GAzE®

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News Of Interest To
The Lesbian/Gay Community

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Zeh Faced With Criminal Obscenity Charges

"Gaydreams" Announcer Arraigned In Cincinnati

CINCINNATI (IGNA) *Gay Community News*–The owners of a radio station and one of its announcers who broadcast a program for Gays were arraigned on February 20 on charges of disseminating material harmful to juveniles.

Announcer John Zeh was released following the arraignment in Common Pleas Court. No pleas were entered and no trial date was set.

Zeh and the owners of the station WAIF-FM were indicted because a suburban Cincinnati couple complained to Hamilton County prosecutors about Zeh's "Gaydreams" show for Gays.

The Joseph Platt's, who have four children, objected to a particular 90-minute program in which sexual lubricants and items were discussed.

Platt said that his children taped the program. He is charging that such programs should not be available for children to hear.

Attorney Jim Feldman did not enter a plea of any sort, he said, "so as not to imply we believe that there's a crime he has been charged with." He added that he will file a motion to quash the indictment. He mentioned an earlier Cincinnati case involving similar charges. The appeals court decided that a specialty store that displayed suggestive shirts in its window did not specifically present them for juveniles.

Attorneys for the non-profit station also entered no plea on the ground that the court lacks jurisdiction in the case.

The ACLU has agreed to help defend the radio station, which is geared to specialty programming, from ethnic music to Zeh's show for Gays.

The Gay Coalition of Greater Cincinnati sponsored a rally "in defense of the first amendment" in Fountain Square February 22. Over 200 people gathered for the rally. Margie Robertson of the American Civil Liberties Union told the supporters that the indictments of Zeh and WAIF's owners represented "a terrorist attack on the media by an agency of the state which would control what we would hear."

Michael Glover, writing in *Gay Community News*, noted the danger of possible self-censorship. "Even the most clearly focused broascaster," Glover said, "now has to include in the baggage of deciding how queer she or he is to be the heavy addition of the possibility of an obscenity charge."

The controversy stems from a 7-minute segment of the "Gaydreams" broadcast in which Zeh discussed what he called a humorous consumer guide to sexual lubricants. The results of that segment were Zeh's loss of his job as editor of a local community newspaper, his eviction from his apartment, and his facing criminal obscenity charges–the penalties of which are up to 20 years in prison and a $10,000 fine.

Hamilton County prosecutor, Simon L. Leis, Jr., has successfully argued "obscenity" cases in Cincinnati in the past. *Hustler* no longer appears on the newsstands in the county as a result of Leis' arrest of publisher Larry Flint. Assistant prosecutor James Applegate was an acting prosecutor in the Leonard Matlovich case several years ago.

Zeh's attorney, Jim Feldman, said, "Simon Leis is well-known for his anti-Gay, anti-Lesbian homophobic feelings. The man is very uptight over anything to do with sex."

Zeh broadcasts before and during each broadcast of "Gaydreams," a disclaimer warning listeners of the content.

"The one thing I think is particularly outrageous about this whole statute," says Feldman, is that if it applies to this case, then it applies to "pretty much whatever the prosecutor thinks is wrong for children to see," which means that "none of the rest of use can see it either."

Zeh's "Gaydreams" is similar to WEVL's "Gay Alternative" in Memphis.

Media Blitz Draws Fire From Religious, Political Groups

By Regina Russell

SAN FRANCISCO--The recently announced media blitz planned by a coalition of fundamentalist groups against San Francisco's Gay community has drawn fire from numerous organizations and stimulated the formation of counter groups. The San Francisco Conference on Religion, Race and Social Concerns, a coalition of Jewish, Protestant and Catholic leaders, has expressed outrage at the fundamentalists' $3 million campaign to "clean up the Sodom and Gomorrah of the nation."

The Conference on Religion issued a statement "deploring the use of statements advocating violence and statements which endanger the civil liberties of any person in our society." The statement was adopted unanimously on February 23, stating, "We deplore taking God's name in vain as a means to give license to any form of violence or infringement of any individual's civil rights. We deplore any attempt to use our common heritage to divide our society by race, age, creed, color or life style."

A similar statement was issued by the Northern California Ecumenical Council, also addressing numerous other issues targeted by the Moral Majority and other New Right groups. The San Francisco Council of Churches issued a statement against the anti-Gay fundamentalist campaign in late February.

A group of Gay Republicans has launched a new civil rights group called "Cornerstone." (IGNA) "There's no place in the American dream for the nightmare of bigotry and hatred," said Cornerstone founder Duke Armstrong.

Armstrong, a lawyer who is president of Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights, said that Cornerstone will ask Republicans in other cities to support the new Gay/straight coalition, which will stress the need to pay attention to the Bill of Rights.

Cornerstone is a direct response to the plan announced by the Rev. Richard Zone, an Assembly of God pastor in Seaside, CA, who wishes to repeal Gay rights legislation, to buy advertisements to build anti-Gay sentiment in San Francisco and attempt to persuade Gays to "give up their life style."

Dean Wycoff, spokesperson for the Santa Clara Moral Majority, said, "I agree with capital punishment, and I believe homosexuality is one of those that could be coupled with murder and other sins." Wycoff called San Francisco "the Sodom and Gomorrah of the United States and the armpit of this perverted movement."

The Rev. Charles McIlhenny appeared in a recent television documentary on the Moral Majority and said that in a truly biblical state homosexuals would be stoned to death.

Leonard Matlovich contributed $3,000 of what he termed "seed money" to Cornerstone and said that he will begin traveling the United States to seek financial support.

Waving a $3,000 check and his GOP voter registration card, Matlovich said the money came from the $160,000 settlement he reached with the United State Air Force last November, when he dropped his claim to be reinstated.

"The Air Force is helping us fight for Gay rights," Matlovich said.

No Malice Intended, Jordan Says

By Bill Johnson

MEMPHIS--The characterization of "Bruce Puce" by disc jockey Ron Jordan on radio station WLVS has been under attack in recent weeks by Gays who feel that the impersonation portrays negative and false stereotypes about Gays. Following protests by members of the Memphis Gay Coalition and other persons in January, Jordan fabricated a story that *GAzE* had caused to be issued a court injunction or temporary restraining order preventing him from doing his "Bruce Puce" characterization on the air.

Jordan claims that the characterization represents "no malice at all." He says that he is not trying "to insult anyone's integrity and that it is only harmful if you get specific or slanderous with someone."

Jordan told *GAzE* that he won't confirm that "Bruce Puce" is Gay. "He's really more of a cartoon character," Jordan said. "If you drag stereotypes out in the open, it makes them meaningless--by bringing it out into the open."

Jordan admitted that the characterization, which was established a year ago at station FM-100, was "derogatory." This is no longer the case, Jordan says. After leaving FM-100 and Memphis, Jordan took the characterization to a station in Boston for 6 months. After Gays in Boston complained, Jordan took it off the air for "a while" and then continued with it. "Bruce is poking fun ... he's not an Anita Bryant ... I'm no more anti-Gay than I'm anti-anybody," said Jordan.

"He (Bruce) is kind of like my conscience...I've mellowed out over the years. The early Bruce Puce was a mistake. Some of the early stuff was a mistake. Just listen to the way he sounds now." Jordan claims that the character is "presenting quite a wholesome image. He is very conservative politically. I'm very protective of him...he's extremely popular with females and kids."

Jordan said that he would be "a liar" if he didn't say he "heated things up a bit. We don't want to do anything that's detrimental to anybody." Jordan noted that he is not anti-Gay and doesn't support anyone who is. "I resented being portrayed in your paper as an Anita Bryant. It's not fair for me to bear the penalty of being associated with vicious anti-Gay people."

Jordan acknowledged that he had originally portrayed the character in association with anti-Gay jokes and admitted that it had been "a mistake."

Station Manager of WLVS Chris Butterick responded to a letter from *GAzE* that he would "defend the rights of Ron Jordan to state and express his views on any

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GAZING

By Bill Johnson

A Respectable, Acceptable Approach To Gay Rights

I believe--very strongly--that we as Gay people must continue to affirm our identity as Gay people, but mainstream though we may wish to be (and, afterall, isn't that what the ultimate goal of the Gay rights movement is all about?), we will never accomplish anything by curtailing the methods in which we as individuals seek to achieve that goal.

We have no more right to "throw our Gayness" up in people's faces than the Moral Majority has to express their views. The Moral Majority has every right to express their views. The difference comes in their attempting to create legislation to curtail our rights to express our views, which when you get to the heart of the matter, have nothing whatsoever with our being Gay. Those views are the result of how a society basically ignorant of the subject chooses to express its views about homosexuality.

What do we, as individuals, have the right to do in this country? By the principles of "American freedom," we have the right to do as we please so long as our actions do not infringe upon the rights of other individuals. And here is where the zipper hits the snag.

Exactly what are our *rights?* Exactly at what point do we infringe upon the *rights* of others?

It seems that certain individuals and groups in our society have decided that doing these things which they consider "offensive" to them or "unacceptable" to society define the phrase "infringing rights." No where in the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, or any other of those supreme documents upon which our heritage is supposedly based does the phrase "that which is offensive to most people" appear in conjunction with rights or freedoms.

Who gave *them* the right "not to be offended?" It certainly isn't because they are--or appear to be--the majority of society. That isn't what America is all about.

Because Gay people are a minority in society, are we to accept those values thrust upon us by those who would seek to wipe us out of the human experience?

Frequently, we find the need to "act straight" and thereby protect the "right" of straight people in our company "not to be offended." Why? Is it because we are simply a minority? Is it because it would be perfectly rude of us to "offend" them?

Is it because we are constantly reminded that we are "offensive?" Is it because we are constantly told that we had better not "flaunt" ourselves and contaminate the children? Is it because we think we would contribute to the "bad image" that Gays have in the general society?

If we can answer "yes" to any of those questions, we have a far bumpier road to travel than simply the acquisition of our basic human rights. If we can answer "yes" to a single one of those questions, then we have a low opinion of ourselves indeed. We would, by answering "yes" to those questions, affirm our heterosexist society's condemnation of homosexuals. We would agree with it. We would accept it. We would condemn what we are and affirm that "how we act" is "offensive" by our society's definitions and by our own.

Why is it important that we continually remind those straights among us that we are Gay? Why is it important that we make an issue of our homosexuality rather than quietly going about our merry way?

The single most important reason is that younger Gays growing up and still thinking they are totally alone in the world are suffering from our society's refusal to acknowledge the existence of Gay people. "Just don't throw it up in my face," is too common. And one of the most frequent responses from parents upon being told by a child that she or he is Gay is, "I already knew it but I wish you hadn't told me."

Because they don't want to acknowledge it or talk about it or see it or accept it, we should make it all the more evident that we are going to talk about it. Most--or apparently most--heterosexuals have a problem with homosexuality. How long will we take the blame for *their* problem? I don't have a problem with it. I certainly would not want to refuse to comply with the wishes of others in not talking about things that offend them, but homosexuality is not a "thing." It is a part of my being. We need to help them to get over their problem rather than contributing to their ignorance about it.

How long must we contain ourselves and our desire for expression because we live in a society that has placed negative definitions on us?

We show *no* respect to heterosexuals by "respecting" their wishes not to acknowledge us. What we show them, remarkably, is that we accept the shame that they have decided should be ours. If "flaunting" gives us "a bad name," not "flaunting" when we feel like it gives us a worse one. What's worse than reinforcing our "shame," is that we begin to accept our "shame" and begin to believe that our Gayness is truly something we should hide and be ashamed of. Oh, surely we are proud of ourselves. But we heartily refuse to say that we are proud of our Gayness. If we are not proud of it, then there is a part of ourselves of which we are not proud.

If we are openly Gay (if we cannot admit that it would be wonderful if we were and could be openly Gay, then we have accepted the guilt and shame that heterosexists demand of us) in the company of "straight society," we remind them that we aren't really like they are. What this says is that we are ashamed of our Gayness, ashamed of our "campiness," or ashamed of whatever you want to call it.

Certainly we can justify our closetedness by the attitudes that exist in a society that denies any sexuality other than that which results in the formation of a fetus.

