

Pedophiles in the schools

New York's Channel 4 News showed some footage last March of a pedophile group having a quiet chat in the busy atrium of the Citicorp building in midtown Manhattan. The pedophiles were all members of NAMBLA, the 1,000-member North American Man/Boy Love Association, which wants the law to allow adults to have sex with children.

Unaware he was being taped, one member of the group, a public school teacher, urged another, a public school librarian, to keep his membership secret until he has tenure. A third NAMBLA member interviewed by Channel 4 turned out to be a former public school psychologist who had worked with emotionally and physically handicapped children at a Queens elementary school.

John Miller, the WNBC-TV correspondent who broke the story, said last week: "We thought these guys were people who lurk around outside schools. What we found was, they lurk around *inside* the schools."

Lurking may not be the right word. There's no evidence yet of NAMBLA members' preying on children in city schools, though at least two local members have been convicted of sex offenses. But Miller has a point. Child molesters don't just hang around playgrounds. They apply for jobs at schools, camps, the Boy Scouts, Big Brothers, YMCAs. "Boy lovers" love to work where the boys are.

So far, the effort to haul the pedophiles out of the youth system isn't going all that well, as the current NAMBLA story in New York shows. For six months, there was virtually no newspaper coverage.

The press also ignored the spreading story of parental protests about Peter Melzer, 53, the teacher on the WNBC-TV tape who advised the librarian to lie low. Melzer teaches physics and science at one of the city's elite schools, the Bronx High School of Science. He is on the NAMBLA steering committee and the editorial board of the *NAMBLA Bulletin*, which has offered advice on how to entice a child into sex ("Leave a pornographic magazine someplace where he's sure to find it").

The City Board of Education has known since 1984 that Melzer was a pedophile. "It seemed to me that nobody wanted to take responsibility for making a decision," said Edward Stancik, a special investigator for the school system. Two weeks ago, Stancik released a long report recommending Melzer be fired. The former school psychologist and the librarian are both under investigation now, too.

So far, gay and civil liberties groups have been fairly quiet about the Melzer case, headed toward state disciplinary hearings. Melzer is accused of no crime, and

NAMBLA says he is being persecuted for speech and political beliefs. But even in the absence of a crime, says Stancik's report, "his misconduct in aiding the *Bulletin* in publishing the advisories for pedophiles . . . makes him unfit to teach children." Yes, that's exactly the point. Leaving a known pedophile in the classroom would be quite a statement about the values of public education.

Melzer, by the way, is a regular delegate to an annual international conference of pedophiles and pederasts. Call it a sexual version of the Predators' Ball. To the folks at NAMBLA, it's important to make sex with children look legitimate. David Finkelhor, a sex researcher at the

University of New Hampshire, calls NAMBLA "the intellectual elite of child molesting." Most people who prey on children don't bother much about theory, but NAMBLA types feel driven to rationalize such acts. So they have cobbled together a credo out of the gassier rhetoric of victim groups and the children's rights movement.

We are told that man-boy lovers are yet another oppressed group, that NAMBLA is seeking "the empowerment of youth" and sexual self-determination for children, who are being exploited by parents who treat them as property.

This is a corruption of language as well as morals, but it is taken very seriously in some quarters. Since the 70's, at least, one strain of thought in journals of sex research has upheld some of the principles of

what might be called child molesters' lib: All children are sexual beings from birth, some children do not suffer from adult-child sex, it's sometimes better to have sex from adults than no love at all, and every sexual taboo must be analyzed pro and con, including incest and adult-child sex.

Pedophiles have made some headway in politics as well as in the world of sexology. NAMBLA is a member of the International Lesbian and Gay Association, which has called on members "to treat all sexual minorities with respect," including pedophiles. Though a great many lesbians and gays detest NAMBLA, the group has been allowed to march in gay parades in New York and San Francisco under its own banner.

