



STOP PROMOTING HOMOSEXUALITY INTERNATIONAL NEWS

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Dear Friend of SPHI,

Aloha! Hope you're well. I was speaking with one of our supporters the other day on the phone and she said, "Wow, now that we've won the same-sex "marriage" battle in Hawai'i, will you have anything to do to keep you busy?" I chuckled first and then actually broke out laughing. She didn't know what was going on, and for some reason, I couldn't stop laughing. Pretty soon, she joined in and it actually took us a few minutes to calm down. Nothing like a cathartic laughing session, to let off some steam and help one relax and lighten up a little.

Of course, I explained to her that our work is far from over. I'm afraid what she, (and many others) don't understand is how focused and persistent homosexual activists are. The Hawai'i and Alaska victories that tradi-

tional marriage supporters achieved in November are only temporary setbacks to the well-organized and well-financed homosexual movement. They have already launched a new "marriage" campaign in Vermont, with the hope that the courts will rule in their favor. (Look for an update on the Vermont situation in next month's edition.)

Remember, it doesn't really matter to homosexual activists which state becomes the first to legalize same-sex "marriage". If they can win in just one state, this will set into motion legal challenges all across the country. Homosexual activists are chomping at the bit to file lawsuits against the 31 states who have passed laws saying they will not recognize same-sex "marriages", as well as challenging at the federal level the Defense of Marriage Act, which was signed into law by President Clinton in 1996.

So, the battle continues. But as you know, we're in this for the long haul and I hope you will continue to stick

with us. We appreciate your support.

Some exciting things happening in New Zealand and Australia. I was Down Under for about a week in early February. You can read about my trip on page 2.

Also, an excerpt from a lengthy article the *Honolulu Weekly* did on me in late January. It was called "Who Is Mike Gabbard?" and I'll let you judge for yourself how the article turned out.

I won't bore you with another apology for this late newsletter. I'm doing the best I can to get these out on time. Keep in touch. And please continue to keep us in your prayers. Ke Akua me ke Aloha. (God bless.)

Sincerely,

Mike Gabbard
President

Stop Promoting Homosexuality International is an interfaith coalition of religious leaders and supporters who oppose the acceptance and promotion of homosexuality as a normal, healthy, alternative lifestyle. SPHI is a non-profit educational corporation. *The SPHI News* is published six times per year by SPHI, Inc., P.O. Box 27843, Honolulu, HI 96827. Phone (808) 523-7739. Fax 523-2859. Copyright 1999. No part of the *SPHI News* may be reproduced in any form without permission. **Subscriptions:** \$15 donation per year pre-paid, includes postage; \$30 per year foreign.

New Zealand Takes a Stand Against the Homosexual Movement

In early February I was invited by a group of pastors and community leaders in Auckland, New Zealand to visit and speak about the homosexual movement and its impact on their country.

In addition to their concerns about the legalization of homosexual "marriage", they also talked about ways to counter the local annual "gay pride" parade dubbed by homosexual activists as "The Hero Parade" held every February in downtown Auckland. (There they go again, trying to steal another word from the English language.)

We had a great meeting, with some incredible ideas and strategies. About 40 Aucklanders from many different walks of life listened to me explain why we were able to win the same-sex "marriage" battle in Hawai'i with such an overwhelming majority (see editorial on page 3), and also describe in general terms the goals of the international homosexual movement.

Regarding the upcoming parade (which happens to be the largest social event of the year in the entire country, with over 100,000 in attendance), one of the local pro-family activists suggested doing a full-page ad protesting the theft of the word "hero" and then actually defining the real meaning in the ad. Everyone thought the idea was good, some even pledged generous contributions to pay for the ad, and we were off and running.

Sure enough, on February 10th, the full page ad appeared in the *NZ Herald*. It read in huge letters across the top: **HEROES!** Below were photos of Mahatma Gandhi, Mother Teresa, Martin Luther King, and Dame Whina Cooper, a local Maori leader. Below the photos was the subhead: **IT TAKES MORE THAN A PARADE TO MAKE A HERO...**

Then, in smaller print:

Hero, n. (1. Hérô; 2. Hierou]. M. Fr. heroe (Mod. Fr héros), fr. Lat. heroem, acc. of heros, fr. Gk. heros, 1. Any person whose character, reputation, exploits, and personality strike the imagination, and cause one to regard them as the ideal of virtue. 2. Any person regarded as ideal.