We recognize that our society isn't prepared to deal with our Gayness. We are really a very considerate people not to want to literally devastate our straight sisters and brothers with a deluge of "hell Marys" and "leaping Lesbians." We wouldn't want to offend them, would we?

How many times have I seen a man on TV discussing homosexuality and Gay rights and said to myself, "Why is he so 'effeminate' and so stereotypical?" How many times have I seen the same of a woman who was so "masculine" and so stereotypical?

Oh, shame, shame, shame. I am so ashamed that I would ever pass such judgments on people and be so condemning of others. I am so ashamed that I would be so ingrained with society's "respectable-acceptable" syndrome that I would think that we should be "represented" by nice, "straight-appearing" and "normal-looking" people.

I once looked upon a group of Gays marching down a street in Washington, D.C., and thought to myself, "Why must those people make such an issue of this? Why must they throw it up in people's faces? Why must they antagonize people by flaunting something that society doesn't like?"

I had answered my own questions. Society doesn't like it because they don't understand it. The word "homophobia" is a perfect characterization of the problem; it means "fear of homosexuality." Society fears the unknown, and they don't want to know the unknown. That really isn't so difficult to understand.

For this reason there are those among us who will force society to learn about us, to see us, and to be offended by us. It may sound crude and certainly rude and socially "unacceptable," but it is the only thing that has moved us ahead.

Before I am completely misunderstood by those who still see today's Gay activists as troublemakers, let me point a finger at all of us. In some way, however small and however we have camouflaged it, each of us has hung out our shingle. Each of us, whether we recognize it or not, has proclaimed that we will not suffer total condemnation. If this were not true, you would not be reading this. Wherever you picked up your copy of *GAzE*, you are now participating in a specifically Gay aspect of our culture. If you have ever been to a Gay bar, belong to a Gay club or organization, told someone that you were Gay, dressed in drag (transsexuals excluded), eaten at a Gay restaurant, read a Gay book, been to a Gay movie, loved a member of your own sex, or lied to your coworkers about the sex of the person you went out with last night, you have participated in a specifically Gay aspect of our culture. You hung out your shingle when you admitted to yourself that your romantic interests were for members of your own sex.

Memphis will have its first Gay Pride March in June of this year. Most of us will not be there. Most of us cannot afford to be there. But let us make sure that we don't blame ourselves or blame those who do march for "troublemaking" when the real problem lies not with us, but with those in society who defined "acceptable" and "respectable." No person can honestly deny that marching in support of Gay rights and Gay Pride is right wihtout admitting the acceptance of society's homophobia. Gay Pride is the refusal to accept that we are to be ashamed of ourselves simply because we are Gay. Gay Pride is saying that we do not accept society's definitions of us.

Let us be honest with ourselves. We may not be marchers and we may not be outfront activists, but neither are we straight. Isn't it time we stopped using straight homophobia against each other?

Isn't it time we stopped blaming our Gay brothers and sisters for that which is the fault of heterosexists in society?

When we say "I am Gay," we commit a transgression against our society. We blatantly state that which we are told to keep hidden in shame. But by saying it--without shame--we show rejection of their respectability. We say, "I respect and accept myself." However we choose to say it, let us remember not to use heterosexist definitions against those of us who say it differently.

Activism may cause the road to be a little harder to travel at times and may take us on some wrong turns. But, tough though the journey may be, isn't it better than sitting by the side of the road?

Right To Privacy Outweighs Arbitrary Morality

By Ric Sullivan

It's not every day that a straight sex party makes a Gay newspaper.

Some weeks ago (early February) more than a dozen men and women, all presumably self-confessed heterosexuals, were arrested during a police raid engineered by the city prosecutor in a "swinging singles club." Several were charged with prostitution (interpreted in its broadcast sense to mean any lascivious sexual behavior), while others were arrested as "material witnesses." Photos were taken for evidence, including one of a man found alone in the bathroom at raid time.

Many of those arrested were with husband/wife or boyfriend/girlfriend.

As a rule, arrests of heteros don't attract my attention. But these weren't ordinary arrests. Nor did those arrested receive ordinary treatment in the local hetero press.

I have personally heard discussion of this event among both Gays and non-Gays. I've been told that as Gays we can't afford to associate ourselves with pornography, prostitution, and other vices (since when do heteros have the corner on these institutions?) Lord knows, we're always lumped with the dregs of society as it is. Let's not put ourselves there by showing concern for those arrested!

I've been told we should be happy that this time it was *them* and not us who got busted and zapped by the cops. Lord knows, we've had our share of bad deals at the hands of the cops while many if not most straights did nothing. Now it's *their* turn to face humiliation and other consequences that come with daring to be different.

Part of me wants to cry out "Now *you* know what it's like to be hounded, ridiculed by society, threatened by employers for doing what comes natural--having sex. We have no right to privacy and now neither do *you*."

But another part of me seized immediately on the basic issues involved. Shelving my sanctimonious gloating, I could only think "They've done it to us for years. Now they're doing it to their own kind. Who's next?"

Before we turn our backs on those straights being oppressed by that capricious, arbitrary system of morality and justice we know all too well, let's be sure we know just who the "them" are and just who the "us" are. The same non-thought patterns that want to drive the straight sex clubs out of Memphis also remind us that the Old Testament prescribes death for homosexuals. The same non-thought patterns that printed where many of those arrested are (or were) employed in a local newspaper catering to heterosexuals remind us regularly, through headlines that scream, that homosexuals murder and homosexuals molest and homosexuals thrive.

Those of us who feel a sense of justice for ourselves in the arrests at that house on Summer Avenue, or feel that we devalue ourselves by showing concern for those arrested, can't see the disease for the symptoms.

I submit that the issue of right to privacy far outweighs any arbitrary moral judgments that we make. Some of what happened (or did not happen) at that house on Summer Avenue occurs nightly at Gay baths throughout the country. Some of what happened (or did not happen) occurs nightly at private homes throughout the country.

If the police had the right--nay, *duty*--to close that club, then they have the right and duty to close our bars and our bedrooms.

When that happens, all the moralizing in the world won't help us. Ask a 1940-vintage German Gay.

COUNTERPOINT

By Clifton St. John

Concern For The Poor?

In a recent *Commercial Appeal* article entitled, "An Answer/Christian Right Does Have Strategy," E.E. McAteer criticizes federal agency efforts in dealing with poverty by calling them "misdirected." Referring to the "Christian" Right by comparison, McAteer says: "It is our concern for the poor that makes us want to bring an end to the folly of patronizing and self-serving politicians.... It is our concern for the poor that forces us to rely on biblical principles...to put an end to inflation....It is our concern for the poor that causes us to...deal with human suffering, offering spiritual as well as material support...."

Are you sure, Mr. McAteer, that the "Christian" Right's efforts aren't equally misdirected? Where was your "concern for the poor" when the "Christian" Right was spending millions to defeat Jimmy Carter? Where was your "concern for the poor" in spending millions to promote Ronald Reagan? And, now, Mr. McAteer, where is the "concern for the poor" in spending $3 million on a media blitz against San Francisco Gays? How can such a negative campaign help end the folly of politicians, put an end to inflation, and deal with the human suffering of the poor?

Neither $3 million nor $33 million will cause Gays to disappear; nor will the media re-distribute those millions to the poor! Your "Christian" Right's "concern for the poor" is lip service, Mr. McAteer, mere lip service--motivated by political ambition rather than social benevolence.

E.E. McAteer is president of the Roundtable, *another* "Christian" Right organization.

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We now have positive proof that Charles Britt, alleged reverend, is *not* God. On Wednesday, February 18, 1981, Charles Britt confessed to Chip Bramlett on WWEE radio that he, Charles Britt, self-confessed heterosexual, is as capable of committing *any* sin as any other sinner is capable of, given the circumstances of that sin. Well-l-l...! Since God is incapable of sin, She couldn't possibly be Charles Britt!

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I saw him walking in the park again today, and again I thought, "What a proud act; what a brave thing to do." Just a few weeks ago he had been walking in that same park when he was approached and entrapped by plainclothes policemen. The entire experience was intimidating and embarrassing; it could have long-term ill effects. But, thanks to a positive attitude and moral support from his friends, his life is returning to its normal patterns. Congratulations, young man. And thanks for reminding us that we have the right to be ourselves; we have the right to use the public parks; we have the right to legal recourse. ILLEGITIMUS NON CARBORUNDUM! (Don't let the bastards grind you down).

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The headline read: "30 Persons Nabbed In Police Raid at Summer's Swinging Social Club." It would seem that the oppressive "Christian" Right scored again, since the *Commercial Appeal* reported that E. Winslow Chapman and Hugh Stanton, Jr. "were recently subjected to heated criticism from conservative religious groups."

But, it is to the "30 Persons Nabbed..." that I direct my concern; your rights are being violated. You are being oppressed. How does it feel? Can you now recall that we have been warned by freedom-fighters throughout our history that, if we permit the violation of the rights of *anyone*, we invite violation of the rights of *all?*

Would you like to join us, now, in the fight for personal freedom in this "un-free" world? Or would you rather tuck your tail, lick your wounds and let the victory go to the oppressive and politicially motivated "Christian" Right?

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In Fallbrook, California recently the National Association for the Advancement of Colored Peoples booted out a Ku Klux Klansman a month after he received his NAACP membership card in the mail. "Certain philosophies aren't accepted--Communists, Nazis,--" said Joseph Grimmett, NAACP vice president of the Los Angeles chapter. In contrast: a national klan leader told a local reporter recently that Ku Klux Klan members are scattered throughout Memphis and Shelby County Governments, but administrative pressure compels them to maintain a low profile.

Looks as if the NAACP recognizes *its* enemies!

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AMP, or Adenosine Monophosphate, a drug long used to ease joint inflamation and skin itch, is now believed to be a likely cure for herpes virus. The drug usually vanquishes the virus, be it in the mouth as herpes #1, or in the genital area as herpes #2. AMP is also effective against shingles or herpes zoster, the third most common strain of herpes.

According to Dr. Harvey Sklar of Englewood Hospital, New Jersey, injections of AMP every other day for several weeks will dry out the sores and suppress the severity

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$12 Million Spent In '79 For Gay Discharges

Extraordinary Costs Involved In Booting Gays From Military

By V.O.L.T.

Government spending and waste and retention of qualified members of the military are two subjects commonly talked about today. The issue of homosexuals in the military overlaps both of these in a way to which President Reagan and his advisors should be made to answer. It seems that Uncle Sam's policies are flexible according to his needs and goals and won't be much protection in the event that the draft is revived.

Anyone who has been subjected to an investigation conducted by military authorities can attest to the pure hell of it, and anyone associated with him or her may certainly support the testimony. Phones may be tapped, belongings searched, houses watched, and people followed. Any kind of strong-arm tactic imaginable may be employed.

Here, however, the topic is money--millions of dollars every year. There are two major areas to be considered; the expense of investigating and discharging a member of the military, and the financial investment with respect to training which is lost because the person is discharged. The investigation process generally involves two or three investigators who are civil service employees paid salaries within the $22,000-$36,000 range, their associated clerical staffs within the military itself, a legal officer, a medical officer, division officer, department head, executive officer, and commanding officer of the investigatee. Additionally, a variety of non-commissioned officers will be involved at some point in the investigation/discharge process.

Considering that everything done in the military is done in writing and in quintuplicate, the paper cost alone is enormous. Every officer involved also involves a clerical staff member, usually a civil service employee. Once the investigation is completed, a recommendation is made as to whether or not the investigatee is to be discharged or retained. Should discharge be recommended, the investigatee may either accept the discharge or request a board to review that decision. From this point on, all paperwork of the proceedings is also referred to a personnel bureau in Washington, thus involving numerous staff members there. At this point, a conservative estimate of $5,000 minimum has been spent in personnel time and paperwork. A board review involves 5 individuals, officers and/or non-commissioned officers, depending on the rank of the investigatee, to sit on the board itself.

