

# GAZE

GAZE is published monthly by and for the  
Memphis Lesbian/Gay Community.  
And it's FREE!

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FOCUSING ON THE LESBIAN/GAY COMMUNITY

December, 1979

## March On D.C. Signals Start Of Gay Politics

Between 50 thousand and 200 thousand Gays and their supporters (official estimates varied greatly) marched on Washington, D.C. on Sunday, October 14 in the first national demonstration for the civil rights of Lesbians and Gay men. Though virtually ignored by the national and local media, the event drew delegations from all fifty states and several countries. The weekend saw Gay people not only marching, but attending workshops, enjoying concerts, and lobbying on Capitol Hill.

Workshops, awareness meetings and open houses were in progress from Thursday until Monday, October 11-15. The National Third World Lesbian/Gay Conference was held in Washington in conjunction with the March. Awareness meetings and open houses were held by such supportive groups as Parents and Friends of Gays and the Metropolitan Community Church. A Saturday night concert, featuring the Great American Yankee Freedom Band from Los Angeles, MCC founder Troy Perry, entertainer Robin Tyler and others, was held at the Sylvan Theater near the Washington Monument.

Sunday's briefing for marchers on the Washington Mall began at 10 a.m. and the March was underway some two hours later. Marchers were orderly and enthusiastic as they chanted, sang, carried banners and enjoyed the support of people from all walks of life. An elderly marcher carried a sign proclaiming that she was an "out-of-the-closet" grand-

mother. Professional groups such as "Gays in Medicine" marched with others holding signs reading "End Gay Oppression."

Opposition to the March, however, found its way to the nation's capitol. One anti-homosexual group held a prayer session in the office of Representative Larry McDonald (D-GA). The prayer group, led by anti-Gay crusader Jerry Falwell, declared October 14 a "national day of prayer for homosexuals." During the March, a lone counter-marcher stood holding a sign that read "Repent or Perish."

Praise for the March, its implications and the future of Gay politics were the themes of the post-March rally on the grounds of the Washington Monument. Speakers included San Francisco Supervisor Harry Britt, who replaced slain Supervisor Harvey Milk; Troy Perry, founder of the Metropolitan Community Church; Eleanor Smeal, president of the National Organization for Women; and Representative Ted Weiss (D-NY), a sponsor of House bill HR-2074 to amend the 1964 Civil Rights Act to include homosexuals. Entertainment included rock singer Tom Robinson and singers Meg Christian, Holly Near and Robin Tyler.

Marchers carried the cause of Gay rights to their Congresspeople on Monday. About thirty Tennesseans (the Tennessee delegation to the March numbered between 100 and 150) lobbied on Capitol Hill. Although no Senator or Representative was reached per-

sonally, the lobbyists did talk to top legislative aides of Senators Baker and Sasser and Representatives Ford and Beard. Ford's aide reported that Ford is aware and supportive of bill HR-2074 to amend the Civil Rights Act. Beard's aide responded to the presence of the lobbyists by saying "Well. . . I'm shocked." He also indicated homophobia in regard to Gay/Lesbian teachers. Indecisive opinions were expressed by aides to Baker and Sasser. Neither were aware of legislation concerning Gays (presently in Congressional committees).

The Memphis delegation to the March brought back a "spirit of political and social awareness about being Gay," according to Bill Johnson, a delegate from Memphis. Commenting on his personal realization of "just how oppressed Gay people really are," Bill recalled the words of a speaker at the post-March rally: "When a heterosexual

shows a friend a picture of his or her spouse, it is considered sharing. When a Gay person shows a picture of his or her lover, it is called flaunting."

The realization of double standards that lead to repression on an emotional level was emphasized by local marchers. From a practical standpoint, some, like Bill, think the most important aspect of the March for Memphians was "to make our legislators realize that Memphis has a large and politically influential Gay/Lesbian community." This awareness is considered by activists to be the cornerstone of the new Gay political movement of the 1980's.

The first National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights has fueled the political movement, and it has been speculated by March organizers that a second one will be held before the 1980 presidential election. ●

## Church Group Harasses Suburban Bookstore

Members of Raleigh's Broadmoor Baptist Church have removed *The Joy of Lesbian Sex* and *The Joy of Gay Sex* from the bookshelves of Waldenbooks at Raleigh Springs Mall. According to Waldenbooks Manager Cory Mesler, members of the church have been calling three or four times daily demanding that the books be removed.