Real heroes...affirm and honour marriage as a lifetime commitment between a man and a

woman, and the family as the cornerstone of our society.

Real heroes...demonstrate modesty and reject public displays that offend common decency.

Real heroes...are people our children can look up to and who don't take pride in behaviour that could destroy themselves and others.

If you agree with the above, and find the politically correct tolerance that permits one standard for homosexuals and another for everyone else offensive, please take the time to let your voice be heard. Cut and post the coupon below and we will take it for you to Mayor Christine Fletcher, TV3, and the other major sponsors to let them know your very real concerns.

*The coupon said: Post to: Stop Promoting Homosexuality International (NZ)
P.O. Box 8865 Symonds Street, Auckland*

As a citizen of New Zealand, I endorse our traditional family values enough to oppose the promotion of destructive sexuality. I do not agree with local councils or central government funding events or publications which seek to normalise homosexual behaviour, including the "Hero" parade.

Predictably, when the ad hit, homosexual activists went wild. They produced a counter ad with the headline, "IT TAKES REAL HEROES TO STAND UP TO HATE." Some excerpts from their ad:

"Last week we saw an advertisement in the Herald with images of Dame Whina Cooper, Mahatma Ghandi, Mother Teresa and Martin Luther King. All had struggled for human dignity. All were being hijacked to spread a message of fear and intolerance against gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people.

"...There's nothing "decent" about breeding intolerance. Nothing "traditional" about bringing pain to families with gay parents or children. Spreading bigotry is a pastime with terrible consequences. Last year, a 21-year

old gay man, Matthew Shepherd, was bludgeoned to death in Wyoming. That's why it's so important for us all to stand up to intolerance. It's the instinctive response of anyone who truly desires a decent and human society. There can no longer be any excuses for homophobia. Those involved in spreading hatred can't expect innocent people to pay the price for their cowardice, ill-will and poverty of mind. It takes real heroism to stand up to intolerance and to build a sense of pride and community. That's what the Hero parade is all about."

The ad included names of about 100 individuals listed as sponsors and a response coupon with The Campaign for Human Rights, Box 122-70, Wellington, NZ. Email chr@xtra.co.nz and fax 04 472 2293.

In addition to the ad, there was a protest by the Auckland University Students Association at the Baptist Tabernacle Church, where I had given a speech the night I arrived in NZ. The student spokeswoman, Julie Falrey, said "This kind of ignorance and homophobia should not have a place in a civilised society."

Also, there was a flurry of news articles, editorials, and letters-to-the editor about the controversy. The *NZ Herald* printed two scathing diatribes by Auckland University students attacking SPHI. They printed one guest editorial from me.

On February 10th I was at the airport waiting for my flight back to Honolulu, when both television stations sent crews out to interview me about the ad. I simply said the same thing that I repeated over and over again during our successful traditional marriage campaign in Hawaii, that is, that people are sick and tired of homosexual activists forcing their values down our throats. I said the ad was a statement by New Zealanders that they're now ready to stand up for their deeply held religious and moral beliefs to counter the propaganda from the homosexual movement.

Will New Zealanders use the ad as a spark in becoming more active in fighting against the promotion of homosexuality in schools, and in the culture? Stay tuned.

Dear SPHI supporters,

Aloha! As many of you know, I've been trying my best to educate people about the harmful effects of promoting homosexuality in society for almost eight years. During this time, I have never accepted a salary, or any compensation from SPH for my time and energy. Your contributions have always been used to help pay for our newsletter, and other SPH projects.

I would like to continue serving God in this ministry, but I need your help. The Lord has blessed Carol, myself and our five kids (and three grandsons) with good health, and enough money to pay the bills in the past, but our reserves are running low.

That's where you come in. No, I'm not asking for a handout. I'm simply requesting that you please read the rest of this letter and think seriously about a new business opportunity that Carol and I have started. It's something that could be mutually beneficial—helping us financially so that I can continue my work at SPH, and helping you by supplementing your income and improving your health. Here's the pitch:

Alpine Industries is a 12 year old technology based company that offers a solution to what the EPA and the World Health Organization are stating as the #1 health hazard in America today-- indoor air pollution. Because of Alpine's revolutionary technology (that really produces results!) and its very generous compensation plan, INC Magazine has rated Alpine the second fastest growing manufacturer in all North America in the private sector. We especially appreciate the founder of Alpine's integrity and willingness to give God the glory for its success as stated in the last line of the corporate mission statement: "In everything we do, we strive to fulfill our primary purpose of glorifying God."

