect of the following magazines: *Forum*, Vol. 4 No. 3, *Forum*, Vol. 4 No. 4, published by New English Library, London.

Mr Downey, solicitor, appeared on behalf of the applicant and made submissions.

## DECISION OF THE TRIBUNAL

THESE two issues of an English monthly journal devoted to the ventilation and discussion of all aspects of sexual behaviour raise serious questions about the purposes of the publications. The contents are almost entirely textual and the format is restrained and cultivated. Some of the articles which form the first half of each issue appear genuine attempts to help to remove unhealthy and socially harmful attitudes towards sex. While the sexual mores which are frankly discussed in some of them are not generally approved in our New Zealand way of life, these articles could not be classified as corrupting.

On the other hand, the second half of each issue contains a good deal of material that appears to be suspect. The case histories from contributors and many of the letters from readers published in *Forum Adviser* appear contrived and become vehicles for discussing sexual deviations not merely with frankness, but with approval and in some cases irresponsibility. In the hands of mature adults the magazines are unlikely to be harmful but a restriction is clearly desirable to protect younger readers.

The Tribunal, by a majority decision, classifies both issues as indecent in the hands of persons under the age of 18 years.

R. S. V. SIMPSON, Chairman.

17 July 1972.

No. 520

*Decision of the Indecent Publications Tribunal*

IN the matter of the Indecent Publications Act 1963, and in the matter of an application by Seven Seas Publishing Pty. Ltd. for a decision in respect of the book *The Records of the San Francisco Sexual Freedom League* by J. F. Poland and V. Alison, published by Olympia Press Incorporated, New York.

Mr Downey, solicitor, appeared on behalf of the applicant and made submissions.

## DECISION OF THE TRIBUNAL

THE Sexual Freedom League advocates sex freedom—the right for all people to be in command of their own desires and behaviour. The movement started in San Francisco in 1964 and spread all over the United States and identified itself with the political and social aims of Women's Liberation and Homosexual (Gay) Liberation. It is stated that when the emphasis shifted towards nude parties membership grew rapidly.

This book is, according to Herbert Gold who wrote the introduction, "an instructive tour of the world of troubled sexuality looking for sexual trouble".

The book consists of case histories recounted with considerable frankness. The objects and activities of the League may not be accepted by the majority of people but there is no reason why this book should not be available to the adult reader.