A military officer (the recorder) presents the evidence against the investigatee and a legal officer acts for the defense. A stenographer maintains records of the proceedings. The cost has more than doubled on the first day and continues to grow. Given an average cost of $15,000 for every discharge (the discharges of two women on the Norton Sound cost about $500,000 each), over $12,000,000 was spent in fiscal year 1979 to discharge alleged Lesbians and Gay men. Less than 20%, however, of those investigated were actually discharged! The cost of those investigations are *not* included in that figure, nor does it include those prosecuted under General Article 134 of the Universal Code of Military Justice for committing sexual acts on a military installation.

Looking at the other side of the financial issue, it cost in excess of $68,000 to send an individual through basic training. It costs over $200,000 to train an officer other than through a military academy. In 1979, the dollars lost because of discharges was in excess of $55,000,000. Additional technical training may cost from $22,000 to $250,000 per person before the service member actually performs any major military duties. When a person is then discharged, the government's investment (taxpayer's dollars) is totally lost.

In consideration of the Defense Department's grossly inflated $170 billion+ budget, the figures mentioned may appear to be a drop in a barrel; but it is still a significant drop.

We Are Changing!

The Volume 2, Number 5 Issue of *GAzE* will be dated MAY 1981! We are not skipping an issue, but we are changing our publication date and dating each forthcoming issue for the forthcoming month to avoid confusion. *GAzE* will now appear on the fourth Friday of each month. Deadlines for submission of articles and ads will fall on the second Friday of each month.

WHEN LOOKING FOR A CHARITY, LOOK TO GAzE. WE'RE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE!

GAzE

GAzE is published on the fourth Friday of each month for the forthcoming month. Because of the December holidays, the January issue may appear earlier. Deadlines for advertising, submitted features and notification of events will fall on the second Friday of each month. Phone (901) 274-0431, office hours are irregular.

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NATIONAL

No Reform Seen For Anti-Gay Immigration Laws

WASHINGTON–The Select Commission on Immigration and Refugee Policy, fearing a conservative congressional backlash, recently rejected a proposal to reform the anti-Gay U.S. immigration law.

Senator Alan Simpson (R-WY), a member of the Commission and Chairman of the Senate Immigration Sub-Committee, argued against a staff proposal to end the exclusion of Gays from entering the U.S., saying, "There is such a thing as taste. It will come down to personal prejudice. I particularly address the issue of homosexuality."

Rep. Robert McClory (R-IL), an anti-Gay rights member of the Judiciary Committee, called the decision a "victory." McClory said, "There are undoubtedly people with sexual preference problems who are under treatment or trying to lead normal lives, but the practicing homosexual or activist Gay is a completely objectionable person for immigration to our country."

Chicago Rapists Claim 4th Victim

CHICAGO (*Gaylife*)–A 21-year-old Gay waiter became the fourth victim of reported male rape February 21, when he was struck on the head and pulled into a van. The terrified waiter, however, was dumped by his assailants when he underwent an epileptic seizure.

The waiter told *Gaylife* that he heard someone behind him yell "faggot" as he was leaving a local non-Gay disco. When he turned, he was struck, knocked out and dragged into the nearby van. "They said they were going to show me what it was like to be a real man," the waiter said.

Three other similar incidents were reported on Chicago's Near North Side in January, each involving ridicule for being Gay. The first three victims each suffered rectal injuries and one man was raped with a fist.

Alternate Publishing Sues *Midwest Times* and *Colorado Times*

SAN FRANCISCO–Alternate Publishing, a Gay publishing company, recently announced that it is filing 16 counts of Copyright violations in Federal Court against two publications, *Midwest Times* and *Colorado Times*, and their three officers, Jack Williamson, Ralph Paul and Ed Knovak.

The suit involves 16 instances where the two publications reprinted articles, photos, and artwork from back issues of *Alternate Magazine* without permission and in direct violation of U.S. Copyright Laws. Neither Alternate Publishing nor the individual contributors had been contacted prior to reprinting the materials.

Alternate Editor John W. Rowberry commented, "We hope that the severity of this case, involving the Federal Copyright Laws, will set the badly needed precedent and stop the flagrant copyright violations that appear in Gay publications. We are both shocked and angry over these particular violations, which are far reaching and can only appear to us as malicious. This isn't a case of a small, struggling Gay regional newspaper using a photo or two as part of their attempt at spreading news important to Gays. This is, if anything, a case of individuals using the talents and hard work of others, without recognition or compensation, to make a buck. Gay journalists and the legitimate Gay press deserve more than that."

NGTF Protests Police And News Treatment Of Las Vegas Arsonist

NEW YORK–Separate telegrams to Las Vegas Sheriff John McCarthy, ABC Senior Vice President David Burke and NBC Senior Vice President William Corrigan were dispatched on Friday, February 13 by the National Gay Task Force protesting the sensationalized treatment accorded accused Las Vegas arsonist Philip Bruce Cline's sexual orientation by police and national media.

The telegrams noted that this information only serves "to heighten public antipathy toward the accused by playing on the unfounded but widely believed notion that the status of being homosexual is against the law."

"It is akin to the discredited and largely abandoned practice of identifying the race of an accused," noted NGTF Co-Directors Charles Brydon and Lucia Valeska.

NGTF received on February 17 a telephone threat which the organization believes is directly linked to the sensationalized treatment of the accused arsonist's homosexuality. A caller to the office stated that she had a relative who was in the Las Vegas fire and "you people had better watch out because we are going to get you."

Florida Senators Fight Gay Student Groups

TALLAHASSIE (*Gay Community News*)–Three state senators have filed a bill here which would prohibit any state college or university from recognizing Lesbian and Gay student groups.

The measure resulted from an attempt by a Polk Community College (Winter Haven) student to achieve recognition for a Lesbian and Gay coalition on campus. Attorneys for the student do not expect the bill to pass out of committee, saying that it is unconstitutional.

Proclaiming A "Christian City"

INDIANAPOLIS (*Arkansas Gay Writes*)—James Armstrong, Indiana Bishop of the United Methodist Church reports that he and Bishop Jones of the Episcopal Church served as spokespersons for 23 Jewish, Cathoic and Protestant leaders "who had signed a statement deploring voter apathy, affirming the pluralistic nature of our society, and decrying the belief which holds that there is one and only one Jewish or Christian point of view on the complex and troubling issues which face us."

On Nov. 3, (the day before elections), Armstrong received a call from the Indianapolis police department telling him of three letters received by the mayor's office, the FBI, and the police. "My name appeared in the upper left hand corner of at least one of the letters. A bomb had been planted in the City-County Building, the letter said, and would be detonated unless the mayor proclaimed Indianapolis a 'Christian City' and named the local leader of the Moral Majority 'vice-mayor' with veto power over city policy and legislation."

A letter received by Armstrong the same day said: We are giving you a choice; either you are with us in the Moral Majority and the Christian National Renovation of America, or be prepared to be smoked by the Fiery Sword of Truth!

Armstrong commented, "What is happening to this land of ours?"

Norfolk Paper Drops Suit

NORFOLK, VA.—The Unitarian Universalist Gay Community (UUGC) has dropped its lawsuit against the City of Virginia Beach to restore distribution rights of *Our Own Community Press* in the public libraries. The UUGC had charged that denial of distribution privileges constituted unequal treatment because it was based solely on the fact that *Our Own* was a Gay publication.

A general policy change governing treatment of all unsolicited periodicals has prompted UUGC to drop legal action. UUGC has expressed satisfaction with two concessions made by the City: the City has conceded the right of *Our Own* to remain in the library as a part of the unsolicited materials collection, and the City has conceded that all future policy changes regarding unsolicited materials in the library will be made without regard to content.

UUGC has objected, however, to a number of "unwarranted and totally unreasonable" demands made by the City in preparing its case, especially its request that the court order UUGC to disclose the names and addresses of its members and of subscribers to *Our Own*. UUGC stated that it would have defied any such court orders.

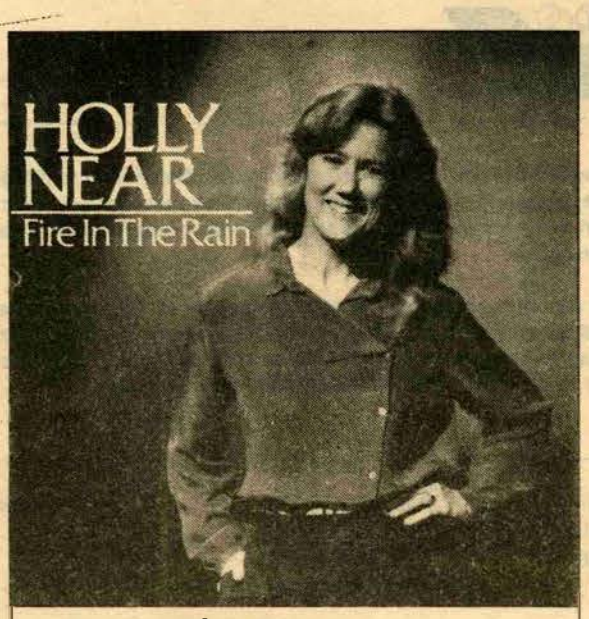
Disco Fined For Discrimination

AUSTIN, TX (IGNA)–The former owners of a disco have pleaded no contest to two counts of violating Austin's Public Accommodations Ordinance when they refused to let two Gay couples dance together.

The Driskill Cabaret paid $200 in fines and $85 in court costs two years and seven months after the discrimination charges were filed.

Judge Steve Russell issued a 16-page opinion denying the defendant's motion for a new trial, and County Court Judge Brock Jones found the cabaret guilty after its plea of no contest.

The decision verifies the 1976 Public Accommodations Ordinance in Austin which forbids discrimination based on sexual orientation.



Fire In The Rain

A National Tour By
HOLLY NEAR

WITH ADRIENNE TORF APRIL 4,'81
8:00 p.m. HARRIS MUSIC AUD.
MEMPHIS STATE CENTRAL AVE.
TICKETS 6.00 with MSU ID 4.00

"Holly Near is a riveting performer with an amazing voice, but most of all she manages to move people while singing about what she believes in. She is the only person I know who has successfully combined music and politics..." --Bonnie Raitt

Holly Near on National Tour with Adrienne Torf will be appearing at Harris Music Auditorium at Memphis State University. The Auditorium is located on Central Avenue; parking will be in the large lot directly across from Harris. Tickets are $6; with valid MSU ID, $4. Tickets are available at Healthy Trading, Pickin' Post, and the Whole Foods Store. Mail order, write P.O. Box 63065, Memphis, TN 38163. For information, call 276-8457.

There will be an interpreter for the hearing-impaired and reserved seating near the front for hearing-impaired persons. Childcare will be available in a room adjoining the Auditorium. The facility is wheelchair accessable.

SISTERS UNITED is a National Bi-monthly Lesbian/Womyn magazine that is unique, educational and inspiring. It presents provocative spiritual teachings inspired thru the Holy Spirit. It is an alternative to Man's Religion, Goddess worship and Witchcraftery. For a FREE sample copy write to:

SISTERS UNITED
118 W. Sparks St.
GALENA, KS 66739

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wevl-fm 90

Social Friends

What would you do if you arrived at the possibility that you may be Gay? Who would you turn to if you found yourself unhappy with your lifestyle? Where would you go to find friendship within our community?

The answer? Social Friends.

We at Social Friends are a group of concerned Gay individuals dedicated to the purpose of providing friendship and support on a one-to-one basis to those persons who find the need for a reassurance of confidence and for support of friendship. For those persons who are discouraged we are here to encourage. No need is too great. No problem is too small. We are here when needed. Please feel free to call us.

Social Friends
272-2955 (evenings)
For Adult Men And Women

She paid the price

Barbara Love was evicted without cause. In New York City. In the dead of winter. With no chance to fight for her rights. Barbara and her lover were thrown out into the street just because the landlord didn't want "their kind."

Barbara suffered for being a lesbian in a city that has no laws to protect gay rights. The same bitter price is paid by thousands of others all over the country. We need national laws to protect us.

