

Marching out of the Closet

As demonstrated by the April 25th homosexual March on Washington, DC, the "gay rights" movement continues to have intractable difficulty with numbers. For more than four decades now it has been a "progressive" truism that ten percent of the human population is homosexual.

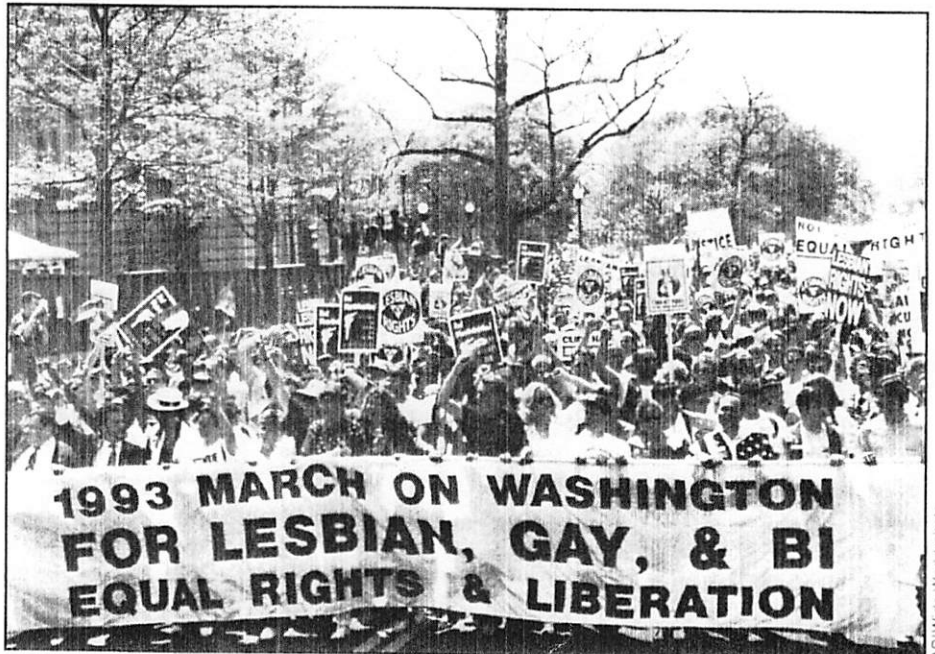
However, in early April a survey was published suggesting that the actual tally of homosexuals in the population may be as low as one percent. To the observant, that figure came as only a mild surprise. In February, *Newsweek* published results from an earlier survey showing that only two percent of the population is homosexual. But even that survey was possibly an exaggeration. A sample taken by the Minnesota Adolescent Health Survey during 1986-87 found that among public school students in junior and senior high 0.6 percent of the boys and 0.2 percent of the girls supposedly had homosexual tendencies.

Having invested heavily in the ten-percent estimate, the homosexual rights movement had to find some way to make people forget the arithmetic. Tom Stoddard, a prominent homosexual activist, attorney, and coordinator of the "Campaign for Military Service," conceded to *Newsweek* that the figure is unreliable but had been tactically useful "to create an impression of our numerosity." The April March on Washington had the same objective.

Numbers Game

For weeks prior to the march, Stoddard and other prominent "gay rights" spin doctors tried to persuade the public that over one million people would participate in the March on Washington, which was incessantly referred to as "the largest civil rights demonstration in American history."

However, the DC Park Service Police estimated that the march had drawn 300,000 rather than the anticipated one million. By April 29th, the Park Service, responding to political pressure, promised an upward revision in the official estimate. "Gay" activists pointed out that the Park Service is reputed to un-



The march drew less than a third of the one million that "gay" activists hoped for

derstate the number present at any march (although never before by nearly a factor of four). Dismissing the original Park Service figure as inaccurate, the organizers insisted that they had exceeded their expectations by attracting a crowd of 1.1 million.