In a nutshell, Alpine's Living Air purifiers recreate fresh air indoors using the same technology God uses outdoors - ions and low levels of activated oxygen or ozone. These two processes remove the particulates from our air (most of which is what we call dust - 80% dead human skin and dust mite feces), neutralizes odors, chemicals and gases, and drastically reduces mold, e coli, toxins and bacteria in our indoor environments. We breathe more than we do anything else in life. By removing the particulates and toxins from the air we breathe while in our home or office, our immune system has a chance to build up and do its job when in other environments that may not have clean air.

We are looking for two categories of people:

1. Those interested in field testing this product in their home or office on a three day trial basis. Our experience has shown that people with allergies, asthma, breathing difficulties, odor & mold problems and even snorers can usually notice quite a difference within the first three days. We are developing a booklet of local testimonials and could use your help.
2. Those interested in earning extra income or are looking for a career change. Alpine is a home based business that has a low start up cost and potential for substantial earnings on a part time basis. Many professionals are joining the company for the freedom and lifestyle it offers. While many earn an extra \$1,000 per month part time just sharing the product, others are earning incredible incomes (average sales managers in Alpine earn close to six figures). Because the industry is in its infancy stages and Alpine has proprietary technology, the business opportunity is limitless at this point.

If you fit into either of these categories or know someone who does, please give me a call at (808) 523-7739. We thank you for your continued support and are grateful the Lord has provided us a way to earn income and at the same time continue our work at SPHI.

Sincerely,



Desire Must Be Tempered

Guest Editorial by Mike Gabbard, president of SPHI.

New Zealand Herald, Monday, Feb 15, 1999

Last year Hawaiian voters amended their state constitution to effectively ban the legalisation of same-sex "marriage," sending a message to homosexual activists the world over.

While reasonable people of all races, ethnicities and religious persuasions are tolerant of homosexuality in society, we are not willing to grant social approval and blessings to aberrant, unnatural sexual behavior.

We are not willing to allow homosexual activists and their supporters to teach our children in schools that homosexuality is normal,

natural and healthy, and that society should accept it on an equal basis to heterosexuality.

Recently I was invited to New Zealand to speak about the Hawaii election. Why did we win? Because people transcended their sectarian and prejudicial feelings and worked hand-in-hand to defeat the homosexual activists and preserve the sacred institution of marriage.

A deep underlying spiritual issue we addressed was the fact that all great spiritual teachers throughout history have taught that we are not our desires or cravings. They have taught that if we follow our material desires without any controls, if we don't label some desires good and some bad, then this will lead to individual and societal suffering.

The world view of homosexual activists is one in which the identity of the individual is determined by their desires, that is, a person is his desires. But although a person may have the desire to enjoy sex with someone of the same gender, this does not make them a "homosexual." That's not their iden-

tity. Their real identity is that they are a spirit soul in a temporary material body and they have different material desires. They are not those desires.

A man may have the desire to enjoy sex with someone other than his wife, but he doesn't identify himself as an "adulterer." That doesn't become his identity. He doesn't claim, "I have desire to enjoy sex with women other than my wife, therefore this is my true identity. If I don't go out and have illicit sex with other women, then I am not following my true nature, and I can't be happy."

Once we identify a person as his desires, then as individuals and as a society we're completely spiritually lost. We're no different from animals.

Every spiritual teacher throughout history has taught that in order to be happy we must temper our desires. The philosophy of homosexual activists is exactly the opposite. It identifies the person according to sexual desires, and basically claims that if a person doesn't follow those sexual desires, they can't be happy.

To legitimise this hedonistic viewpoint by legalising homosexual "marriage" or normalising homosexual behaviour would be to institutionalise this materialistic way of identifying who we are. This is completely unacceptable. We are human because we have the ability to say no to our desires.

Religious people in general have for a long time been extremely afraid to speak what they know in their hearts is right. It is sad that a country like New Zealand that appears to be democratic may not be as democratic as its image portrays.