The U.S. Congress is considering a bill to outlaw such unfair discrimination. Gay Rights National Lobby is working full time to persuade members of Congress to support the legislation and our influence is growing. Please join us in the struggle. As the only full time lobby at Congress for lesbian and gay rights, we need your support. Your contribution could help eliminate the price that so many are forced to pay.

GAY RIGHTS NATIONAL LOBBY
Your lobby in Washington... getting things done for you!

I wish to contribute $ _____
I wish to become a member:
- ☐ $20 Regular membership
- ☐ $30 Household membership
- ☐ $50 Sustaining membership
- ☐ $100 Contributing membership
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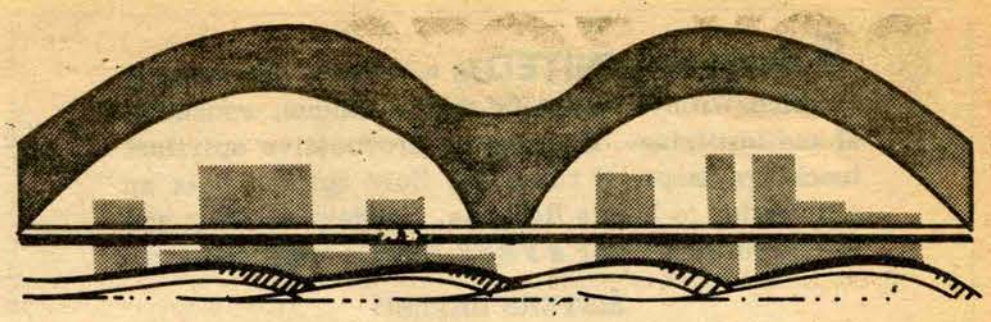

Finally Admitting Their Ignorance!

Susan Lohstoeter, a member of the Moral Majority of Little Rock, has declined to "get a group together and go to" a class taught by Rev. Jeff Bishop at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. The class, Homosexuality and the Gay Community, is intended to be informative and to clear up misunderstandings about homosexuals.

Lohstoeter had intended to gather her fellow MM's to attend Bishop's classes and "refute everything he has to say," but she decided that her group knew too little about homosexuality to present opposing arguments.

Racial Undertones Suggested In Hinson's Rejection

An article in a recent issue of *Jet* Magazine suggests that the movement in Mississippi calling for Jim Hinson's resignation was precipitated in part by the little-publicized fact that Hinson's partner in a recent "oral sodomy" charge was a Black man. Hinson, a 38-year-old Republican two-term Representative, barely defeated a Black university professor in a 3-man race last November.

National wire services failed to indicate that Hinson's partner in the "sodomy" arrest, 28-year-old Library of Congress clerk Harold Moore of Oxon Hill, Maryland, was a Black man. News sources in Jackson, however, reportedly emphasized that Moore is Black.

Human Rights Coalition Forms--Includes MGC

Dr. Harry Moore, Tennessee Director of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, has organized a Human Rights Coalition in Memphis to plan positive countermeasures to the growing threat from the New Right. The group includes such organizations as the ACLU, Urban League, the National Conference of Christians and Jews, the Memphis Gay Coalition, the NAACP, the National Organization of Women, and several other human rights organizations.

Dr. Moore is also acting moderator of a new discussion program, "Diversity," which has begun airing on Channel 5 on Sunday afternoons (4:30). The first show, on March 8, featured a panel of area clergy discussing the Christian Right.

MGC Nominates Gay Switchboard For Volunteer Award

The Memphis Gay Coalition has once again nominated the Memphis Gay Switchboard for the Volunteer Group of the Year Award, presented by The Volunteer Center of Memphis.

The nomination is being presented for the second year as a reminder that groups within the Gay community provide valuable volunteer services for Gay and Lesbian persons which are traditionally ignored by the community at large. Awards will be presented on April 27.

Gay Alternative Gets New Format

Gay Alternative, which airs on WEVL-FM 90.3 Sunday afternoons at 3 o'clock, has begun changing its format to include more items of current news, newer Gay music releases and more local information. A new emphasis will be added on the Gay rights struggle and special attention will be given to interviews with persons concerned about the Gay movement.

The show will feature panel discussions and several women and men announcers. Kevin Toney, who has hosted the show for the past several years will be leaving WEVL in the near future.

Sixth SE Conference Of Lesbians And Gay Men Set For April 10-12

The sixth annual Southeastern Conference of Lesbians and Gay Men will be held April 10-12 at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. Registration will begin at 9 a.m. on Friday, April 10, with workshops beginning at 1:30 p.m. and continuing throughout the weekend. Films, spontaneous activities and exhibits will be ongoing throughout the conference. Several keynote speakers, not announced at press time, will appear.

Police Harassment Increasing In Nashville

Sources in Nashville, including the owners of Warehouse 28 (bar), have noted a sudden increase in cases of police harassment. For the first time in several years of operation, Warehouse 28 reports police entering the bar and complaining about the noise level. One officer when questioned about the source of the complaints, answered that *he* was complaining. Although the stepped up harassment of barowners is an annoying reminder of bias within the police department, no real difficulty has resulted from the incidents.

There have, also, been increasing numbers of entrapment arrests reported in Nashville's Centennial Park.

Little Rock Gays Meet With Police Chief

Members of the Little Rock Gay community met with Police Chief Sonny Simpson in February to discuss arrests in Alsopp Park. Led by Rev. Jeff Bishop of United Church of the Living Hope and Rev. Cathy Elliott of MCC-Little Rock, the delegation was "favorably impressed with Simpson's awareness of the problem and his willingness to discuss police/Gay community relations."

Simpson acknowledged that there were probably some problems with a small number of officers being abusive or harassing park patrons, reports *Arkansas Gay Writes*, but he stated categorically that this was *not* within department policy.

Mississippi Comments On Hinson

Eddie Sandifer of the Mississippi Gay Alliance recently criticized Rep. Jon Hinson in an article in the *Clarion-Ledger* (Jackson), saying, "He has committed crimes against the people, not for what he did in that Washington bathroom, but through his voting record he has harmed the Gay community."

Sandifer noted that "oppressive society" was responsible for "a situation where Congressman Hinson had to go to a bathroom...On the other hand, he openly lied and it's hard for me to believe that people did not know in their hearts that he had homosexual tendencies prior to the election."

Ken Lawrence of the Anti-Repression Resource Team criticized Hinson, also. "I thought that he would be defeated on his sexuality rather than his voting record, which is among the sorriest in Congress, but I hate to see him arrested and harassed for an act that shouldn't be a crime in any society. It shows what a sad bunch of human beings we now have calling for his resignation."

Jan Lewis, executive director of the ACLU of Mississippi indicated that sexual orientation is a private matter protected by the Bill of Rights and suggested the possibility that Hinson was entrapped.

Red Cross Health Fair Set For April 25

The Memphis Red Cross' Annual "Staying Alive" Health Fair will be held at the National Guard Armory on April 25, 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. Some of the many free health checks will be blood pressure, vision, hearing, sickle cell anemia, amblyopia, foot problems, and self breast examination. A multi-screening blood test, including 25 different tests such as diabetes, cholesterol, uric acid, trigylcerides, and liver functions, will be available for $6-$8 to cover lab costs.

Radio Commentator Says "Faggots" Seek Young Boys

Memphis radio commentator Dave Diamond continued his anti-Gay attack on WWEE, a station which features telephone call-ins and discussion. On Monday morning, February 23, Diamond mentioned the police sweep of a local discount store's men's room and then denounced Gays as "faggots." Diamond said that a boy had complained about being "bothered" in the restroom, "proving that all these faggots are after young boys. That's the proof, no matter what they say." Diamond called the restroom a "pickle park." WWEE is the "sister" station of WLVS, both noted for recent attacks on the Gay community.

WWEE afternoon commentator Chip Bramlett, appearing on Diamond's program recently, noted that should all Gays be placed on an island somewhere that they would be "extinct in 50 years." Bramlett, too, is noted for continuing attacks on Gays. (See related story on page 1.)

CALENDAR

MARCH

sun	mon	tues	wed	thurs	fri	sat
22 "Gay Alternative" WEVL-FM 90.3, 3 pm Metropolitan Community Church, 92 N. Avalon, 11 am	23	24 *GAzE* Staff Meeting, 274-0431	25 Ms. Gay Female Memphis, George's, GOPS Gay Switchboard Inservice, 726-4299	26 Gay Skate Party, Skateland Roller Rink 7:30-9:30 pm, MGC Beer/Pizza Party, J-Wag's, 9:30 pm, MGC	27	28
29 "Gay Alternative" WEVL-FM 90.3, 3 pm Gay Pride Week Benefit, Pendulum, 6:30 pm, MGC Metropolitan Community Church, 92 N. Avalon, 11 am	30	31 *GAzE* Staff Meeting, 274-0431	1 "Show Of Fools" George's, GOPS Gay Pride Week Committee Meeting, 452-0602	2	3	4 Holly Near, Adrienne Torf Concert, MSU Harris Auditorium, 8 pm

APRIL

5 "Gay Alternative" WEVL-FM 90.3, 3 pm MCC 92 N. Avalon, 11 am April Fools Day Camp Show, Pendulum, 4 pm, Aphrodite	6 Memphis Gay Coalition Meeting, Main Library, Peabody & McLean, Meeting Room A, 7:30 pm	7 *GAzE* Staff Meeting, 274-0431	8 MGC Political Committee Meeting	9	10 Sixth Southeastern Conference of Lesbians and Gay Men, Baton Rouge, LA, April 10-12	11
12 "Gay Alternative" WEVL-FM 90.3, 3 pm Metropolitan Community Church, 92 N. Avalon, 11 am	13 Copy Deadline, *GAzE*	14 *GAzE* Staff Meeting, 274-0431	15 Gay Pride Week Planning Committee, 452-0802	16	17	18 Aphrodite "Spring Fling" American Legion, 251 Court, 8 pm
19 "Gay Alternative" WEVL-FM 90.3, 3 pm Metropolitan Community Church, 92 N. Avalon, 11 am "Easter Hat Parade" Sharon's, 4 pm, Apollo	20 Memphis Gay Coalition Meeting, Main Library, Peabody & McLean, Meeting Room B, 7:30 pm	21 *GAzE* Staff Meeting, 274-0431	22 MGC Political Committee Meeting	23	24 *GAzE* out, Vol. 2, No. 5 Mid-America Motorcycle Conference, April 24-26	25

BOX 3038

Letters to the editor should be as short as possible. Address to: Editor, *GAzE*, Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38103. Letters must be signed, but names will be withheld by request. We reserve the right to edit all letters.

Christian Grandmother Speaks Out

I have just finished reading a copy of *GAzE* provided through my bookstore.

I feel it is my duty to speak out on behalf of my beliefs.

I am a mother and grandmother who is straight and a Christian. Over the years, my children have had both Gay and straight teachers. I am grateful for the extra time and patience shown to my children by Gay teachers. I am thankful for the beauty and understanding given them.

What a sad place Memphis, the "Cultural Center of the South," would be had it not been for the contributions to the arts and education provided by Gays.

I work and have a Gay boss. He has always been attentive to the needs and problems of his employees (all straight). He is willing to work himself if an employee needs to be off. How many straights would make such an effort?

As a Christian, I am appalled at those who believe Gays are atheists and less than normal. My God is a loving God who created and loves all. He created all men equally; mankind has created the inequality.

I pray the day will come when Gays will be accepted into society for what they are, contributing and compassionate human beings.

Mrs. C. Neil Wolfe
Mer ohis

All Must Work To Overcome Racism

Reading with interest letters in your last issue about discrimination against Blacks and women at the bars, I have to agree that some discrimination probably does exist, though I disagree that it is entirely the fault of the bar owners. You will find this in every city in the country. The discrimination, however, is the fault of most of the clientelle of the bars.

How many times have we heard someone say that they don't go to a certain bar because there are too many Blacks there or too many whites or too many men or too many women? We say this more out of habit or because we find it more "acceptable" within our particular social circle--even if we reject the idea of discrimination in principle.

