

'Gay Conversion' Morality Or Bigotry

by Kim Painter

SEATTLE, WA (USA) — This is the moment Bob Davies has dreamed of.

After 13 years of toiling in relative obscurity to bring what he sees as a message of salvation to homosexuals, Davies is in the spotlight. The phones in his Seattle office ring constantly, thanks to recent newspaper ads, bankrolled by conservative and Christian groups, that say Gays can turn straight if they seek help - help that Davies' group Exodus International offers through its network of 90 U.S. ministries.

But the calls coming into Exodus' toll-free line aren't all from Gays seeking help; in fact, Davies says, more than half are from people "who want to banish us to the hottest flames of hell . . . They're calling to tell us we're hateful, we're bigoted, we're homophobic."

In the war over homosexuality, circa 1998, the battle over the Gays-can-change ad campaign is emblematic: Emotions run high, name-calling is rampant and no one claims high moral ground without a challenge.

The full-page ads, which have run in USA TODAY, The New York Times and other publications, carry testimonials of people like Anne Paulk of Colorado Springs - "wife, mother, former Lesbian" - and proclaim that God's love "can set you free" from "sexual sin."

They bring attention to a church-based homosexual conversion movement that started more than 20 years ago, about the time that most psychiatrists stopped treating homosexuality as a disease.

Homosexuality is "not a simple moral choice" and not easily overcome, Davies says. But groups like his exist, he says, to give hope and help to those who believe that they cannot be both Christian and Gay. While some churches now embrace openly homosexual members, the Gay conversion movement flourishes among those who believe that the only morally acceptable sex takes place within heterosexual marriages.

But Gay rights groups say the ad campaign isn't about helping people or presenting options. Instead, they say, it's about undermining Gay rights by suggesting that homosexuals don't need protection from discrimination because they aren't a special group - just confused sinners who could go straight if they tried hard enough.

"We are in the midst of the one of the most concerted attacks on Gay rights ever," directed by the groups behind the ads, says David Smith, spokesman for the Human Rights Campaign, Washington, D.C. "The ads start with the premise that something is wrong with homosexuality, so homosexuality must be changed."

But beyond the politics and the rhetoric, as always, are real lives.

There are people like Davies and Paulk, who call themselves Christian "ex-Gays," saved from sin, shame and emotional emptiness by groups like Exodus, Love in Action and Homosexuals Anonymous. And there are Gay men and women who say such groups condemned them to years of guilt and duplicity, to empty marriages, unnecessary loneliness, even thoughts of suicide.

"What we're not hearing about in these ads are the stories of people who have killed themselves because they couldn't change," says Doug Upchurch, a Houston man who runs a Web site for "ex-ex-Gays" like himself, people who tried conversion therapy but now lead Gay lives.

NOT A DISORDER

The mental health community is overwhelmingly on the side of those who say homosexuality is not a sickness or a choice that can or should be changed.

Although some psychiatrists still offer treatment for homosexuality, the American Psychiatric Association removed homosexuality from its list of mental disorders in 1973. The group says there's no scientific proof that any kind of therapy can reverse a person's sexual orientation.

The American Psychological Association says that there's no evidence such therapy works and that it may do more harm than good.

And the American Academy of Pediatrics says that while some teens who are uncertain about their sexual orientation might benefit from therapy, therapy designed to change sexual orientation is discouraged, "since it can provoke guilt and anxiety" while holding little or no potential for success.

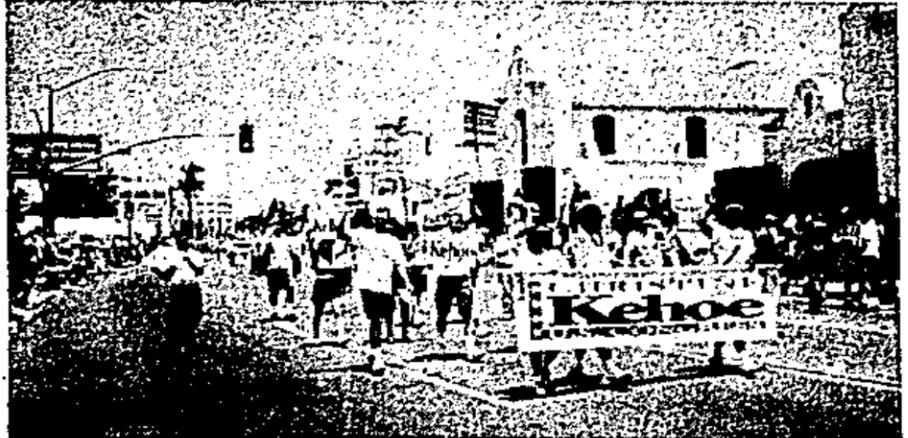
Carlin Ryan, a Washington, D.C., social worker who counsels young Gays, says she worries the ads will encourage parents to push adolescents into therapy. Many parents, she says, already "push Gay youths into heterosexual experiences, thinking if they have heterosexual sex or have a boyfriend or a girlfriend, then they won't be Gay anymore."

But leaders in the conversion therapy movement say they don't want to pressure anyone to join them. Joe Dallas, who runs Genesis Counseling in Orange, Calif., says he tells parents that suggesting therapy to their sons and daughters probably will backfire. Conversion therapy has a chance of succeeding only when people are deeply committed to it, he says.

"The movement is primarily speaking to people who already hold a world

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWENTY

Thousands Attend San Diego Pride Events



SAN DIEGO, CA - Over 100,000 onlookers lined University and Sixth Avenues for San Diego's Pride Parade and two-day celebration this past weekend. Friends and supporters of Christine Kehoe, the openly-Lesbian San Diego City Council member running for Congress, carried her banner. PHOTO: Stephen Brown



SAN DIEGO, CA - Actress Kathy Najimy, co-star of "Veronica's Closet" and "King of the Hill" waved to friendly fans along Sixth Avenue during San Diego Pride 1998. Najimy actively supports many GLBT and AIDS organizations. PHOTO: Stephen Brown

Controversies Surface At Gay Games

AMSTERDAM, Netherlands (NYT) — New rules affecting the participation of Transgender athletes at the 1998 Gay Games, which got underway this past weekend in Amsterdam, are generating heated controversy among organizers and participants.

For the first time, Gay Games officials are requiring that athletes who have changed their sex provide proof of what the rules call "completed gender transition."

Concerns over fairness and legal liability have forced officials to properly categorize the handful of Transgender athletes participating, so that, for example, male-to-female transsexuals, with their greater body strength, do not compete unfairly, or perhaps even dangerously, against women.

"On the soccer field, a 100-pound wail of a girl has the right to participate in a safe environment," Roz Quarto, co-president of the Federation of Gay Games said.

While critics of the new certification procedures agree fairness and safety are important concerns, the whole point of the Gay Games, they say, is being lost in the minutiae of the debate.

"The Gay Games were formed because Gay athletes could not compete openly — how ironic that they are now forcing another group of athletes to go back into the closet or face a barrage of stigmatizing obstacles," Riki Anne Wilchins, the executive director of Gender PAC, a transsexual advocacy organization said.

Games officials said rules governing athletes undergoing gender transition were initially proposed by the Federation of Gay Games, the event's governing body. The New York Games, held in 1994, dropped the certification rules as unnecessarily intrusive and allowed applicants to simply declare their sex, no questions asked.

Under the new policies, transsexuals must provide detailed documentation such as a letter from a doctor stating that the applicant has undergone hormone treatments for at least two years without interruption, and other proof, through photographs, correspondence or an employer's declaration, that the applicant has lived actively in his or her new sex for at least two years.

"Where is their sense of fairness and justice — where does discrimination stop?" Sydney Levy of the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission said.

UPDATE

Tucson Police Continues Park Patrols

by David Hensley

TUCSON — The Tucson Police Department (TPD) is continuing to arrest individuals who are soliciting and/or having sex in park restrooms.

At least six men were arrested this past Monday at Reid Park. A similar effort, also at Reid Park resulted in six arrests July 9. There have been a number of persons arrested over the past several weeks. They will continue to work on this problem in our neighborhood parks. If convicted, those arrested face up to six months in jail and a \$1,000 fine.

According to TPD, the Gay community is not a significant part of this problem. However, there are a few individuals who are involved. These individuals may have HIV and/or full-blown AIDS. Greater than the risk of arrest is the risk of infection.

It is great for the open communication between the police department and the Gay community. They are working with us on this problem. Let's help them help us!

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For more information, call (602) 264-1470.

Gay Games Hotel Update

AMSTERDAM, Netherlands (WS) — American and Australian tour operators and the Netherlands parties met in court in Amsterdam this past week to resolve the dispute over paid services and hotel rooms for Gay Games.

The presiding Judge stated that there was too much information, evidence, make a ruling in just one day.

The controversy arose when the Dutch company, WENS, handling hotel reservations from Australia and the U.S. stated to keep their reservations for the rooms they had to pay a cancellation fee, up to \$100 US a night for any reservations. The owner of the Dutch company admitted to such in court.

Also disclosed was the fact that one of the operators may have overpaid more than \$100,000 for WENS services.

Despite the dispute, most of the hotels are cooperating at this point.

Reveille Gay Men's Chorus Auditions

TUCSON - The Reveille Gay Men's Chorus will be holding auditions for the 1998-99 season during the entire month of August.

Formally, the fall season will commence with the annual "Kick Off" Party in late August. Rehearsals for the December Holiday concert will begin Tuesday, September 1.

Anyone interested in joining this most dynamic community chorus of Tucson can do so by calling 881-1369 to set up an appointment. The chorus is particularly looking for low basses and 1st tenors. No previous experience required. You don't have to be a professional musician, but some chorus/singing would be helpful. Call and find out

IN MEMORIAM



Art Lewis

Friends were saddened to learn of the untimely death of Art Lewis. Art passed away last Wednesday, July 29 after a brief illness.

Art was born in Cleveland, Ohio where he practiced both law and accounting after serving in the Navy during World War II. He had been a Tucson resident for the past twenty-five years. Although separated by geography from his two daughters and four grandchildren, they remained a very close knit family.

Lewis is probably best known as a former owner of The Graduate, Tucson's oldest continuously running Gay bar.

Art made the Graduate available to all community organizations for fund raising. He was a founding member of AGRA in Tucson and served as treasurer for two and a half years. He was Grand Marshall for the 1996 Saguaro Regional Rodeo.

A self-proclaimed workaholic, Art had several careers in addition to practicing law and accounting. He taught law and accounting classes at Pima Community College and Lamson Business College. He was head of the Accounting Department at Tucson College of Business. He was treasurer, sometime actor and later president of the Playbox Theater.

His remains will be interred in his family plot in Cleveland. There will be a memorial gathering for Art at the Graduate, 23 West University, beginning at 3:00 p.m. A remembrance toast will take place at 4:00 p.m.

Art will be remembered for his outgoing personality, congeniality, wit and wisdom and an always ready smile for everyone. So long friend.

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Electronic Observer on the World Wide Web:
<http://bonzo.com/observer>
E-Mail: watcher@azstarnet.com

EDITOR/PUBLISHER: Bob Ellis
ART & GRAPHICS: Gary Clark
COPY EDITOR: Mark Kerr

Regular Contributors
SASHA ALYSON
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MPS Roast And Toast Of Gilda Fatalé Sunday, August 9



Gilda Fatalé

by Beth Perry

TUCSON (ON) — On Sunday, August 9, at the Holiday Inn City Center, we will have the final MPS Roast and Toast.

the last three Roasts. But alas dear Gilda, it is time to let your fans know who you really are, what you really do and who you really do it with. We shall delve into your past and leave no stone unturned.

QUITE THE CAST OF CHARACTERS

Our first "Roastee," in August 1992 was none other than Gary Clark. Following Gary were Nancy Norman, Bob Ellis, Kathy Mayer, Aviva Diamond and the "Queen of Comedy," Miss Lucinda Holliday. Quite the cast of characters!