We are human because we have the ability to say no to our desires.

When you have thousands of people who have deeply held spiritual and moral beliefs against the promotion of homosexuality in their schools and they're remaining silent as mice because of fear, this says a lot about how democratic a society really is.

I challenge all New Zealanders, including the media, to try to change that climate, to make it so that people can speak freely what is in their hearts and minds on this issue – something that they have been afraid to do, without being called names.

We are not bigots, or haters. We are religious and spiritual people who care about others, care about their families and care about society.

Let us continue to debate this controversial issue, but let us do it with compassion and civility.

You Don't Have to be "Gay"

It's true. Talk with those who know... former homosexuals and professionals who have helped them. They'll give you the straight scoop about the reality of the "gay" lifestyle.

NARTH

Nat'l Assoc. of Research &
Therapy of Homosexuality
(818) 789-4440

Homosexuals Anonymous
(610) 376-1146

Exodus International
(206) 784-7799

Courage
(212) 421-0426

Hawai'i Homosexual "Marriage" Case Rated One of Worst In American Law

[Traditional marriage supporters are still awaiting the final decision from the Hawai'i Supreme Court on *Baehr vs Anderson* (formerly *Lewin and Miike*. Name change due to resignations of DOH directors. Bruce Anderson is presently the new director of Health in Hawai'i). Interesting that Bernard Schwartz, the Chapman Distinguished Professor of Law at the University of Tulsa has written *A Book of Legal Lists: The Best and Worst in American Law*, Oxford University Press, 1997. Chapter 9 is called the "Ten Worst Non-Supreme Court Decisions" (pp. 182-184) and guess what No.8 is? That's right, *Baehr v. Lewin*. Following is what Mr. Schwartz has to say about the notorious case:]

Baehr v. Lewin

The great judges and great decisions have adapted the law to the needs of their day. This has enabled the traditional legal technique to serve the welfare of the constantly changing society. The masters of the judicial craft have made the emerging law appear the logical product of established doctrines; in their hands, the changing common law was made a blend of both continuity and creativeness.

Judicial creativeness should, however, go only so far. For the judge to make quantum leaps is to risk a transforming role more appropriate to the legislator. Justice Frankfurter once wrote, in a letter to Justice Black, "the problem is not whether the judges make the law, but when and how and how much. Holmes put it in his highbrow way, that 'they can do so only interstitially; they are confined from molar to molecular motions.' I used to say to my students that legislatures make law wholesale, judges retail."

In *Baehr v. Lewin* (1993), the Hawaii Supreme Court made law wholesale. The case involved men whose applications for marriage licenses were denied solely because they were of the same sex. They sued, claiming that the denials violated their right to equal protection. The Hawaii court stated that the statute providing for marriage between husband and wife established a sex-based classification. To determine the validity of such a classification under the equal protection clause, the court ruled, the strict-scrutiny standard of review must be applied. This meant that the classification may be upheld only if it is supported by a *compelling* state interest and is narrowly drawn to avoid unnecessary abridgment of the applicant couples' constitutional rights.

All this may sound like only technical legal jargon. But it is of crucial importance. The review standard used by the court in a given case determines whether a statute violates equal protection. Most statutes meet the usual standard of being supported by a "rational basis" or even what is called the intermediate standard of support by a *significant* state interest. On the other hand, as the Supreme Court put it in 1995, "strict scrutiny is 'strict in theory but fatal in fact.'" Justice Thurgood Marshall explained the difference in result in a 1976 opinion: "If a statute is subject to strict scrutiny, the statute [sic] always, or nearly always, ... is struck down." A less strict review standard, "too...leaves little doubt about the outcome; the challenged

legislation is always upheld."

Technically, all the *Baehr* court did was to remand to the lower court to determine whether, "in accordance with the strict-scrutiny standard, the state could meet the burden of overcoming the presumption that [the statute] is unconstitutional by demonstrating that it furthers compelling state interests and is narrowly drawn." But the *Baehr* decision plainly indicated the decision that would have to be made on remand. In effect, then, *Baehr* held that the same-sex marriage requirement, to quote a dissent, "unconstitutionally discriminates against Appellants who seek a license to enter into a same-sex marriage."

