

THE ONLY DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN SOMETHING THAT MIGHT BE
AND SOMETHING THAT IS . . .

IS DOING IT.

Don't you wish someone would explain to the people of Lansing just what it means to be gay -- and what it doesn't mean?

Don't you wish the people of Lansing knew that lesbians and gay men have played important roles in every aspect of human endeavor all throughout history?

Don't you wish that, during your long, lonely, frustrated years in the closet, someone had reached out to tell you that you were not alone?

WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

YOU CAN HELP.

Friday May 8 through Sunday May 17

LESBIAN-GAY PRIDE WEEK

Michigan State University's Lesbian-Gay Council and the Lansing Association for Human Rights are sponsoring Lesbian-Gay Pride Week for several reasons:

- *To help develop a more cohesive sense of community among Lansing's lesbians and gay men.
- *To help us all better understand who we are and how we fit into that community.
- *To help focus attention on social and political issues of individual and collective importance to our community.
- *To celebrate our pride in ourselves and in each other.
- *To reach out to uncertain and insecure lesbians and gay men in our area -- to let them know we are here to help.
- *To reach out to Lansing as a whole -- to let them know we have much to give, and they have nothing to fear.

WE CAN REACH OUT ON THE RADIO

YES, WE CAN REACH OUT ON THE RADIO

WHY REACH OUT?

We all remember the recent harassment by Lansing's Police.

We all remember Anita Bryant's hate campaign.

We all remember the murder of Harvey Milk.

We all know about fag-bashers.

We all know the hell of living lives of lies.

We all know homosexuals were gassed in Nazi Germany.

Gerry Graves is Mayor.

Ronald Reagan is President.

The Moral Majority is coming on strong.

All is not well with the world . . .

WHY REACH OUT ON THE RADIO?

Because on the radio, we set the terms of the debate.

Because on the radio, we are able to reach closeted lesbians and gay men who might not otherwise reach out to us.

Because on the radio, we can sneak into the ears of men and women who might otherwise tune out our message.

Because on the radio, lesbians and gay men who aren't yet ready to step into the spotlight can still make a real contribution to helping Lansing understand.

WHAT DO WE DO NEXT?

First, we commit ourselves to MAKE IT HAPPEN.

Second, we decide what we want to say. Some suggestions for you to consider:

*Historical: lesbians and gay men have contributed significantly to America's social, political economic and cultural heritage.

*Religious: many lesbians and gay men have reconciled their homosexuality with strong religious and moral convictions.

*Civil Rights: homosexuals are persecuted and discriminated against in countless ways that many straight people simply don't realize.

*Patriotic: It's the 1980's, and time for this country to pull itself together. Lesbians and gay men have much to contribute -- if we are allowed.

Whatever we say must be said with love. We are in the midst of a conservative backlash and must be extremely careful not to be too threatening. We must make it clear that our intention is not to destroy America, but to make it stronger -- to unite America, not to tear it apart.

Third, we dig into our pockets and help pay for it.

THE PRICE TAG

It is said that many hands make light work. So it is also with funding. Many contributions make for small contributions. And, besides, this endeavor should be a joint effort by as broad a cross-section of lesbians, gay men and friends as we can make it. Otherwise we cannot truly say that the voice on the radio represents Lesbian-Gay Lansing.

AN IDEA

If twenty men and women each agreed to locate four people, who would in turn each agree to locate four people, who would each agree to donate \$10 . . . we could raise \$3,200.

Radio spots - 60 seconds during drive time - cost between \$10 and \$20, depending on the station and how well we dicker.

Thus, six to ten radio spots per day on each of five or six radio stations for four or five days would cost between \$2,000 and \$2,500.

Any leftover funds would be well-spent in helping to renovate LAHK's new office space. A pleasant and well-equipped office would be a benefit to us all.

"BUT I'M BROKE," YOU SAY?

- *Forego buying an album.
- *Skip a night at the bar.
- *Eat a meal at home that you were planning to eat out.
- *Quit smoking for a week.
- *Donate part of your income tax return.
- *Sell something you don't use.
- *Borrow from a friend.
- *Sell plasma.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
CALL RICK RAPAPORT - 482-6799

TWO MORE GOOD REASONS

① To advertise lesbian-gay related programming during pride week on public access cable TV station WELM.

② **Groups to spend \$3 million on campaign against gays**

2-11-81 MSU State News

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Calling San Francisco the "Sodom and Gamorrah" of the nation, a coalition of fundamentalist groups says it will spend \$3 million on a media campaign attacking homosexuals.

The coalition said it will buy advertisements to build anti-gay feeling in the community and attempt to persuade homosexuals to give up their lifestyle.

"I agree with capital punishment, and I believe homosexuality is one of those that could be coupled with murder and other sins," said Dean Wycoff, a spokesperson for the Santa Clara Moral Majority, one of the groups involved in the campaign.

Wycoff called San Francisco, where homosexuals are estimated at 15 percent of a population of 675,000, "the Sodom and Gomorrah of the United States and the armpit of this perverted movement."

The Rev. Charles McIlhenny of San Francisco's First Orthodox Presbyterian Church joined Wycoff in denouncing homosexuality, saying "according to the Scriptures, it is against the law."

"We want to minister to homosexuals and win them to Christ and stop their sinning," he said Monday in a television interview.

HOMOSEXUALS HERE have complained in recent months of an increase in violence against them, including beatings by people gay activists refer to as "homophobics," and some expressed concern that the planned crusade will heighten tensions.

"It certainly is a situation of grave concern," said Richard McQueen, editor of the gay newspaper *The Advocate*.

"It sounds like things could get pretty ugly," added the editor, who said the Moral Majority apparently had mailed leaflets to the newspaper's advertisers.

According to the Rev. Richard Zone, whose In God We Trust Inc. group is spearheading the campaign, some \$3

million will be spent, beginning with a mail and media blitz.

"We're going to march through this territory from one end to the other . . ." said Zone.

The group has announced no legislative program, either to make homosexual acts illegal or to repeal existing anti-discrimination laws. But organizers say they will watch lawmakers in Sacramento for any legislation they feel favors homosexuals.

In nearby San Jose, a gay rights ordinance was removed from the books by a lopsided vote last November.

In Lynchburg, Va., a spokesperson for Moral Majority Inc. denied knowledge of the San Francisco movement but said the national organization, led by evangelist Jerry Falwell, is against protecting homosexuals as a minority group.

"We love homosexuals as persons," said Vice President Cal Thomas. "What we resist is the attempt to incorporate their chosen lifestyle under the heading of a minority group."

THOMAS SAID each chapter of the Moral Majority "sets its own agenda, raises its own funds and fights its own battles."

Another Moral Majority vice president, Dr. Ron Godwin, said the national organization might endorse the San Francisco campaign, but added, "I would like to know more details" about it.

San Francisco was picked for the drive, said Zone, because if the Moral Majority succeeds here, "that will change every major city in the country that has a problem."