Don't get me wrong--racism does indeed exist and is a problem. But we shouldn't necessarily point our fingers at a particular bar or bar owner when the blame belongs on all of us.

Of course the bar owners are concerned for their livelihood; we all are. The owners of a bar must think about keeping their place in business. I'm not saying this to excuse discrimination, but to make the point that we need to work on racism in the community and the problem of discrimination at bars will cease to exist.

Name Withheld
Memphis

Come A Long Way Since '65

After reading the letter from the person who was born in Memphis and left in 1945, I was astounded at how bad things appeared to have been back then. Thinking back, though, things weren't so hot 20 years later.

Unlike "name and city withheld by request," I stayed in Memphis. I'm glad I did. Looking back, however, I can truly say that we've come a long way since 1985 when 1990 comes along.

It seems like each passing day makes our lot a little nicer, despite the efforts of the Moral Majority to stifle us.

Jack Bush
Memphis

Opposes Discrimination

The Memphis Gay Coalition, as an organization dedicated to working toward overcoming oppression, is opposed to discrimination and bias against people based on color, age, sex, sexual orientation, class or religious belief.

Aware that discrimination exists in Memphis and throughout the United States, we feel it necessary to emphasize our opposition to and abhorrence of such discrimination wherever it is found.

We find such discrimination particularly inexcusable within our own Gay community. If our sexual orientation were as obvious as our skin color, perhaps the bigotry that we each would face because of our Gayness would enlighten us to the indignity of our discrimination against each other.

We ask your support in helping us to confront oppression on every level and in putting an end to arbitrary acts of discrimination. If you participate in acts of arbitrary discrimination, we ask that you reconsider your position and help us to ensure equality within our community for our Gay brothers and sisters.

The Memphis Gay Coalition

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.

Mystic Krewe Of Aphrodite

Presents

"A Spring Fling"

Entertainment: The Charmers

Dance Band

B.Y.O.B.

American Legion Hall

251 Court Street

Saturday, April 18, 1981

7 P.M. - Midnight

Advance Tickets $5 per person--$7 per couple
Door Tickets $7 per person--$10 per couple

Ticket Information:

Call 324-9696, 327-7387 or 725-7260

Dress -- Casual to evening wear, your choice

SKATE!

A Gay Roller Skating Party

Sponsored By
The Public Relations Committee Of MGC

Thursday March 26,
7:30-9:30 p.m.
(Doors Open)

$3 Per Ticket
(plus $1 skate rental)

Skateland Roller Rink
5137 Old Summer Road

Beer And Pizza Party Following
At **J-Wag's**
1268 Madison
$3 Per Person (includes beer and pizza)

Limited Tickets Available At Door
Phone 274-0431 or 722-8129 for Tickets

Open 4 PM - 3 AM Daily
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Dancing

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Monday Night
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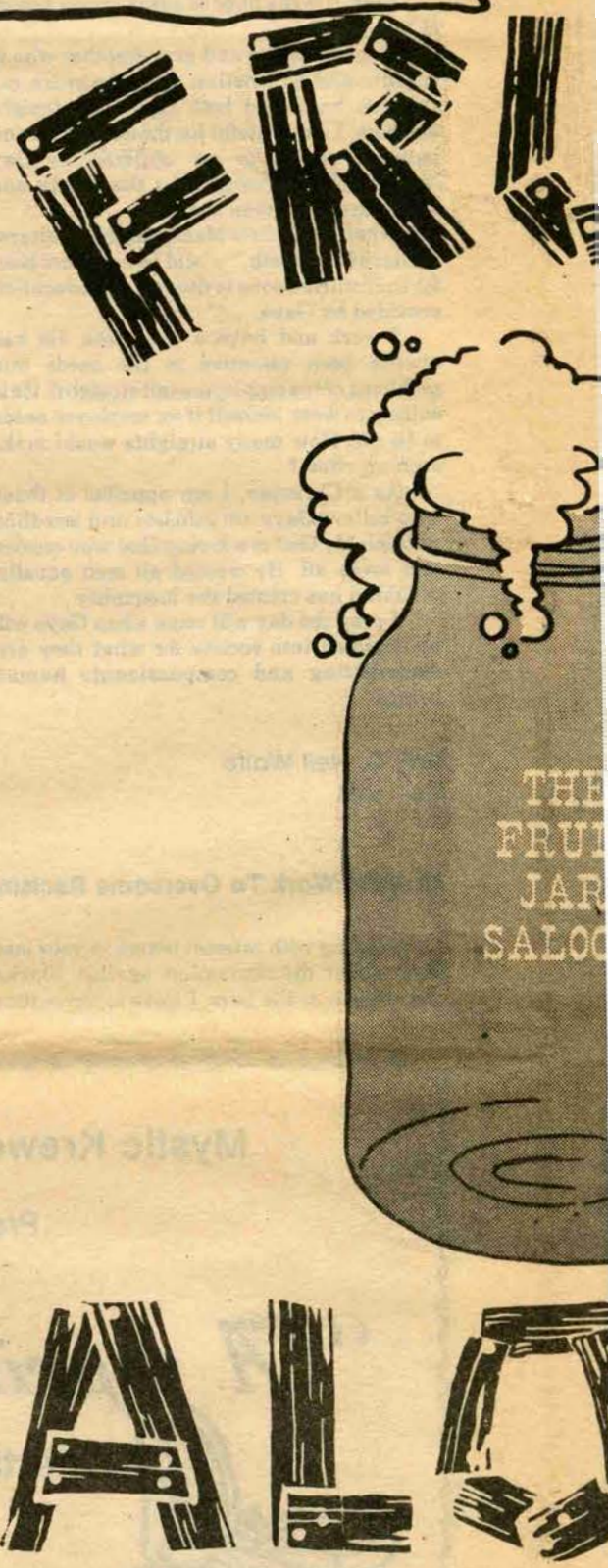
7 - 12



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Memphis Newes

Video Games

Shuffleboard

Bartenders
"Shirley"
"Nern Boy"
"Lorretta"

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42

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Homosexuality And The Christian Bible

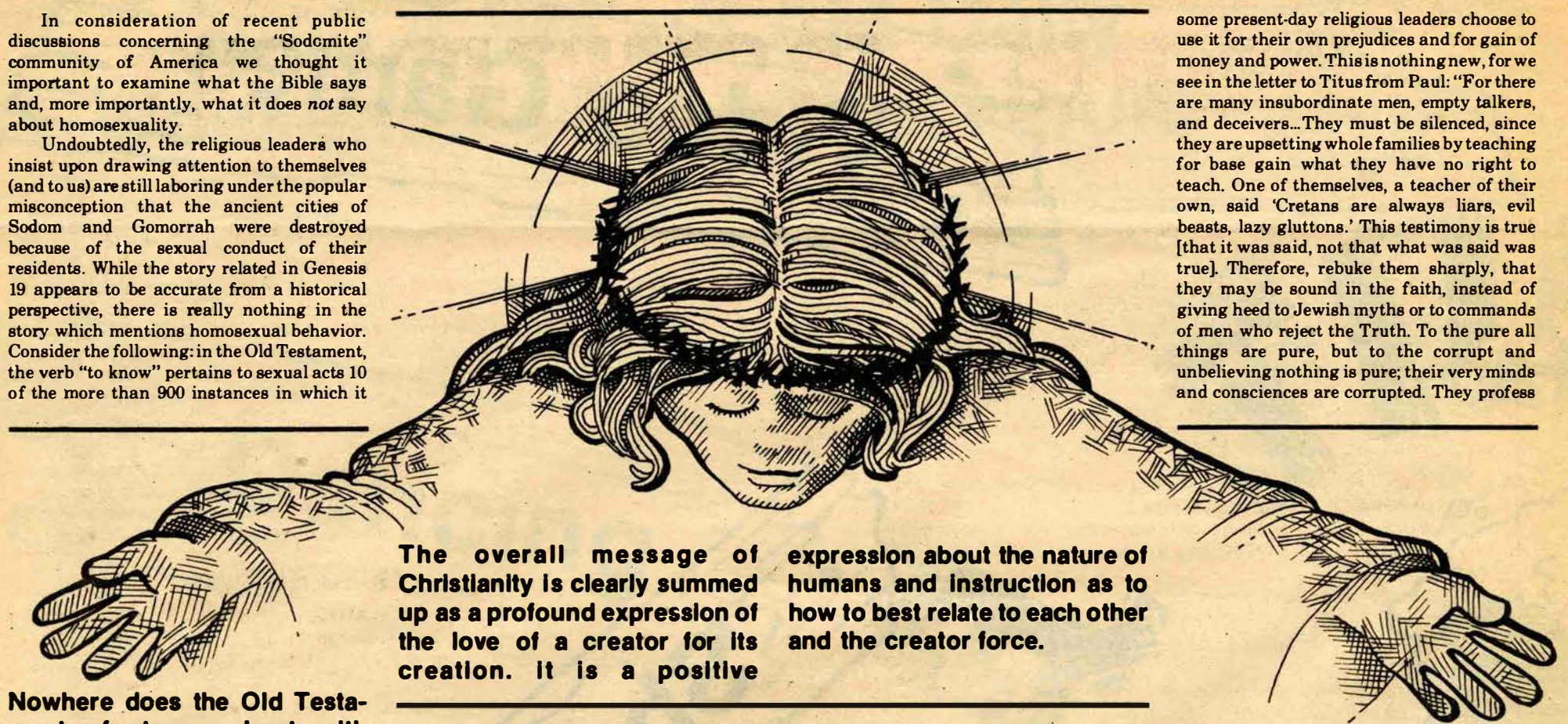
By V.O.L.T.

A look at the subject of homosexuality as it relates to the Christian Bible and the myths perpetrated upon us by a biased school of religious thought...

In consideration of recent public discussions concerning the "Sodomite" community of America we thought it important to examine what the Bible says and, more importantly, what it does *not* say about homosexuality.

Undoubtedly, the religious leaders who insist upon drawing attention to themselves (and to us) are still laboring under the popular misconception that the ancient cities of Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed because of the sexual conduct of their residents. While the story related in Genesis 19 appears to be accurate from a historical perspective, there is really nothing in the story which mentions homosexual behavior. Consider the following: in the Old Testament, the verb "to know" pertains to sexual acts 10 of the more than 900 instances in which it appears, and in all 10 cases it pertains strictly to heterosexual acts. Lot committed a serious transgression by failing to introduce his visitors to the other men of the city of Sodom. It was especially serious because he was not a native of Sodom. To be absurdly logical in examination of this passage, one has to consider the actions of Lot as he talked to the men knocking on his door and demanding to know his guests. Why, if the men were in fact homosexuals did Lot offer them his two daughters in place of his male guests? It was his way of attesting to the character of his visitors, not an act to subdue the lusts of a group of sex perverts, and to consider it as such is totally unreasonable. It is also interesting to note that the misconception relating to Genesis 19 was created by the early Christian church and has never been accepted within Rabbinical literature.

Ezekiel 16:45-50 details the crimes of Sodom as such: "Behold, this was the guilt of your sister Sodom: she and her daughters had pride, surfeit of food, and prosperous ease, but did not aid the poor and needy. They were haughty, and did abominable things before me; therefore I removed them, when I saw it." Should anyone question the meaning of "abominable things," we refer back to Isiah I: 9-17, which speaks exclusively of idolatry and the above-mentioned social injustices. Nowhere does the Old Testament refer to sexual acts with respect to the sins of Sodom and Gomorrah. The only consistent meaning ascribed to the word "abomination" is idolatry because it represented the greatest threat to the relationship between God and his chosen people.



Nowhere does the Old Testament refer to sexual acts with respect to the sins of Sodom and Gomorrah. The only consistent meaning ascribed to the word "abomination" is idolatry because it represented the greatest threat to the relationship between God and his chosen people.

The overall message of Christianity is clearly summed up as a profound expression of the love of a creator for its creation. It is a positive expression about the nature of humans and instruction as to how to best relate to each other and the creator force.

Then there is the passage of Leviticus 18:22 "You shall not lie with a man as with a woman; it as an abomination." There are several trains of thought here, but the following has the strongest foundation.