Is there a creeping tolerance? I notice that John DeCecco of San Francisco State University, editor of the *Journal of Homosexuality*, is also on the board of *Paidika*, a Dutch pedophile journal. When I asked him why, he said, "They needed a psychologist." No. They "need" respectability, and DeCecco is providing some. The culture is now so soft minded that many will listen to any self-styled victim group, perhaps even pedophiles. That's why it's crucial to keep them out of the schools. ■





The NEA Supports Gay Teens

The National Education Association (NEA) recently jumped on the bandwagon of the militant homosexual agenda. Early this year, the NEA mailed a letter to all of the state education associations and 300 of its largest affiliates. Along with this letter, the NEA mailed three copies of a publication entitled *Sexual Minority Youth: An At-Risk Population*. This publication, which received great praise from the NEA, outlines how schools and administrators should respond to the "unique needs" of homosexual young people. The following is a full recitation of the letter from NEA president Keith Geiger.

"Last year, in response to New Business Item 1992-66, the NEA sent copies of the enclosed publication to all of the state education associations and to 300 of our largest local affiliates. Representative Assembly delegates this year directed additional mailings in New Business Item 1993-48 as follows:

"NEA shall provide three (3) copies of Sexual Minority Youth: An At-Risk Population to each local not included in the 1992 distribution. Members shall be notified in NEA Today and other NEA publications that this document has been provided to their locals. (The Task Force on Sexual Minority Youth, Portland, Oregon, has provided camera-ready copy to NEA at no charge.)

"I am pleased to call to your attention the enclosed copies of Oregon's Sexual Minority Youth: An At-Risk Population. Developed by this Task Force on Sexual Minority Youth in Portland, Oregon, this publication provides important insights on the special problems of gay and lesbian youth and on possible approaches for dealing with discrimination, homophobia, and appropriate responses to the needs of these young people."

The publication entitled *Sexual Minority Youth: An At-Risk Population* is a staggering step backwards in the moral life of our nation. The publication defines "sexual minorities" as "lesbians, gay males, bisexual people, and transsexual individuals." Note how homosexuals are now being viewed as a "minority" with special needs and in need of special protection by the government. This publication, which is 38 pages long, is truly unbelievable!

One of the most amazing sections is a list



of recommendations that are sanctioned by the NEA to support "sexual minority youth." It says:

- **Provide information about sexual diversity.** Sexual minority youth lack knowledge or information about their emerging sexual orientations. Educators and other providers should initiate discussions and provide information. Books addressing lesbian, gay, and bisexual youth should be readily available in public, junior high and high school libraries. Curricula in the schools should present a broad range of sexual expression as normal and healthy.
- **Provide support.** Sexual minority youth need to know that they are not alone. Peer support groups should be developed in the schools and other community settings.
- **Address homophobia.** Institute policies that prohibit discrimination against sexual minority youth and incorporate these policies into disciplinary codes.
- **Educate youth-service providers.** Conduct staff development trainings to educate youth-service providers to the special needs of sexual minority youth and their families as well as to provide information on how to access local resources.
- **Provide positive role models.** Educate youth about historic and current lesbian, gay and bisexual people and their contributions. Institute non-discrimination personnel policies to support and protect openly gay, lesbian, or bisexual teachers, counselors and other youth-service providers.

- **Provide social opportunities.** Provide safe environments where youth may socialize. Sexual minority youth need community-wide social and recreational activities as well as school or agency-based social opportunities.
- **Assist families.** Offer supportive services to families struggling with their children's sexual orientations. Provide gay and lesbian foster and adoptive families for sexual minority youth.

As horrifying as these recommendations are, the most disturbing part of the entire publication is the section entitled "Impact of Institutions: Schools, Religion, and Families." This section criticizes each of those institutions for their supposed failure to understand and support those youth in their chosen lifestyle. Here is what the NEA thinks of the role of religion in dealing with the problem of homosexuality among America's youth as it quotes a publication by the American Friends Service Committee:

"Religious beliefs form an additional barrier for many lesbian, gay male, and bisexual youth struggling to acknowledge their sexual orientation. The followers of a number of Judeo-Christian religious groups have cast sexual minorities as shameful, immoral sinners. Alternatively, they have viewed gay males, lesbians, and bisexuals as objects of pity or in need of therapy or forgiveness."

We all know that our nation's spiritual and moral condition is "critical." This is another major milestone in our plunge towards destruction. However, it is also another powerful indicator that the coming of our Lord is near. Luke 17:28-30 tells us that when Christ returns, this earth will once again be overrun with the horrible vice of homosexuality that was the prevailing sin of Sodom.

"Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed."

Remember, the darker the outlook, the brighter the uplook.

—Mark Hitchcock