TICKETS

Tickets for the Roast are \$20 and can be purchased at IBT's or from Beth and Natalie, 747-7426.

We've had a successful run!
Thanks Tucson!

'ROAST' HISTORY

Ricky Norman has been the producer-director for all the Roasts. After learning of Woody's diagnosis (Hurler Schie), he asked me what he could do to help. We came up with the "Roast and Toast" idea borrowing the headline, "As We See It" from Gary Clark.

GOALS

Our goal was to raise funds for the National MPS Society so that someday they might find a treatment for Woody and other children with MPS.

We were told that Woody's life expectancy was 14-18 years. With deepest appreciation and gratitude to the Tucson Gay and Lesbian community, that treatment became a reality. It isn't a cure but it is a chance. Woody has finished his 19th treatment and it looks promising. His headaches have gone away, he sleeps all night, his liver and spleen are normal size and his energy level has increased. In other words, he feels good.

A CELEBRATION!

This year's roast will be one of celebration for all the volunteers that have hung in there with us, doing whatever was needed year after year. It's time to party!

I can't think of a more appropriate person to roast than Gilda Fatalé for our finale. She has been a MPS volunteer from the beginning, and our lovely hostess for

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America's biggest industry increased their "output" this past week. Polls and polls galore!

According to one, three-quarters of those who bothered responding, possibly completely and truthfully - using the latest catch phrase, believe job discrimination based on sexual orientation should be illegal. Oh sure.

In a recent Wall Street Journal/NBC poll released ever so conveniently this past week, 72 percent of those who unfortunately answered the phone believe that Clinton's executive order against anti-Gay bias in federal agencies should not be overturned. Oh sure.

Most of the polls reaffirm this point but tell that to Congress in Monica D.C., as if they care. "Was the intern a 'Devil in a Blue Dress?'" "Will the prez 'come clean?'" and "What will be in fashion for impeachment hearings?" are the topics du jour in the nation's sex scandal city, er capital. Gay and Lesbian rights? Forget it. It wasn't the case again this past week. What else is new?

For those still playing the home game, three Republican members of Congress, no surprise here, attached three anti-Gay, Lesbian and HIV/AIDS amendments to two appropriations' bills, HR 4194 and HR 4276 respectively. It must be an election year!

Rep. Joel Hefley, R-CO, introduced an amendment that would overturn Clinton's recent executive order, with no authority to implement, codifying the numerous federal policies banning discrimination in employment in the federal workplace based on sexual orientation. Hefley's amendment would also eliminate any current policies and bar future policies.

The Colorado Springs member of Congress blathered on previously that the prez exercised "dictatorial powers." It wasn't Clinton who exercised his power. Republican President Gerald Ford in 1975 signed the first executive order after several court victories by Gay and Lesbian federal employees.

According to Rep. Frankie Riggs, R-CA, in his proposed amendment, the City of San Francisco should be prohibited from using VA-HUD funds, totaling \$65 million,



'Party Hints With Veronica!'

to implement its domestic partner's ordinance against discrimination in city contracts.

Remember. It's not just a Gay thing, just one group trying to force a particular political belief, doctrine on others. Just like the Christian Coalition!

The third of the "GOP Gay and AIDS bashing troika" amendments came from Rep. Van Hilleary, R-TN. Rep. Hilleary, an anti choice, Ralph Reed clone and fave of the Christian Coalition sponsored an amendment to freeze spending increases for HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS) at the 1998 level, taking the \$21 million increase and put it to VA programs.

Hilleary's justification: the total annual number of AIDS cases when down by an underwhelming 6%. According to the Veterans Administration, 100,000 to 150,000 veterans are living with HIV and only 17,000 access care through the VA system. Now there is a reason to not increase funding!

The drop in mortality, according to Anne Maley, executive director of the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) is due to people living longer because of new drugs such as protease inhibitors. Maley emphasized that the success of these new treatments depends on people having a steady place to live, which they do with HOPWA funding. Common sense, won't play in Congress!

Gay and Lesbian rights groups such as the Human Rights Campaign, called the amendments gratuitous Gay bashing. No argument here! They urged their supporters and members to call their members of Congress.

According to Gays and Lesbians new convenient friend, Rep. Dickie Gephardt, D-MO, the House Democratic leader and possible Democratic presidential wanna-bee in Y2K, said he will oppose the amendments and urge all Democrats to vote against them. Our hero?!

The stage was set for a battle. The results? Two losses.

By a vote of 214-212, the Riggs amendment punishing San Francisco for their domestic partners ordinance. [YES - 189 R's, 25 D's. NO - 33 R's, 178 D's, 1 Independent.] Local authority, we don't no stinking authority!

[Arizona's delegation voted: Yes - Hayworth, Salmon, Shadegg, Stump. NO - Kolbe and Pastor.]

"Right-wing GOP Gay bashing has hit an all-time hypocritical low," said Human Rights Campaign (HRC) executive director Elizabeth Birch.

The other amendment voted on, from Rep. Hilleary, was approved by a vote of 231-200, cutting the HOPWA increase. [YES - 184 R's, 47 D's. NO - 42 R's, 157 D's, 1 Independent.] Still haven't hit the hypocritical low yet!

[Arizona's delegation voted: YES - Hayworth, Salmon, Shadegg, Stump, Pastor. No - Kolbe.]

So why did Arizona's only Democrat vote in favor? Good question! Pastor's press secretary, Maura Saavedra hasn't returned calls to this reporter seeking comment on the Member of Congress' reasoning for his vote.

"It's disappointing," commented Maley when hearing about the vote. "People living with HIV/AIDS need support for longer time and the cut of the increase in HOPWA funding throws a monkey wrench into it."

After the passage of the two amendments, Democrats are lobbying to repeal of both amendments. Gay and Lesbian advocates are confident they can defeat the two measures. The White House has vowed to "strongly object to such amendments." Sure!

The Democrats, under the leadership of Dickie Gephardt did such a bang-up

job lobbying their members before the votes, which they lost because of the many defections. Can we really expect anything?

Gay and Lesbian groups said the same countless thing time and time before many losing votes and does anyone remember what happened to the Employment Non Discrimination Act?

With Clinton's impending testimony before the "Kenny Starr Follics," will Bubba still be in office to veto both bills with the offending amendments?

Just think, we still have the Hefley amendment, which will be voted on as of press time. Still haven't hit the hypocritical low yet! ...

So it goes for now kids!

Conference Of G/L Criminal Justice Professionals Sept. 17-20

VANCOUVER, Canada — The Law Enforcement Gays and Lesbians of British Columbia (LEGAL BC) and LEGAL International announce the fifth annual International Conference of Gay and Lesbian Criminal Justice Professionals conference in Vancouver, September 17-20.

The theme of this year's conference is, "Healing the Past; Living in the Present; Education for the Future." An exciting conference program will be presented fulfilling the 1998 conference: "Promoting understanding, fostering education, expanding horizons. Opposing hate/bias crimes and intolerance; being positive role models, in particular to youth."

This conference is designed for peace officers, fire fighters, parole and probation officers, corrections officers, prosecutors, jurists and criminal justice support who: Are professionals seeking to create and maintain a positive work environment, regardless of sexual orientation, regardless of sexual orientation. Serve as liaisons with the Gay and Lesbian community. Are members of the Gay and Lesbian community.

For an informational brochure and application, contact David Hensley, (520) 745-9059, or write to: POB 42611, Tucson, AZ. 85733-2611.

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The religious right is in desperation mode. That is the only way to describe the national advertising campaign launched by a coalition of 15 conservative religious organizations to convert gays to heterosexuality.

The ads are cunningly deceptive. They appear to be reaching out to homosexuals when their real purpose is to convince the general public that homosexuality is a lifestyle choice and not innate. For the Christian Right, this message is the key to maintaining an intolerance of homosexuality.

One full-page ad, which appeared in The New York Times on July 13, is of 'Anne Paulk - wife, mother, former Lesbian.' Paulk, a very feminine looking woman with her wedding-ringed hand to her face, tells us in the most pastoral way that she turned to Lesbianism after a teenage boy molested her when she was 4. (Both acts, her Lesbianism and his molestation, are referred to as sins, subtly equating the two.)

She explains how a gay college counselor "affirmed" her feelings of sexual attraction to females, and that later she was able to reject her homosexual "lifestyle" by turning to God to finally find "forgiveness" and "acceptance." (Interestingly, after talking with Paulk, Time magazine's Margaret Carlson suggests her avowed Lesbianism may not have actually involved sex with women.)

In the middle of the ad, there's a group photo of about 150 people and a caption that reads: "Thousands of ex-gays like these have walked away from their homosexual identities." At the bottom there's a phone number to call for information on a local "ex-gay ministry."

The number was supposed to be to Exodus International, an association of ministries that claim to help gays go straight. (Interestingly, Exodus co-founders Michael Bussee and Gary Cooper quit the organization after falling in love with each other, according to The New York Times columnist Frank Rich. (See story on page one of this issue of Observer). The two later had a ceremonial gay wedding.) But when I called the number in the ad, it was a wrong number.

Viewpoint

By Robyn Blunner

Christian Assault On Gays Isn't Meant To Help Them

Although just a typographical error, it's indicative of the interest these Christian Right groups have in reaching out to gays and Lesbians. Not much.

These ad-sponsoring groups, including the Christian Coalition, the Family Research Council and the American Family Association, don't want to reach out to gays. They hate gays. Their literature and direct mail rails against homosexuals with shrill Judgment Day warnings. Instead, the purpose of the ads is to communicate with the heterosexual newspaper reader.

These Christian Right groups have a vested interest in perpetuating the myth that a homosexual is not born but recruited. They are politically sophisticated and they have been watching the polls and see the correlation between Americans who support equal rights for homosexuals and those who believe that homosexuality is inborn. After all, it's not fair to punish someone for their biology.

Fundamentalists don't want you to believe that homosexuality is genetically determined because that would mean it is a naturally occurring phenomenon. They want you to believe that homosexuality is unnatural and "against God's law" but a baby born hard-wired to be gay defies that prejudice.

And when homosexuality is no longer seen as a choice, then children are not in danger of being converted by gay adults. The Christian Right relies upon the specter of the predator-homosexual to frighten parents whose children may be taught by a gay teacher or have a gay coach.

Donald Wildmon, president of the American Family Association, wrote in a 1996 direct mail letter to supporters: "Since homosexuals cannot reproduce, the only way for them to 'breed' is to RECRUIT! And who are their targets for recruitment? Children!"

The Christian Right needs to give the heterosexual electorate a reason to fear gays. Otherwise, Americans' natural live-and-let-live instincts may influence national policies on gay rights.

In fact, the increasing acceptance of homosexuality is why these ads are coming out now. The Christian Right is losing this issue and knows it.

Hollywood is depicting gays and Lesbians in the movies and television as normal people with the same values as non-gays. The television series "Ellen" may have been canceled, but its openly Lesbian star, Ellen DeGeneres, got to romantically kiss another woman before a network prime-time audience. And Anne Heche, DeGeneres' off-screen partner, plays a heterosexual love interest to Harrison Ford in the movie "Six Days, Seven Nights."

About 100 cities have adopted domestic partnership policies to provide benefits to Gay employees, and 33 Fortune 500 companies have similar policies, including AT&T Xerox, Apple and the Disney Corp. It's all becoming mainstream.

The Christian Right is fighting this by trying to convince you that homosexuals shouldn't be accommodated or accepted because they can change if they start to lead moral and religious lives. It's bunk.

Some people are simply born homosexual. But no one is born a homophobe. That's something being taught by the Christian Right.

Robyn Blunner is a columnist and editorial writer at The St. Petersburg, Florida Times.