Some of the church's members visited Waldenbooks during the past several weeks and harassed the store's employees, but Mr. Mesler had stated that he would not remove a book "just because someone asks" him to.

Broadmoor claims that it succeeded in having Goldsmith's at Raleigh Springs Mall take Gay-oriented books from the shelves of its book department. After complaining to Goldsmith's, Broadmoor says that the book department manager removed the books and said that he was "unaware" that the books were on the shelves. Goldsmith's, however, has refused to talk with GAZE about Broadmoor's claim.

Broadmoor Pastor Jack May, after talking with Mr. Mesler,

complained further to Mesler's employer and to the home office of Waldenbooks. May threatened in his conversations "to mobilize the community."

May's letter to Waldenbooks' President Harry Hoffman resulted in the removal of the books. Hoffman responded to May's letter with an apology and assurance that the books would be placed behind the counter. Hoffman then ordered Mr. Mesler to remove the books from public display.

Local activists have contacted Hoffman, protesting his action. Memphis Gay community leaders are urging Gays to write letters of protest to: Harry Hoffman, President, Waldenbooks 201 High Ridge Road, Stamford, CT 06904.

Members of Broadmoor Church had been boycotting the store and writing letters to the Connecticut home office of Waldenbooks. A spokesperson for the church reports that Broadmoor had contacted other churches in the Northeast Memphis area urging them to join in the protest.

(cont. on page 3)

## Here We Are!

As the decayed decade of the seventies slips away, we are proud to bring you the first issue of GAZE. Memphis' Gay community newspaper is published by and for the Memphis Gay/Lesbian community.

GAZE is supported entirely by advertising and private donations. Please remember us when you are looking for a charity; we believe it begins at home. (One dollar from each of our readers would keep us in print for four months.) If you would

like to advertise with us or send us a donation, please write to GAZE, P.O. Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38103.

We are YOUR newspaper. If you have articles, features, or news items for us, please write. If you know of an organization or business that would like to be listed in our "Gay Memphis" directory, please let us know. The listing is free. If you know of any special events you would like listed in our "Coming Up!" section, let us know. It is also free. ●

# Gazing

## Why Rock The Boat?

"Why rock the boat?" is the question often asked by non-activist Gays. Even those who have lost jobs or suffered police harassment because of sexual orientation often condemn political activism.

But the direction our society is taking is reason enough for Gay activism. Jerry Falwell, whose anti-Gay campaign surpasses even Anita Bryant's, raises \$1 million a week through direct mail and television appeals to finance his oppressive activities. His supporters reach to every corner of the U.S. in their attempts to rid society of "perverts."

Falwell is far from being alone in championing this abortive crusade.

Groups such as Christian Voice, Moral Majority, Religious Roundtable, and The National Christian Action Coalition are organizing vast numbers of conservative-thinking citizens in an effort to legislate against Gay people.

Christian Voice and other anti-homosexual mobilization groups are planning an April, 1980 anti-Gay demonstration in Washington. These groups are expecting to draw over a million demonstrators, and their expectations are not the least bit unreasonable. They have already raised millions of dollars in support of this demonstration.

Non-activist Gays blame these anti-Gay campaigns on Gay ac-

tivists' having already "rocked the boat." Oppressive hatred, however, grows and festers when left unopposed. We can no longer live under a sense of false contentment, for those who oppose our very existence (many of them actually advocate the death penalty for homosexuals) are quietly gathering arms.

We are not safe, inside the closet or out. Our oppressors have friends in local, state, and national government. Georgia's Representative Larry McDonald has introduced an anti-Gay bill in Congress.

The Hitler-like methods used by these "Christian" groupies are devious beyond imagination, and they can do us more harm than we dare anticipate. Before we accuse our brothers and sisters of "rocking the boat," let's take a closer look at our contentment; as far-fetched as it may sound, it is not unlike that of the Jews in pre-Nazi Germany. ●

## Tennessee Lobbies On Capitol Hill

On Monday, October 15, still filled with the spirit generated by Sunday's March, Tennesseans visited the offices of Representative Bill Bonner, who represents the Nashville area; Representative Robin Beard, whose district covers part of southern and most of East Memphis; Representative Harold Ford, whose district includes Memphis' center city; and Tennessee Senators Howard Baker and Jim Sasser.

It was apparent that most of Tennessee's legislators have little knowledge of their Gay constituency. Memphians who talked with the legislative aide to Robin Beard pointed out that there are two bills involving Gay rights presently in congressional committees (HR-2074 and the McDonald Resolution). Beard's aide was unaware of either of them.

