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COMMENTARY

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nce again, the people have sent a clear message to their leaders. The message, as reflected in all the polls, is this: Most Americans are more concerned with their country's disastrous moral and cultural decline than with economics or foreign policy.

And, once again, the people worry they will be betrayed as they see their leaders begin to waffle

and equivocate.

The conservative "Man of Virtues" William Bennett is making speeches chastising the religious right for being "fixated" on homosexuality. He asserts that some in the religious community "focus and obsess on homosexuality" as a means of avoiding more serious problems, such as those of divorce and adultery.

Then, conservatives all over America, still aglow over election victories, were jolted back to reality when they opened their newspapers and saw headlines announcing that Newt Gingrich has welcomed gays into the GOP and called for tol-

erance of their lifestyle.

Mr. Gingrich is quoted by the Associated Press as saying, "I think that on most things, most days, the vast majority of practicing homosexuals are good citizens. So why would you then say that, of all the different groups you can pick on, this is one group you're going to single out?"

Within days, the highly organized and focused homosexual

The sound of a taboo cracking

movement placed a column written by Jonathan Rauch in the Wall Street Journal. The column's headline was, "A Pro-Gay, Pro-Family Policy." It started out with this sentence: "If you listen carefully, you can hear the sound of a taboo cracking." What the author was listening to and citing in his column were the aforementioned pronouncements of Newt Gingrich and Bill Bennett.

Mr. Rauch proceeded to proffer one of the great non sequiturs of all time. He advised Republicans to validate same-sex relationships as a means of "shoring up the family."

I don't for a moment think either Messrs. Gingrich or Bennett are suggesting a moral equivalence between homosexual and heterosexual relationships.

But how could they not be aware that their remarks would be picked up and used by opportunistic, homosexual propagandists, who are notorious for conducting massive programs of disinformation, idea suppression and intimidation of which Adolf Hitler would have been envious?

I read with care the full remarks of Newt Gingrich and Bill Bennett. I heard their advice. I would like to return the favor.

First of all, I would like for Mr. Gingrich to note that on most things, most days, the vast majority of practicing serial killers, prostitutes and wife beaters are good citizens.

And I will answer the question he asked about homosexuals: "Why



would you then say that, of all the different groups you can pick on. this is one group you're going to single out?"

The answer is simple: Other groups, such as adulterers. divorcees, serial killers, prostitutes and wife beaters, don't have annual parades celebrating who and what they are. They haven't organized lobbies and pressure groups to advance their lifestyles. They aren't seeking special treatment under the law to protect them from the reaction of others. They haven't orchestrated a massive attack on religion.

Those in the religious community are not being singularly mean; they are not scapegoating or "gay bashing." They are trying to defend themselves. It's hard to have a "live and let live" relationship with someone beating you about the head and shoulders.

The reality about homosexuals must be confronted. Homosexuals don't simply want to be tolerated they want to be embraced. They are not asking to be left alone to live their lives without interference: they are demanding that the entire structure of society be razed and reassembled to accommodate their sexual disorder.

They insist that the problem is not what they do but how others react to what they do.

They want to change the church. the workplace, the scriptures, the law, the Constitution, the Boy Scouts, the schools and the military. They want to subvert the basic concept of "family" to include any collection of oddballs assembled under one roof.

Most people have no interest in what is going on in the public toilet habitats or bedrooms of homosexuals. Most people would prefer not to deal with it at all. Indeed, it is the homosexuals who seem hell-bent on dragging others into their private lives, insisting we not only look at but applaud what they are doing.

Forget it! Responsible people do not consider it a virtue to reinforce that which is wrong in themselves or in others.

Just to set the record straight,

homosexuals are made, not born. They are not under the irresistible

command of errant genes. The human sex drive is extraor-

dinarily powerful and may become affixed inappropriately to footstools, underwear, animals, corpses, small children and members of the same sex.

These are all sexual disorientations, self-evidently unnatural, documentably unhealthy and definitionally immoral. No society in its right mind would do anything to encourage their formation or send signals that they are acceptable.

Perhaps that is also true of a political party.

Linda Bowles is a nationally syndicated columnist.