But Harry Britt, a city supervisor who is an avowed homosexual, said, "if they think they have a chance in San Francisco, they don't know this town."



An Opportunity to:

- * *Learn* - about contemporary gay/lesbian issues
- * *Discuss* - reactions, ideas, concerns
- * *Questions* - informed guest speakers
- * *Meet* - one another

For Those Who:

- * Have been wondering about their sexual orientation
- * Feel strongly attracted to their own gender
- * Identify themselves as lesbian, gay or bisexual
- * Are just interested in becoming more informed

SUNDAY RAPS WINTER 1991

All meetings will be held in the Purdue Room, Fourth floor of the MSU Student Union at 6:15 PM unless otherwise specified.

January 13 National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Conference

Shawn Parker, RAP Coordinator, and Marcus Wilson, Co-Director of the Lesbian Gay Council will share their common experiences while attending the third annual NGLTF "Creating Change Conference and People of Color Institute" in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

January 20 Bisexuality

Many Lesbian and Gay Men's Organizations claim to include bisexuals as a group they serve. However, gay men and lesbians fear and misunderstand bisexuals. Join us for an informal discussion on bisexual inclusion in the Lesbian/Gay Council.

January 27 Feminism and Separatism

What is it? Join us for an educational discussion on the philosophical views of these and other viewpoints.

February 3 Self Defense

Jane Schuiteman and Keith Pyne will provide some tips on how to protect yourself from attack and teach some basic techniques in self defense and awareness of your physical environment. NOTE: Please wear loose clothing.

February 10 The Medical and Psychological Aspects of AIDS

AIDS is an issue which effects everyone - gay, straight, healthy or ill. We will focus on ways we can decrease our chances of contracting and transmitting the HIV/HTLV III virus.

February 17 Cultural Experiences of African Americans

A speaker from The Office of Minority Affairs will discuss the cultural conflicts and difficulties experienced by African American Lesbians, Gay men and Bisexuals.

February 24 Coffeehouse

An evening of entertainment, conversation and refreshment. We will be featuring various art forms performed by local artists. All are invited to participate. Bring a friend, admission is free.

March 3 Building Coalitions

Join us in Networking Lesbian, Bisexual and Gay men's resources with students from other Michigan Institutions, faculty and staff.

-Movie: Word is Out" Thurs. May 14 106 Wells Hall See State News or call
353-9795 for times

This film, a documentary released in 1978, goes a mile beyond the group of movies typically used in the classroom to portray "what it's like" to be lesbian or gay (e.g., "Lavender"). It is a compelling, realistic, and exceptionally entertaining movie. And, in the end, the viewer is left with an image that lesbians and gays feel does them justice. It is well worth seeing.

—"The 26 men and women who are the subjects of the extraordinary documentary WORD IS OUT have one thing in common: each one is a declared homosexual. Beyond that, they are as diverse as the human race — which is very much the point of this affectionate, stirring and surprisingly witty film. . . . It is the whole notion of sexual stereotypes that this movie so vividly shatters. . . . As the title makes clear, this documentary has a message to spread, but it's a good one: there is no way of life, only lives."

David Ansen in Newsweek, April 17, 1978

—"Word is Out' is informative, poignant, and often irreverently funny. Most of the subjects are neither exhibitionists nor proselytizers. Moreover, spending time with them is stimulation, for many are entertainingly articulate and most are worth knowing, apart from what they have to say about their sexual preferences.

William Wolf in Cue, April 1, 1978

-"Lesbians and Gay Men. The 80's"

Made this year, the program is an ambitious interview/rap session with various people, gay and straight. It explores a wide variety of aspects concerning lesbian and gay life and living. It is at once informative and interesting.

Program shown on: WELM, Channel 11 in E. Lansing and Channel 25 in Lansing.

<u>Day of Showing:</u>	<u>Program # and Name:</u>	<u>Time:</u>
Sunday, May 10	#1 "Let's Talk About It"	9:00 pm
Monday, May 11	#2 "Our Lives"	9:00 pm
Tuesday, May 12	#3 "Fitting In"	4:00 pm
Thursday, May 14	#1 (Repeat Showing)	4:00 pm
Friday, May 15	#4 "Among Ourselves"	9:00 pm
Saturday, May 16	#3 (Repeat Showing)	4:00 pm

Program Sponsored by: Lansing Association for Human Rights and MSU Lesbian/Gay Council

Produced by: Rick Rappaport

If you feel confused, stay around - you're not the only one.

Welcome to Gay Liberation! Gay Liberation welcomes all persons without regard to affectional or sexual preference. We have a loosely-organized system, but it works. (Usually.) General meetings take place on Wednesday nights, starting at 8 PM with a business meeting, where any questions, problems, or new ideas are brought up and discussed. If you are interested in other gay activities, you can usually find out about them at these meetings. We have no president. Chairpersonship is on a rotating basis. After the business meeting is a ten (twenty) minute break - usually around 9 PM. DO NOT LEAVE AT THIS TIME.

A "rap session" follows. There is a different format for each of these. We discuss subjects such as "coming out" and "bisexuality", or have a confrontational theatre session, various presentations by members, occasional social evenings, or small group discussions. Sometime between 10 and 11 PM, we break into small groups for personal questions or talks, or a continuation of the evening's discussion. Sometimes groups go afterwards to a gay bar or an East Lansing restaurant or bar.

The Gay Liberation office is located at 309 Student Services Bldg. (phone - 353-9795.) It is usually open 1-5 PM, Monday thru Friday during the school term, and people are there to talk to, by phone or in person. The office has a lending library of books and magazines of interest to gay people. A separate group, the Lesbian Center, for women only, is located at 547 1/2 Grand River Ave., phone 332-1770. The following is a list of some current activities. If you are interested in any activities not listed here, bring them up at the meeting or ask someone - there's usually someone interested.

ACTIVITY:	PERSON TO CONTACT:
Encounter Groups	Rob Boblett 351-6195
Media Productions	Gary Phillips 351-5918
Speakers Bureau (Panels)	Gary Edmonson 351-0100
Political Activities	Max Smith 355-0646
Literature Discussion	Jane Phillips 351-5918
Integrity (Fellowship for gay Christians)	Gary Phillips 351-5918
Social/Dance Committee	Julie Lawrence 351-8660, 351-8661

The following is a list of people willing to talk on a one-to-one basis:

Gary Phillips (religious concerns)
Jane Phillips (& marriage concerns)
Helen Lane ('bisexuality', women's concerns) - 351-8660
Max Smith
Ted Kuykendall - 487-0735
Rob Boblett
Jim Parcells - 351-9336 355-2059
Kris Alfredson (feminism, lesbianism, literary discussion, general intellectual nonsense)
Tom VanDusen (gays and employment) - 371-4958
Julie Lawrence 351-8660

The gay bars in Lansing are: Covello's - (Thurs.- Dyke Nite), Stober's (Drag show Sun. Most East Lansing bars & restaurants are fairly open to gays.