The May 3rd issue of *Newsweek* observed, "The massive March on Washington was meant, in part, to evoke past gatherings of powerless multitudes, especially the archetypal March on Washington led by Martin Luther King Jr. in 1963." Even those without reservations about King's activism should consider that comparison to be untenable. Homosexuals, as a group, are statistically more affluent than non-homosexuals. Unlike blacks living in the segregated South, homosexuals are not denied individual rights and social acceptance on the basis of a physical characteristic.

Additionally, homosexuals often get preferential treatment at the highest levels of Washington society. Massachusetts Congressman Barney Frank escaped with a mild reprimand after he was involved in a scandal with a male prostitute; Gerry Studds, Massachusetts' other homosexual congressman, was left unscathed by a 1983 scandal in which he sexually molested a male con-

gressional page. It is not difficult to imagine how Congress would have treated similar scandals involving non-homosexual conservative politicians.

Red Carpet Treatment

Preferential treatment of homosexuals is a documentable characteristic of the Clinton Administration. Mr. Clinton is the first mainstream presidential candidate to court the homosexual voting bloc. As President, he has announced plans to compel the military to accept practicing homosexuals. He has also appointed the first openly homosexual Executive Branch official, HUD's assistant secretary, Roberta Achthenberg.

So obvious is Mr. Clinton's penchant for the "gay rights" lobby, writes *The Nation's* Andrew Kopkind, that "homosexuality is — by presidential directive — a positive qualification for an Administration job. Gays in Washington are finding Administration jobs for themselves and other gays, but they are also trying to convince other gays ... that coming out would help, not hurt, the chances of getting hired."

Even outside of Washington, homosexuals are acquiring preferential status through city ordinances and corporate policies. Some major corporations are

extending "spousal benefits" to "same-sex couples." Such benefits might shortly become uniform, if (as expected) Congress passes and President Clinton signs proposed legislation amending the 1964 Civil Rights Act to include prohibition of "discrimination" on the basis of "sexual orientation."

Even when the grievances cited are more legitimate than those invoked by the homosexual lobby, the creation of "civil rights" is a troublesome concept. The Constitution recognizes that rights inhere in individuals, not in political blocs. Those individuals who identify themselves as homosexuals presently enjoy all of the constitutional protections extended to non-homosexuals: They are assured of freedom of worship and speech, the right to bear arms, security in their rightfully obtained property, and so on. Laws also exist that protect homosexuals — and anyone else — from unprovoked physical harm.

But the "rights" sought by the homosexual lobby require imposition upon the rights of other citizens, or the coer-

cive redefinition of long-established social institutions. Writing in the May/June 1993 issue of *The Humanist*, ACT-UP member Scott Tucker succinctly states the "gay" agenda: "Everything the priests, generals and rabid pundits fear and predict we will demand ... our agenda includes equal domestic partnerships and benefits, equal rights to housing and health care, and equal right to the public world." These demands do not deal with a "right" in the constitutional sense, meaning an immunity against state authority; all of them deal with privileges that will have to be extracted, by state force, from recalcitrant traditionalists.

Redefining "Family"

The most significant and contentious "gay" demands involve the family. Homosexual activists maintain that their rights are suppressed because society does not legally recognize "same-sex marriages." The primary problem with this demand — moral considerations aside — is that the Western institution

of marriage is the creation of a definable cultural and religious tradition. In that tradition, all other cultural, social, and political institutions emanate from the independent family.

The more candid homosexual activists identify their ultimate objective as the destruction of "heterosexism." It is understood by them that victory will be accomplished only through the eradication of long-settled social definitions. Accordingly, one of the most prominent rhetorical themes of homosexual activism is that of the homosexual "family."

Many homosexuals have found ways to escape the sterility associated with their rebellion against nature. The December 20, 1992 *Washington Post* examined the phenomenon called the "Gayby Boom": "Beginning in the 1980s, a growing number of gay men and lesbians have created — through adoption, artificial insemination, and surrogate motherhood — the families they have always wanted but thought they might have to forgo."