The *Baehr* decision is so contrary to both established law and common sense that one is almost speechless before this patent *reductio ad absurdum* of equal-protection jurisprudence. In the first place, there is the universal meaning of "marriage"—for example, the *Oxford English Dictionary* definition: "an act, of marrying, the ceremony or procedure by which two persons are made husband and wife." If the state is to follow the method of Humpty Dumpty in *Through the Looking-Glass*—"When I use a word ... , it means just what I choose it to mean"—it is surely for the legislature, not the courts, to redefine "marriage." The legislature has, however, continued to use the term in its universally accepted sense.

Aside from *Baehr*, stated a Federal court of appeals in 1995, "unanimously American courts have held that same-sex couples are not constitutionally entitled to attain the legal and civil status of marriage." The *Baehr* holding that such legislative use of the word is presumptively unconstitutional is contrary to that of every other court which has considered the matter. The legislative confirmation of the accepted definition of marriage as limited to a union between husband and wife does not discriminate on the basis of gender; it is based on the nature of marriage itself. In the words of the Washington court, in reaching the opposite result from *Baehr*, "appellants are not being denied entry into the marriage relationship because of the recognized definition of that relationship as one which may be entered into only by two persons who are members of the opposite sex." The *Baehr* decision the other way is an affront to both law and language that well deserves its place on the list of worst decisions.



Gabbard Featured In Hawai'i Newspaper

On January 27 the Honolulu Weekly, a free newspaper with a liberal/radical slant and a circulation of 100,000+ in Honolulu county, ran a feature article about SPHI president, Mike Gabbard.

The front page includes a caricature of Gabbard standing on a teetering soap box wagging his finger, with the headline "WHO IS MIKE GABBARD? And why is he talking about gays this way?" The four-page spread begins with the title, "The Gospel According to Gabbard," and includes photographs and an extensive interview about Gabbard's weekly television program, the shutdown of his family-owned restaurant by homosexual activists in 1992, the same-sex "marriage" battle in Hawai'i, his views on morality, religion, sexuality and other topics, as well as comments by supporters and detractors.

An excerpt:

Gabbard and his supporters were instrumental in targeting key legislators seen as gay-friendly. To that end, Senate Judiciary Chair Rey Gaulty lost his seat in November 1996, as did House Representatives Len Pepper, Devon Nekoba and Jim Shon.

"It was at this time that Gabbard really came onto the scene," says Honolulu attorney Dan Foley, who represents three same-sex couples who first filed for marriage rights in 1991. "He pinpointed certain election districts with mass mailings, because these people opposed his views on gays."

Foley believes the '96 election was a turning point, not only for the same-sex marriage issue but Gabbard's public profile.

Gabbard's successful targeting certainly drew the attention of state politicians.

"He's dogmatic, hardworking and methodical in his approach," comments state Senator Matt Matsunaga. "He represents a segment of the population that is fearful of something they just don't know, afraid if gays had similar rights as nongays. His point of view – that homosexuality is provably wrong – well, if you believe that, then everything [he does] follows logically."

Matsunaga calls Gabbard "the X-factor" in the 1998 same-sex ballot initiative.

"He motivated his followers to go out

there, hold signs, to vote 'Yes,'" Matsunaga explains. The senator expects Gabbard to play a role in the legislative debate over reciprocal benefits this year.

To check out the article in its entirety (and

letters

Dear Mr. Gabbard,

Let me begin by congratulating you on the success of your efforts to secure passing of the constitutional marriage amendment. The high voter turnout was a clear indication that you and Save Traditional Marriage played a significant role in getting voters to the polls to pass this critically important amendment. I also want you to know that I completely support your current goal of preventing homosexual "couples" from securing in practice what they couldn't obtain via the ballot. That is, from obtaining all the benefits and privileges properly reserved to those who are legally married.

It seems that many members of our society, through their belief in themselves as understanding and compassionate people, are allowing themselves to be surreptitiously persuaded that homosexuality should be completely and cheerfully accepted as a normal and harmless alternative to heterosexuality. That such behavior be matter-of-factly viewed as a morally legitimate alternative lifestyle. Nothing could be further from the truth. It is obvious to any clear-thinking, morally-anchored person that homosexuality is in reality an outrageous form of sexual perversion that is indisputably unnatural, unwholesome, and indecent. And it is utterly sophistic to argue that homosexuality should automatically be respected for the love that may be involved. One has only to honestly acknowledge the unarguably distasteful reality of same-sex copulation to realize that despite the presence of love, said relationship is inherently aberrant and immoral.