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AS I SEE IT..... BY CLARK

GOODBYE BUFFALO BOB + HOWDY DOODY

WHEN CHILDHOOD WAS CHILDHOOD

HRC: Christian Coalition Breaking Fund Raising Laws In Anti-Gay Hawaiian Campaign

HONOLULU, HI -- Protect Our Constitution and Protect Our Constitution/Human Rights Campaign, the two groups fighting the anti-Gay ballot measure in Hawaii, have a formal complaint with the state's Campaign Spending Commission. The groups allege that the Christian Coalition and its local affiliate, the Hawaii Christian Coalition, are flouting Hawaii campaign spending laws.

"The Christian Coalition is not above the law and has no special right to ignore Hawaii's rules on campaign spending," said David M. Smith, HRC's communications director and senior strategist. "The citizens of Hawaii ought to be concerned when religious activist groups like the Christian Coalition believe they can brazenly disregard laws in their effort to impose their narrow views on Hawaii's citizens."

The state Legislature has placed a question on the November ballot to determine whether the Hawaii Constitution should be amended to grant the Legislature the power to limit marriages to opposite-sex couples. This has brought in a flood of religious political activist groups who want to export intolerance into Hawaii.

Under the Hawaii campaign spending law, any group that raises more than \$1,000 in support of a ballot question must register and file reports with the Campaign Spending Commission. Neither the Christian Coalition nor the Hawaii Christian Coalition has registered. Yet these groups have embarked on a full-fledged electronic fund-raising appeal, with explicit instructions on how to give money by credit card. The Christian Coalition is even electronically soliciting cash from overseas to help

raise the \$1.5 million they believe is needed to buy this referendum. Posted on the Hawaii Christian Coalition website, in boldface type, it says, "Foreign Checks Also Accepted."

"If past pro-discrimination campaigns are any indication, this end-around by the right could be the first of many unscrupulous tactics and tricks we may see between now and November," said Smith.

The complaint was filed by Protect Our Constitution campaign manager Jackie Young and Smith, Protect Our Constitution/Human Rights Campaign's representative.

"The complaint asked that the commission declare the Christian Coalition and Christian Coalition Hawaii in violation of the law, compel them to register, and impose all appropriate penalties under the law," Young said. "These groups need to learn that in Hawaii, there are consequences for those who do not play by the rules."

Study Highlights Risks To Gay Teens

NEW YORK, NY (RHIS) — A new study published in the Journal of Pediatrics suggests that Gay teens who report multiple sexual partners are far more likely to be identified as Gay by their peers and are thus more prone to physical assault, attempted suicide, and substance abuse.

The report is based on the results of confidential questionnaires filled out by over 21,000 8th- through 12th-graders in

Phelps Foiled In Minneapolis

by Paul D. Stanko

MINNEAPOLIS, MN — All God's Children of the Twin Cities is still celebrating the recent, incredible events.

The Westboro Baptist Church of Topeka, Kansas arrived in the Twin Cities this past weekend with 20 congregants to picket the church with a message, "God hates Fags." The Rev. Phelps underestimated All God's Children Metropolitan Community Church and the Twin Cities as over 1,000 people gathered at the church to attend a counter rally, stating "Minnesota says No to Hate."

Crowds gathered on the steps of the church spilling out on the lawns and into the streets. The assembled crowd burst into applause as Minnesota Attorney General, Skip Humphrey and three other candidates for governor lead a procession of numerous elected officials into the sanctuary. Pastors from area churches, en route to their own worship services, stopped to join in the counter rally. An ecumenical group of representative from religious groups, civil rights organization, Gay and Lesbian organizations and heterosexual support groups, over 100 in all, joined in the overwhelming spirit of unity.

Over 600 people packed the sanctuary to hear speeches speaking out against hate in Minnesota. The Mayor of Minneapolis issued a proclamation, "Say No to Hate Day." Television and radio news programs covered the event.

The congregation then joined hands as the Chancel Choir and orchestra sang hymns. A moment of silence followed for all those who have died or experienced hate crimes in Minnesota.

Rev. Phelps's group sang hymns outside on the street corner. They carried signs, with messages saying: "Gays are going to hell, your Pastor is lying, Gays deserve AIDS."

All God's Children Metropolitan Community Church position was one of non-violent activism, sharing a message of love versus the Westboro Baptist churches message of hate.

The 400 that could not get into the building stood on the steps of the church and began to sing "Jesus loves Me this I know" as Phelps' group shouted statements of hate.

A reporter for a local newspaper said of the event, "It was amazing to hear the language that Phelps' group used. I was shocked that this so-called Christian church would stand on the street corner and yell, "you are all a bunch of butt f**kers."

There were no acts of violence and no one was arrested. After the service, a peace and justice resource fair and reception was held in the social hall. Thirty organizations had booths to network together on Lesbian and Gay issues.

"We could not have asked for anything better," said Pastor Paul Graetz. All God's Children were able to turn a negative into a positive and proclaim the message, "We are all God's children."



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UPDATE

Bucky's Benefit Big Bucks



TUCSON - An unusual benefit was held last Saturday, Aug. 1 at the Graduate. Bartender Bucky Buckholtz has a hernia that ruptured and he was in need of immediate surgery. Like so many others, Bucky had no money for such an operation. The crew of the Graduate got together and held a benefit show and auction for him and raised over \$3,000 to assist Bucky on his medical journey.

Not one to be left out of the fun, Bucky arrived during the show in full tilt drag shown above. Drag is not new to Mr. Buckholtz however. In his former life, he traveled the country as a member of the Jewel Box Revue out of Kansas City. Most readers will not remember this group but those who do know it as a class act of female impersonators as they were known in 'those' days. Congratulations to all who contributed to the 'cause' and good luck to Bucky. Have a speedy recovery girl!

TIHAN Volunteer Orientation Aug. 12

TUCSON - It has been proven that volunteering helps your heart and soul, changes lives, and betters our community, and it's a great way to meet fabulous people, learn new skills, get excellent experience, learn about yourself (and others) and be part of the solution.

TIHAN, the Tucson Interfaith HIV, AIDS Network, has a variety of volunteer positions—something for everyone. An Orientation will be held next Wednesday, August 12, to provide an overview of TIHAN and volunteer opportunities. Interested? Come check us out!

"We're a very diverse group of Gay and straight people working together to end the stigma and fear around HIV, and to serve our brothers and sisters who are living with HIV/AIDS," said Scott Blades, TIHAN's director. "Come join our wonderful team of volunteers and help out with one of many things to choose from—ranging from Care Teams, office support, education and awareness programs, fund raising events, information booths, and more." Over the past four years, TIHAN volunteers have contributed over 15,000 hours of direct service to people living with HIV/AIDS in our community.

The orientation is scheduled for Wednesday, August 12, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. The orientation is then followed up by a one-day training program which will be held on Saturday, August 15

For more information about volunteering with TIHAN or to sign up for the orientation, please call the TIHAN office at 299-6647.

Come be a part of the hope and part of the solution!

Massachusetts Lesbian Wins Big Discrimination Suit

LOWELL, MA (WS) — Patricia Weber was awarded \$906,000 by Middlesex Superior Court Judge Sandra Hamlin in her job discrimination lawsuit against the Lowell-based non-profit Community Teamwork, Inc. (CTI), the state's second-largest anti-poverty agency.

Hamlin not only found that the reasons stated for Weber's firing were "a pretext," but that Weber was "eminently more qualified" than the candidate the CTI board of directors selected instead to serve as its executive director. Hamlin also rejected CTI's argument that its liability should not exceed \$20,000, as provided by the state's immunity cap for charitable organizations. After 18 years of service with CTI, Weber was fired in March 1996, and discovered when filing for unemployment benefits that the agency's stated reason for the termination was "inability to do her job."

Gay Couple Found Dead In Illinois Home

DES PLAINES, IL (WS) — An Illinois Gay couple of more than 20 years Jack Winteringer and Richard Knight, both in their 60's, were found July 22 shot dead in their home.

Officials are so at a loss for clues in the case that this week they have been stopping cars in the men's south Des Plaines neighborhood to query motorists. The men are described as "homebodies" who were intensely private and little known outside their church and small circle of friends. Police have been investigating the possibility that the murders came about as a result of Winteringer's occasional use of a telephone dating service.

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RESTAURANT



Asia has long held an allure for travelers from the West. With the region now in economic recession, we have another reason to visit: The dollar buys much more than it did a year ago. Here are a few destinations to consider for a first-time visit.

THAILAND

While planning our tenth-anniversary trip, my boyfriend and I investigated Gay Thailand tours. The leading company, we learned, offers no discount for double-occupancy: Everybody gets a double room to themselves, with an unspoken assumption that the other half of the bed will get filled soon enough. This didn't seem like the ideal arrangement for our tenth-anniversary vacation, but for other travelers, it will be just the ticket. (Tours to Paradise: 213-962-9169, www.tourstoparadise.com)

For many, that's the appeal of Thailand: Sex between men is legal, accepted, and available. Most contact between visitors and Thais is commercialized in go-go clubs staffed with young "masscurs," who often identify as straight — but flexible. Clubs with a more western-style Gay identity have opened in recent years like Bangkok's Telephone (114/11-13 Silom Rd., Soi 4, +2/234-3279) or DJ Station (8/6-8 Silom Rd., Soi 2, +2/235-1227).

The north of Thailand offers a sharp contrast to urban Bangkok. You can visit an ornate Buddhist temple one day, raft in the Himalayan foothills the next. The hill tribes provide a fascinating cultural counterpoint to the rugged scenery.

Southern Thailand is known for its exquisite beaches and islands. The best-known beach resort, Phuket, has become congested, over-built, and a prime destina-

Venturing Out

by Sasha Alyson

Discover Asia



tion for sex tourists. Instead, consider Krabi on the mainland, or the islands of Phi Phi and Samui.

BALI

One of Asia's most popular destinations is Bali. Beautiful beaches ring this verdant island and some of the most luxurious resorts in the world are found along these shores; readers of Conde Nast Traveler voted the Four Seasons on Jimbaran Bay "the best resort in the world".

But don't confine yourself to the beach. The striking river gorges of Bali's interior are popular with intrepid travelers.

Ubud, a city in the middle of the island, is Bali's cultural capital, with shops and galleries featuring art and handicrafts. The interior also offers hiking, river rafting, a Monkey Forest, and the Pura Dalem Agung temple.

Bali is in Indonesia, whose capital, Jakarta, has experienced violent riots in recent months. Luckily, except for a few nonviolent protests at the university, Bali has been spared from the upheaval. I'd still advise checking with the U.S. State Department, before making plans, to see if anything has changed when you are planning to go. (http://travel.state.gov/travel_warnings.html)

VIETNAM

The freshest travel destination in Asia is Viet Nam, which fully opened itself to tourism only in the early 1990's. While lacking the sophisticated resorts of Bali, or the sexual openness of Thailand, Viet Nam offers enormous natural beauty and a fascinating culture that has long been isolated from the world.

Intrigued? This is the time to go, as it won't remain unchanged for long. Many hotels opened just as tourism dipped, so luxury rooms can be found for under \$100 a night.

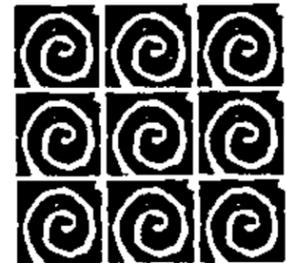
Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon) in the south is the fast-paced capital. There are few venues at which you can meet Gays. One is Cafe 39 (Le Thi Rieng St., Dist. 5), outside the city center. Another is Dem Mau Hong Disco (Ham Nghi

St.) in the city. But Saigon offers enough other attractions, such as the Reunification Palace, to keep you busy. If the city crowds prove overwhelming, about 130 miles north of Ho Chi Minh City lies Da Lat, a Vietnamese honeymoon spot noted for its beautiful scenery and relaxing atmosphere.