442 Student Union • Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan • 48824 • 517/353-9795

The A.S.M.S.U. Lesbian/Gay Council offers panel discussions on any aspect of homosexuality. The purpose of these panels is to give out information about the Lesbian/Gay movement and to share experiences about what it means to be gay on a personal and social level. These panels can be used as a learning tool in classrooms, dormitories, or campus organizations. Panel discussions by members of the Lesbian/Gay Council are an effective method to gain an understanding about homosexuality and its place in society.

We feel that the fear and dislike of gay people comes from the lack of first hand knowledge and experience with both lesbians and gay men. Panels allow students to get this first hand knowledge and experience by communicating directly with lesbians and gay men. The panel format allows students to ask questions not only about those topics that relate to classroom learning but to personal awareness as well. There is no spokesperson for the council; each of us is an individual with his/her own views on every subject.

Panels will consist of both men and women or any other make-up of individuals. There is some audio-visual media available along with printed information from the council office. A panel can be requested by calling the Lesbian/Gay Council at (517) 353-9795 during normal business hours.

Thank you,

A.S.M.S.U. Lesbian/Gay Council

TRIANGLE TIMES

Edited by Aimee Loubert

An MSU Lesbian/Gay Council Publication

HELLO!

Welcome to the 1990-91 school year! Lesbian/gay Council's executive board has been working all summer to plan awesome things to share with you this year! One of those things is this brand-new newsletter.

We've had lots of fun and worked hard on everything we've got planned, so sit back and enjoy.

If you decide you want to join in and help with an event or two (or six, or ten, etc.) contact someone from E-board (Kim, Marcus, Shawn, or Doug) We'd love to work with you!

We Need You!!

This newsletter is a brand-new endeavor for MSU's Lesbian/Gay Council, and for the staff. Let us know what you want from this publication. Feel welcome to submit articles, announcements, artwork, poetry, labor, ideas, interviews, letters, etc. Contact Aimee if you want to help cover a story, or anything. If you send it through the mail or put newsletter stuff in our mailbox at the ASMSU Programming Board office in the Union, make sure you write, "ATTN: Aimee" on it and inside include a phone number where I can reach you. Without a way to reach you, I may not print your stuff. However: I can do stuff anonymously which you must specify, but I'll still need to be able to reach you! **This newsletter is for you!** Please help us keep it that way and keep it going. Δ

What can L/G Council offer *ME*?

For those of you not familiar with MSU's Lesbian/Gay Council, and for those of you who are familiar but forget what resources we offer, here's a brief run-down:

We have weekly discussion/support groups for: lesbians; gay men; and bisexuals.

We have a library of Lesbian/Gay literature including books about history, novels, poetry, books on people of color and women, all kinds of stuff. Feel free to come in during office hours and browse. The books can be checked out for two weeks with a current MSU ID.

We have magazines, newspapers, newsletters, and other periodicals that can be looked at in the office.

We have AIDS information and condoms.

We have a list of resources from the local to the national level. (some local ones are included in this newsletter.)

We do panels on and off campus to answer questions and educate the public.

And last but not least, **we have wonderful people!** Δ

SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCES!!

The L/G council organizes panels of lesbians and gay men to speak and answer questions in classrooms, residence halls, organizations, etc. **We'd love to have you join the team of panelists!** Don't worry, we will train you and you will have opportunities to observe panels before getting put on one. It's fun, and you work with neat people (like me!). If you are interested, there will be a sign up sheet in the L/G office. If you sign up, it is not a contract or even an obligation, it just lets us know that you may be interested. There will be a training meeting at 6:45 in the L/G Council office on Friday, October 5. You are welcome even if you are just thinking about doing panels, it will help give you an idea of what to expect. Δ

The Attack of the Person-Eating Sofa!

Do you have an extra sofa? Or any folding or stacking chairs? Or a filing cabinet?

We would love to have them if you want to donate them to some worthy group.

The sofa we have right now sucks you up in it when you sit in it, so it takes a search party to find you and pull you out!

We also need stacking or folding chairs to use for meetings when our regular furniture is occupied.

Our filing cabinet at this point is non-existent and it is difficult for us to keep track of important papers, resources, etc.

Thanx greatly for anything you can offer. We can arrange to make out a receipt so you can write donations off on your taxes if you want. Δ

SCHEDULE OF FALL L/G COUNCIL ACTIVITIES/INTERESTS:

SEPTEMBER 15

-Different Folks... Different Strokes Panel. 2pm in the Main Lounge of the Union

SEPTEMBER 16

-Multicultural Fair/Celebrating Community

SEPTEMBER 18

-Minority Students' Fair 7-10pm
-Different Folks... Different Strokes Panel. 2 pm in the Main Lounge of the Union

SEPTEMBER 19

-Registered Student Organizations Fair

SEPTEMBER 30

-Election of male co-coordinator for L/G Council

OCTOBER 5

-Panelist Training Meeting 6:45 L/G Council Office (442 Union)

OCTOBER 11

-National Coming Out Day

OCTOBER 19 or 20 (TBA)

-Coming Out Icebreaker/Dance

Stop in to one or all of these events, find out what they have to offer you! Δ

DIFFERENT FOLKS... DIFFERENT STROKES

There will be two different Welcome Week Panels September 15 and 18 at 2 pm in the Union's main lounge. Join us at one or both to listen and learn. Panels give the audience a chance to voice questions and concerns about the lesbian/Gay lifestyle and panelists respond with their own experiences and feelings. You don't have to say anything as an audience member, or you can-- whatever you are comfortable with. Δ

LOCAL RESOURCES:

This is by no means a complete or exhaustive list of the wealth of resources there are for lesbians and gay men. These are some of our local resources. If you know of any others, let us know because we try to keep a list of up to date local, state, and federal resources in the office. Thank.

an (*) means that this resource is highlighted in more detail after the list.

Counseling and Support:

*Alcoholics Anonymous 321-8781 (24 hours)
Christo Ray 372-4700

Bilingual services

Health clinic by appt.

Counseling Clinic (call Jeff, ext. 41)

Substance abuse programs (call Cindy, ext. 22)

Council Against Domestic Assault 372-5572

Aware of Lesbian Issues/Lesbian battering

Provides food, shelter & support for

women and children. Offer counseling, etc.

Lesbian/Gay Hotline 882-2300 (M-F 7-10pm)

Listening Ear 337-1717

547 1/2 E, Grand River, East Lansing

24 hour crises counseling

*Lansing Area AIDS Network 351-0303

MSU Counseling Center 355-8270

Hours: 8am-noon, 1-5 pm M-F

*Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays of Lens.

(P-FLAG) Box 35/Okemos, MI 48805

Maxine Thome, MSW, Ph.D. 484-0946

Psychological counseling. Individual &

Relationships. Sliding Scale.

HEALTH SERVICES:

AIDS Information Line (Oln) 353-4344

AIDS testing (Oln) 353-5546

Free to students.