Propaganda or Proof: New Bo

In their accelerating campaign to force avowed homosexuals into the Armed Forces, the White House, the militant "gay rights" movement, and their allies in the media are endlessly promoting a deeply flawed new book entitled *Conduct Unbecoming: Gays and Lesbians in the U.S. Military*. The book, which favors lifting the ban on homosexuals in the military, claims that the Armed Forces are full of homosexuals who have honorably served their country and that it is wrong to authorize "witch hunts" against them. The author, Randy Shilts, an AIDS-infected homosexual journalist, received nearly \$1 million in advance for the book.

White House Interest

The White House views the book as a powerful weapon in its campaign to homosexualize the military. President Clinton has vowed to lift the ban on homosexuals in the military on July 15th, despite the fact that the Constitution gives Congress the explicit authority over rules and regulations governing the Armed Forces.

The book was generating headlines even before coming off the press. Prior to publication, *Publishers Weekly* reported that as soon as bound galleys were ready, book editor Michael Denny of St.



Shilts' book is filled with dubious research and anonymous sources

James D. Wilson

Martin's Press would send copies to President Clinton and his top advisers, who (quoting Denny) had been "monitoring Randy's progress on the book for several months."

Shilts' book, almost 800 pages long and said to be based on 1,100 interviews, is trumpeted as a history of homosexuals in the military. But key parts are based on dubious and anonymous sources and fall in a category that can safely be described as gossip or speculation. Shilts claims, for example, that homosexuals have served as four-star generals, admirals, astronauts, and on the staff of the Joint Chiefs, but he provides no names. He claims that "hundreds of millions" of dollars have been spent removing homosexuals from the Armed Forces, but he supplies no hard documentation.

To get an indication of the book's sloppy nature, one only has to examine the publisher's claim that the book reveals "for the first time that some of the most celebrated soldiers in American history were homosexual, including the Father of the United States Army." This is a reference to a European military officer, Baron Frederick Wilhelm Ludolf Gerhard Augustin van Steuben, who was brought over to America by Benjamin Franklin to assist in the training of the Continental Army. Shilts' "evidence" for Steuben's homosexuality

The *Post* observes, "After adoption policies in the United States were relaxed a dozen years ago to allow for single parents to adopt children, gay men and lesbians began to apply, simply presenting themselves as single applicants." The article analyzes the growing trend among homosexual couples to "hire out" the services of a surrogate father or mother who provides the biological requirements for the child the couple wants. The *Post* notes:

With [homosexual] families the biological father may be a "Mr. Donor" from the sperm bank; the biological mother, a stranger who signed a contract and received pay.

The children sought by many homosexual "couples" are in equal parts political props and trophies of social status. Common sense suggests that it is best for a child to have a parent of each gender in order to develop in a sound and healthy fashion. Now we are being told that a child deprived of a mother or

a father by reason of a "same-sex marriage" will have as healthy and whole an environment as a child born into a traditional family.

Cultural Revolution

Homosexual activists desire a cultural revolution at the most intimate levels in order to rid the world of "heterosexism." Andrew Kopkind insists that "heterosexism — like institutionalized racism and sexism — is so pervasive that most people may never recognize it." Thus the campaign against heterosexism must include indoctrination of students in public schools to rid them of inherited "prejudices." A growing number of universities are offering courses in what Kopkind refers to as "Queer Studies," a species of Marxist-inspired multiculturalism emphasizing the supposed oppression of homosexuals.

For some the role of homosexuals in the struggle for "social justice" includes a role in America's future spiritual life. In a new book entitled *Gay Ideas: Outing and Other Controversies*, homo-

sexual activist Richard D. Mohr suggests that homosexuals are the future "reconcilers" of querulous humanity:

Democracy will be firmly grounded only when male homosexuality is seen and treated in social ritual as a fundamental social model, when male homosexuality is, as it is in some other cultures, treated as a priesthood ... the realization of [this] model may require the creation of something like a priestly class of homosexuals, an institutional social structure frequently found in shamanistic societies.