Hanoi, in the north, plays little sister to Saigon. Its charms include the old quarter whose crooked streets and alleys contain thousands of vendors and artisans. A day trip from Hanoi, four hours southwest of the city, is the Perfume Pagoda, a Buddhist cave temple set deep in a fragrant forest. The narrow center of Viet Nam boasts two cities worth a stop. While in Hue visit Thien Mu pagoda by river boat. South from Hue is Da Nang and nearby China Beach.

Still undecided? Your travel schedule is a factor. October brings an end to the rainy season in Thailand and Vietnam; weather will be best from November into springtime. Bali's the opposite: The best months are May to September

The Gay travel newsletter Out & About (212-645-6922, outandabout.com) has published several excellent articles about various destinations in Asia. Those interested in the sex scene should check out The Guide (www.guide-mag.com/travel.html).



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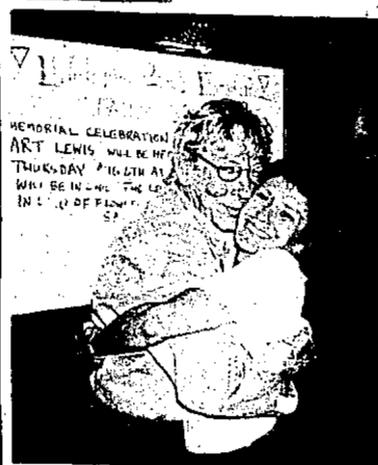
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IN FLIGHT... WINGSPAN

Domestic Violence Project

'Making Our Communities Safe'

by Rebecca Widom

I was at a discussion group at Wingspan the other day, and one person present spoke pretty proudly about being a controlling person.

This made me uneasy, because I know that domestic violence is one person controlling another in an intimate relationship. But I thought to myself, "Maybe I'm being over-sensitive, let it go." Another 15 or 20 minutes passed before this same person was talking about why it was all right that she had hit her ex-partner. (And she wasn't talking about a consensual S/M scene.)

An acquaintance of mine has been in the process of leaving an abusive relationship. Lately, whenever I go to feminis/Lesbian/Gay/Bi/Trans events (like the Take Back the Night march, or Susie Bright's fabulous talk at the public library) the woman, who has threatened to kill my acquaintance is there. Not surprisingly, this acquaintance of mine doesn't go to many community events any more.

events, and are rarely if ever confronted about their behavior. And a batterer's presence at an event makes that event unsafe for their victims.

Let me say this again, because it's really important, a batterer's presence at an event makes that event unsafe for their victims.

Here's the best case scenario: you see the person who you were once or are still in love with, who has also insulted, degraded, and physically endangered you. You feel fear and nausea start in the pit of your stomach, and spread throughout your body. You and your friends leave, before your batterer or his or her friends have a chance to see you. That's pretty much the best case scenario for a survivor. Worse cases involve the batterer finding their victim and following them home, making harassing comments under their breath throughout an event, physically attacking them outside after an event and so on.

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So, if we really want to have a safe community, how do we do it? Well, here's a suggestion for a start. Make a policy. It should read "Batters not welcome here." Read it at the beginning of your events. Talk about it if someone there starts talking about how they abuse, control or physically attack their partner. Now, of course, each and every batterer won't automatically leave, but it sends a message. It says, "we want our communities to be safe and we recognize that whatever their experiences of abuse or addiction or whatever may be, some Lesbians, Gay men, Bisexuals and Transgender people are choosing to make our communities unsafe, and we do not and will not tolerate that choice."

For more information on implementing a safety policy or on domestic violence in general, please contact the Wingspan Domestic Violence Project, 624-0348, or stop by the office at Wingspan, 3000 East Sixth Street. Call first for hours.

[Claire M. Renzetti and Charles Harvey Miley, "Violence in Gay and Lesbian Domestic Partnerships, New York Harrington Park Press, 1996.]

Domestic violence is tough to talk about, when so many of us have survived homophobic and sexist abuse from those outside of our community. Talking openly about abuse perpetrated by those within the community is scary, because women/Lesbians are supposed to automatically create a safe haven. And, a safe haven is really a great goal! The only question is: How do we actually achieve it?

For quite a while, people working against domestic violence have focused on getting victims to safety. This is important. A person is in crisis, their life may be in danger, someone needs to take that seriously and try to help them out. And because about one in four Lesbian relationships involve domestic violence (Renzetti and Miley, p.2), supporting victims in Lesbian/Gay/Bi/Trans communities is no small job. We hope that this work makes our communities safer, because people know that if they ever need this kind of help, the Wingspan Domestic Violence Project will be there. The problem is, we could be supporting victims until the cows come home and there will still be more victims to support.

The bottom line is, victims are not making our communities unsafe. My acquaintance is definitely not the only survivor who avoids community events in order to preserve her safety. You can't make an event unsafe by not attending. On the other hand, perpetrators of domestic violence go to Lesbian/Gay/Bi/Trans

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HOROSCOPES

BY C. LICHTENSTEIN

Celebrate the sensual days of August this week by promising to wear as little as possible; Let's show the world how beautiful we are inside and out. Every personal planet (Sun, Mars, Mercury and Venus) spend a good portion of their time in proudly confident Leo now. Move all plans on the front burner and bring to a boil, friends. Spice to taste.

ARIES

MARCH 21 - APRIL 20

Is this summer school? The planets demand that you follow the three "R's" - romance, relaxation and revelry. (Stay after hours with the teacher to learn your lesson...). Enjoy yourself Gay Ram, but keep a beady eye on career shenanigans. Foggy Neptune regresses into Capricorn on July 24 which can make best laid professional plans as valuable as the paper it's scribbled on.

TAURUS

APRIL 21 - MAY 21

August offers opportunities to explore family issues. Although heart and mind may not be in sync, it's possible to make some headway in some irksome areas. Compromise is not in the cards, cousin, so don't build bridges if they exact a toll. Concentrate instead on home entertaining or, even better, home redecorating. Proud Bulls need a castle. Don't settle for a stable.

GEMINI

MAY 22 - JUNE 21

Charming Venus, feisty Mars and optimistic Sun give proud Twins amazing shmooze power this month. You can sugarcoat ultimatums and get what you want and need. (Retro Mercury asks if you know what you want and need.). Choose lovers wisely after July 24; delusional Neptune can send you a naked troll on a silver platter. Are you that hungry??

CANCER

JUNE 22 - JULY 23

Pink Crabs can make a few bucks this month when financial matters are pleasantly highlighted. Do your homework and listen carefully to sound advice so you can sock some extra funds away for a rainy day. Avariciousness alone won't make the grade, however cousin; it is a wise Gay Crab that always considers partners their better half. Retro Neptune will remind you!

LEO

JULY 24 - AUGUST 23

Gay Lions require very little in the way of self confidence so why fight fate? Strut your stuff this month sweetheart and show the world why you are so darn proud. One word of caution; Don't become too overbearing and demanding. You often call them as you see them, but it is the wise Lion who uses Venus' velvety charming persuasion to get the iron point across.

VIRGO

AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23

If an idea pops into your mind from out of

nowhere, entertain it. But don't follow it off a cliff because Mercury is, after all, retrograde and sends some mixed signals. Insure the good karma and channel the psychic static by volunteering for a worthy Gay cause or by doing good Gay deeds. Community service pays better than cheap and tawdry times this month, sorry to say.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23

Rope a few friends in for a good time and if they need a sawbuck or two, what the hell. Sun, Venus and Mars conspire to put you in the center of the social set. I know that is exactly where you want to be! Queer Libras may hit a few snags at home or with family after July 24 when daffy Neptune turns the tables upside down. Who cares as long as you have proud pals.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22

Politico proud Scorps have their work cut out for them this August as every personal planet impacts career plans. Thank the Sun, Mars and Venus for making every bolt from Olympus a personal twist and shout. Retro Mercury coupled with retro Neptune makes you less than eloquent. How about hiding in your cubicle until after July 23? Better still, hide on Fire Island.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22

Itchy feet? Traveling Gay Archers are tempted to scratch them in faraway locales this August with the Sun, Mars and Venus. Why fight fate? Plan your itinerary, check it twice (paying homage to retro Mercury) and only spend what you can afford. If that means a weekend in Bayonne rather than the beach so be it. You'll find a little bit of magic in every squalid corner.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20

Feisty proud Goats don't know what hit them this August when every personal planet is ready to heat the stove. Keep in mind that the urge to merge may take precedence over your self respect. So if you find yourself baying at the moon and dressed in drafty lace, console yourself that as all embarrassing moments, this too shall pass. In the meantime, lie back and enjoy it.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19

Humanistic Aquorians are always ready to embrace a good Gay cause. Who could imagine that the next good Gay cause would be your personal happiness? The Sun, Mars and Venus are such yentas; trying to match you up with just about everybody! Why fight it? Send out a casting call. For those lucky souls who are already matched, start a raging fire.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20

Pink Fish don't feel like taking the summer off when prideful Sun, aggressive Mars and artful Venus hover in Leo. Whether you feel it's necessary to put your nose to the grindstone at work or workout like a maniac with some personal trainer, it's up to you. Get this overzealousness out of your system before July 24. Then become a lazy slob like the rest of us.

For entertainment purposes only. For best results, read both your Sun sign and Ascendant. For a free calculation of your ascendant, send birth date, time, place name of this publication and SASE to: LICHTENSTEIN, POB 1726, Old Chelsea Station, NY 10011.

CONDOM BRIGADE

Don't forget your helmet!



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Renown Soloist In Concert At Water Of Life MCC



Rev. Delores P. Berry

Rev. Berry has been working as a full time soloist and evangelist since 1987 under the banner of the Rev. Delores P. Berry Evangelistic Ministries, traveling extensively throughout North America and Europe. Rev. Berry has earned numerous awards for excellence and currently serves the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC) as a member of the Task Force on Evangelism and as a member of the Board of Ordained Ministry of the Mid Atlantic District of UFMCC. Rev. Berry was a co-founder of the National Coalition of Black Lesbians and Gays.

Rev. Berry's music repertoire ranges from the traditional and African-American spirituals to the contemporary and exuberant. Her music has been described as: high energy, soul stirring, radical, liberating and music for healing. The Rev. Delores P. Berry Evangelist Ministries will have tapes and CD's available for sale throughout the weekend.

Water of Life MCC is located at 3269 North Mountain Avenue, (north of Ft. Lowell Road). All of the weekend activities are open to the public at no charge. A love offering for Rev. Berry's ministry will be received. After the huge success of Rev. Berry's 1997 appearance in Tucson, Water of Life MCC has added additional seating and has opened up an additional parking lot at the church.

If you didn't get to enjoy Rev. Berry's ministry when she visited Tucson this past September, you will not want to miss this incredible opportunity. Everyone is invited. For more information, contact the church office, (520) 292-9151 or e-mail: wateroflifemcc@pridemail.com.

TUCSON — Renown soloist, the Rev. Delores P. Berry will be featured in concert at Water of Life Metropolitan Community Church (MCC), Tucson, this Saturday, August 8 at 7:00 P.M.

Rev. Berry will also be featured at the church's regular 10:45 A.M. Sunday worship service, and in a special healing service, Sunday evening, August 9, 7:00 P.M.

Water of Life MCC will host a potluck dinner in honor of Rev. Berry and her life-mate, Ms. Judy Kizer, Friday, August 7, 7:00 P.M. Following the dinner, Rev. Berry will share her most entertaining and amazing sense of humor as she relates stories and experiences from her travels throughout the U.S., Canada and Europe.

Desert Vision

by Rev. Louis F. Kavar, Ph.D

Dealing With Spiritually Re-Born People

I recently received a letter from a reader of this column. He's a Gay man in his mid-20's. The letter was about his relationship with his roommate with whom he has been good friends for several years. "(My roommate) has become 'spiritual' in a big way. It took me by such a big surprise that I was trying not to let it phase me. Before I go on, I have nothing against spirituality, but when it is communicated in a way that makes me feel inferior, I have a problem. Do you think you could write a column on how to deal with reborn spiritual people?"