Bonner's aide, however, was well-versed in political rhetoric, giving lobbyists the traditional "run-around." Nashville delegates expressed concern with Bonner's continual evasion of the issue.

Harold Ford's office, on the other hand, was more responsive to the needs of the Gay community. Ford supports equal rights for Lesbians and Gay men and strongly opposes the homophobic McDonald Resolution.

Senator Sasser's aide expressed views similar to those of Robin Beard's office. He was "unaware" of Gay rights legislation.

Thirty-one delegates spoke with Howard Baker's top aide, expressing their concern and need for positive communication between Congress and the Gay community. Those present at the meeting felt that Baker's aide would relay this matter to Senator Baker. ●

### Crisis Loans Provided For Shelby Women

The Women's Crisis Loan Service has been operating on a limited basis for almost two years. WCLS, with about \$2500 available for loans, has helped some 35 women in Shelby County. Many of the loans, which ranged from \$15 to \$700, were to unemployed women who could get no results from banks. Banks, according to a WCLS spokesperson, are concerned with guaranteed ability to repay rather than with immediate human need.

WCLS investigates economic attitudes and financial oppression of women as well as making crisis loans. Anyone wishing to help with WCLS or contribute financially, should call 382-3849 (or send contributions to 10561 Hwy. 64, Arlington, TN 38002). ●

## Gay Pride For Tennessee A Memphis Marcher's Viewpoint

Most of us were unacquainted as the "Tennessee" bus rolled out of Nashville on Friday night, October 12. Introductions, though, were made quickly; within minutes most of us were clustered around the bar or standing in the aisle (yes, the bus was equipped with a bar).

"Evelyn Louise" and "Dolly" were self-appointed "stewardesses" for the trip, serving drinks (or whatever), comforting the lonely, and giving directions to the powder room. The sixteen-hour bus ride was definitely festive; few of us managed to get much sleep.

As the bus neared Washington, we felt a great sense of expectation. Literature about the March was distributed, and we saw crowds of our brothers and sisters on the streets. We arrived at our hotel, the Capitol Hilton, near noon on Saturday, finding delegations from Kentucky, Oklahoma, and Massachusetts also staying there.

The atmosphere in the hotel was "conventioner"; we were proudly yet matter-of-factly wearing our Lambda and March buttons openly. Glances, smiles of "recognition" of mutual purpose and presence were noted and acknowledged. We felt open and free. For many, it was the most "out" we had ever been, and it was exhilarating.

Sunday, October 14, dawned cool and cloudy. As we gathered on the Mall, despite the clouds, the real spirit of the March surfaced. We were together, feeling proud to be marching, and we were proud to be representing Tennessee. Our banner, made from two bedsheets sewn together, had bold black lettering: "TENNESSEE!"

As we took our place in the March lineup, we found women from East Tennessee (ETALA) and members of the Greater Greenville Gay Community to enlarge our state's delegation. Together we cheered delegations from other states and observed signs for Gay rights, Gay pride, Parents of Gays, and Gay professional organizations.

An especially gratifying event was the visit to our group by Harry Britt, San Francisco Supervisor who replaced Harvey Milk. Mr. Britt personally thanked the Tennessee delegation for helping to save the March (a last minute donation from our state Coalition had paid for the speaker system).

As the March began we chanted such quips as "Two, four, six, eight, how do you know your kid is straight?" and repeatedly cheered Tennessee and its cities. Two miles later and hoarse from yelling, we reached the rally site on the grounds of the Washington Monument.

Once settled in our spot on the

Monument grounds, we planted our state banner and listened to speakers exhorting us to be proud. They spoke of past injustice and discrimination and of present progress, threats and political developments. They spoke of future commitments and responsibilities. We heard disco music, folk singing, and satire. We heard representatives from national organizations, entertainers, politicians, activists, and others.

The following day saw us lobbying in the offices of Senators Baker and Sasser and Congressmen who represent our respective districts. By early Monday afternoon, we were once again on the bus.

Various delegation "leaders" made speeches from the front of the bus about the meaning of the March. As we headed home, we were reminded that we must take the spirit of this march back to Tennessee with us. In this year, the tenth anniversary of Stonewall, we must begin the fight against the oppression that we have too long endured. By nightfall, we were singing folk and spiritual songs in unison.