Thus the "civil rights" demands of the homosexual lobby are more than (to quote a prominent slogan in the Washington March) "a matter of simple justice." Those demands are part of an effort to bring about the comprehensive restructuring of all that is decent in American society. ■

— WILLIAM NORMAN GRIGG

Book Gives Doubtful Evidence

consists mainly of rumors that he had "taken familiarities with young boys," a scandal that reportedly forced him out of Europe, and the claim that he arrived in America "in the company of a handsome seventeen-year-old French nobleman who served as his secretary and interpreter."

However, Shilts added, "The scandals that exiled Steuben did not receive broad circulation in Europe until more than a decade after the Revolutionary War, and it is unlikely the Americans knew of them when Franklin negotiated an arrangement with Steuben." In other words, Steuben was not demonstrably a homosexual, and American officials did not even know about any charges against him. But if the charges against him were true, Steuben was a homosexual pedophile. It is frightening, to say the least, that homosexuals today would consider him a role model for their movement.

Libelous Innuendo

It is apparent that Shilts is quite willing to make sweeping and possibly defamatory statements about individuals who are dead and who cannot defend themselves, but less willing to take on individuals who are alive. For example, in his book Shilts claims, "One of the highest ranking generals in the Marine Corps was widely believed to be homosexual," and goes on to give alleged details about this man's living arrangements. Although Shilts never names the general, Marine veterans are able to recognize who he is from Shilts' description. The general, who is very much alive today, happens to be an opponent of homosexuals in the military. Although Shilts' claim is nothing more than unsubstantiated rumor,

and was probably concocted by homosexuals drummed out of the Marine Corps to discredit one of their adversaries, Shilts' refusal to name his target probably saved him from a libel suit.

Compassion for AIDS Victims

Despite several hundred pages of such military-bashing, Shilts himself acknowledges that the Armed Forces have had a compassionate policy, from his point of view, regarding military personnel who get AIDS. Shilts notes that the Department of Defense came up with "some of the most humane and progressive HIV guidelines to be found anywhere in the United States." For those military personnel testing positive for AIDS, DoD offers confidentiality, nondiscrimination, and, most importantly, retention complete with expensive medical treatment and benefits.

The implications are enormous. While Shilts rants about "hundreds of millions" of dollars supposedly spent to discharge homosexuals, the General Accounting Office has estimated that medical treatment for AIDS-infected military personnel could cost the taxpayers \$3 billion by the end of the decade.

The propaganda barrage over the Shilts book must not divert America's attention from what some are calling the "dirty little secret" behind the drive for military homosexuals: that "gay" males in particular find the troops to be a fertile recruiting ground and that, if they eventually come down with AIDS, they will be taken care of for the remainder of their short lives.

The result will be a military that can die, but cannot fight. ■

— CLIFF KINCAID

Pesticide Perspective

"Of all dietary pesticides, 99.99 percent are natural," writes Dr. Bruce Ames in the Winter 1993 issue of *Priorities*, the quarterly publication of the American Council on Science and Health. Dr. Ames, professor of biochemistry and molecular biology at the University of California-Berkeley, notes that such natural toxins "are produced by plants to defend themselves against fungi and animal predators." He estimates that "on average Americans ingest roughly 5,000 to 10,000 different natural pesticides and their breakdown products. Americans eat an estimated 1500 mg of natural pesticides per person per day, which is about 10,000 times more than they consume of synthetic pesticide residues."

Undue concern about synthetic pesticides has led to restrictions on their use. But Dr. Ames observes that synthetic pesticides "have markedly lowered the cost of plant foods, thus making them more available to consumers." He further states, "Eating more fruits and vegetables is thought to be the best way to lower risks from cancer and heart disease other than giving up smoking; our vitamins, antioxidants, and fiber come from plants and are important anti-carcinogens. Thus, eliminating essential pesticides is likely to increase cancer rates." (1995 Broadway, 2nd Floor, New York, NY 10023)