Anonymous testing offered.

Christo Ray (see above)

Friendship Clinic 487-2341

Health Care & Shelter referral for women &

children. Appointment preferred. Most services

free.

*Lansing Area Aids Network 351-0303

Oln Gynecology Clinic 353-8897

RELIGIOUS SERVICES:

Dignity of Greater Lansing 339-9810

meetings Tues. 7:30-9pm St. John's Church.

United Ministries Services for Lesbians and Gays

Sun. 8:15 pm, Peoples Church, East Lansing

LEGAL AND POLITICAL RESOURCES:

ASMSU Legal Services 353-3716

Landlord/tenant problems, discrimination cases, traffic tickets, other civil & criminal cases. Contact Jennifer Rutledge Martinez.

Lansing Area Advocates for Choice (working toward securing & maintaining reproductive freedom)

P.O. Box 12151 Lansing 48901

*The Michigan Organization for Human Rights (MOHR) 887-2605

*MOHR's Lesbian Caucus 725-8787

MISC:

*Capital Mens Club: CMC

P.O. Box 18062

Lansing, MI 48901

Lesbian Alliance (info at the L/G Council office)

Lesbian Connection/Ambitious Amazons

P.O. Box 811 East Lansing, MI 48826

Movement Arts 485-3868

Classes & workshops on Personal

Safety/De-escalation, Martial Arts & Fitness.

Call for current schedule.

*MSU Women's Council 353-5255



MOHR

The Michigan Organization for Human Rights was founded in 1977. MOHR works to protect lesbians and gays through legislation, litigation, and education. MOHR's mission is to ESTABLISH AND PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WHOSE SEXUAL OR AFFECTIONAL ORIENTATION OR PREFERENCE MAY SUBJECT THEM TO DISCRIMINATION. This is obviously a goal not easily reached and widespread support is needed in order for the work to be carried on. If you would like information on how to become a member of MOHR please contact the MOHR office at (517) 887-2605.

LANSING AREA AIDS NETWORK

LAAN members work to prevent the spread of the AIDS virus in the Lansing community. LAAN promotes a safe and responsible lifestyle through distribution of written information about AIDS and through presentations to clubs, schools, church groups, businesses and civic organizations. LAAN offers Buddy Support Services for persons dying of AIDS or AIDS related complex, and for those who test positive for the HIV antibody.

LAAN members try to help in every way! For more information call the Lansing Area AIDS Network at (517) 351-0303, or write to:
LAAN P.O. Box 14215 Lansing, MI 48901

PARENTS & FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS

P-FLAG is a support group for parents who have a gay son or lesbian daughter. Friends are encouraged to join also. Participants believe that they have much to offer each other, as they have shared so many common experiences and feelings. Meetings for the Lansing area are at 3:00 on the third Sunday of each month at the Presbyterian Church of Okemos. You can write to them at: Parents-FLAG Lansing Area P.O. Box 35 Okemos, MI 48805. Or call the Lesbian/Gay Hotline for more information ((517) 882-2300).

MSU's Lesbian/Gay Council has a list of addresses for other groups in Michigan as well.



LESBIAN/GAY COUNCIL

• A Division of ASMSU Programming Board•

Michigan State University
442 Union Bldg.
E. Lansing, MI 48824

353-9795

MOHR's LESBIAN CAUCUS

MOHR's Lesbian Caucus is a group of womyn that has been meeting since February, 1990 with the primary purpose of addressing issues specific to Lesbians. The Lesbian Caucus works within MOHR, but membership to MOHR is not required. The Lesbian Caucus usually meets on Sundays beginning with a potluck brunch and then moving on to discussing issues important to lesbians. Our goals include: Reaching out to womyn of all races, lesbian custody, and networking. If you would like to be added to the mailing list or for information on the next caucus meeting please call (517) 725-8787.

CAPITAL MEN'S CLUB

CMC was formed to provide social alternatives to gay men in the Lansing area by sponsoring a variety of activities and opportunities for social interaction. CMC's activities run the whole gamut of fun and entertainment from: camping, canoeing, movies and hot tubbing to excursions including Leeland, Cedar Point, Grand Rapids and Windsor. All gay men are welcome at any CMC sponsored event and are encouraged to bring a friend! For newsletter write: CMC

P.O. Box 18062
Lansing, MI 48901

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy; neither endorses nor opposes any causes.

There are specifically Lesbian/Gay meetings in the Lansing area: Monday at 7:30 pm, and Friday at 6:30 pm at United Ministries in Higher Education, 1118 S. Harrison, East Lansing. Also, Wednesday at 7:30 pm at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 118 W. Ottawa, Lansing. And on Wednesday at 7:30 at United Ministries there is a women's meeting for lesbians and straight women. The A.A. 24-hour hotline number is: 321-8781

MSU WOMEN'S COUNCIL

The MSU Women's Council is here to program events on campus about women's issues. They are always receptive to program suggestions, and would also welcome comments and suggestions for improving the Council. Please feel free to see them, call them, or drop them a note. Remember: this is your Council. 329 Union Building (517) 353-5255.

This list has been compiled by: Shawn Parker, Maria Valayil, Deborah Ropp and Aimee Loubert. Thank to all.

Tips For Dealing with Violence and Intimidation

Gay & Lesbian bashing-violence is a very real concern, as evidenced by recent events. Most attacks are "blitz attacks", in other words, the attack comes as a complete surprise to the victim and comes out of seemingly nowhere. Because of this the most important thing to do is to be as attentive as possible to your environment:

- LOOK for the presence of others and/or the presence of suspicious activity.
- LISTEN for the same kinds of activity, footsteps, voices, etc.
- MOVE ASSERTIVELY - take up as much physical space as possible (walk with an upright posture, etc.) Look around you confidently and assertively, as well, so that you appear comfortable and "in the know."

If you are approached by others, particularly a group, consider crossing the street or attempting to otherwise avoid a confrontation. Do not allow a group to surround you, keep them all to one side and, if necessary look for the first opportunity to run or walk rapidly away. Be prepared to try to evade, duck, or side-step a punch or grab.

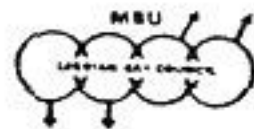
If you are verbally confronted follow these rules:

1. maintain your self-control and composure
2. use eye contact
3. take up your space
4. explicitly name offensive behavior
5. criticize the offending behavior, not the person who commits it
6. tell them to leave you alone

Finally, consider learning self-defense. There are strategies that can buy you time to escape from hostile and potentially dangerous situations, and these strategies can be made specific for differently abled individuals.

(Lesbain/Gay Council would like to thank Jayne Schuidelmann for putting these tips together for us.)

Michigan State University's
LESBIAN/GAY COUNCIL
CELEBRATES



FREEDOM AND FRIENDS

Times can be very lonely when you know you're gay but too frightened to talk to anyone about it. But once you build up the courage to "come out," your life can be full and meaningful — just like you deserve.