And although homosexuals (as human

the caricature) go to:

<http://www.lava.net/~pritchet/gab.htm>
<http://www.honoluluweekly.com/archives/archives.html>

beings) are entitled to benevolent tolerance and should clearly never be deliberately persecuted, they certainly have no right to demand that society openly embrace what mankind has known for centuries to be improper and perverse. The homosexual community is simply using people's basic sense of fairness and consideration against them by attempting to brainwash and browbeat them into accepting what they know deep down is wrong. They do this for one reason and one reason only: to forcefully remove the longstanding stigma that is justifiably associated with their sexual dysfunction. And in response to the commonly heard contention that homosexuals should be accepted for what they are because they are good, law-abiding people too, one must remember that good people can do bad things.

I have great admiration and respect for individuals like yourself Mr. Gabbard who stand up and take action for what is right, consequently exposing themselves to the concerted Machiavellian tactics of the homosexual activists and their sympathizers. You have great courage and whether our community is aware of it or not, you are truly an unsung hero in the endless war to keep our society morally decent. Please continue to fight the good fight and never be intimidated from speaking the truth despite the protests of those enslaved by "politically correct" thinking.

With immense respect,
J. Davidson
Honolulu

Around the World

VANCOUVER, CANADA - The managing editor of Xtra West, one of the country's leading homosexual activist publications, has admitted that the gay activist movement is buoyed by a foundation of lies. In "No Need to Lie" Gareth Kirkby charges that the incidence of homosexuality is artificially and grossly inflated as are the numbers of participants at gay rallies. Kirkby questions the "born this way" argument and also admits that gay activists' "spiritual forefather" Alfred C Kinsey's studies were based on fraud. Last week, Sun Media columnist Michael Coren exposed the story and urged a copy of the Xtra West editorial be sent to "every judge, every politician and every newspaper editor in the country."

"Why tell the truth when it's a less effective tactic than telling a lie? Well, because it's a lie," wrote Kirkby in the August 20, 1998 edition of Xtra West. What follows are some excerpts from his article.

New Creation Ministries

If you, your friends, or loved ones have homosexual feelings, please don't believe the lie that you/they are "gay". Meet with others and learn how to overcome homosexual desires in a confidential, pleasant setting.

Every Thursday
2062 S. King St. Honolulu
7:00 - 8:30 pm

For more info, call 261-7008

Inflated Incidence

"Why is it that some of us continue to bend and twist and otherwise play loose with (often out-dated) so-called facts. Why, for example, do we continue to insist that 10% of the overall population is gay or lesbian? Think about it; that would mean that three people in your Grade 9 class were queer. Our personal experience strongly suggests that this figure, despite its omnipresence, just isn't accurate."

"Born This Way" - NOT

"Or how about the argument, admittedly more common in the U.S. than here, that we are all 'born this way'? This sounds like a plea that we are handicapped and deserve pity for our sad misfortune. More to the point, it's painting sexuality with a broad sweep of the brush. Personally, after a number of relationships with women I chose to be gay ... "

Exaggerated Turnout at Events

"How about the tendency of some groups to exaggerate the turnout at gay events? Were there really 150,000 people at this year's Vancouver parade? That count was an estimate by an off-duty police officer and not based on aerial photographs of the crowd ... In 1996 the Toronto pride organizers claimed 800,000 people turned out for the parade and festivities. But an analysis using a grid system concluded that the proper figure was closer to 150,000."

Kinsey

"This tendency to exaggerate may go all the way back to our spiritual forefather, Alfred C Kinsey. A powerful new biography by James Jones offers strong evidence that Kinsey rigged his social experiments that produced results that are quoted to this day. You know the figures; 10 percent of men are gay, 85 percent had premarital sex, 70 percent had bought sex from a prostitute, 37 percent had at least one same-sex contact to the point of orgasm, and 17 percent had sexual contact with animals."