Different Drummers

Our first commander-in-chief apparently had a different view of degenerate sexual behavior in the military than does our present President. *The Howard Phillips Issues and Strategy Bulletin* for March 31st reports an incident recorded in volume 11 of the bicentennial edition of *The Writings of George Washington*, published in 1934 by the U.S. Government Printing Office. On March 10, 1778, a Lieutenant Enslin was "tried for attempting to commit sodomy with John Monhort a soldier," and was also tried "for Perjury in swearing to false Accounts...." He was "found guilty of the charges exhibited against him" and was sentenced "to be dismiss'd the service with Infamy. His Excellency the Commander in Chief approves the sentence

and with Abhorrence and Detestation of such Infamous Crimes orders Lieutt. Enslin to be drummed out of Camp tomorrow morning by all the Drummers and Fifers in the Army never to return...." (9520 Bent Creek Lane, Vienna, VA 22182)

Rethinking AIDS

An increasing number of scientists are questioning the long-accepted claim that AIDS is caused by, and only by, the HIV virus. The Group for the Scientific Reappraisal of the HIV/AIDS Hypothesis was formed last year in the wake of unsuccessful efforts to have the following four-sentence letter published in a number of prominent scientific journals:

It is widely believed by the general public that a retrovirus called HIV causes the group of diseases called AIDS. Many biomedical scientists now question this hypothesis. We propose that a thorough reappraisal of the existing evidence for and against this hypothesis be conducted by a suitable independent group. We further propose that critical epidemiological studies be devised and undertaken.

The March 1993 issue of the Group's newsletter, *Rethinking AIDS*, lists more than 100 signatories to that statement, including: Dr. Peter H. Duesberg, professor of molecular biology at the University of California-Berkeley; and Dr. Robert S. Root-Bernstein, associate professor of physiology at Michigan State University and author of *Rethinking AIDS: The Tragic Cost of Premature Consensus*. (2040 Polk Street, Suite 321, San Francisco, CA 94109)

Tax Perk

Money magazine recently surveyed members of the tax-writing House Ways and Means and Senate Finance Committees and discovered, as reported in its April 1993 issue, that 34 of the 58 legislators pay professionals to do their taxes. Congressmen who do their own tax returns "can get all the first-rate advice they want — free. They can consult either experts employed by Congress or the specialists in two of-

fices that the Internal Revenue Service maintains on Capitol Hill from Feb. 1 to April 15 each year."

Senators and representatives receive special treatment denied ordinary taxpayers at IRS field offices. The IRS will, for instance, review their returns for errors prior to mailing, a service for which the average CPA charges \$150. A former chief counsel at the IRS told *Money* that the "IRS offices on the Hill are basically another perk, but the agency views them as a political necessity because Congress determines the IRS' budget and oversees its activities. Nobody is interested in alienating Congress." (Box 60001, Tampa, FL 33660)

What Crisis?

Writing in *The American Spectator* for May 1993, Fred Barnes, senior editor of *The New Republic*, challenges the notion that the U.S. is plagued by a health-care crisis. "It's a myth," Barnes contends, noting that if "millions of seriously ill Americans were being denied medical care, that *would* be a crisis. But that's not happening. Everyone gets health care in this country — the poor, the uninsured, everyone." Barnes notes that turning away patients is not even an option. "Federal law (section 9121 of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985) requires medical screening of everyone requesting care at a hospital emergency room. If treatment is needed, it must be provided. What this adds up to is 'universal access' to health care in America...."

There may not be enough primary care (regular doctor's visits) for many Americans. Emergency rooms are often crowded. Health care may (or may not) be too costly. Nevertheless, "it's the best health care system in the world — not arguably the best, but the best. Its shortcomings can be remedied by tinkering, or at least by less-than-comprehensive changes," Barnes contends. "An overhaul of the sort Hillary Clinton envisions is not only unnecessary, it's certain to reduce, not expand, the amount of health care Americans receive.... Then we really will have a health-care crisis." (Box 549, Arlington, VA 22216) ■