Here's what some friends from MSU's Lesbian/Gay Council have to say:

Marc: "I'm from Detroit, so I thought I'd have to go home to socialize with people who weren't uptight about black people. Then I started volunteering time in the Council office. No where else have I met a group of people who were so supportive of minority issues."

Anne: "When I came out, I found out there were gay and lesbian people all around me. It's great to be around people who support each other like we do."

Bob: "I hated the dishonesty in my life before I 'came out.' Now I can look myself in the mirror and feel really good about who I am. I know that being gay is just as natural a thing as being straight might be for the next person. It's gratifying to explain this to people when the Council presents a panel in the dorm."

Barb: "I used to be pretty much a loner when I tried to hide that I was a lesbian. Now, I'm one of the most outgoing in my group of friends. When the Lesbian/Gay Council throws a dance, I'm the first one in line at the door."

**Find Out More About
What We Have To Offer**

Call Us

THE LESBIAN/GAY COUNCIL
353-9795

all calls kept strictly confidential



movement arts

217 Rosamond, Lansing, Michigan 48912

ASSAULT PREVENTION AND SELF-DEFENSE CLINIC

Narrowly defined, self-defense is 'the right to protect oneself against violence or threatened violence with whatever force or means are reasonably necessary.' A broader definition would identify it further as a process of unlearning thinking and behaving like a victim. It is a reclaiming of a sense of physical integrity that results, as Py Bateman has pointed out, in turning our fears into anger at intrusions upon our self-respect and the peaceful conduct of our lives. It is a process of insuring that we have options from which to make reasonable choices in attack situations.

For most of us, this process takes time and work. By focusing on the following more immediate goals in the next few hours, however, we can get a good start. The goals of this clinic are to enable lesbians and gay men 1) to become familiar with a variety of physical, verbal and psychological self-protection techniques; 2) to begin to develop a sense of physical well-being and confidence in one's judgment in determining appropriate responses to violent or potentially violent situations; and 3) to examine the politics of the harassment/assault of lesbians and gay men in this culture in order that we might develop successful strategies for collectively and individually insuring our safety and lessening our vulnerability to attack.

Conducted by: Joan Nelson

Sponsored by: Lesbian/Gay Council
Mich. State Univ.

Compiled by Joan Nelson

1. Self Defense is a process consisting of:
 - 1) increasing awareness about patterns and politics of assault,
 - 2) taking reasonable precautions to avoid attack,
 - 3) preparing for the possibility of assault not only by learning self defense tactics and techniques, but also by developing the self confidence and judgment necessary to determine appropriate responses to different attack situations.
2. There are no magic formulas to deterring an assailant. Most important is to have the wherewithal to be able to assess the situation, determine the best response, and then act on it.
3. Women of all ages, ethnicity, education and life style are able to successfully resist attackers.
4. The vast majority of attacks are planned in advance. Frequently, an intended victim is watched by an assailant before he approaches.
5. According to one study, assailants frequently engaged in a selection process in choosing victims. Most assailants selected women they perceived as vulnerable or available. Physical appearance, assertive body language, and a wary, suspicious attitude often led to elimination as a prospective victim.
6. Frequently, assaults are preceded by a casual conversation ranging from two minutes to two hours. Because these exchanges are 'typically friendly and impersonal', women often respond in a polite and amiable way. Despite friendly overtones, women who have found themselves in these situations have usually felt uneasy. Those who were likely to ignore, repress or rationalize these feelings, were more likely to be attacked.
7. According to Dr. Frank Javorek in a study conducted with Denver General Hospital Crime Prevention Unit, women in his study were able to escape weaponless attackers over 85% of the time if they 1) yelled to attract attention, and 2) resisted. He found that those women who did only one of the above, escaped over 50% of the time. Women who did neither rarely escaped.
8. Dr. James Selkin found further, that in weaponless assaults, the sooner a woman resisted, the greater the likelihood of escape. Women who bide their time may lose a strategic advantage in that while she hesitates, her assailant has time to check things out to reassure himself that help for her is not nearby.
9. In assaults involving weapons, biding one's time until an opportunity to escape presents itself, ie. the assailant is momentarily distracted, is usually a good idea. The risks involved in resisting an armed assailant are obviously much greater than those involved in weaponless assaults.
10. Research findings suggest that rape prevention is more possible through vigorous and aggressive resistance. Passive resistance (verbal stalling, slapping, pleading) correlates highly with extreme violence.

11. Violence occurs in over 80% of all rape attempts. It's the nature of the crime in that the primary aim of the sex offender is the expression of power, dominance, and control. Non-resistance doesn't necessarily insure that violence won't occur.
12. Assailants have weaknesses that can be exploited:
 - 1) He has to get close.
 - 2) He's afraid of being caught.
 - 3) He fears and feels pain.
 - 4) He's capable of being injured.
13. Most assailants are looking for victims who will be passive and cooperative. Aggressive, vigorous victim refusal to be raped is the most effective resistance reported by both attempted rape victims and deterred assailants.
14. Women who appear to be alert and suspicious and not overwhelmed by fear and panic are more likely to prevent or escape assault. For instance, in one study none of the deterred assailants interviewed perceived their intended victims as being frightened. Actual offenders claimed that the victim's fears, ie. crying, overt nervousness, verbal stalling, encouraged them to complete the assault.
15. All women experience fear when confronted with an assailant. However; the sooner we can move past panic and paralysis and focus on our escape, rather than the possibility of injury or death, the more effective our defense will be.
16. Women are capable of developing accurate and fast techniques and using the element of surprise in an attack to compensate for a potential and relative lack of strength. Self defense is not a sparring match.
17. Self defense is a serious, practical skill that nearly everyone is capable of learning.
18. Self defense is the process of reclaiming physical integrity that results, as Py Bateman has written, in our turning our fears into anger at intrusions upon our self-respect.

Copyright by Joan Nelson, 1980

Feminist Self-defense and Karate Association, Lansing, Michigan
ReSister, Inc.

Sources:

Queen's Bench Foundation, LEAA, 1976
Forcible Rape Series, LEAA
Victim Resistance Studies, Javorek and Selkin

This self-study is designed to help you identify areas of your own life which you may want to make safer. You probably won't be able to incorporate all of the precautions listed into your life. Weigh each one and decide whether or not it is appropriate for you. Whichever ones you select, blend them into your life patterns so that they become a part of your routine and you can forget about them. Remember that the purpose is not to limit our lives, but rather to make them more secure.

In the Street

- 1) Do you generally walk assertively? Do you look confident, unafraid and as if you know where you are going? Is this still true when you feel ill, are preoccupied, or are in an unfamiliar area? Try looking more assertive in your walking--at all times.
- 2) How do you carry your purse? Could it be grabbed easily? Could you be dragged or choked with it? Do you carry all of your identification, keys and money in it?
- 3) When you know you'll be out walking, do you wear comfortable clothing which will allow you to run if necessary?
- 4) Think through routes you frequently walk. Where are the safest and least safe places along your route? Where are there public places, all night places, friends' homes, police or fire stations and telephones along your route? How could you vary your usual route both for variety and to avoid some of the least safe places in your normal route?