And we all knew that this would not be our last Gay rights march. ●

### S.E. Lesbians Birth Newsletter

The Southeastern Lesbian Network will begin publication of a newsletter in early January. December 15 is the deadline for article contributions for the January issue. Those wishing to support the newsletter by writing, reading, addressing, or contributing financially, should contact SELN, P.O. Box 41132, Memphis, TN 38104, or call 382-3849.

SELN is also in need of a meeting place for a Southeastern Network meeting early in 1980. Anyone having access to a facility may contact SELN. ●

GAZE solicits articles and features. Unsolicited material will not be returned, and by-lines will be used only by request. Advertising appearing in this publication does not indicate the advertiser's sexual orientation. GAZE is non-profit and supported entirely by advertising and private donations. We reserve the right to edit or reject all materials submitted for publication. For advertising information, donations, letters, article/feature contributions write: GAZE, P.O. Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38103. Information for some articles appearing in GAZE provided by the National Gay Task Force.

# Student Coalition Wins Austin Peay Case

U.S. District Court Judge Thomas Wiseman passed down a decision on October 11, forcing Austin Peay State University to recognize the Student Coalition for Gay Rights (SCGR) on the Clarksville, TN campus. The university's initial refusal to grant recognition to the SCGR prompted the lawsuit.

The university's refusal was based on the opinions of Charles Boehms, APSU Vice-President for Student Affairs. Boehms stated the following reasons: 1) recognition would give credibility to homosexual behavior and tend to expand violations of state law prohibiting homosexual behavior; 2) recognition may lead to increased personal and psychological stress for persons who may be troubled about their sexual identity; 3) recognition would not be consistent with the educational goals of

the University; and 4) concern for how the community outside the University might react if the SCGR were recognized.

Boehm's decision was appealed by SCGR President Richard Lewis. APSU President Robert Riggs upheld Boehm's decision, saying, "It is my judgement that the Student Coalition for Gay Rights implicitly endorses homosexuality. Sexual activity with another of the same sex is unlawful in the State of Tennessee; moreover, such activity is contrary to the Judeo-Christian ethic which undergirds our community, our state, and our nation..."

After appealing Riggs' decision to Chancellor Roy Nicks, who further upheld the decision, the SCGR went to court. The court awarded recognition to the SCGR, saying, "What the University *thinks* about

the *advocacy* of homosexuality as an acceptable lifestyle, what the community or the Legislature might *think* about the University's action in this regard, . . . cannot serve as a justification for the abridgement of that advocacy. Above all else, the First Amendment means that government has no power to restrict expression because of message, its ideas, its subject matter or its contents.

"Neither is it a legitimate concern of the defendants that to permit

organizational advocacy of homosexuality would somehow increase the incidence of homosexuality."

The court's decision set a statewide legal precedence, making it unlawful for any state university in Tennessee, including Memphis State, to refuse recognition to the SCGR on the same grounds as APSU. The SCGR-APSU case is considered a landmark decision for the Gay rights movement in the state. ●

## Harasses (cont. from page 1)

The books were called "how-to books on homosexuality" by Pastor May's secretary. When asked why the church considers the books objectionable, May's secretary said that the books are "pornographic," they "serve no purpose," and they are "offensive to most people." She went on to say that the books are

"very nauseating" and contain "dirty pictures."

When asked about heterosexual sex-oriented books appearing on Waldenbooks' shelves, the secretary said that the "only complaints" were about Gay-oriented literature. She chuckled when noting that the books had appeared in the bookstore's "Medical" section. ●

## Across The State . . .

### Nashville To Host Conference

The fifth annual Southeastern Conference for Lesbians and Gay Men will be held in Nashville. Still in the planning stages, the conference is tentatively scheduled for April 11-13 on the Tennessee State University campus. Previously held alternately in Atlanta and Chapel Hill, the conference will be held in Tennessee next year because the state has passed the Equal Rights Amendment and has a comprehensive network of statewide "host" organizations (the Tennessee Gay Coalition for Human Rights).

### ETALA Covers East Tennessee

Born August 31, 1979, the East Tennessee Alliance of Lesbian Activists (ETALA) is committed to building a network of communication among Lesbians in East Tennessee. ETALA is an "umbrella" organization made up of smaller discussion, activity, or task-oriented groups.

Members of ETALA marched under their own banner with the Tennessee delegation to the first National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights in October in an attempt to show strength and unity of East Tennessee's Lesbian activists.

### TGCHR Unifies

Delegates from each of the four chapters of the Tennessee Gay Coalition for Human Rights met in Nashville on October 27 to form a cohesive statewide organization. Representatives from the Clarksville, Knoxville, Memphis, and Nashville chapters decided that three delegates from each chapter would comprise a steering committee to plan agenda for statewide TGCHR meetings.