— ROBERT W. LEE

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GUN REPORT

Exploiting the Waco Tragedy

The Branch Davidian tragedy near Waco, Texas predictably spawned calls for additional gun controls that would further increase the ratio of firearms in government and criminal hands to those held by average, law-abiding Americans. In the early stages of the 51-day standoff, which culminated in the April 19th incineration of the compound and most of its inhabitants, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (BATF) Director Stephen E. Higgins told reporters



Kemp, who used to
oppose gun control,
endorses ban on
"assault" weapons

through a spokesman that "most other countries have a lot stronger firearms laws than we do, which is too bad." He endorsed the Brady waiting-period bill. At about the same time, former Housing and Urban Development Secretary Jack Kemp, who as a congressman consistently opposed gun control, endorsed a ban ("any way you can") on so-called "assault" weapons. And in Congress, such longtime anti-gun luminaries as Senator Howard Metzenbaum (D-OH) and Charles Schumer (D-NY) have called for additional gun curbs.

It could take months or years to determine what actually happened at Waco, and why, but many Americans are already concluding that the problem was not too many guns, but an out-of-control government. Additional gun control laws can preclude such incidents in the future only if they are so draconian and all-encompassing that even the most ordinary citizen is disarmed. We must not allow this to happen!

Surrender or Safety?

Two news items appearing on the same page of the *Washington Times* for April 19th exemplify the contrast between the dream world of gun critics and the real world of those who depend on firearms for personal protection. One dispatch, datelined Denver, Colorado,

reported that a "swap of guns for basketball tickets has taken 47 firearms off the streets...." Hardly an arsenal, the trade included "an antique gun, some cheaply made handguns and a few that looked more like toys than weapons. One or two were broken." In one instance, however, a .38-calibre revolver was surrendered by a 20-year-old man in exchange for "a Denver Nuggets cap, T-shirt and tickets for two \$18 seats to the upcoming game against the Phoenix Suns." Regarding the gun, he explained that he had gotten it for protection but had been convinced by an anti-gun sermon in church to turn it in.

The second story, datelined Tulsa, Oklahoma, reported that when someone began pounding and shouting from the other side of his apartment door, 83-year-old John Henry threatened to call police, to which his unknown antagonist responded by yelling "I don't give a d—, I have a shotgun." Henry then "grabbed a handgun" and "crouched on his bedroom floor and called the police." Before officers could arrive, the assailant broke into the apartment, but when he opened the bedroom door Henry fired, mortally wounding the intruder and saving his own life.

... Only Outlaws Will Have Guns

Other recent national and international news items confirm the futility of using gun control laws to keep guns out of criminal hands, and the importance of firearms for self-defense:

- On April 12th, the Associated Press reported that the gun used to assassinate South African Communist Party leader Chris Hani a few days earlier was "a pistol stolen by right-wing white extremists from a military installation in 1990."

- The *Washington Times* for April 6th reported that a "civilian employee of the Metropolitan Police Department was arraigned yesterday on charges he was the leader of a theft ring that sold confiscated weapons." The employee was accused of stealing and selling about 40 firearms that had been confiscated by police and stored in a department warehouse. As noted by the *Times*, a "further inventory of the property division showed as many as thousands of guns

could be missing." The *Washington Post* pegged the number at around 2,800, more than seven times as many guns as were traced from New York City to Virginia to trigger passage of Virginia's new one-handgun-per-month law.

• On March 23rd the *Washington Times* reported, "Tough new security rules suddenly were put into effect yesterday for more than 1,200 White House volunteers after one of them came to work armed with an unloaded 9mm semiautomatic pistol and ammunition." The volunteer was charged with carrying a pistol without a license and possessing an unregistered firearm and ammunition, but was "released after persuading officials he meant Mr. Clinton no harm." A Secret Service spokesman told reporters that the man had "no legal right to be carrying a gun in the District of Columbia."