In Your Home

- Check your door and window locks to see how secure they are. Test by locking the house up and attempting to break in.
- Look for places in your home and around your home that someone could easily hide in.
- Notice how you usually enter and leave your home. See if you can make any changes to do so more safely.
- Plan escape routes from various places in your home.
- Develop a household strategy.
- Put one or more of these by your bed: lamp, flashlight, weapon, whistle or shriek alarm, telephone, pencil & paper.
- Put emergency phone numbers on the phone(s).
- Change your phone listing to eliminate first name and/or address.
- Organize a block club and/or shriek alarm campaign.

In Your Car

Put in your car one or more of the following:

flare	first aid kit	20¢ (phone call - taped to dashboard)
white rag	flashlight	whistle/shriek alarm
weapon	tool kit	spare tire/spare tire sealer
maps	C.B. radio	winter: shovel, tar paper

SUGGESTED READINGS

On Sexual Assault:

Against Our Will, Susan Brownmiller

Against Rape, Medea and Thompson

Rape, The All-American Crime, Susan Griffin (article)

L.E.A.A. funded studies: Rape, 1975

Queen's Bench Foundation, 1976

Forcible Rape, Volumes 1-

Final Project Report

On Battering:

Battered Wives, Del Martin

Social Responses to Battered Women, Lisa Leghorn (article)

Profile of an Assailant, Cam Serum (article)

Wife Beating: The Silent Crisis, Roger Langley and
Richard Levy

On Sexual Harassment on the Job:

Sexual Shakedown, Lin Farley

The Sexual Harrassment of Working Women, McKinnon

On Self-defense:

In Defense of Ourselves, Linda Tschirhart Sanford and
Ann Fetter

Fear Into Anger, Py Bateman

Body Politics, Nancy Henley

Representation of Women Who Defend Themselves in Response
to Physical or Sexual Assault, Schneider and Jordan

Protecting Personal Space: Victim and Resister Reactions
to Assaultive Rape, Selkin

FEMINIST SELF-DEFENSE AND KARATE ASSOCIATION, LANSING, MICHIGAN

RESISTER, . LANSING, MICHIGAN

CONFRONTATION TRAINING

Confrontation Training is the practice of verbal and psychological self-defense techniques that are designed to enable women to deal effectively with harassers and/or potential assailants. The set of principles that are the foundation of confrontation training were originally presented by Women Against Rape in Columbus, Ohio. The particular version used here has been developed by the Feminist Self-defense and Karate Association of Lansing, Michigan and builds on that early and important work.

Two contexts in which confrontation might be appropriate are 1) in response to simple harassment (ie. on the street, in public buildings, at one's place of work), and 2) in response to being tested and evaluated as a potential victim of violent assault.

With respect to harassment, the effect of confrontation is to hold men accountable for offensive, intrusive and threatening behavior. Confronting harassers lets them know that certain behaviors are insulting or sexist and will not be tolerated. It is a response that enables women who use it to deal with these behaviors in a way that allows them to maintain self-respect and a little dignity. It is an alternative to feeling helpless in the face of constant comments, insults and intrusions upon the peaceful conduct of our lives.

With respect to the pre-assaultive situation: Studies indicate that assailants evaluate women for 'victim potential' before escalating to the point of physical violence. During this phase of an assault, the more generally assertive (ie. wary, vigilant, physically competent appearing) a woman appears to be, the greater the likelihood of her being passed over as a prospective victim. Applying some or all of the confrontation principles here may have the effect of suggest to a would-be assailant that you are simply not good 'assault material'.

To confront an harasser or a potential assailant (before escalation to physical violence) is one option out of many. Only the woman who finds herself in the predicaments described is in a position to adequately assess the specific situational factors involved and on the basis of that assessment, determine what will be appropriate and effective. Confrontation is not a mandate; rather, it is just one more tactic in each woman's self-defense repertoire.

SIX MAJOR PRINCIPLES OF CONFRONTATION

Verbal:

1. Name the behavior. Harassers bank on women trying to ignore behaviors that are offensive or embarrassing. Simply refusing to pretend it's not happening, by naming it, can have the effect of stopping it. Saying, for instance, "That remark you just made is insulting," brings things out into the open, and makes a harasser publicly accountable.
2. Criticize it. Tell him exactly what you think of the behavior in question, ie. that it is "demeaning", "invasive", "coercive", "creepy", etc. Make sure you criticize the behavior, and not the man, eg. "That remark was really ugly.", and not "You are really ugly."
3. Tell him exactly what you want him to do. Don't leave any room for misinterpretation. You might say, "Leave me alone", or "Don't touch me".

Non-Verbal:

4. Maintain eye contact. Looking someone in the eye, especially while confronting him is a powerful, self-assured thing to do. Averting your eyes, on the other hand, suggests nervousness, embarrassment and a lack of conviction.
5. Be physically assertive. Don't shrink, collapse or give ground unnecessarily. Give the appearance of someone who lives in her body, and who is not easily physically intimidated.
6. Use a calm, controlled voice. Gather your thoughts and then confront him very deliberately, with as much or as little an edge to your voice as you think is appropriate.

In addition:

- Make noise to summon aid when appropriate.
- Intervene on behalf of other women.
- Trust your own perceptions. If you feel uneasy, there is a reason for it.
- Rely on your own resources.

SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION
WORKSHOP EVALUATION

Your cooperation in evaluating this clinic/workshop will be appreciated.

How would you rate this workshop in terms of it's value to you?

_____ excellent
_____ good
_____ fair
_____ poor

As a woman, do you feel you received information and assistance that would be helpful in a threatening situation? _____yes _____no

Do you feel more confident about your physical ability to deter an assailant? _____yes _____no

Do you feel better prepared psychologically to deal effectively with an assailant? _____yes _____no

How would you rate instruction?

_____ excellent
_____ good
_____ fair
_____ poor

Have you received adequate attention from the assistant instructors in this session? _____yes _____no

Which portions of the workshop did you find most valuable?

Which portions of the workshop did you find least valuable?

Would you be interested in a periodic refresher/problem solving workshop? _____yes _____no

Can you foresee, now, specific areas in which you would want to work?

Other Comments:

Michigan State University's

Lesbian/Gay Council

PANEL TRAINING MANUAL

for

1990

DEDICATION

We, the Lesbian/Gay Council of Michigan State University, are fully dedicated to the belief that all people are created equal. We are firm in our resolve that all Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals should have equal status under the law as any other people, and believe in a fundamental right to privacy. Further, we demand the right to love whomever there is room for in our hearts.

More than legal equity, we affirm that our community has every right to personal dignity and a right to full partnership in the concert of human beings. We are dedicated to our diversity as well as our unity.