There were two instances in that time period in which heterosexual males engaged in homosexual acts, neither of which are acceptable even today. When the tribes of Israel involved themselves in "Holy Wars," they completely devastated the cities they attacked and took the inhabitants as slaves. Part of the devastation involved making the adult males totally submissive, and this was generally accomplished through violent and brutal rapes. The second instance related to idolatry and the temple prostitutes who supposedly raised money for the temple by prostitution. Obviously, neither of these practices were acceptable to God as the Israelites viewed Him.

Turning to the New Testament we find, first of all, that Jesus said nothing at all on the subject of homosexuality. Jesus was more concerned with teaching love and attempting to clarify God's message to humankind because it had become muddled and distorted by the Jewish leaders. (Considering the activities and attitudes of religious leaders today, it would appear that he wasn't entirely successful; actually, he did a good job, but they simply aren't listening.) Over and over again Jesus illustrated that it was the spirit of God's Law–not the letter of that Law–which is of prime importance. That spirit is expressed in the two commandments Jesus gave us: Love God and Love your neighbor. When those two are fulfilled, all other things fall into place. The importance of spirit over letter shall now become obvious.

Elsewhere in the New Testament, the early Christian leader, Paul, does discuss homosexuality in modern translations. Paul, who wrote in Greek, used two words which are now translated "homosexual" (the King James version says "effeminate"). One word, literally translated, means "spineless" or "weak-willed." Paul also related to the practice of adult Roman men keeping young boys as sexual toys. Frequently, this involved having the boys castrated. Paul did not or could not relate to two mature adults involved in a mutually enhancing, loving relationship. When or if such relationships occured, they were so closed that they were never recognized. Males were considered morally obligated to procreate, and women were considered property and really had little choice with respect to their own lives.

The second New Testament reference to which many anti-Gay leaders frequently refer is First Timothy 1:10, in which reference to "Sodomites" is made. In light of the previously discussed sins of Sodom, this has little relevance to the issue of homosexuality.

The overall message of Christianity is clearly summed up as a profound expression of the love of a creator for its creation. It is a positive expression about the nature of humans and instruction as to how to best relate to each other and the creator force. Like anything else, it can be manipulated and distorted to serve a purpose other than that which was intended. It is unfortunate that some present-day religious leaders choose to use it for their own prejudices and for gain of money and power. This is nothing new, for we see in the letter to Titus from Paul: "For there are many insubordinate men, empty talkers, and deceivers...They must be silenced, since they are upsetting whole families by teaching for base gain what they have no right to teach. One of themselves, a teacher of their own, said 'Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons.' This testimony is true [that it was said, not that what was said was true]. Therefore, rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith, instead of giving heed to Jewish myths or to commands of men who reject the Truth. To the pure all things are pure, but to the corrupt and unbelieving nothing is pure; their very minds and consciences are corrupted. They profess to know God, but they deny Him with their deeds; they are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good deed."

Paul, who wrote in Greek, used two words which are now translated "homosexual" (the King James version says "effeminate"). One word, literally translated, means "spineless" or "weak-willed."

The word for "homosexuality" *never* appears in the Bible in either the Greek or the Hebrew. There are words for homosexuality in both languages; never once did they appear in the Bible.

Additionally, it should be noted that the Bible was originally transcribed from two languages, Hebrew and Greek. The word "abomination" is 30 different words in Hebrew. There are also numerous words in both languages for which we have no English counterparts. The word for "homosexuality" *never* appears in the Bible in either the Greek or the Hebrew. There are words for homosexuality in both languages; never once did they appear in the Bible.

One final note, the Hebrew word "yadha," which is the word used in the Sodom and Gomorrah story that has come to be translated as "homosexual relations," actually means "to know" or "to become acquainted with." It is the *same* word that Jesus used when he said, "To know me is to know the Father."

"Elective Ignorance" Condemns Homosexuals

By Jenifer Taft

Two primary tenets of Christianity are often ignored by the Christian fundamentalists who insist upon condemning homosexuality. These are the Golden Rule and the Ten Commandments. Homosexuality is not mentioned in the Ten Commandments, and it is obvious by the Golden Rule that homosexuals are to be treated equally in society.

Why did Jesus not condemn homosexuality? He had ample opportunity and certainly nothing to lose by doing so. But he said nothing about it. Is it possible that those individuals who transcribed Jesus' words deliberately deleted references by Jesus to homosexuals because he indeed made positive references?

According to the teachings of Jesus, particularly relating to the Golden Rule, those who condemn homosexuals are IMMORAL!

It is ironic that some individuals insist upon using the Bible as a tool to persecute everyone who disagrees with them. These individuals tell us that the Bible is the inerrant word of God, but they do not consider that man's knowledge of the original Hebrew and Greek texts of the Bible is continually increasing as we become more aware of the mistakes made in translation by modern religious evangelists. Numerous modern evangelists are in reality violating the teachings of Christ and negating the principles of Christianity by proclaiming the constant state of "immorality" all around them rather than seeking to practice the teachings of Christ.

Different versions of the Bible differ significantly in their meanings. How are we to decide which version is the "inerrant" word of God? Our increasing knowledge of the Bible exposes the fanatical false prophets for what they are, but an increasingly selfish and bigoted society refuses to look at them. They have tied homosexuality into a neat package of condemnation without acknowledging the facts of the matter or what the Bible actually says. They use this elective ignorance as a basis for ignoring modern research and findings about homosexuality. They use it as a basis for shutting Gay persons out of the mainstream of society, ignoring the fact that their basic elective ignorance is exactly that. By doing this, they violate the basic principles of Christianity.

The modern fundamentalists even go so far as to shut Gay persons out of the Christian religion by proclaiming that homosexuals cannot be Christians. It is typical of societies to sublimate those who are different, but such a practice is inconsistent and incompatible with the teachings of Christ.

When will Christians become followers of Christ rather than individuals who use their religion to weed out their "undesirables?" There are very few Christians who are followers of Christ in America today, but whether the fundamentalists choose to permit it or not, many of the followers of Christ are Gay.

IF THE MORAL MAJORITY HAS ITS WAY, YOU'D BETTER START PRAYING.

The Moral Majority—and other groups like them—think that children should pray in school. Not just their children. Your children.

But that's just the beginning.

They want their religious doctrines enacted into law and imposed on everyone.

If they believe that birth control is a sin, then you should not be allowed to use contraceptives.

If they believe that abortion is wrong, then you should not be allowed to have one.

If they believe that the Bible condemns homosexuality, then the law should punish homosexuals.

If they believe that a man should be the breadwinner and the divinely appointed head of the family, then the law should keep women in their place.

If they are offended by the ideas in certain books, then the law should ban those books from your libraries and schools.

And like Joe McCarthy, they believe that anyone who disagrees with them should be barred from teaching in the public schools.

These new groups are on the march and growing stronger each day. Their agenda is clear and frightening: they mean to capture the power of government and use it to establish a nightmare of religious and political orthodoxy.

And they are dangerously deceptive. They appear to represent American patriotism, because they wrap themselves in the American flag and use words like "family" and "life" and "tradition."

In fact, their kind of "patriotism" violates every principle of liberty that underlies the American system of government. It is intolerant. It stands against the First Amendment guarantees of freedom of expression and separation of church and state. It threatens academic freedom. And it denies to whole groups of people the equal protection of the laws.

Make no mistake about it: the new evangelicals are not a conservative movement. True conservatives place great value on the Bill of Rights—a time-tested document designed to guarantee individual rights by limiting the powers of government.

In fact, the new evangelicals are a radical anti-Bill-of-Rights movement. They seek not to conserve traditional American values, but to overthrow them. Their agenda represents massive government intrusion. And conservatives as well as liberals should stand up against them.

THE DANGER POINT.

These groups have already had alarming success. They have been pivotal in blocking passage of the E.R.A. in fifteen states. Public school boards all over the country have banned books and imposed prayer and other religious ceremonies. State legislatures have begun placing increasingly severe restrictions on a woman's right to have an abortion. And there is mounting pressure to pass laws requiring the teaching of the Biblical account of creation as an alternative to evolution.

They have grown into a rich and powerful force in this country.

How rich? In a week, the Moral Majority raises a million dollars with its television program.

How powerful? In the last election, key members of Congress were successfully targeted by them for defeat, because of their positions on abortion, E.R.A., and other civil liberties issues.

And the head of the Moral Majority promises more of the same. At a press conference a week after the election, he warned elected officials, both Republican and Democrat, to "get in step" or "be prepared to be unemployed."

Already there is talk of constitutional amendments that would impose prayer in the public schools and outlaw all abortions. And legislation has been introduced that would strip federal courts of their authority even to hear constitutional cases.

In the Senate, Strom Thurmond will now chair the Judiciary Committee, which controls most legislation affecting the courts and the Constitution. Senator Thurmond favors repeal of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and has announced his support of much of the Moral Majority's program. He has actively opposed civil rights and civil liberties for thirty years. Now he may prevail.

We are facing a major struggle over the Bill of Rights. This struggle does not involve the question of whether the Moral Majority and other groups like them have the right to speak. They do, and we would defend that right. Even those who oppose the Bill of Rights are protected by the First Amendment. The danger lies in the content of their views, not in their right to express them.

Nor is it a question of partisan politics. There have been shifts of power from one party to another before. That is not what concerns us. The American Civil Liberties Union is non-partisan and does not endorse or oppose candidates for public office. But we will make certain that, whatever other changes may occur in the political arena, the Constitution does not become a casualty of the new order.

WHAT THE ACLU CAN DO.

For 60 years, the American Civil Liberties Union has been the organization that protects the Bill of Rights. As former Chief Justice Earl Warren wrote:

"The ACLU has stood foursquare against the recurring tides of hysteria that from time to time threaten freedoms everywhere... Indeed, it is difficult to appreciate how far our freedoms might have eroded had it not been for the Union's valiant representation in the courts of the constitutional rights of people of all persuasions, no matter how unpopular or even despised by the majority they were at the time."

We've been there in the past and we'll be there in the days ahead. We will meet the anti-Bill-of-Rights forces in the Congress, in the courts, before state and local legislatures, at school board hearings. Wherever they threaten, we will be there—with lawyers, lobbyists, staff and volunteers—to resist their attempts to deprive you of your liberty and violate your rights.

WHAT YOU CAN DO.

The ACLU, like the Moral Majority, depends on individual contributions. But they raise more money in a few weeks than we raise in a year.

We can only be as strong as the number of people who support us. Ultimately, the protection of your rights depends not on legislatures, not on who gets elected President, not even on the courts. It depends on individual citizens, aware of the fragility of liberty, alert to the forces that imperil it, and prepared to give of themselves in order to preserve it.

In the past, when the Bill of Rights was in danger, enough people recognized the threat, and came together in time to repel it. Such a time has come again.

It is up to you to assure that the Bill of Rights will be passed on intact to the next generation.

Please send us your contribution before another day passes.

Without your help, we don't have a prayer.

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- ☐ I do not want to become a member, but enclosed is my contribution.
- ☐ I am already an ACLU member; enclosed is an extra contribution.

