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Social worker to discuss challenges of dealing with gay issues

The challenge that gay issues present for the helping professions will be the subject of a colloquium at Wilfrid Laurier University on Jan. 11.

John Montague, a social worker in private practice in Toronto, will discuss how psychiatry and the law have been poor advocates for gays and how the gay community has not had any formal advocacy until recently.

Montague, who has counselled gay couples and individuals for six years, will also discuss how homophobia often prevents the helping professions from responding properly to the unique situations presented by gays.

The colloquium, presented by Laurier's faculty of social work, will be held from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in Room A407 of the John Aird Centre on campus.