• In Tempe, Arizona, Kim McCormack, his fiancée, and his 14-month-old daughter were involved in a traffic altercation with a car full of youths on April 6th. The youths then drove alongside McCormack's pickup truck and sprayed the vehicle with seven to ten shots. One bullet grazed McCormack's arm, another grazed his fiancée's face, and yet another struck the baby in the arm. Fortunately, both McCormack and his fiancée were armed. They pulled out their pistols and fired back. It was not known if any of the assailants were hit (they promptly fled), but McCormack later told reporters that there was "no question in my mind that I and my baby and my fiancée would all be dead if we hadn't been able to defend ourselves."

NRA Flourishing

In early April, membership in the National Rifle Association (NRA) rocketed past the three million mark to an all-time high. Neal Knox, head of the Maryland-based Firearms Coalition, observes that "in its more determined efforts to defend the Second Amendment to the Bill of Rights, the 122-year-old NRA has added more members in the last 22 months than the total membership of the NAACP [National Association for the Advancement of Colored People], which is the world's second largest, and second oldest civil rights organization." The NAACP currently has around 500,000 members. ■

— ROBERT W. LEE

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The "Gay" Cultural Explosion

According to communist theoretician Antonio Gramsci, the socialist seizure of a nation is best accomplished through the transformation of cultural mores, institutions, and values rather than through the imposition of direct tyranny. The suddenly ubiquitous homosexual lobby apparently is well-versed in such strategy.

The comic pages of American newspapers have recently been used to proselyte on behalf of the homosexual lobby. *For Better or for Worse*, a "family-oriented" comic strip created by Canadian Lynn Johnson and published in 1,400 newspapers, recently presented a storyline involving a "gay" 17-year-old who "comes out" to his friends and family. Predictably, the teen's best friend is unsettled by the disclosure, his mother is convinced that she has somehow failed, and his father angrily throws him out of the house.

The teenager is depicted as a sober, intelligent, sensible young man who just "happens" to be homosexual; the comic naturally avoids the gamier aspects of the "gay" culture. Fifty newspapers requested that Universal Press Syndicate, which distributes the strip, send a temporary replacement; another 19 papers canceled their subscriptions to the strip. Thomas Mitchell, editor of the *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, explained that his paper dropped the strip because "it was condoning homosexuality almost to the point of advocacy." In any case, the strip ran in over 1,300 papers and the controversy created a publicity windfall for pro-homosexual groups.

Comic Propaganda

The *For Better or for Worse* comic strip is hardly the only pro-homosexual work aimed at the youth. In a January 1992 edition of the Marvel Comic series

Alpha Flight, the superhero Northstar "came out." This took place in a storyline involving Northstar's rescue of an AIDS-afflicted infant; it is typical for the homosexual lobby to capitalize on the sympathy of the public for innocent AIDS victims. In the comic Northstar declared, "Silence equals death" — exposing his adolescent audience to the battle slogan of the militant homosexual group ACT-UP.

In June of this year, Lightning Comics will debut a comic book featuring Bloodfire, a character described as having "superhuman strength, speed, endurance and the HIV virus." Strangely



Marvel superhero "Northstar" courageously bursts out of the closet

enough, the superhero's alter ego, Brian Reace, is depicted in the storyline as a Marine who was wounded in combat and received HIV during a blood transfusion — an altogether plausible scenario given the push to open the military to practicing homosexuals.

Computer games have become a favored medium for the political indoctrination of youth. Raya Systems has recently produced a game entitled *The AIDS Avenger!* with the slogan, "Fight Fear and Ignorance in the HIV Prevention Game." In the game, which is designed for use by children aged ten years and older, players advance by "correcting misconceptions about AIDS"

and doing battle with the game's villains — "fear, ignorance and apathy." (Three more authentic villains would be "selfishness, immorality, and promiscuity.")

Television Offerings

The most prominent and influential instrument of mass culture remains (regrettably) prime-time television. The critically acclaimed program *Picket Fences* depicts the life of a small-town sheriff and his family; the program's April 29th episode dealt with the sexual curiosity of teenage daughter Kimberly, who kisses her closest female friend during a sleep-over. The episode was offered as an examination of supposedly restrictive sexual standards and parental "hysteria." Not surprisingly, David Kelley, the program's producer, choreographed a similar situation between two female television lawyers when he was producer of *LA Law*.