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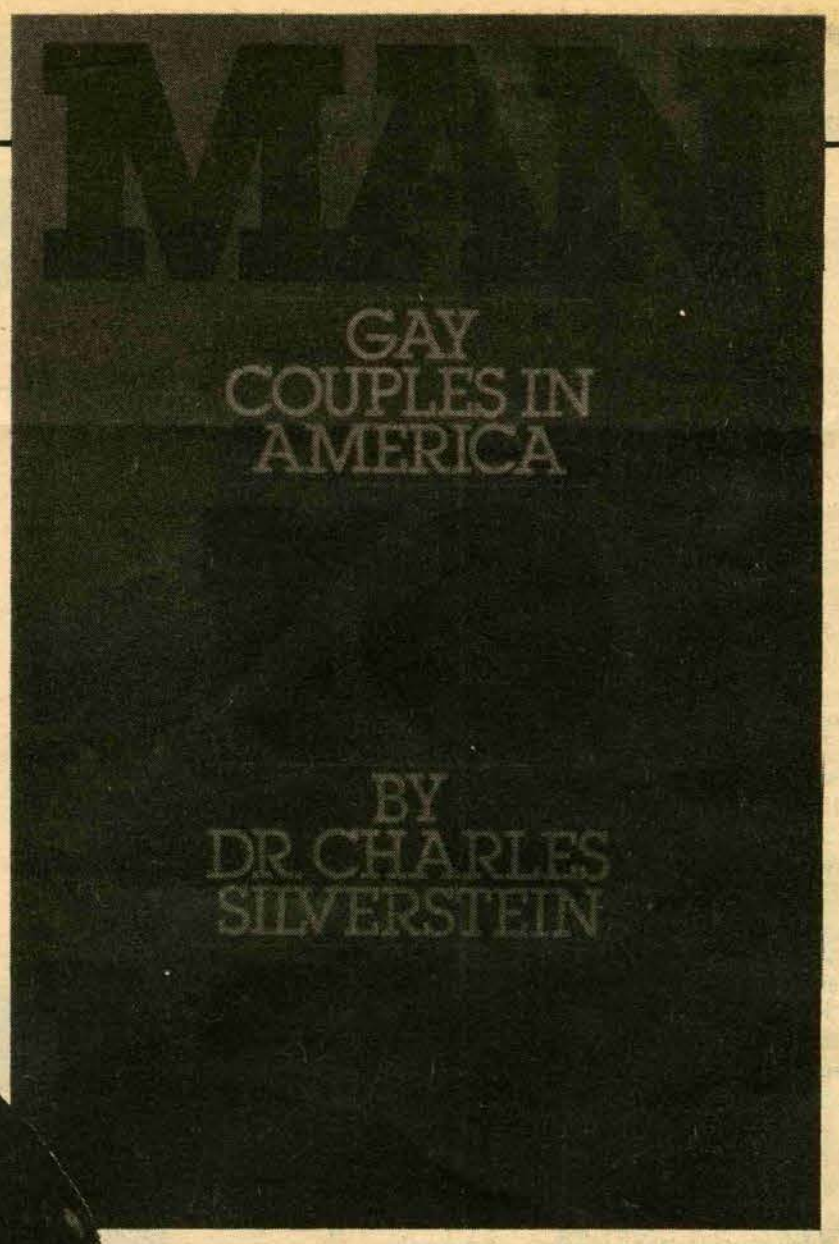

Man To Man: Gay Couples In America is the first published study by a professional psychologist concerning love relationships among Gay men.

It is a fascinating study based on a series of deeply personal conversations with Gay male couples, and Silverstein's admission that his method of approach is subjective gives the book a readability and intrigue that it probably wouldn't otherwise have. Reading *Man To Man* is much like spending an evening in the living room talking with old friends about the Gay male experience.

The intensity of the experiences relayed by the 190 men the author interviewed gives the reader a real sense of identity with them. Somewhere in each account is a bit of each of us.

The introduction alone is worth the price of the book. Silverstein related his own coming out experiences and a good bit of the history of the Gay movement in New York City shortly after Stonewall.

Silverstein tells, for example, of the philosophy of "zapping." "Out of those early years at the Firehouse (a community center of sorts) came the philosophy of 'zapping,' a form of demonstration in which we forced both society and the legal establishment to take notice of us. For instance, there was the time that several GAA (Gay Activist Alliance) members went to the City Clerk's office to get a marriage license for two men, bringing with them a wedding cake topped with two men. They were refused a license; nevertheless, they began to cut the cake and serve it to the office staff, who had no idea how to handle the situation."

The areas of Silverstein's "subjective" approach are truly groundbreaking. One, in particular, which has gone unstudied for too long is the influence of the father in the development of the Gay male. While most researchers have seen the father's role as one of absence (the Freudian absent father/domineering mother stereotype), Silverstein's research shows a sort of mirror image of Freud's Oedipus Complex. He was surprised at the frequency with which sexual fantasies of the father appeared in the men interviewed since this has not been a subject discussed in the Gay press or in previous studies of family relationships of Gay men. He explores how this reverse Oedipus complex effects the later development of Gay male relationships in which father/son roles are often acted out and in which the fantasies (sexual and emotional) which the Gay man experienced toward his father have a profound influence on the way in which that man relates to his lover.

Silverstein explores how the school yard as a training ground for adult male behavior in general influences the ways in which Gay men learn to relate to other men. He classifies boys as *comrades* (pairs of boys who share the same values and compete with each other), *outsiders* (who experience themselves as weak, are poor competitors, and are unattractive psychologically to themselves because of a deep internal conflict between goals and abilities), *sissies* (whose personal set of values is primary, who work at arts and crafts rather than athletic competition, who are unlikely to even desire to participate in athletics, and who develop a private fantasy world), and *romantics* (who discuss with one another their feelings, fears, and hopes, and who reach out to one another for solace and support). He cautions that such classifications are not strict divisions but are useful as tools to discuss general types. How different types of boys develop and interact (or don't interact) with each other sets patterns which influences how the adult Gay male relates to other men and which will help or hinder the development of Gay male love relationships.

While it is impossible to detail here the wealth of information presented by Silverstein in the areas he investigated, several other points stand out. In Part II of the book--subtitled "Major Issues"--he discusses several thorny problems which seem to influence the development or breakup of many Gay male relationships. One chapter discusses the differences between what Silverstein calls "excitement seekers," who are reluctant to commit themselves to domestic love affairs and view the excitement of "the hunt" as often more rewarding than the sex itself, and "home builders," who are more domestically oriented and search for long-lasting relationships. The differences between these types of men often contribute to other problems which Silverstein addresses in the chapter dealing with monogamy (or lack thereof) in Gay male relationships and the "twin demons" of jealousy and envy.

The distinction between jealousy, which is enmity motivated by fear (frequently the fear of being abandoned), and envy, which is motivated by competiveness or covetousness (being resentful of another's perceived superiority or success or coveting what he has, such as looks, money, etc.), is important and is examined in detail. Silverstein also addresses the problems of dependence and independence which some people must confront when forming a couple and how this effects a man's ability to establish and maintain intimacy with another man.

Finally he discusses what he calls "cult masculinity" in which the symbols of masculinity exert more influence over behavior than the need for love. Cult masculinity is selfish and self-absorbed, with the display of masculinity symbols and the accumulation of sexual conquests as goals. It makes the establishment of warm loving relationships extremely difficult if not impossible.

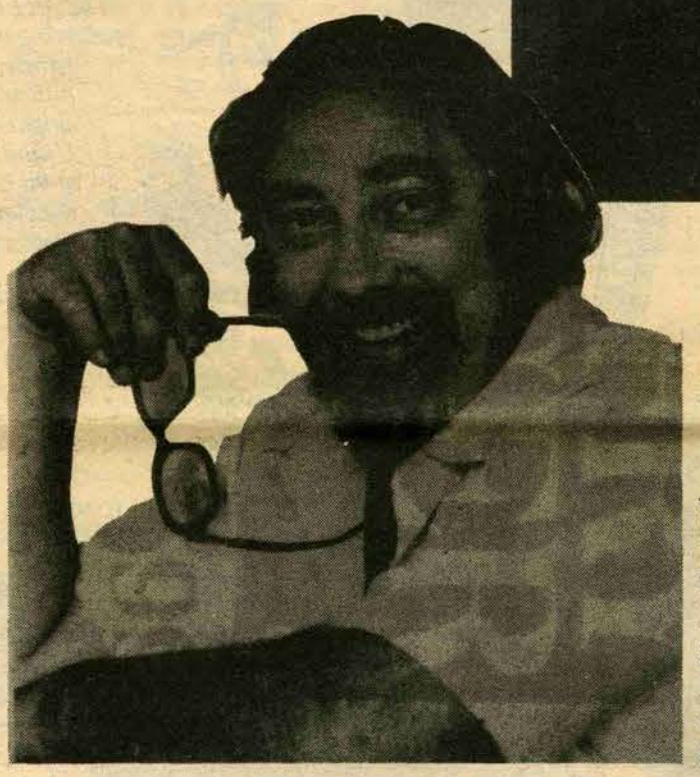

Photo by Michael Leonard

Charles Silverstein

The final section of the book--subtitled "Variations"--deals with the topic of intergenerational relationships, the effects of religion on the development of Gay love, the significant differences between the development of Gay couple relationships in rural America as opposed to larger cities and the impact (both positive and negative) that this geography has on such relationships in each case, and the effects that the death of a lover has on his surviving mate. All of these questions--and all of the topics covered in the other two major sections of the book--are profusely illustrated with case histories and quotes from the personal interviews conducted by Silverstein. The most extensive of these, and the one which most affected the author, is the relationship between Josh and Andy, a relationship of 51 years which began in rural Pennsylvania in 1927 and which has been going strong in Miami for the last 27 years. Chapter 12 is devoted solely to this relationship and traces its development from the beginning through Andy's stint in the Army (WWII), through their decision to leave their respective businesses and run away together to Miami, through their trips to Europe (the first of which was the occasion for their first outside sex after 31 years together), and through Josh's three heart attacks and two strokes and Andy's cardiac bypass operation.

Man To Man is the first serious study by a practicing psychologist into the largely unexplored terrain of Gay male couples and the factors bearing upon the development of such relationships. As Silverstein himself states, this work is just the beginning. Hopefully other researchers will more fully explore each of the areas covered in this book, which itself is an impressive study and gives the reader a great deal to think about concerning his own emotional and psychological makeup and his ability or inability to form or sustain a meaningful emotional and sexual relationship with another Gay man. Silverstein is to be commended for opening doors which have been closed for far too long, and I eagerly await his next contribution in this area.

Charles Silverstein is licensed as a psychologist in the State of New York and is certified as a sex therapist by the American College of Sexologists and by the American Association of Sex Educators, Counselors and Therapists. He received post-graduate training in psychology at the New York Institute of Gestalt Therapy under Laura Perls, and his training as a sex therapist at Cornell Medical School, Payne-Whitney Clinic. He has organized three counseling centers for Gay people in New York and has been director of two of them. He was the founding editor of the *Journal of Homosexuality*, a scholarly journal devoted to research.

(Man To Man: Gay Couples In America, by Charles Silverstein; William Morrow & Company, 105 Madison Ave., NY, NY 10016; $12.95 hardback.)

COUNTERPOINT -
continued from page 3

and frequency of other attacks of recurrent herpes. Furthermore, the drug is safe and has no side effects.

The Food and Drug Administration, aware of Dr. Sklar's clinical research, is not yet willing to pronouce AMP a certain cure without more detailed trails.

If you wish more information, write: Dr. Harvey Sklar, Englewood Hospital, Englewood, New Jersey 07631. Enclose $2 or $3 to defray the cost of a reply.

****

Jerry Falwell is in the news again, and being ridiculous as usual. Attempting to discredit his recent *Penthouse* interview, Falwell stated, "Christians do not read pornographic magazines like *Playboy* and *Penthouse*."

Is this double dealing bigot telling us Christians what to read? Not really, unless we classify ourselves as "Christians" rather than Christians.

Other than a set of quotation marks, one major difference in "Christians" and Christians is that "Christians" are fearfully obsessed with sex and always equate *morality* with *sexuality*.

"Christians" believe that portraying illicit sex on TV is more harmful than violence. "Christians" believe that violence is permissible when it serves their facistic ends--that includes the "divine" right to abuse their own children. "Christians" believe the safety of our great nation hinges on who ejaculates with whom, and in the name of national safety they condone capitol punishment for such sins as homosexuality. (Jerry Falwell is a "Christian.") "Christians" seem to fear that the north star or the big dipper will fall from space if the "wrong" persons have sex in some fashion other than the missionary position between husband and wife--and, in a locked, darkened room not in a hotel or motel along an interstate highway!

What is more, Jerry Falwell wants to be the official keeper of the sexuality--oops--morality!

So, you Christians continue reading *Playboy* and *Penthouse* if you wish. Such "pornographic magazines" probably won't harm you. But, you "Christians" had better stop, lest Jerry Falwell wave his "Christian" wand and make your quotation marks come off!

