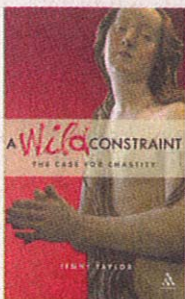


Books in brief



A Wild Constraint: the Case for Chastity, by Jenny Taylor (Continuum, £14.99)

In a society obsessed with sexuality Jenny Taylor's elegant essay comes as a welcome and refreshing change. Essentially an essay, albeit in book form, *A Wild Constraint* is based on interviews with women and men across the ages as well as drawing from secular and spiritual texts. Taylor looks at the way the sexual revolution has changed not only in attitudes to sexuality but also to chastity and celibacy.

Formerly something to be cherished and nurtured, chastity has become as culturally shameful as promiscuity used to be. Taylor questions contemporary cultural mores about sexuality, sex education and psychology in order to make her case for chastity. She argues that chastity has a place in today's culture of promiscuity, sexual trafficking and social chaos as another form of sexual emancipation and offers an interesting survey of contemporary attitudes.

Anna Arco