



REVIEW OF IAN D. RICHARDSON'S BOOK *GOD'S TRIANGLE*

God's Triangle is hugely enjoyable and intriguing, I liked the way Richardson carried out his investigation and the respect he shows at all times for everyone involved. I might take issue with some of his judgments and comments about missionaries and Christianity but actually he is in very important ways far more Christian in the real sense than some of the protagonists and those who opposed his investigations and tried to suppress or stop his efforts.

I come from a similarly religion-bound family so I could understand a lot of the experiences and the repressed nature of sexuality that was the norm in similar groups of people. I am sure that what he has done was worth doing and revealing in the best way. He is to be congratulated on the thoroughness of what is in all respects an excellent piece of journalistic research.

The topic of sex in a world where such matters are not talked about is revealing and engaging. He uncovers the topics of sexual ambiguity and ignorance about sexuality in ways that are important for our times and the contrast these throw up with our own times and the greater openness that we now experience, but at the same time he shows how in some ways we still have difficulties with these fraught topics.

Many Christians seem to operate on the basis that the creation of human beings is somehow perfect and God-given. The facts however seem to dispute this formulation. His Aunt Florrie was trapped by the same views and beliefs into which she was born and raised. She did what she believed was right and proper, only to find that she did not fit. And she never worked out nor was ever told the truth of her unavoidable condition. The world she lived in was very different from our own. Richardson tells the story of how it was. If only he could tell Florrie what really happened and why.

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