To those who live in fear, those who are oppressed or feel powerless, this manual is committed. May the educational efforts stated in this booklet unlock their doors and challenge their trepidation. May they find hope in the work we do.

This work is also dedicated to all those who have taken up the challenge at hand and opened their closet doors.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	2
WHAT IS A PANEL?	3
A PERSPECTIVE ON PANELS	4
GUIDELINE POINTS	6
GETTING THE PANEL STARTED	8
The Council Introduction	8
Personal Introductions	9
Wrapping Up	9
GENERAL QUESTIONS	10
WHAT ARE WE TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH?	13
OPPRESSED GROUP IDENTIFICATION	15
PANEL SOLIDARITY AND PUBLIC SPEAKING	16
EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO PRIVACY	17
KEY PHRASES TO AVOID	18
OUR ATTITUDE AND THE AUDIENCE	20
APPENDIX	22
Legal Issues	23
Family Issues	26
Religious Issues	28
Gay Issues	31
Lesbian Issues	34
Other Issues	37
Glossary	39
ISSUES YOU DIDN'T KNOW	42

INTRODUCTION

This manual is an expression of education. In it there is nothing radical or new; rather, it is a formula developed by the MSU Lesbian/Gay Council over the last 20 years for distribution of information about us to the larger community. Our aim is to establish positive images of Gays, Lesbians and bisexuals through the use of panels, to educate the public on who we are and to establish our legitimacy as a group.

Please keep in mind, the first reason panels exist is for the benefit of the audience. All else must be subject to this maxim.

It should be mentioned that this manual speaks a great deal about Lesbians and Gays. Lesbians, for the purposes of this booklet, will refer to homosexual women and Gays to homosexual men. The above definitions, though often used in a social-political context, are used here to merely give cohesiveness to this manual. It must be added that no labels are completely perfect for an author.

Though this material is largely about Lesbians and Gays, bisexuals are in no way meant to be excluded from this program.

Though there may be readers who object to the spelling of "women" throughout this manual, the use of "womyn" has yet to reach the wide-range acceptance and recognition some may wish. We apologize to anyone who may feel offended by our spelling. We have attempted to minimize our use of sexist language in this manual.

Finally, a note should be made about repetition in this manual. It exists mainly so that the important points may better be driven home and also so that the work may be reviewed in sections from time to time.

WHAT IS A PANEL?

A panel presentation is often the first and only contact many students have with openly Gay or Lesbian people. You can see the importance this carries. Our panels are question and answer discussions led by two to four participants. Discussion topics often range from health concerns, to religious issues, to political discussions and so on. It is our hope that each panelist will be fairly familiar with the issues, and that each presents his/her perspective or interpretation in a positive and helpful manner. When you take on the responsibility of being a member of a panel, you acknowledge your willingness to represent the MSU Lesbian/Gay Council. Though you should stress your viewpoint is unique and personal, on a panel you are a spokesperson for the Lesbian and Gay Community.

A PERSPECTIVE ON PANELS

Before we begin to discuss panel training directly, there are several questions that need to be answered. The answers to these questions are fundamental to understanding what we need to accomplish and how best we might achieve our goals.

What do straight people think about Gays and Lesbians?

Well, not much really, and that's important to understand. Most people know nothing about us as people, and would prefer to *think* about us even less. It is a tough reality, but the vast majority of people are brought up in a bigoted environment, and what little bit they think about us is usually very negative.

In one way, this makes our panel efforts easier. We've got little where else to go but up in the public's mind. On the other hand, it also means we have to be prepared for an uphill battle to obtain equality.

Surely education is one of the best ways to get the public to accept us.

Absolutely. There are few better ways for people to get to understand one another than by exchanging ideas and interacting together as men and women. Panels are one of the most useful tools of education.

I have a pretty optimistic view of my life as a member of the Lesbian and Gay Community. How important is that towards panel training?

It's extremely important that you feel good about yourself and your sexual/emotional being if you participate in panel training. People who are secure with themselves are going to portray a positive image in the minds of their audience and teach a new understanding to a population that only knows us through stereotypes with very negative connotations.

Before you sit on a panel, you should ask yourself if you are a positive, up-beat sort of person. A strong sense of self esteem will open many ears; negative vibes will turn off an audience faster than you can say, "Go to sleep."

Are there any rules about panels I should know right off the bat?

Well, two rules really -- and a ton of suggestions. You must not be even the slightest high on alcohol or other drugs when you are on the panel. And you must always respect the point of view of other panelists, no matter how much you disagree with them. These are common sense rules, really. If a panelist loses control of him or her self by either anger or drugs/alcohol, credibility and professionalism are lost.

Can we hope to educate everyone who comes to a panel?

Not really. There will always be a percentage of people who will support Gays and Lesbians, no matter what. There will also be bigots and hate-mongers who may attend and walk away from a panel feeling unchanged and as full of homohatred or homophobia as ever. We can't educate everybody. If you are being challenged by a bigot, don't worry about how you sound to him or her. Concentrate on how you're coming off to the others who have not closed their minds.

The most we can hope for from interaction with the real bigots is that they will feel compelled by peer pressure -- to keep their monstrous mouths shut. Most audiences will have a large minority of Lesbian and Gay supporters, simply because the others often don't show up to panels.

Most of the audience will fall somewhere in between bigots and partisans. This is where we can make the most progress, the group of people we need to sway the most. People who have kept some degree of openness towards us will prove to be our best allies. Appeal to this group's sense of justice and fair play. Some of these people may not be sold on our stories, but they may leave with a small sense of respect for Lesbians and Gays anyway.

GUIDELINE POINTS

- * **NEVER, EVER DO A PANEL UNDER EVEN THE SLIGHTEST INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL OR DRUGS. Credibility is paramount.**
- * **Show panel solidarity at all times (see page 16).**
- * **Make every attempt to keep your responses candid, informative, brief, positive and non-redundant.**
- * **KEEP IN MIND THAT IF YOU MIS-SPEAK, IT IS NOT THE END OF THE WORLD, YOU CAN STILL RECOVER CREDIBILITY.** Simply make a quick correction and move on.
- * **If you are illustrating with a story, try to use one that is personally known to you rather than theoretical. The personal touch will help win over your audience.**
- * **Names of Gay and Lesbian meeting places (bars or bookstores, for instance) should not be given out at panels. An exception is the Council office, Room 442 of the Union Building. There could be bashers attending who would hurt us on the open streets; we've never had a problem so far at the office.**
- * **If you sign up for a panel, you are expected to be at the location 15 minutes before you're scheduled to begin. Use this time wisely by conferring with other panelists about their strengths. If you cannot make the panel, call the Panel Coordinator at the Council office or at home. If he or she can't be reached, call one of the Co-Directors of the Council. If this fails, call one of the alternates listed for your panel.**
- * **Dress as you expect your audience will – clothes should be as mainstream as theirs. Please remember, we don't want to shock our audience because shock closes minds.**
- * **No one will do a panel in his or her own residence hall without the express permission of the Council Directors. Your appearance on a panel may have other ramifications afterward. Your safety is too important for the Council to risk. Plus, your hall will treat strangers differently from you.**
- * **Feel free to bring something to drink as long as it isn't distracting.**

- * If you are a trained panelist observing from the audience, you are a guest and should not ask or answer questions. Please do not try to get panelist's attention. You can easily upset the dynamics of the panelists as they work with the audience. It is difficult, sometimes, not to get involved, but you must remain an observer. It is highly possible you might disrupt more than help your friends on a panel. Silence is golden in this case.