First, I need to say that I appreciate questions and comments on this column and on topics related to spirituality. It's helpful for me to hear what readers are interested in and to hear their thoughts on things discussed in this column.

Second, the writer's particular situation is probably not uncommon to other people. Whether a person has the kind of born-again experience common among evangelical Christians or some other type of spiritual awakening, it is often difficult for friends and family members to understand the changes a person experiences at a time of spiritual awakening. This is especially true when those closest to the individual find inconsistencies between the person's behaviors and professed beliefs or when the person seems to have forgotten his or her past or responsibilities after a spiritual awakening.

The writer's response is not unusual in these situations. Attempting to respect the legitimacy of his friend's

experience, he tried to just go on with life in a normal way. Obviously, it wasn't working because he began to feel that his friend's new found life perspective made him feel inferior.

The writer continues, "(My roommate) seems to be finding 'personality' in everyday objects—he has even gone so far as to say that certain things speak to him so he has to get them. In addition, he is taking whole rolls of film to record everyday objects, like flowers, pots, weight room plates, the sky, sunsets—you name it! He has described various stories where he just is in awe, like a child is, about everyday occurrences that I guess we overburdened folk take for granted, like cloud formations, sunsets, and trees. I don't know where this is coming from, but I feel that he is finally transforming into the person he probably was always meant to be. I am not disappointed, but afraid that we are losing touch with one another."

Authentic spiritual awakenings open us to perceive and apprehend life in new ways. Sometimes that means we get a sense of the big picture of life, of a sense of balance and harmony in the cosmos, rather than just seeing our small part of the world. At other times, we realize that it is the ordinary events of life that contain meaning. At such times, we realize that there is beauty and mystery in the natural order, as in the sun rising, a flower blooming, or a bird's flight. We are filled with a sense of awe for these things. We reverence life, it's strength, simplicity, and order, in a new way. Those things are very good and a sign that something has changed about the way we perceive the

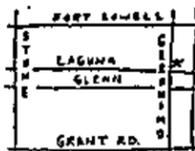
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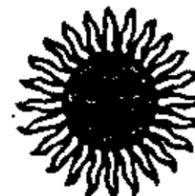
way.

In a real way, spirituality opens us more deeply to all life around us. A healthy, balanced spiritual life does not diminish our life perspective. In fact, it should open us further both to the mystery of life we considered Sacred in ourselves, the world around us, and other people. There are times when spiritual development requires that we separate ourselves from others for prayer and meditation, retreat, or study.

The writer seems able to both identify the valid spiritual experiences his friend is having while also being aware that something is not right with it all. His fear is the loss of friendship.

In the next issue, I will make some suggestions about how one may approach this kind of situation. In the meantime, it is important to remember that growth in any area of our life is rarely smooth and is usually awkward. More often than not, we stumble and fall before learning to walk and trip ourselves up in the process of learning to run. Growth in all areas of our life is generally not balanced from the start, but in time can be integrated in a balanced

[The Rev. Louis F. Kavar, Ph.D., is a counselor and spiritual director in private practice in Tucson.]



The Rev. Louis F. Kavar, Ph.D.

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Columna Abierta. by Dr. Eleazar Garcia

¡Hola! ¿Qué tal?, deseándoles lo mejor, de lo mejor, nosotros "empacando" para irnos a Sedona para participar en la XXV Conferencia Anual de Salud Rural en Arizona, ya les traeremos detalles y por menores de lo que ocurra por esa roja ciudad, y de paso nos daremos un paseo por el Gran Cañón, ya les daremos información de como no vaya...

Nuestro amigo y colega Ernie Pérez y Jorge Rascón estuvieron presentes en la conferencia y exposición de POZ en Phoenix Arizona el pasado viernes 31 donde cerca de 500 personas asistieron y apoyaron los objetivos de ese evento; y la Miss America '98 tuvo una magnífica participación y ha hablado públicamente sobre las necesidades de apoyos a recursos financieros para la mejoría de servicios y apoyo para las personas afectadas por el VIH; ella ha mantenido su postura hablando con las autoridades de salud

pública en la urgencia de apoyos en el desarrollo de una vacuna así como de tratamientos efectivos y de su disposición.

Otra noticia que nos tiene Ernie, es que ya están disponibles los boletos de cooperación para el gran evento de Miss Gay Hispanidad '98 que se llevará a cabo el día 12 de septiembre en el Clarion Hotel de la Broadway y Alvernon, el valor es de solo 5.00 Dls. por persona y los puede adquirir con los voluntarios del proyecto Salud es Poder o puede llamar a Ernie o Jorge al 322-6226 y se le asegura un evento mucho mejor que los anteriores!!! Espere los volantes y la información que se le hará llegar especialmente en las Noches Latinas del Stonewall por supuesto... Además ya se ha contratado a una persona para que desarrolle el puesto de Trabajador de Campo en Ambos Nogales y será Adriana Romero quién estará coordinando los trabajos en esa región fronteriza, actualmente se encuentra en un retiro de trabajo con el equipo de la Arizona/México Border Health Foundation en Sedona y llegando será presentada bajo ese título y con muchas ganas de trabajar con Salud es Poder de Ambos Nogales; !!! Bienvenida Adriana!!!

En esta ocasión, tengo una pregunta que me han hecho en relación al nuevo medicamento VIAGRA, y es sobre los efectos y sobre todo los efectos secundarios... En realidad todavía hay mucho que investigar sobre este medicamento; y las consecuencias no son todavía clarificadas, lo que se sabe es que ha habido muertes relacionadas con su uso y sobre todo en personas que han combinado el uso de este medicamento con otros medicamentos para problemas cardíacos; y se ha estado informando que NO se utilice en combinación con el nitrato de nitroglicerina y específicamente con los "poppers" o con el "rush". A la fecha han sido reportado 16 casos de muerte en personas que han usado VIAGRA y 3 han sido los casos que se le atribuyen a la combinación con el uso de algún medicamento para problemas cardíacos. Además se les está recomendando a los pacientes que están bajo tratamiento para el VIH sus consideraciones al tomar ese medicamento y lo mejor es consultar a su médico. El urólogo Irwin Goldstein de la Universidad de Boston ha estado estudiando los efectos de la droga en los músculos del Clitoris, ¿Porqué? porque la primera fase de la respuesta sexual en hombres y mujeres es igual, así es que clínicamente hablando los resultados son similares; si la droga incrementa el riesgo sanguíneo en la región del clitoris y de la vagina puede mejorar algunas disfunciones sexuales en las mujeres.

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWENTY

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Risks To Gay Teens

Continued from Page Seven

the state of Vermont. Students were asked to supply information on the nature and frequency of any sexual activity, as well as their experience with any emotional or social difficulties they experienced at school.

The authors say 8.7% of all the boys surveyed reported having had sexual intercourse with another male. Slightly more than 3% of all male students said they had engaged in intercourse with 6 or more male partners.

Researchers at the Wake Forest University School of Medicine in Winston Salem, North Carolina say this subset of more sexually active Gay teens might be more likely to be identified as Gay by their student peers, thus increasing their risk for victimization.

The study conducted in Vermont

found "correlations... between the number of male sexual partners and the frequency of having been threatened or injured with a weapon at school, the number of days the student did not attend school because they felt unsafe, and the number of times they had been injured in a fight that required medical treatment."

The findings suggest that violent episodes involving sexually active young Gay males are likely "more defensive than offensive in nature," according to the authors.

Though the study also finds a correlation between multiple partners and higher rates of drug abuse and suicide, the authors suggest this is a result of the victimization more easily identified Gay teens experience in their social environment. The authors call for improved student-counseling and educational programs which "promote mutual respect for Gay and straight lifestyles."

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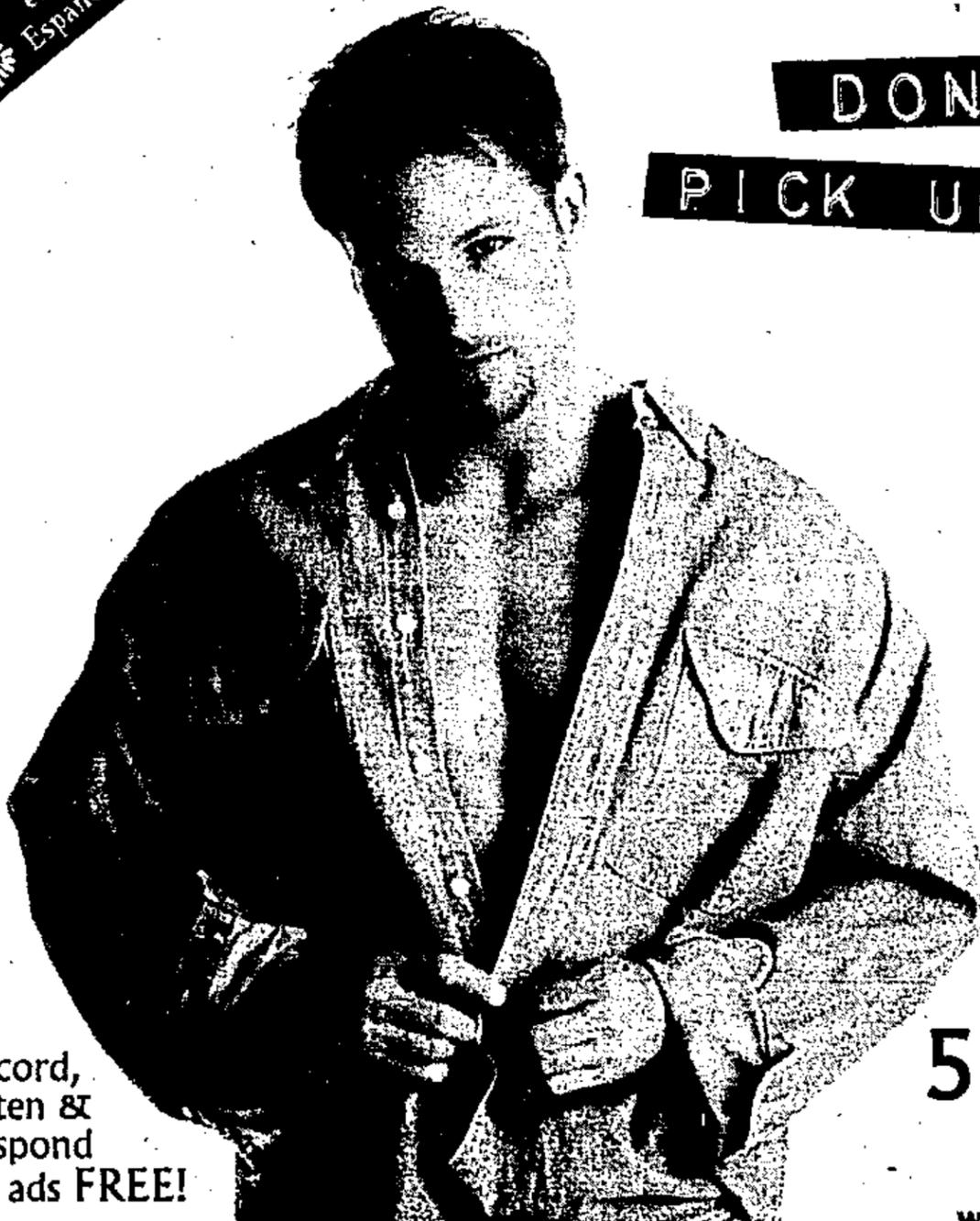
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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5

Tucson Prime Timers dinner get-together at Shopus Restaurant, 5035 Oracle (at River Road behind Dewey's) 6:30 p.m. Call 584-0280 for more information.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join us for a night of conversation as we discuss "Power & Control & Relationships." Who has the power in your relationships? How do you handle your power? These and other questions are bound to come up. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry at 690-8565.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8

Cronies Social Club monthly meeting, potluck meeting 7:00 p.m. at MCC Church, 3260 N. Mountain. Meet in the front building because of Dolores Berry concert.

1. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). Noon. Just as for an "insider's Tour" as we visit the Arizona Historical Society for a tour created just for MSN. Space is limited, so please call early if you'd like to have a spot. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry at 690-8565.

2. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join Bill (on the east side) as he shows a summer rerun of "Beautiful Thing". This is the wonderful story of two young teenagers who meet and fall in love despite all the obstacles. Funny, biting, sad and sweet, this is a great film for any Gay man—and especially for anyone just coming out. For reservations and directions, please call Bill at 546-7539.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9

It's the Attack of the 50 foot drag queen - Gilda Fatale! A roast and Toast of Gilda by her peers in a benefit for the National MPS Society at the Holiday Inn-City Center, 181 W. Broadway. 5:00 p.m. Cocktails. The Roast begins at 6:00 p.m. For Ticket Information call Natalie or Beth at 747-7426. Be there and see what the past fund raising for MPS has done to help cure Beth's, Woody. He'll be there to greet you too.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 4-8 p.m. The Triangle Tribe, an awareness group, meets to learn and use communication and relationship skills toward developing feelings of trust, love, acceptance and brotherhood. For reservations and directions, please call Tom at 318-1850.

Cronies Social Club Movie Night at the theater. The movie is "Saving Private Ryan". Meet at JB's (1st & Grant) at 6:20. Carpool to movie and return for coffee and dessert.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Bridge night. Bridge for men who want to refresh their bridge skills (or just have fun); table talk playing. For reservations and directions, please call Jim at 885-5408.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12

Tucson Prime Timers luncheon get-together at Bum Steer, 1810 N. Stone. 12:30 p.m. Call 584-0280 for more information.

Cronies Social Club 9th Anniversary Dinner at Pinnacle Peak, 6541 E. Tanque Verde (just West of Grant). Call Jack Z. at 573-8653 for head count.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join us for Dinner Out as we visit Club 21 on Oracle Road. Please phone in your reservation to Bill as soon as possible so we can notify the restaurant of the number of men attending. For directions and reservations, please contact Bill at 546-7539.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Our summer reruns continue with another showing of "Slightly Baldroom". This funny, off-center love story is about a young man who wants to dance his own steps, despite the expectations of everyone else (in other words, it's a Gay man's story told with straight people). For reservations and directions, please call Les at 690-8565.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15

1. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 a.m. Join Donn as he leads a tubing trip down the Salt River. Get wet, have some fun, and enjoy the day with the guys. For reservations and details, please call Donn at 325-4257.

2. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Starting tonight, we bring you the next chapter in the saga of 28 Barbary Lane. Join us for part I of "More Tales of the City". Please note that space will be limited, so call early if you would like to see this entertaining follow up to the original "Tales of the City". For reservations and directions, please call Les at 690-8565.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16

Tucson Prime Timers monthly meeting will be held at Wingspan, 600 E. 6th Street. 4:00 p.m. Call 584-0280 for more information.

1. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 4-8 p.m. The Triangle Tribe, an awareness group, meets to learn and use communication and relationship skills toward developing feelings of trust, love, acceptance and brotherhood. For reservations and directions, please call Tom at 318-1850.

2. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Tonight, we conclude our miniseries about the residents of 28 Barbary Lane. Join us for part II of "More Tales of the City". Please note that space will be limited, so call early if you would like to see this entertaining follow up to the original "Tales of the City". For reservations and directions, please call Les at 690-8565.

MONDAY, AUGUST 17

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. The Bond films continue with the 6th movie, "Diamonds Are Forever". Sean Connery stars. For reservations and directions, please call Les at 690-8565.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5

MT'S - It's the return of the Girlie Show starring Lucinda Holliday, Felice Renard, Regina Reed and Shamusina.

STONEWALL / EAGLE - Free and anonymous HIV testing by Pima County Health Department 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6

HOURS - Special Retro 80s Party Night coming. Watch for more details.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8

VENTURE-N - Bears of the Old Pueblo Beer Best on the patio from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9

[Don't forget the big Roast and Toast of Gilda Fatale, a benefit for the National MPS Society. Holiday Inn-City Center. 5:00 cocktails and 6:00 p.m. the Roast begins. Ticket info 747-7426. See the Non-Bar Calendar.]

MT'S - Karaoke on the Patio with Billy D. 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. And at 9:30 p.m. the post-MPS Roast Party! Come see what's left of Gilda.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12

MT'S - 9:00 p.m. "Puttin' On The Lips" lipsync contest. \$50.00 1st prize. Hosted by Victoria Du Pais and Felice Renard.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16

STONEWALL / EAGLE - Burger Best to benefit the Purple Team, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Hope & Charity in "Faith" Benefit hosted by Christina De Alexis featuring Truly Fabu, Misti Malone, Aloja Whoremans, Lea Farron and Fani BordaNo. 9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

STONEWALL / EAGLE - Purple Team Benefit Show starring Misti Malone & guests.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

STONEWALL / EAGLE - Second Annual Turnabout Show benefiting T.L.H.A.N. See a Stonewall/Eagle employee for sponsoring details.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

STONEWALL / EAGLE - Miss Carousel Pageant. Contact Misti Malone for entry form and info. 327-8299.

Continued

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. A fun evening devoted to British comedy series. Three episodes from your favorite series: "Absolutely Fabulous," "Fawlty Towers," and "Keeping Up Appearances." For directions and reservations, please call Loren at 733-0072.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 1:00 p.m. Join the guys for a Lunch Out as we eat Indian food at the Taj Mahal. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry at 298-7415.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20

Cronies Social Club Luncheon at "Sweet Tomatoes" Stone and Wetmore at 1:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Our monthly Pizza Party will take be held at Les & Jerry's home. Simply bring \$4.00 and join in for a fun evening of food and good conversation. Salad and dessert are also served. Vegetarian pizza offered as well. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry at 690-8565. Please note: reservations should be made by Thursday, August 20 at noon so we can order the proper number of pizzas (but we do order a couple of extra pizzas just in case this isn't read until the day of the event).

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 4-8 p.m. The Triangle Tribe, an awareness group, meets to learn and use communication and relationship skills toward developing feelings of trust, love, acceptance and brotherhood. For reservations and directions, please call Tom at 318-1850.

MONDAY, AUGUST 24

1. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. A night is devoted to getting out the MSN newsletters. It's a fun way to help the organization and get to know the MSN guys. Dessert and door prizes are provided. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry at 690-8565.

2. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 8:00 p.m. Another summer rerun of a movie we have seen before (but love to see again): "My Fellow Americans". Join us for this funny film that features a very small, but important, Gay subplot. For reservations & directions, please call Les at 690-8565.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25

Cronies Social Club - a day trip to Kitt Peak is planned. Call Jack Z. at 523-8653 for more details.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Bridge night. Bridge for men who August want to refresh their bridge skills; table talk playing. For reservations and directions, please call Jim at 790-8735.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26

Tucson Prime Timers luncheon get-together at Cushing Street Bar & Grill, 343 S. Meyer Ave. at Cushing Street. 12:30 pm. Contact 584-0820 for additional information.

sunday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Beer Best 5-10, \$1.25 pitchers. Latin Music 9-1. Shot specials all night.

GRADUATE - Happy Hour 4-8 pm all well \$1.25 Draft 75¢ Schnappa 75¢. Drink specials do not apply during special events.

HOURS - Open 1pm. \$2 Bloody Marys & \$1.50 Screwdrivers till 9pm. Country music & dancing with FREE country dance instruction 7pm.

MT'S - Open Noon to 1 am. Happy Hour noon-5pm. \$1.75 domestic beer and \$1.50 Well. Smooth E-B-Q and Beer Best for community organizations 4:30-7:00pm. Hi energy dancing 9pm to close. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open noon. \$1.75 pitchers 75¢ a glass. Pool Tourney 2pm w/Zippermen. Buffet for SAAF \$2 a plate. 3-77 Month changes. Karaoke Night 8-close hosted by Billy Dee. Stonewall opens at 9pm with hot dance music with DJ Rayman

VENTURE-N - Open 10am. Patio open 5pm. Patio Beer Best 3-7pm 50¢ draft. 301 Dart Tournament 5pm \$3 entry fee (pot matched) Bart Bergers served 5-7pm. Tuff Staff Tool Open at 7pm.

monday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Happy Hour 2-7. Free pool 2-4. Open Jam Session 9-1. \$1 Pitchers all night.

GRADUATE - Open 8am. Happy Hour 4-8pm all well \$1.50 Draft \$1.75 Domestic. Drink specials do not apply during special events.

HOURS - Closed Mondays.

MT'S - Open noon. Martini Monday all day all call martinis \$2.50. Happy Hour noon-8pm. \$1.75 domestic beer and \$1.50 well. 8pm to midnight, \$1.50/32oz pitchers. Extreme dance with DJ Michael 9pm-1am. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Party with Rob in the evening. Doc's Dart Tourney 8pm in the Eagle. Free pool all day.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. \$1.50 Well drinks and Longnecks 8am-noon.

tuesday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7 pm. Free Pool 2-4pm. Pool Tournament 7:30 pot matched. \$1 longnecks for pool players. 70's/80's dance music 8-1. Shot specials all night.

GRADUATE - Open 8am. Happy Hour 4-8pm all well \$1.50. Domestic \$1.75. Drink specials do not apply during special events.

HOURS - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3-8pm. \$1.50 well or domestic beer. Draft Beer Nite 8-close. \$2 small/\$4 large pitchers.

MT'S - Open noon. Happy Hour Noon-8 pm. \$1.75 domestic beer & \$1.50 well. 9 pm to close \$1.75 well. Wear a Tank or T. Extreme Dance with DJ Michael 9pm to closing.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Happy Hour till 8pm. M Bar & M Bar Like \$1.75 Coors Gold \$2 after 8pm.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. \$1.50 Well drinks and longnecks 6am-noon.

wednesday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7. Free Pool 2-4. Beer Best 9-midnight w/\$1.25 pitchers & 75¢ glasses. Alternative music 9-1.

GRADUATE - Open 8am. Happy Hour 4-8pm all well \$1.50; Domestic \$1.75. 9 Ball Single Elimination Pool Tourney. 7pm, Pot matched. Drink specials do not apply during special events.

HOURS - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3-8pm \$1.50 well or domestic beer. Import Night \$2.25 8pm-1am

MT'S - Open Noon to 1am. Happy Hour Noon to 8pm. \$1.75 domestic beer & \$1.50 well. Mystery Night. \$1.75 Bud Product Special 8 pm to close. Dance with David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Happy Hour till 8pm. Karaoke Nite: 9 to close w/Billy Dee in the Eagle. Stonewall opens at 9:00 p.m. Bars Chest Nite (Sorry men only). Man wearing no shirt will get \$2 Bud & Bud Light (Stonewall side only). Dance w/Rayman

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. \$1.50 Well drinks and Longnecks 6am-noon. Coors Gold \$2 and Coors 1800 \$2.25 Open to close.

thursday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7. 2fort well or domestic beer. Free pool 2-4. Karaoke 8:30 pm to close. (New time)

GRADUATE - Open 8am. Happy Hour 4-8pm all Well \$1.50. Domestic \$1.75. 301 Dart Tournament 7:30pm. Double Elimination. Pot Matched. Drink specials do not apply during special events.

