

Parents and Friends of Lesbians And Gays
Meets 2nd Thursday of
each month. Next meeting:
Nov. 8th.



PLACE :

Wesley Methodist Church
623 Union Av., Sheboygan.
TIME: 6:30 Pm. social time,
7:00 Pm. meeting.

I Sure hope to see you there!
(and bring a friend!)



P-FLAG Lakeshore Chapter

- Listening, Learning and Loving -
Post Office Box 1396
Sheboygan, WI. 53082

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N.Y. MAYOR APPOINTS LESBIAN JUDGES

WB

In late August, N.Y. Mayor David Dinkins appointed two judgeships to open Lesbian as part of his first four judicial appointments. Almost everyone present was surprised when, at the swearing-in ceremony, a third appointee introduced her female life-partner to the Mayor and assembled dignitaries!

RUTGERS CUTS ROTC SCHOLARSHIPS

WL

Rutgers has become the first university in the US to protest the Pentagon's ban on homosexuals by cutting four merit scholarships which have been given annually to Reserve Officer Training Corps, (ROTC) students.

Rutgers have also played a key role in the efforts of national college and academic groups to formally lobby the Pentagon to change its restrictive policy. Rutgers is home to the oldest and one of the best organized Gay and Lesbian student organizations in the country.

INDIAN PRAYER

PD

Do not stand at my grave and weep,
I am not there, I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow,
I am the diamond glint on snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain.
I am the gentle autumn rain,
When you wake in the morning hush,
I am the swift uplifting rush -
Of quiet birds in circling flight.
I am the starlight at night.
Do not stand at my grave and weep.
I am not there, I do not sleep.
(Author Unknown)

QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

PD

'We will not accept, we will not excuse, we will not tolerate discrimination in America.'
President George Bush at signing ceremonies for 'Americans with Disabilities' Act.

A sure sign of bureaucracy is when the first person who answers the phone can't help you!

CLOSETS ARE FOR CLOTHES, NOT PEOPLE!

C. EVERETT KOOP SPEAKS

PD

C. Everett Koop notes that Preachers have "unbelievable hatred" for homosexuals" and that Preachers "who Persist in leading their flock astray on the AIDS issue do so out of homophobia... These People combine fear of with hatred for homosexuals."

The recently retired Surgeon General further remembers that "what bothered me most was the lack of scholarship by Christians - as if they felt that by leaning on theological Principal they didn't have to be very accurate with the facts." From Nov. 3rd issue of CHRISTIANITY TODAY, quoted in Chico P-FLAG and RECORD, Winter 1990.

WISCONSIN LOOSES AIDS FUNDING

WL

A 20% cut in federal funding in Wisconsin in 1991 will mean the Milwaukee AIDS Project, (MAP), and other AIDS service organizations will loose more than \$250,000 for AIDS Prevention Programs.

'The funding cut comes at the worst possible time when we need to implement targeted and costly efforts to prevent an explosion in the AIDS epidemic among IV drug users in Wisconsin,' said Doug Nelson, MAP's Executive Director. There is also disturbing evidence that there is a significant relapse into unsafe behaviors that put people at risk for HIV infection.'

'This means that we must turn to the community to ask for it's financial support,' said Nelson. 'The Wisconsin AIDS Walk, (which was held on Sept. 30th, and raised over \$182,000 from pledges brought in by almost 2,000 participants), is a perfect opportunity for the community to come forward to make the financial investment that the Federal government is unwilling to make.'

Editor's note: The above was written long before the last-minute scramble to beat the Grant-Rudman, (sometimes called "Grim Reaper"), automatic budget cuts. You can safely bet your next three paychecks that the latest deficit-cutting cuts will FURTHER reduce the Federal monies available for this and other NECESSARY health-related services! ALSO, President Bush recently made a statement supporting ANOTHER cut in Federal health-money!

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Detroit PFLAG via PFLAG/DC

Part of a column by Jim Fitzgerald which appeared in the Detroit Free Press in July quoted Detroit Episcopal Priest Ervin Brown thus: You don't label as sin what one has no choice over. You wouldn't say it's sinful to be redheaded or black skinned or epileptic or mentally retarded... Does one choose to be a homosexual; is one's orientation a matter of choice? ... No... What you are isn't sinful."

OUR PHANTOM LIBRARY!

At the October meeting, Caroline brought her library of P-FLAG-related literature, a large boxfull of books and Pamphlets. I borrowed some, and if space permits, I MAY burden you with a review or two.

I KEEP ASKING YOU FOR A LIST of whatever books or other literature YOU have that would be of interest to other P-FLAG members and friends. PLEASE write down what YOU have that you would be willing to let others read, (or donate to the chapter's library), and bring it to the next meeting, mail it to the P.O. Box, OR send it to the computer Bulletin Board so that I can print a list of what's available. I will NOT print the names of the owners, but we need to know what's available for reference and information.

Thank you.

Your editor.

JUSTICE IS SERVED!

(From a member)

I am writing this to inform you of a lawsuit I filed against my Place of work. The orientation of this suit is one of sexual harassment.

My name is Jim, and I am a gay, white male, 26 years old. I live in Sheboygan.