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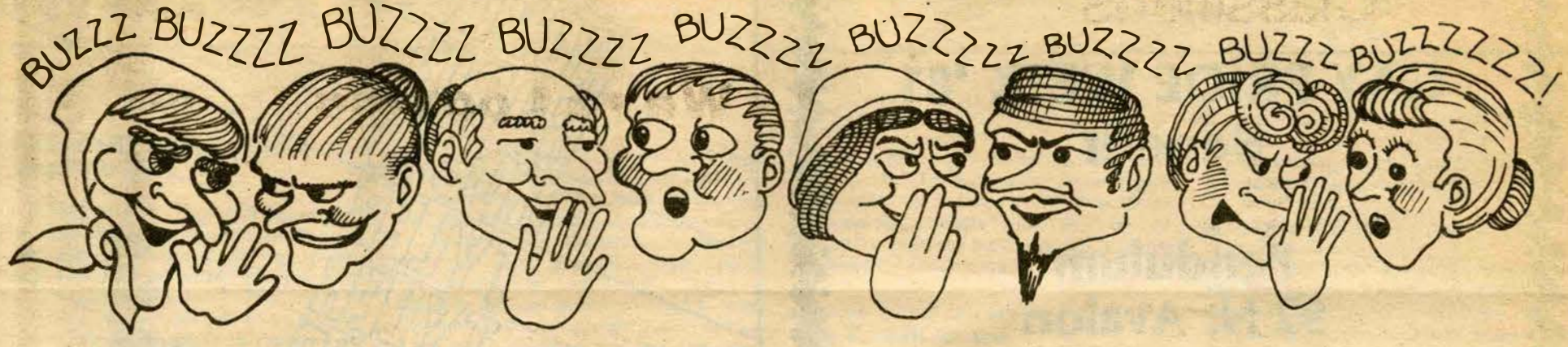
69 Myths About Homosexuality

By Clifton St. John



Sexuality has always been surrounded by ignorance and myth masquerading as "the sweet mystery of life." Somehow, this "sweet mystery" justifies reluctance to face one's sexuality and its responsibilities.

When it comes to homosexuality, reluctance becomes hard-core. It is as if homosexuality is so foreign, so monstrous that it cannot possibly be human. Because of this "inhuman" quality, homosexuality is suppressed; because homosexuality *is* human, it is feared. Fear linked with ignorance gives rise to prejudice, misinformation and myth.

Webster defines myths as: 1. A story, the origin of which is forgotten. 2. A person or thing existing only in imagination. Some synonyms are: fantasy, legend, absurdity.

The forgotten origin is quite appropriate. It is doubtful that anyone can trace the beginnings of any of the following myths. The imaginary person or thing applies directly to the Gay stereotype and the ogre-image of male homosexuality. And the synonyms "absurdity" and "fantasy" most aptly fit the Gay situation. The myths about Gay life are absurd, and society's anti-Gay actions, based on these myths, are fantastic.

But if actions against Gays are based on myth, why have those actions been so effective? One answer is that many Gays have accepted these myths as a true description of themselves. Many of these myths, unchallenged for centuries, have become established, integral elements of western cultures and value systems. They appear logical, factual and valid. Heterosexual parents have promoted and perpetuated these myths. Being duped by a heterosexist system, Gays have unwittingly aided in the effectiveness of anti-Gay action!

Thanks to instant communications, misinformation is gradually being replaced by serious discussion. Thanks to pioneer sex researchers, myth is slowly being replaced by fact. And thanks to the heightened awareness of Gay activists, actions against Gays are less and less effective.

The following are 69 of the many myths which help to oppress Gays. *GAzE* will explore these myths in depth in the next several issues.

1. All Gay men are effeminate; all effeminate men are Gay. All Lesbians are masculine; all masculine women are Lesbians.
2. All homosexuals are mentally ill.
3. All Gay men think like women and all Gay women think like men.
4. All homosexuals enjoy dressing in the clothing of the opposite sex.
5. Homosexuals are child molesters.
6. All Gay men are artistically inclined.
7. If you have homosexual tendencies, you will know it.
8. Gays are not capable of heterosexual relationships.
9. All Gays are willing to pay their sex partners.
10. The most hideous crimes are committed by Gays.
11. All homosexuals are promiscuous.
12. Repeated homosexual contact can render the heterosexual man impotent with women.
13. Gays recruit for homosexuality and the Gay life.
14. Lack of proper parental love and affection causes homosexuality.
15. Homosexual people are incapable of feeling love.
16. Gay men have sex glands in their throats.
17. Sex between two men is not sexual intercourse.
18. Gay people are anti-family.
19. Marriage to the opposite sex cures homosexual tendencies.
20. Homosexuality is a perversion of nature's intent.
21. Homosexuality threatens the survival of the species.
22. Gay people are homosexual because they choose to be.
23. Homosexuals are afflicted with imbalance of hormones.
24. All Gay people are inverts.
25. Early homosexual contacts insure lifelong homosexuality.
26. Physical contact between men encourages homosexuality.
27. Animals never indulge in homosexuality.
28. Gay men are woman-haters; Gay women are man-haters.
29. Homosexuality is condemned in all societies the world over.
30. All homosexuals are alike.
31. True bi-sexuals do not exist.
32. Gays are more intelligent than straights.
33. Caring for or loving a member of one's own sex is homosexual behavior.
34. Gay men need the closeness of other men more than straight men do.
35. Homosexual people are obsessed with sex.
36. Homosexuality fosters a state of constant misery.
37. Homosexuality is a full-time matter.
38. Homosexuals are defined only by their sexual condition.
39. Beauty, gentleness and love in Gay male terms is essentially feminine.
40. All Gay people are emotionally insecure.
41. Gay people are unstable and cannot function as productive citizens.
42. Homosexual people cannot form lasting relationships.
43. Gay life is a threat to the culture in which it exists.
44. As homosexuals grow older they seek younger and younger sex partners.
45. Homosexuality is a character defect.
46. Homosexuals attract violence.
47. My child could never be homosexual.
48. Homosexuality is a moral weakness.
49. Homosexuality is an inferior state of being.
50. Homosexuality is an indication of immaturity.
51. Homosexuality is purely physical, lustful and devoid of love.
52. Homosexuals suffer from their "affliction."
53. All Gays are nervous and furtive.
54. Homosexuals are impotent and sterile.
55. Homosexuality caused the downfall of Rome.
56. The Industrial Revolution caused homosexuality to spread.
57. Less than 10% of the U.S. population is Gay.
58. Gays are never propositioned by opposite sex prostitutes.
59. Gay people should not have the same constitutional rights as other citizens.
60. All Gay people are atheists.
61. Gay people are not real people, because they don't have families.
62. There are no homosexual male athletes.
63. All female athletes are Lesbians.
64. Gay people are limited to a few and certain abilities and occupations.
65. Only homosexuals indulge in sodomy.
66. Gay people in the military are a threat to discipline and order.
67. Transsexuals are merely homosexuals who are attempting to disguise their perversion.
68. All transvestites are homosexuals.
69. The combination of a domineering mother and a weak, ineffectual father will produce homosexual children.

Gay Alternative Radio Program Music News Current Events Interviews Controversy Social Events

Gay Alternative

WEVL FM 90.3
Sundays 3 P.M.

March 22--Current Events,
Local Information, Music
March 29--Interview With
Julie Steiner, ACLU-TN
April 5--Memphis Center For
Reproductive Health, Lesbian
Health Issues
April 12--Featured Artist Chris
Williamson (interview and music)
April 19--Highlights Of
6th Southeastern Conference
Of Lesbians And Gay Men

Gay Alternative Radio Program Music News Current Events Interviews Controversy Social Events

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LATIN AMERICAN LESBIANS interested in contributing articles (Spanish/English) on their struggles in the US & Latin America for an anthology being published by a collective of Latin Lesbian activists contact Juanita/Digna L., 170 Ave. C, 4-H NYC 10009, (212) 473-6864.

PRISON INMATES need your friendship. *Ken's Friends* directory lists many addresses and descriptions. Donations appreciated. Lambda Lighthouse, Box 3023, Port Charlotte, Florida 33952.

IF YOU KNOW of visually impaired sisters or brothers who would like to arrange to have *GAzE* read to them via telephone (local only), write *GAzE* talks, Box 3038, Memphis 38103.

MEMPHIS MAN wants to meet other Gay men interested in helping compile research about the Gay male experience. If interested, write Research, c/o *GAzE*, Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38103.

TRANSVESTITE (borderline transsexual?) desires responsible dating and friendship relationships with persons of both sexes. Try not to get cold feet! No phonies, instant sex-seekers, or calls after 11:30 p.m. With previous ad, I had hoped more people who know me casually from the bars would come closer. Phone 323-0830, or write Teresa Hart, Box 11263, Memphis 38111.

PALESTINE, ARKANSAS student (college) seeks to meet other Gays in area. Please write to Paul, c/o *GAzE*, Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38103.

BLACK AND WHITE MEN TOGETHER. At last, a nationwide group! Write: BWMT-NA, 279 Collingwood, San Francisco, CA 94114.

WANT TO BUY copies of early feminist and Lesbian literature. Willing to pay reasonable amounts. Write Susan, c/o *GAzE*, Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38103.

FEMALE, mid-thirties seeks roommate for 2-bedroom apartment in Midtown. Nothing bothers me. Write Janet, c/o *GAzE*, Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38103.

MYSTIC KREWE OF APHRODITE will hold A Spring Fling at the American Legion Hall, 251 Court St., Saturday, April 18, 7 p.m. until midnight. BYOB and dance band. Advance tickets $5/person, $8/couple. At door, $7 and $10. Purchase tickets from any member or call 324-9696 or 274-7118.

JORDAN...

Continued from page 1

subject matter." Butterick, who also manages "sister" station WWEE, stated, "I find it somehow ludicrous that you attempt to defend a life style that is by any definition an minority life style.... By living the way you do, you have invited criticism."

The staff of *GAzE* expressed outrage at Butterick's remarks, noting that it would be "ludicrous" for any minority group *not* to defend themselves in the face of offense by majority groups. It was noted, also, that announcers on WWEE continually made anti-Gay references based on common myths and misinformation. Cited for particular offenses were talk show hosts Chip Bramlett and Dave Diamond, who include in their broadcasts frequent references to "faggots," "queers" and the "homo" community.

Butterick's statement that he would defend the right of Ron Jordan to express his views on any subject matter was brought to and failed the test recently when, following Jordan's third arrest this year, Butterick reprimanded him for making derogatory statements about the Memphis Police Department.

Butterick told the *Commercial Appeal* that he had "long and serious conversations with Jordan" after Jordan referred to the police as "Nazis" and "pigs." Butterick said, "We would have stopped it a lot quicker if we had known (about Jordan's remarks) sooner."

GAzE responded to Butterick following the incident, saying, "It is interesting--and outrageous--that you stated in your letter that you would defend the rights of Ron Jordan to state and express his views on any subject matter (considering that the subject matter involved Gay people) when, following Jordan's recent comments about Memphis police, you stated that his rights to express his views on any subject matter were suddenly terminated. The police, by any definition, are a minority. Where does one in your position draw the line? Will you opt to offend only those who you feel you can get away with offending?"

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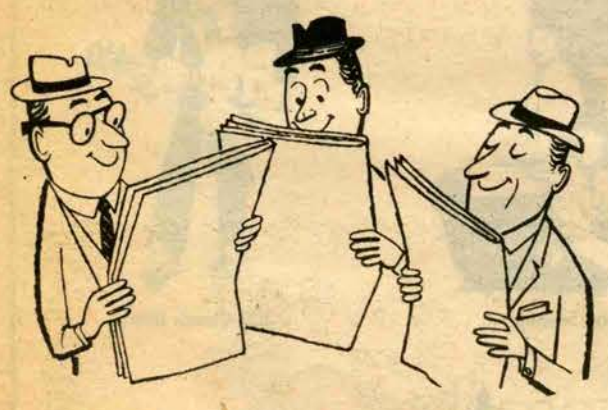

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