On January 26th, NBC presented a Maria Shriver "documentary" entitled *The Gay '90s: Sex, Power and Influence*. Prior to the broadcast, Shriver had explained that the homosexual "rights" movement "has someone in the White House who is politically hip. And it's not OK to be homophobic any more."

The program concluded with Shriver inviting the traditionalist side of the Culture War to surrender: "Gays are on the verge of getting much of what they want ... there is a momentum that may not be able to be stopped."

Regarding AIDS, Shriver sniffled, "Thousands died while heterosexual America tried to look away." This is patently untrue, given the disproportionate attention and funding devoted to AIDS in the last decade. (The Centers for Disease Control estimates that between 1992 and 1994 196,000 will die because of AIDS, 2.7 million will die from heart disease, and 1.5 million will die from cancer.) Shriver informed her audience, "The AIDS epidemic has scared most

gays into safe sex and a desire for monogamy." This claim is impossible to sustain in view of a January 11th *Newsweek* story documenting the blatant promiscuity of the younger portion of the homosexual "community."

Shriver also triumphantly announced, "Gays and lesbians are redefining the American family." This redefinition includes the sexual "emancipation" of children, which is the objective of much of the pro-homosexual agitprop inundating popular culture (including Shriver's own program).

In tone and content, Shriver's program was directed at the MTV audience. Homosexual propaganda is now a staple of MTV "news" specials, series, and documentaries. An increasing percentage of rock videos feature not only androgyny but undisguised "same-sex" encounters.

Others have hastily fallen in behind MTV: The Fox television program *Melrose Place* features an openly "gay" character, as does *Roseanne*. Sixty PBS affiliates are broadcasting, with taxpayer assistance, *In the Life*, the first series devoted entirely to "gay" life. Homosexual playwright and activist Harvey Fierstein has been given a contract by CBS to produce and star in a pi-

lot for his own sitcom, which will be broadcast this summer or fall.

The recent movie *The Crying Game* featured a homosexual/transvestite subplot that was transformed into a major selling point through a coy advertising campaign; the movie earned an Oscar nomination and \$54 million at the box office. A more recent release entitled *Three of Hearts* has been described by one critic as "a *menage à trois* with a distinctively '90s twist." The film's "love" triangle consists of a male "call-boy" who becomes involved with a bisexual woman and her lesbian "lover."

Year of the "Gay"?

But this agitprop menu represents a mere warm-up for 1994, which, in the assessment of journalist Andrew Kopkind, "looks to be a year-long gay culture fest." Next year will be the 25th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots — the homosexual Bastille Day — and will see the release of several major pro-homosexual film works, including a biography of Harvey Milk directed by Oliver Stone.

Many advertising agencies have targeted the "gay" market, and many that do not have dabbled in "homo-erotic" advertising copy. (Ironically, this trend

was first documented in a critical 1988 article by journalist Andrew Sullivan in *The New Republic*. That article angered the homosexual lobby, which eventually forced Sullivan to write a contrite letter of apology.) The April 23, 1993 *USA Today* observed, "At the same time marketers are going after gay consumers, gay imagery is spreading into mainstream advertising. Androgyny and sexual ambiguity are all over fashion and liquor ads...."

Those most frequently targeted for advertising are teenagers, who control most recreational spending. Teens are also hypersensitive to cultural signals and susceptible to peer pressure. The cultural envelopment practiced by the homosexual lobby is ultimately directed at the youth. This was recently confirmed by *Village Voice* columnist Donna Minkowitz, a lesbian activist, who has written in defense of the concept of homosexual "recruiting." Minkowitz speculates, "Maybe kids could try on different forms of sexuality, as they now try on musical styles, career choices, and haircuts." Thus homosexuality, regarded by every healthy society in history as a crime against nature, has evolved into a fashion statement. ■

— WILLIAM NORMAN GRIGG

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