



Pharmacy News  
 February, 2010  
 Page: 40  
 Section: General News  
 Region: National Circulation: 7084  
 Type: Australian Magazines Trade  
 Size: 152.00 sq.cms  
 Frequency: Monthly

# review

**KINK: A STRAIGHT GIRL'S INVESTIGATION**  
 Stephanie Clifford-Smith

## Kinky exposé

Stephanie Clifford-Smith is a Sydney food writer who has taken her work into new realms with her latest book, *Kink*.

Self-professed straight girl, Clifford-Smith got the idea for the book after a lunchtime conversation with a girlfriend about how people with strange fetishes might bring up the topic of their desires with a prospective partner.

"Say you had a kink, something you knew was really unusual. Would you risk having your lover run screaming from the room by asking if they'll let you lick their eyeballs, or would you find some oblique way of bringing it up, perhaps when they were struggling with a stray

lash? Or would you just go behind their back and find a willing partner on the internet?" she writes.

"The topic engaged a girlfriend and me for hours over lunch one day. The human angle intrigued us. How do kinks affect relationships and how does one person suss another out? How does someone gauge the right moment to broach nappy wearing as a turn-on? Do marriages fall apart over these desires or do they remain hidden, frustrated?"

Intrigued, Clifford-Smith decided to write a book on the subject, talking to people with kinks about their lives, their desires, their families and loved ones.

She went to bondage parties and chatted to peeping toms, 'plushies' and foot worshippers. She met with adult babies, people with a thing for piercing and pain, those whose fetishes extend into slavery — and beyond.

Fresh and witty, *Kink* is a closely observed, completely unjudgemental book about the great gamut of human behaviour — one woman's sometimes mind-boggling, mostly hilarious, always fascinating investigation into sexual fetishes in the 'burbs.

***Kink: A Straight Girl's Investigation***  
 Stephanie Clifford-Smith  
 Allen & Unwin, \$29.99