The steering committee plans to meet quarterly in Nashville preceding statewide general meetings in alternating Tennessee cities. The steering committee's meetings are open to all TGCHR members.

### Pride Goes To Press In Knoxville

Knoxville's Gay newspaper, *Pride Press*, began publication in July. The newspaper features items of interest to the Knoxville and East Tennessee area as well as features of statewide and national interest. *Pride Press* is gearing toward becoming a statewide publication and solicits subscriptions from across Tennessee. For subscription information, write: *Pride Press*, P.O. Box 8279, UT Station, Knoxville, TN 37916.

## Gay Memphis

- CLUB PEACHES, bar, 112 Jackson, 529-8166
- FRONT PAGE, bar, 267 S. Cleveland, 726-9813
- GAY MEN'S SUPPORT GROUP, c/o TGCHR, P.O. Box 3038, Memphis 38103
- GAZE, newspaper, P.O. Box 3038, Memphis 38103
- GEORGE'S, bar, clothing and toy stores, game room, and movies, 600 Marshall, 526-1038
- JOHNNIE'S, bar, 92 N. Avalon, 725-0119
- MARSHALL AVE. EMPORIUM, available for private parties only, 526-1038
- MEMPHIS GAY ACTIVISTS, 1738 Moriyé Pl. 2, Memphis 38111, 744-4453
- MEMPHIS GAY SPEAKERS BUREAU, P.O. Box 3038, Memphis 38103
- MEMPHIS GAY SWITCHBOARD, P.O. Box 3038, Memphis 38103 726-GAYY
- MEMPHIS STATE UNIVERSITY GAY AWARENESS GROUP, Call 726-4299
- METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF MEMPHIS, 2035 Central, 358-5433
- PHASE III, bar, 257 S. Cleveland, 726-9813
- PSYCH-OUT, bar, 76 N. Cleveland, 725-9842
- SHARON'S, bar, 1474 Madison, 278-9021
- SOUTHEASTERN LESBIAN CONFERENCE NETWORK, P.O. Box 41132, Memphis 38104 382-3849
- TENNESSEE GAY COALITION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, P.O. Box 3038, Memphis 38103
- TOWNHOUSE, bar, 603 Monroe, 523-9912
- WOMEN'S CRISIS LOAN SERVICE, 10561 Hwy. 64, Arlington, TN 38002, 382-3849

## Coming Up!

- GEORGE'S—New Year's Eve Gala Bust: Free canned and draft beer, set-ups and food with tickets. Purchase tickets in advance at George's, 600 Marshall.
- THE PSYCH-OUT—Annual New Year's Eve Beer Bust Party. The Psych-Out, 76 N. Cleveland.
- TENNESSEE GAY COALITION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS—Meeting January 7, 7:30 p.m., Main Library Meeting Room B, Peabody at McLean.

## Don't Throw Us Away!

When you've read **GAZE**, pass it on to a friend. Then send us your comments and letters: **GAZE**, P.O. Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38103.

## Classifieds

Rates for classified are 20¢/word, \$3.00 minimum. Phone numbers count 2 words, zip codes free. No discounts for multiple insertions. No ads will be accepted which contain explicit sexual references. Payment must accompany ads.

THE TN COALITION for Human Rights solicits interest in forming the following organizations: Gay Teachers; Parents and Friends of Gays; Women's Support Group; Married Gays Support Group. TGCHR, P.O. Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38103.

MEMPHIS GAY SWITCHBOARD needs volunteers to work phone 2 to 4 nights per mo. Call 726-GAYY.

MEMPHIS GAY SPEAKERS Bureau has speakers for your group, classroom, organization. Write MGSB, P.O. Box 3038, Memphis, TN, 38103.

WANTED: Gay/Lesbian doctors, lawyers, clergy, others for confid. interviews for series on Gay/Lesbian professionals. Anonymity assured. **GAZE** P.O. Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38103.

LANDSCAPE PAINTING from photos, reasonable rates. Bill Johnson, 744-4453.

ROOMMATE WANTED: G W M, 25-35, Mature, Neat to share 2 bedroom, 2 bath apt., Medical Center Area. Call Bruce 525-4332.

DIGNITY: a national organization of GAY Catholics. Let's form a Memphis chapter. Write: P.O. Box 12856, Memphis, TN 38112.

NEED ARTWORK? Top Graphic designer/illustrator, looking for free-lance. After 5 call: 725-4277.