The details: I started working at a company in Sheboygan seven years ago. Shortly after I started working there the harassment began. I began hearing my name called in a high-pitched voice. Soon, many joined in on the harassment. Thinking that I could detour this action, I transferred to a different department in the Plant, (with a cut in pay), but this did not stop the harassment. Not only was my name being yelled out, but other remarks were being passed around the Plant. Rumors that I was gay started just because my car was parked near a local gay bar, (Sherlock's Home). As time went on, some of the harassment decreased, but namely four individuals would not stop. After six years of this torture, I reported these incidents to my Personnel manager. These reports fell on deaf ears. I was told that nothing could be done unless there were witnesses to these incidents, nor was there anything that Personnel could do. I then contacted Equal Rights division in Madison and was told that I COULD do something about this, and that it was truly illegal to harass people because of their sexual orientation. I was told to come to Milwaukee and file a complaint against the four people who continued to harass me, and to file against the Personnel department for not putting a stop to the harassment. After many painstaking hours of filling out papers and responding to Personnel's side of the story, the state of Wisconsin found that there was probable cause in my case. The next step was to see if both employer and employees could reach a solution to the problem. Unfortunately in my case, no resolution could be reached. Lastly, a court hearing was set to see if I had enough merit points to go to court. Fortunately, two weeks before the merit hearing was to take place, my attorney, Mr. Thomas Erickson, informed me that the company would like to settle out of court. A monetary settlement was reached, but I was forced to voluntarily quit my job. That isn't bad, considering the harassment I received. I would just like to say that for many years I was told that I could do nothing about this situation, but these people were wrong! **STAND UP FOR YOUR RIGHTS IF THIS IS HAPPENING TO YOU!** It's a lot of paperwork, but you feel very satisfied in the end, knowing that you've done something to curb the prejudice in the world and letting people know that you can't be stepped on just because they think you're different. If you're having problems at work because of perception of sexual orientation or the knowledge of it, PLEASE contact the Division of Labor and Human Relations, Equal Rights Division of Human Relations in either Madison or Milwaukee. They can be of great help. I'd like to thank Mr. Thomas Erickson who is located in Milwaukee for taking this case and helping me receive what I deserved.

EDITOR'S COMMENT: I've met this fine young man and really identify with his experiences. I've had similar experiences, both here and in Iowa, where the laws do NOT cover similar cases. I have lost at least two jobs, (and may have had problems finding work), because of sexual discrimination, although I couldn't prove it in court. I'm not gay, but I am often mistaken for someone who is, and the harassment, particularly from bigoted teenage males can be DEVASTATING!

HELMS SUPPORTERS FIGHT BACK!

DFP

[RALEIGH, N.C.] Supporters of Sen. Jesse Helms have filed a complaint with the Federal Election Commission over the boycott of Philip Morris Products by Gay Rights groups, saying the groups are acting as an unregistered Political Action Committee, which would be a violation of Federal law.

COMMENT: This sounds like an act of desperation to this editor!

Thursday, Oct. 12th was 'National Coming Out Day'!

THANKS!

Thanks to the Denver P-FLAG for sending the GLADD, (Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation Inc.) bulletin! It includes MANY good AND bad examples of how the Gay/Lesbian community is viewed in the media. (Two examples follow).

HATE RAP!

GB

The Popular rap group, AUDIO TWO, the first rap group to Play Carnegie Hall, has a new song released by Atlantic Records called "WHATCHA LOOKIN' AT?" A sample of the lyrics:

"I can't understand why you lookin' this way. What's the matter wicha boy, are ya gay?

Yo, I hope that ain't the case, 'cause gay mothers get Punched in the face. I hate fa99ots. They're living in the Village like meat on some ma99ots."

Group member "Milk Dee" said, "The bottom line is, that's what I wanted to say. That's just it. I don't have to defend myself."

The new direct action group QUEER NATION is asking people to target the following: AUDIO TWO is Produced by FIRST QUALITY RECORDS/NAT ROBINSON MANAGEMENT, INC., 824 ST. JOHN'S PLACE, BROOKLYN, NY, 11216, Phone (718) 363-8900.

Also, send complaints to: ATLANTIC RECORDED, 75 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA, NEW YORK, NY, 10019, or call (212) 484-6000.

Remind them that last year, nationwide, there were over 7,000 REPORTED bias-related attacks against Gays and Lesbians.

AN AWAKE 'NIGHT COURT'!

GB

A recent episode of NBC's "NIGHT COURT" ridiculed, not Lesbians, but anti-Lesbian stereotypes.

A Journalist is assigned to interview Harry, the Judge. When Prosecutor Dan Fielding learns that she is a Lesbian, he's surprised, because he thinks that all Lesbians wore flannel and looked like Pete Rose. She responds that she thought she was coming to a court room, not a high school. In the end, Harry and Dan ask her not to tell anyone how stupid they acted.

We need more Programming Poking fun at stereotypes, rather than glorifying them. Please write to: STEWART KREISMAN AND CHRIS CLUESF, PRODUCERS, NIGHT COURT, WARNER BROS., TELEVISION, 4000 WARNER BLVD., BUILDING 7, ROOM 13, BURBANK, CA, 91522. Please suggest that they add a recurring Gay/Lesbian character to counteract negative Portrayals in other Programs.

P-FLAG EXCLUDED FROM PROGRAMS

WL

[St. Louis, Mo.] The Highway and Traffic Commission of St. Louis County has voted 6-1 to eliminate all Promotional signs from an anti-litter Program rather than allow the local P-FLAG to Participate, according to the LESBIAN AND GAY NEWS-TELEGRAPH.

The "Adopt a Roadway" Program allows community groups to supervise clean-up of a designated stretch of roadway in exchange for a sign along the roadway acknowledging the group's efforts.

County Executive H.C. Milford refused to allow P-FLAG to Participate, citing it's allegedly "controversial" nature. After protests, Milford sent the issue to the Highway and Traffic Commission which decided to eliminate the signs altogether. As the free signs were what attracted involvement by community groups, observers noted that the "Adopt a Roadway" Program would probably be discontinued.

COMMENT: Kind of sounds like cutting off one's nose to spite their face! They could have saved a bunch of taxpayers cash!