"Kinsey, it turns out, was a closet gay and a profound masochist. He also had sex with his students... Kinsey biased his samples." (*LifeSite Daily News*, 2/2/99 - <http://www.lifesite.net>)

BRUSSELS (Reuters) - A Belgian transsexual and his wife are fighting a government order to divorce because Belgian law does not recognize same-sex marriages.

Priscilla Van Sandt, who had been known as Rony before opting for surgery to become a woman, and his wife of 25 years, Jeannine, appeared in the Antwerp Court of Appeals Wednesday to contest the order.

The two women, both wearing gold jewelry and red nail polish, held hands as they appeared before the court. "Whether it's a divorce, an annulment of marriage or an official change of state, I should make the choice," Priscilla told RTBF television. Saying that she has no intention of divorce, Priscilla added: "And why should I? My partner has supported me during this difficult period. Should I just throw her away saying thank you for the service given? It's not possible."

Jeannine noted that she continues to love her spouse, despite the dramatic change in their lives. "I love this person, whether he's man or a woman," she said. "That may seem bizarre, but that's how it is." (*January 13, 1999*)

UNITED KINGDOM, London - A test case to decide whether homosexuals are a "social group" entitling them to claim asylum in Britain to escape persecution in their home countries is to be heard in the High Court in London.

Mr Justice Collins granted leave yesterday for an Iranian homosexual, Mherdad Jawwdat, to challenge by judicial review a decision of the Immigration Appeal Tribunal that he should be refused asylum and returned to Iran. His lawyers had argued that he should be allowed to stay in Britain under provisions of the Geneva Convention on Refugees which states that anyone with a well-founded fear of being persecuted "for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social

group or political opinion" is entitled to asylum. But in a decision upheld by the tribunal, a special immigration adjudicator, Charles Bennett, found that society did not recognise homosexuals as a social group.

The adjudicator also said he could see no reason why Mr Jawwdat should not return to Teheran so long as he wore his hair short and did not wear make-up in the street. Applying

for leave to bring the judicial review challenge, Mr Jawwdat's counsel, Mark Henderson, told the judge that the Iranian authorities regarded homosexuals as "corrupt parasites" and a "tangible manifestation of Westernisation". They were tortured and even put to death.

Mr Jawwdat, 26, who has been held in Rochester Prison, Kent, was granted conditional bail pending the full hearing of his case. (*The Telegraph* 18 February 1999 - Terence Shaw).

Boycott American Airlines

American Airlines has joined the ranks of corporations who are actively sponsoring and promoting homosexuality. Here are a few examples:

- American Airlines cosponsored award ceremonies by the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD). GLAAD nominated the offensive play *Corpus Christi* for an award. This play portrays a Christ-figure as a homosexual who has sex with his disciples.
- GLAAD listed American as "GLAAD's official airline" and its Underwriter this year.
- GLAAD listed American as a \$50,000 underwriter of last year's awards.
- American donated \$25,000 for a dinner last November hosted by the Human Rights Campaign, the largest homosexual political organization in the world. (HRC spend \$1.5 million in Hawaii last year trying to legalize homosexual "marriage.")
- American offers special fares to the National Gay and Lesbian Journalists Association.
- American sponsored a homosexual film festival called, "Outfest".
- American sponsored the Gay and Lesbian Straight Education Network (GLSEN) convention last October.

It's time for action. If you would like American Airlines to focus on flying airplanes, instead of promoting homosexuality, write their President and CEO Donald Carty at: American Airlines, P.O. Box 619612, M.D.2400, Dallas/Fort Worth Airport, TX 75261-9612, Phone 817-967-2000.

Status of same-sex couples across Europe:

DENMARK: In 1989 became the first country in the world to allow same-sex marriages. But gay couples cannot adopt children.

SWEDEN: Has allowed homosexuals to register as partners in a sort of civil marriage since 1995. The couples cannot adopt children or have them through artificial means.

NETHERLANDS: New law took effect earlier this year permitting gay and lesbian couples to marry, giving them the same pension, social security and inheritance rights as other married couples. Dutch Cabinet approved a plan in November to let homosexuals adopt children. The proposal will likely go before parliament early next year.

ICELAND: Approved "registered cohabitation" in 1996, which gives gay couples many of the legal rights enjoyed by heterosexual married couples, but doesn't allow adoption.

BELGIUM: A law passed in March gives gay couples inheritance rights and allows them to open joint bank accounts.