WOULD LIKE TO get acquainted with others who practice drag, and responsible persons of both sexes attracted to us. Teresa. Call (901) 323-0830 or write Tom Hart, Box 11263, Memphis, TN 38111.

FURNITURE: For sale: chairs, tables, lamps, antique secretary, accessories. Call 327-5776.

PERSONS INTERESTED in gay music or forming gay musical group please call Charlie at 276-7649.

BEST WISHES to **GAZE** and to Tennessee Gay Coalition for Human Rights!! Scott.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS: Curtis, Clive, Bob, and Mark. A friend.

LESBIAN/GAY MEN Coffeehouse. Anyone interested in performing or work in organizing call Randy Esslinger 743-5501.

# Area Legislators Differ On Gay Rights Bills

Congress has before it proposed legislation to protect the civil rights of Lesbians and Gay men everywhere in the U.S. Bill HR-2074 was introduced by Reps. Ted Weiss (D-NY) and Henry Waxman (D-CA). HR-2074 would amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by adding the words "affectional or sexual orientation" to the lists of prohibited grounds for discrimination in the areas of employment, housing, public accommodations and federal assistance. It has been jointly referred to the Judiciary Committee and the Education and Labor Committee of the House.

The Tennessee Gay Coalition for Human Rights (TGCHR) urges all Gays and Friends of Gays to write to their congresspeople in support of HR-2074. Letters, TGCHR says, should include opposition to House Concurrent Resolution 166 (the McDonald Bill), a measure that would impose second-class citizenship upon Lesbians and Gay men ("...consensual sodomy and other homosexual acts should never be accepted as legitimate in this Republic, nor should the class of individuals who advocate such

conduct gain special consideration or protected status under law").

Letters were written in mid-October by the TGCHR to Reps. Harold Ford, Ed Jones, and Robin Beard and Tennessee Senators Howard Baker and Jim Sasser. These letters and similar ones by the Memphis Gay Activists (MGA) asked for position statements on the two bills.

Neither Rep. Jones nor Sen. Baker have responded to either organization. Sen. Sasser, however, has responded "Should this matter be considered by the full Senate, your position will be remembered."

Rep. Harold Ford responded by saying "I am supportive of your cause and of equal and fair treatment under the law for every citizen." Ford supports HR-2074. He says, too, that in light of his beliefs he could "never back a measure such as H.Con.Res. 166. The McDonald Resolution would express the sense of the Congress that homosexual acts or class individuals that advocates such conduct will never receive...protection under the law."

Rep. Robin Beard, however, does not "consider homosexuality an

alternative life-style." Beard says, "For this reason, I will not favor HR-2074." Beard further says that he does not believe that homosexuals are a "legitimate minority group," and that he does not believe that homosexuals have been discriminated against in this country.

## Christian Cause "Polls" For Dollars

A recent mailing by American Christian Cause (Pasadena, California) seeks financial contributions to combat "militant homosexuals," who are, the group says, "being recruited as law enforcement officers."

The leader of the fundamentalist group, Rev. Robert G. Grant, includes an "Emergency Poll" in his letter asking questions such as "Do you approve of your children being dealt with by practicing homosexual juvenile officers?" and "Do you approve of homosexual officers stopping and searching men and boys arrested on misdemeanor charges?"

Also included in the mailer are quotes from noted anti-Gay entertainers Art Linkletter, Pat Boone, and Lawrence Welk and from former Los Angeles Police Chief Ed Davis and Utah Senator Orrin Hatch.

The letter asks for a "gift of \$25— or even just \$10," and ends with "Do you put this letter aside without looking at your child or grandchild and thinking what will happen to them if militant homosexuals will get their way."

## TGCHR Launches Awareness Campaign

The Memphis Chapter of the Tennessee Gay Coalition for Human Rights (TGCHR) has launched a Gay Patronage Awareness Program to promote awareness within the Memphis business community of Gay/Lesbian economic clout. TGCHR members and other interested persons are utilizing restaurant and hotel "comment cards" by adding the message: "You have been patronized by a Lesbian/Gay person."

Out-of-the-closet Gays are verbalizing the message to store owners and managers while the cash register rings its message. Others are writing the message on restaurant checks.

Responses from business owners reportedly vary, but most Gays are finding that dollars speak louder than homophobia.

## Best Wishes To GAzE From:

George's

Warehouse 28  
Nashville

Memphis Gay Activists

Sharon's

The Psych-Out  
Johnnie's