HOURS - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3-8pm \$1.50 well or domestic beer. 75¢ Schnapps 8pm to close. \$2 Coors shots and country/western dance at 9pm

MT'S - Open noon to 1am. Happy Hour noon-8 pm \$1.75 domestic beer and \$1.50 well. Underwear Nite. \$1.50 Well and \$1.75 Domestic Beer to those in their underwear (pant check available). Hi energy dancing 9-close with DJ David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Happy Hour till 8pm. Latino Dance Party w/Eduardo at the Stonewall which opens at 8pm.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am \$1.50 Well Drinks & Longnecks 6am-noon. Patio Bar open 8pm. Fosters Bottles \$1.50 from 9pm-midnight. Day prices for men in leather 7pm to close. Pool Tournament 7pm-10h. \$3 entry (Pot Matched). Tuff Staff Tool Open at 8:30

friday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7. Free pool 2-4. 5:30 - 7 free food. Top 40 dance music 9-1 w/DJ Hill.

GRADUATE - Open 8am. Happy Hour 4-8pm. all well \$1.50/ domestic \$1.75. Drink specials do not apply during special events.

HOURS - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3-8pm \$1.50 well and domestic beer. Country Western Music and Dancing 9pm to 1am.

MT'S - Open noon. Happy Hour Noon-4pm \$1.75 domestic beer and \$1.50 well. Live Jazz on the patio from 4:30 to 7:30. Patio Bar 9-1. Dance Party 9 to 1 with DJ David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Happy Hour till 8pm. Food Buffet 5pm. If YOU wear a Stonewall/Eagle T-shirt YOU get happy hour prices all night. DJ Rayman 9pm.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. \$1.50 Well drinks and Longnecks 6am-noon. Snacks served at 5pm. Patio Bar open 8pm. Tuff Staff Tool Open at 8:30pm.

saturday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Hi energy dance music from 8:30pm to 1am. Drink specials every 1/2 hour.

GRADUATE - Open 8am. Happy Hour 4-8pm. all well drinks \$1.50/domestic \$1.75. 8 Ball Pool Tournament 2pm. Double Elimination, pot matched. Drink specials do not apply during special events.

HOURS - Open 1pm. Small Pitchers \$2 & FREE pool 2-5. Xena on the big screen with pot luck at 8pm. Country Western Music all night.

MT'S - Open Noon to 1am. Happy Hour noon to 8pm \$1.75 domestic beer and \$1.50 well. Patio Bar 9-1. Dance 9 to 1 with DJ David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open noon. Happy Hour till 8pm. Free Pool all day. Stonewall opens at 9pm. Hot sounds with Rayman.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Patio Bar open at 3pm. Patio Beer Best with 50¢ draft 3-7pm. Tuff Staff Tool Open at 8:30pm. Partnership Cricket Tournament 8:30pm \$3 entry (Pot Matched).

Continued

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join us as we have a Game Night devoted to all sorts of games. Play a favorite card game or board game—the choice is yours. If you have a favorite you'd like to play, bring it along, but there will be plenty of games from which to choose. For reservations and directions, please call Perry or Stephen at 321-4387.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 8:00 p.m. Join us for a night at the theatre as we go to see "Shiloh Gaze", a play written by a local, Gay artist. For info call Davey 890-1208

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE .25 PER WORD \$5.00 MINIMUM



CLASSIFIEDS



CLASSIFIED ADS MUST BE MAILED, NO PHONE ADS.

NOTICES

NOTICES

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION (SAAF), 151 S. Tucson Blvd., Suite 211 (The Breadroom Building). Office Hours 9am to 5pm, Monday through Friday. Direct services and emotional support for persons with and affected by HIV. Anonymous HIV testing and support groups available. Prevention education programs. 322-8228. AIDS Hotline: 328-AIDS. World wide web: http://www.saatf.org. VOLUNTEERS WELCOME.

Join the LESBIAN & GAY PUBLIC AWARENESS PROJECT. In Tucson write Awareness Project, 3441 N. Campbell Ave., #343, Tucson, AZ 85719.

AA Meeting with HIV/AIDS focus, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., MCC Church, 3269 N. Mountain. All alcoholics welcome.

MEN'S SOCIAL NETWORK: Social organization for men of all ages. Building an extended Gay family in Tucson. Monthly social potluck gatherings the first Saturday of each month and a most weekly social activities. Call Jerry at 696-9545 for information and a newsletter. Check the Non-Bar Calendar in the Observer.

SOFTBALL - For info on the Tucson Greater Softball Association T.G.S.A., please contact Mary 770-9979 or Bartie 318-3415.

CARE TEAMS ARE AVAILABLE to offer support to people living with HIV/AIDS. The Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network offers trained, compassionate and committed volunteers to provide services including friendly visits, light housekeeping, assistance with meals, shopping, errands, transportation and companionship for medical appointments, and respite care for primary care givers. No judgement or proselytizing - we are here to be of service. For information call Scott at 298-9063.

ARE YOU GAY OR BISEXUAL AND UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE? The Gay Young Men's Project is now looking for volunteers for the project. We need people who want to help create a positive social change for young Gay men as well as reduce the risk for HIV infection. For more information please call 322-8228.

"EVOLVERE" a transgendered Support Group open to all T.V.'s, C.D.'s, T.G.'s & T.S.'s. Dedicated to all our brothers and sisters. Offering our help and support in every way we can. Meetings held at Wingspan on 4th Saturday of each month at 6 p.m.

SCUBA DIVING CLUB. For information call digital pager 291-9682.

ARIZONA AIDS POLICY ALLIANCE (AZAPA) seeks to educate legislators and citizens about sound AIDS policy. For more information write AZAPA, 8523 N. 14th St., #112, Phoenix, AZ 85014 or call 602-279-4805.

BISEXUAL INFORMATION/SUPPORT GROUP for women and men. Meetings 1st & 3rd Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. 624-1779.

GAY VOLLEYBALL ON SATURDAYS. Competitive play. BB or better players only. Grass court Northwest corner Himmel Park 10:00 a.m. Check it out!

THE MEN'S MASSAGE GROUP meets the 3rd Sunday of each month. It is a good way to meet other men of all ages, safely, and with the art of nurturing touch. There is a fee. You must sign up in advance to participate. Call Marc at 881-4582 for more information or sign up.

THE JOHN HANTEN MEMORIAL GROUP, a Catholic support group for Gays and Lesbians, meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 1846 E. Lee St. at 7:30 p.m. For more information call the parish office at 327-8015 or Jane Parri at 326-8577.

COMMUNITY BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (CBA), Tucson's Gay and Lesbian business networking group holds regular meetings the third Thursday of every month. Call Greg Hollman 577-8333 for more info.

TUCSON LESBIAN/GAY ALLIANCE (TLGA) meets on the second Tuesday at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th Street at 7pm. For more information call 822-3280.

LEARN TO BE A LISTENING FRIEND. Unique Hospital Volunteer Program teaches listening skills to Volunteers who provide a safe/compassionate environment to at-risk patients. Training every 6 weeks. 684-7043.

TITHAM, a coalition of churches and synagogues committed to providing a compassionate response to the HIV crisis, provides HIV education in congregational settings, volunteer CareTeams to support HIV+ persons, a referral network of HIV-sensitive clergy, and interfaith services of healing and hope. For more information call 299-8647.

THIRTYsomething Society - an exclusive society for single Gay and Bi men in or near their thirties. A social society that offers monthly activities including a monthly outing away from Tucson. Call 787-3116 for more information and a membership bio.

LESBIAN/GAY/BI-SEXUAL OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Saturdays noon-1pm new location Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. Contacts 325-8676 or 327-4293.

ANONYMOUS HIV COUNSELING AND TESTING is available through the Pima County Health Department at sites throughout Tucson. Very Gay Friendly. For more information or to make an appointment call 791-7876.

CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP meets every 3rd Monday at St. Pius X Catholic Church, 1800 N. Camino Pio Decimo in the Kino Room at 7:00 p.m. For more info call Ernie 721-2083 or Anne Marie at the Parish office 885-3573.

NORTHWEST CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP meets every 4th Monday at St. Odilia's Catholic Church, 7578 N. Paseo Del Norte in the Parish Hall Conference Room (Bldg. North of the Church) at 7:30 p.m. For more info call Mary 297-9682 or Sr. Joan 742-8980.

SMART (Self Management And Recovery Training) a free non-12-step self-help alternative for people working to overcome addictive and other emotional problems meets in Tucson Monday thru Thursdays at different locations. For more information about SMART, contact Brenda at 854-9129, Ext.448 or Emmett 322-8057 (evellan@ix.netcom.com)

AZdykes is a new email list for Lesbians living in Arizona. For information mail tynd@theriver.com and request guidelines.

OUTLOUD! Tucson's premiere Local Lesbian and Gay Radio Show, broadcast each 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm on 91.3 FM, Community Radio KXCI. This show alternates with "This Way Out", a nationally syndicated Lesbian and Gay radio show.

THEATER/DINNER/ETC! Non-Smoking Lesbian Network meets every 3rd Saturday night of each month. If you'd like to meet women 35+ (flexible) and socialize in a smoke-free environment 883-3785 before 10:00 p.m. The group does out and attends shows or movies. Now in their 15th year! (1st in Tucson).

TRANSGENDER ISSUES: Southern Arizona Gender Alliance (SAGA) meets on first Mondays for informal discussion of transgender topics. Hosted by Dazet Boyz. For information call Gary at 828-8659 or send email to: monty@yhoearthling.net.

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT GROUP FOR ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLES. Not a dating club. Discreet. Meetings every Monday evening. Call for more info. APEX (Arizona Power Exchange) 892-415-1123. 24-hr multi-choice message including information, calendar and location.

ROOMMATES

GM TO SHARE LARGE 4-BEDROOM HOUSE w/private pool, gas grill, big screen TV and more. \$295/mo. Includes utilities. 889-7875 or 820-1770. 732..

MALE TO SHARE WITH SAME. 2bedroom 2bath condo N.W. side. \$308/mo. Plus 1/2 utilities. After 8:30 p.m. 292-9217. 735

PERSONALS

WOULD THE PERSON WHO FOUND MY BLUE BACK PACK IN THE PARKING LOT OF the Graduate Saturday night, please return it to the Grad. I am in desperate need of my new glasses and medical labels. No Questions Asked. 733.

LONELY GUY WANTS COMPANIONSHIP. Write Box 218, 7814 East God Lkns, Tucson, AZ 85738, Sincere only. 733.

MALE MALE MODELS. Do you need pics for internet? For your boyfriend? Just for the hell of it? Amateur photographer seeks attractive young men to photograph. Male complex welcome. Call 824-2998. 733.

www.gaysexlive.com - Hot live models / www.marineintl.com - Real Marines www.gay-chat.com - Live chat / www.studmail.com - Free e-mail account www.malecards.com - Free Postcards / (800)363-7883 Talk Live with men 18+ 784

FREE CHATLINES! Heavy Duty Action 24 hrs! (473)441-1146 / (212)796-2382 / (704)318-2071. Specials: (213)668-7595. Only Mr apply. 18+ 735

HOT MAN-2-MAN ACTION! 1-214-484-5685. Only Mr apply. 18+ 735

CYBER CRUISE - Meet Arizona Gay men and women as well as people all over the U.S. Gay owned. www.movs.com 732

ATTENTION - ATTENTION - ATTENTION Si eres hombre que tiene sexo con otros hombres y quieres encontrar a alguien y apoyar los programas para Los Latinos, llama para una entrevista extrínseca confidencial al 322-8228 y pregunta por Estevio. 735

If you are a Latino man who is having sex with other men and you want to help us to support and expand our programs for Latinos, call for a confidential interview at 322-8228 and ask for Estevio. 735

HOUSING/FOR RENT

2-story, 2-bedroom - 1 1/2 bath, town house. Very private, W/D hook-up, patios & balcony, pool, spa. Central. \$825/month. Clean 696-0928. 733

VARIOUS CENTRAL TUCSON LOCATIONS. 1 and 2 bedroom apartments from \$325 - \$495. Clean, private, quiet. Many extras. Mention this Observer ad. 885-8022. 732

REAL ESTATE

HOUSE FOR SALE IN HISTORIC BISBEE, 4 bedroom, 2 bath home. Privacy, High ceilings, hardwood floors. Come see \$154,500 o/a (520)432-3928 734

SERVICES

EROTIC RUBDOWN A massage for men by masculine gay; 27, BR/BL/gd/ig/m-shape/artistic/student. Call Dan at 838-8122, message or page (single, couple, hand-knapped) in calls preferred! 735

MASSAGE THERAPIST, 4 YEARS EXPERIENCE. Catering to your needs. Specializing in pain relief (neuromuscular), Swedish. Licensed. Terrence, 628-8998. 1st visit \$18.00 off. 748

LET ME PAMPER YOU! With a Full Body Swedish massage in a quiet, relaxed atmosphere. \$35 for a full hour. Ralph, 883-7498. 736

INTEGRITY IN TOUCH. I offer a holistic approach to expanding the body's capacity to feel. Through chakra therapy, guided breathwork and tantric full-body massage, we'll explore the rich connection between body and spirit. Experienced. Intuitive. Downtown studio. Greg Cornean, 828-2878 or knowmadic@aol.com 734

FULL BODY MASSAGE BY MARVIN for men that want that special touch. Sensual and relaxing. Discreet. Mornings and all day Thu., Fri., Sat., Full Hour \$35. 299-9651 734.

