

del Post

Tolerance — or else

A homosexual group has posted on its Internet site a call for the death of leading conservatives, including former President Reagan.

Although usQueers.com said it did not "authorize, ratify, or directly or indirectly threaten or encourage acts of violence" toward the people on its list, it was the group's "sincere wish — that these viciously anti-Queer crusaders die soon."

The group also said it intended to post information on the site that "could be useful in spotting these dangerous [heterosexual] supremacists when they are wandering around loose."

Expressing the wish that those named would die — "preferably a horrible death" — the site claimed to be following the example of the "Nuremberg Files," a pro-life fringe site that lists the names of abortion providers.

Others named to the death list by usQueers.com included Sen. Strom Thurmond, South Carolina Republican; Sen. Jesse Helms, North Carolina Republican; Paul Weyrich, head of the Free Congress Foundation; evangelist Pat Robertson; the Rev. Jerry Falwell; and the Rev. D. James Kennedy.

Also named was Rep. J.C. Watts Jr., Oklahoma Republican, the highest-ranking black member of Congress. "It is a shame that, even as our country is at war, a fringe group would set up a Web site to blatantly call for the death of a number of public figures in America. One would think hate could take a vacation here at home," said Watts spokesman Kevin Schweers.

B. Allan Ross of San Diego, spokesman for usQueers.com, told Cybercast News Service, "Just saying you wish somebody would die is not illegal and it doesn't make them die."

Miami lawyer John B. Thompson disagrees. In a letter on Nov. 26 to Attorney General John Ashcroft, he said the Web site is in violation of state and federal law in advocating the murder of specific individuals.

"Based on what has happened in our country, this Web site clearly represents a threat — a dangerous window of opportunity that could lead to someone's death," Mr. Thompson told The Washington Times. "The Justice Department and the FBI must move immediately to shut it down."

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