FRANCE: Same-sex couples currently have no legal status. Bill to give some rights to homosexual and unmarried heterosexual couples is currently under heated debate in parliament.

SPAIN: Gay couples have no official status. Northeastern Catalonia region, however, recently passed a law recognizing homosexual couples but barring them from adopting children or receiving inheritance benefits.

ITALY: A few cities have taken the symbolic step of creating a register for unmarried couples, but the measures carry no legal weight.

GERMANY: The new center-left government intends to grant some legal status to same-sex couples, but not the right to adopt children.

BRITAIN: In July, about 100 British legislators voiced support for efforts to give homosexuals the right to receive partner's state pension after death.

HUNGARY: Passed a law in 1996 granting gay couples inheritance rights, but law doesn't allow adoptions. (*AP Worldstream*, December 12, 1998.)

Note: Most homosexual activists do not consider "marriages" performed in Denmark or anywhere else as true marriages, because they do not completely bestow full benefits and privileges of heterosexual marriages.

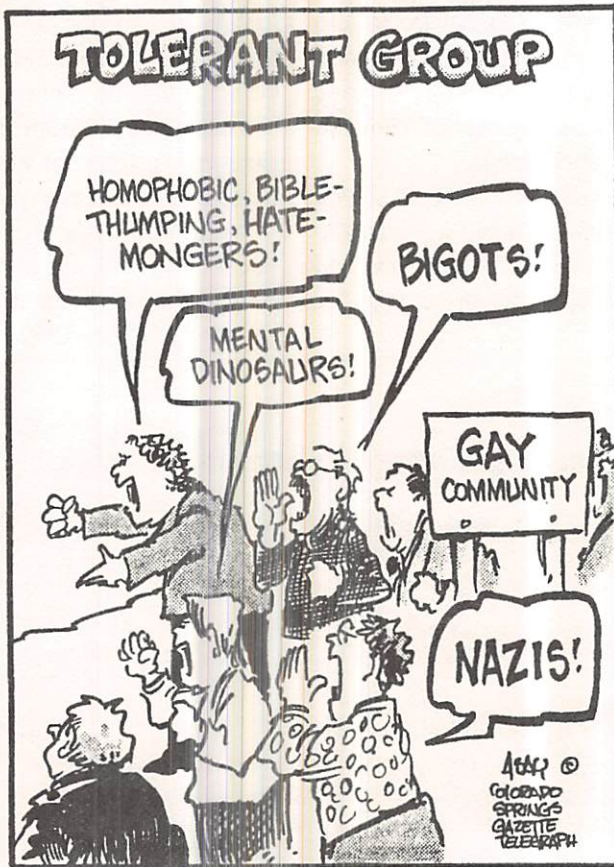
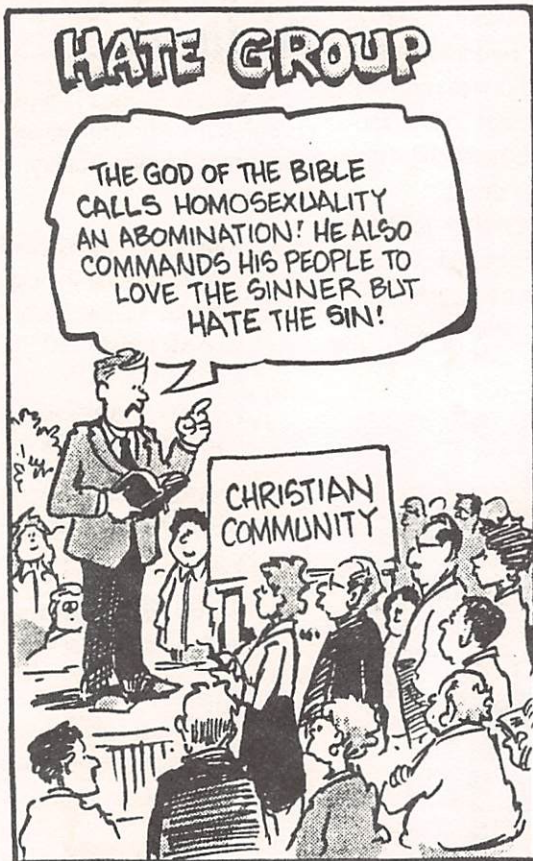
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