ALONA MASSAGE. The strong, gentle touch of Hawaiian Lomi Lomi combined with soothing Easles strokes. Glenn, 907-2551 Day/Even/Weekend. In or Outcall. 740

THE BETTER TO SQUEEZE YOU WITH! Men away stress with a sensual full body massage. Strong, healing hands give you the release you deserve! In/Out call. Michael 316-5653. 733

PROFESSIONAL DEEP RELAXATION! Enjoy quality, tantric, wonderful loving massage, now. Experience, strong, gentle, sensitive healing hands. Summer Special. Marc, LMT, 881-4582. 733

A MAN'S MASSAGE. Sensual and stress relieving. Full body massage in a private setting. Full Hour \$35. When only the best will do, call Rick at 299-1792. 733

CATERING TO YOUR EVERY NEED - Theme Parties, C&B Bashes, Specialty Cakes, Intimate Dinners, Menu Planning. We also make Red Chile and Green Corn Tamales (oh so good, yum.) Call Becky or Craig at Masterpiece Catering 622-4232. 735

ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS Let me keep your clothes fitting properly and in good repair. Experienced - Economical - Prompt. Mr. Mark Hudson, 888-7284 in Tucson. 735

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Greg Stickroth (LMT) Tucson, AZ (520) 469-0522

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584-9150

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P.F.L.A.G. - Parents and friends of Lesbians and Gays - is a support group available to anyone who has a son, daughter or friend who is Gay. Call 575-8660 or write P.O. Box 36264, Tucson, AZ 85740-8264. All replies confidential.

ARE YOU GAY OR LESBIAN and someone else's drinking is getting to you. Call information and Referral about Alcohol 881-1794 in Tucson info about special groups for Gays and Lesbians.

YOUNG AND GAY? Lesbian and Gay youths 23 and under, meet every Saturday in Tucson for sharing, support and information. Meetings are held at 308 E. 6th Street from 3 to 5 pm. You are not alone. For more info call Wingspan, 624-1779.

The TUCSON Chapter of PRIME TIMERS INTERNATIONAL invites Gay or Bisexual men and their admirers to join and share Prime Timers to Kinship. We welcome mature men (and admirers) who wish to become involved with planned and future Prime Timers activities. Meetings luncheons and dinners are held monthly. For dates, times and information call 564-0250, leave name and phone number.

TUCSON GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL For information on human service organizations, health and mental health services, financial and government assistance, emergency services such as food and shelter, education, etc. Call information and Referral 881-1794 - 9 am - 5 pm Mon. - Fri.

AIDS HOTLINE - 328-AIDS. Hours M-F, 8:00 am to 10:00 pm. Information, counseling, HIV-related services, Tucson.

GAY OR BI-SEXUAL MEN in relationships with women. Need friends you can talk to? Weekly support group meets Wednesdays 6:30 - 8:00 pm. Licensed psychologist facilitator. Call 745-8977 in Tucson for more information. Strictly confidential.

WINGSPAN - Tucson's Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Community Center, 300 E. 6th St., offers support groups / info line / social events / library / meeting space. Volunteer Opportunities. Board meetings every 2nd Sunday (open to all), 6:00 p.m. Information 624-1779.

SUPPORT GROUP: Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals meet weekly for open discussions in a loving, supportive atmosphere. Meetings Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:30 pm at St. Francis in the Foothills Church, Swan and River Road, Room 43. Call the church at Darvy at 886-1288 or Brian at 882-4726 for information.

LICHEN HIKING CLUB for women of all ages and backgrounds of life. Hike with other women. Listings in Rubyfruit Journal available at Antigone Books, 411 N. 4th Ave.

CAMELBACK BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION (CBPA) OF PHOENIX. For information and membership write: CBPA at P.O. Box 2987, Phoenix, AZ 85061.

LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP addressing a full spectrum of issues, problems and situations. Meetings 2nd & 4th Wednesday 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. 624-1779.

RECREATIONAL VOLLEYBALL every Saturday 3 to 5 pm at St. Francis in The Foothills for anyone who likes to play and have a blast call Darvy 886-1288 for more info.

ARIZONA GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION (AGRA) TUCSON CHAPTER. Interested? Call 323-8805 or write AGRA/Tucson, P.O. Box 46894, Tucson, AZ 85717.

SOURCES UNLIMITED, a Lesbian & Gay referral service. Business and individual listings are free of charge. All information available to anyone just simply by asking. 322-5665. Leave message.

GAY COWBOY CLUB - Nationwide Personal Ads. Advertisers welcome too. Send stamp for information; Mavericks, Box 9543, Santa Fe, NM 87504.

ATTENTION ALL NUDISTS - Tucson Tanbers is a nudist group open to all - Nude activities scheduled both indoor and outdoors. Not "Gay Only", but Gays are welcome and invited to join. For further information send SASE to: Tucson Tanbers, P.O. Box 84-C, Cortaro, AZ 85642.

INNER WISDOM - Try hypnotherapy for pain relief, past life exploration and addiction release. Also available: Spiritual Counseling and Dream Interpretation. 579-9020

COCHISE COUNTY LESBIANS AND GAYS. P.O. Box 818, Bisbee, AZ 85803 / (602)432-5591. Rap Group, Youth Group, Social and Political Events.

SUPPORT GROUP FOR MEN IN SAME SEX RELATIONSHIPS who have ever been physically, verbally or sexually abused, is now forming. Call Randy Oberhoff, Ph.D. at 570-0827 for more

BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO - a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, Call the Bears Hotline (520)327-1620 or write P.O. Box 43810, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910, or come to our general meetings the second Friday of every month. Location listed on our hotline.

LAMBDA CAR CLUB, a social organization of Gays and Lesbians who share interest, information and fellowship involving all cars and trucks. New Southern Arizona Region now in Tucson. Call the HOTLINE for info at 888-5541

LESBIAN AND GAY AL-ANON - Affected by someone's drinking? Meeting every Tuesday 8:45 to 9:45 p.m. at Lambda Center, 2848 E. Thomas, Phoenix. EMail 581-8858 or Ronn 968-2384.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE GROUP - Outreach to Gay and Lesbian people in Arizona. Meets monthly. Write to P.O. Box 893, Phoenix, AZ 85001 or call Eddy Walters, (602)371-1102

CRONES SOCIAL GROUP. A Social group for Gay men who enjoy the fellowship of their peers. Call Marie at 888-7284.

T-SQUARES Lesbian and Gay square dance club meets every Tuesday from 8:30-9:00 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 N. Geronimo (near 1st Ave. and Laguna). Open to ALL. Call Liz at 325-8486 or Ray at 748-5247.

LIGHTNING LIGHTING will provide lighting for AIDS and related benefits at no charge. For more info call Adrienne at 889-7298.

MALE MEN: Long-haired Gay male penpal network. Photo, 3IRC's to join. Box 231, Station 8, Ottawa, CANADA, K1P6C4

GAY & LESBIAN SPIRITUALITY GROUP of St. Philips in the RWB Episcopal Church meets first and third Mondays. Call David, 323-7943 for more information.

LESBIAN/GAY WRITERS: Workshop at 7:00 p.m. third Wednesday of every month. Read and critique current projects. Network and support. For info call 325-4737.

DESERT VOICES, Tucson's Gay & Lesbian Chorus rehearses Monday evenings from 8:30 to 9:30pm at Armory Park Senior Center, 220 S. 6th Ave. Call 781-9662.

'Conversion'

Continued from Page One

view that excludes homosexuality," says Dallas, an Exodus graduate. "We are there to speak to the people who are not satisfied, who are at odds with their sexual orientation."

But Dallas, Davies and other leaders concede that even for the committed, success is far from certain.

In fact, the most famous failures in conversion therapy history were the founders of Exodus, Michael Bussee and Gary Cooper: They fell in love with each other and left the group, and their wives, in the late 1970s.

"There are no statistics," Davies says, but "I would say that a minority of individuals coming through these ministries have made it in the long run . . . remained free of homosexual behavior for five years or more."

And he says even fewer develop full-fledged attractions for the opposite sex or go on to marry, as he and Dallas have. But "we don't promote marriage as the ultimate goal."

And so, the leaders say, success often means celibacy.

While critics may say that's unhealthy, Dallas says, "I think it's unhealthy for people to live in a way that violates their conscience."

But critics say those who can't change, whether inwardly or outwardly, end up in pain.

People who seek such therapies "obviously have some strong shame or guilt or self-hatred," and often are trying to conform to the expectations of their families and churches, says Clinton Anderson, who heads an office on Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual concerns at the American Psychological Association in Washington. When they can't change, he says, their feelings of failure only intensify.

The ministries "send the message to Gay young people that their sexual orientation really is a vile and dreadful thing that needs to be changed, and that's destructive enough in and of itself," says the Rev. Michael Seiler, an Episcopal priest in Philadelphia who has counseled conversion therapy dropouts. "It gets even worse when they find out, as the vast majority do, that those qualities can't be changed. Then they are left with guilt and shame and rejection."

Those who try marriage despite less-than-complete conversions hurt others as well, Anderson says. "You're generating a lot of unhappy marriages, a lot of painful divorces."

Conversion ministries also hurt families because they tell people that their homosexuality was caused by early trauma or emotional neglect, Upchurch says. "One of the first things you learn is that it's your parents' fault that you're Gay," something mainstream therapists have long ceased to believe, he says. "These groups tear families apart."

AIM: TO HEAL FAMILIES

Conversion groups don't deny that they look for the roots of homosexuality in troubled families or early abuse, rather than in genetic predispositions or the hard-wiring of the brain. But, they say, their aim is to heal families. And to heal relationships with God.

"I know of all kinds of people who

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are Gay and go to church every Sunday, but the tenets of their faith are different from mine. We are in disagreement," Davies says. His God "does not have a special vendetta against people with homosexual attractions. But there is only one approved way of expressing sexuality, and that is within a permanent heterosexual marriage. The people in Exodus are seeking to be obedient to what God is asking of them."

Paulk, the woman in the ad, says: "I wanted to change, not because I wanted to change, but because God had a standard that was higher than mine."

[Kim Painter is a reporter for USA Today, from which this article is reprinted.]

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Columna Abierto

Continued from Page Sixteen

Por hoy es todo, le esperamos la próxima semana, D. M.

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Ernie Perez
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151 S. Tucson Blvd., Ste. 252
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(520) 322-6226, Fax 327-9557

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HIV/AIDS Education Coalition
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