- * **HAVE FUN!** You will find panels are invigorating and exciting for you, also. They often help us decide important questions we've never asked ourselves. They can be an extremely positive and building experience for Lesbians and Gays, even more so than for the audience. But the audience comes first.

GETTING THE PANEL STARTED

The Panel Coordinator will confirm that all panelists will be present at the panel(s) for which they signed. A panel leader will be suggested for each presentation by the Coordinator, but the panelists themselves have the option of choosing a leader. He or she will be responsible for three things: 1) giving the initial introduction of the Lesbian/Gay Council; 2) choosing audience members who have questions; and 3) wrapping up the panel at the appropriate time.

You may want to circulate sheets of paper or 3 X 5 cards early in the panel, or even beforehand, to solicit questions from the audience members. Have a box or a hat passed around so that people may anonymously drop their question in for the panel. This may save some embarrassment or shyness for some audiences. It also often proves to stimulate conversation in "dead times." Trained panel observers are asked not to write questions.

The Council Introduction

The Panel Leader will introduce the Lesbian/Gay Council to the audience before anything else, since we are representative of this organization when we appear on panels. The introduction should include:

- * Location -- Room 442 of the Union Building
- * Phone Number -- 353-9795
- * Resources -- Library, periodicals, roommate referral, health information, legal and counseling referrals, etc.
- * Activities -- panels, movies, rap groups, support groups, dances, Pride Week, and any current happenings.
- * CAUTION! ASMSU affiliation is optional. Some individuals get uptight when they find out their dollars are going to support the Council. However, it is important for the panelists to know this information if asked.

Personal Introductions

Each panelist will introduce himself or herself briefly, to the extent to which they are comfortable. Introductions often include:

- * name -- first only, if you wish;
- * age;
- * major/job;
- * length of Council or other Gay or Lesbian organizational involvement;
- * residence -- limit your information to on campus, off campus, East Lansing, Lansing, etc.;
- * time you have been "out of the closet."

Time out of the closet is a good intro into the question and answer section. If no one asks, you can begin by explaining what that term means to you. Positive personal coming out stories are also valuable lead-ins to discussion. Negative experiences also have their place, but, if possible, should come later.

Wrapping Up

The panel leader will decide when to end the panel for one or more of the following reasons: time constraints on audience or panelists; dwindling audience and/or participation; extraordinary loss of control among audience members leading to a destructive/non-productive panel. If the Panel Coordinator or a Co-Director is present in the audience, they can end the panel at any time.

GENERAL QUESTIONS

The questions below are typically what you can expect as a panelist. Try to formulate some type of response to each of the questions while considering the points that need to be covered.

Hostile questions should be answered, if possible, but in a serious and candid manner if the questioner intends to be funny. An example would be to change "sex" questions into relationship/emotional sharing answers (example: What you do in bed is disgusting! What I do in bed is gentle, loving and beautiful). Remember to slow down if a hostile one is asked, remain cool, smile and move on quickly to another question after the answer.

It's tough not to think someone is being antagonistic, but sometimes seemingly hostile questions are not meant to be that way. Remember, your audience may feel awkward asking questions, and they may come off with a tone that isn't intended.

Above all else, remember to *communicate*, not *self express* and remind the audience how very similar you are to them.

Common Questions

How old were you when you first realized you were Gay or Lesbian?

How did you know?

Did you suppress it? Why?

Did you feel left out or alienated?

How did you deal with it?

Can a person be bisexual?

Can people change from Gay or Lesbian to straight?

Would you if it were possible?

What were your initial reactions as a child to the opposite sex?

How do you feel about the opposite sex now?

Were you ever attracted to the opposite sex?

Do you have many friends of the opposite sex? Are they ever attracted to you?

How do your friends react to your being Gay or Lesbian?

What do you mean by "coming out?"

What is the most important aspect of coming out?

What is the most difficult thing to deal with when you're coming out?

What roles do friends play in the coming out process?

What should I do if I have a friend I think is Lesbian or Gay?

Do your parents know that you are Gay or Lesbian?
 How did they find out? (Why don't they know? Do they suspect?)
 How did your parents react?
 How did your brothers or sisters react?
 Are any other family members Gay or Lesbian? Is it genetic?
 Did you tell your friends you were Lesbian or Gay?
 How did they react?
 Did you lose any friends after you told them?
 Did your friendships become stronger or weaker with your straight friends?
 Do you think you have stronger or weaker bonds with your Gay or Lesbian friends than with your straight friends?

What are the major stereotypes of Gays and Lesbians?
 Do they fit the people you know?
 Why are people Gay or Lesbian?
 Were you ever bisexual? Were you ever turned on by the other gender?

What do Gay people do for fun?
 What are the bars like? What was it like for you to go the first time?
 How do you meet your own kind?
 In what ways is this similar to straight people meeting?
 Do you feel you've missed out on something being Lesbian or Gay?
 Do you think you've gained anything?
 Can a Gay or Lesbian person be a good parent?

What are you doing (expect to do) for a living?
 Will your being Gay or Lesbian interfere?
 If people know about you, can they still treat you with a professional attitude?
 What do you think about Gay or Lesbian teachers?

Is it difficult being Gay or Lesbian?
 Are you happy?
 Are Gays or Lesbians more depressed than straights?
 How are you oppressed by society.

Possibly Hostile or Off-the-Wall Questions

The Bible says you're sick! What do you have to say about that?
 How can you do what you do? It's disgusting!
 What do you do in bed?
 How can two people of the same gender enjoy sex with each other?
 Do you want to have sex with me?
 Don't you think I could cure you?

Don't you realize you're sick?

How long have you wanted to be the opposite sex?

Men and women are built to have sex together, don't you know you're unnatural?

What's it like being faggots and dykes?

Didn't God send AIDS as a punishment to you for your sins?

Isn't it true, you just haven't had a good man/woman?

Why do you hate men/women?

How can you say you're natural when you don't fit together in bed like a man and a women do?

Formulate beforehand some answers to these questions. Be prepared.

WHAT ARE WE TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH?

Above all else, when we are on a panel we are trying to establish and maintain credibility. In a panel setting, we are more than ever presenting an image to others, and it is most important that we work together toward the goal of credibility. One extremely important way we can strive for our goal is to emphasize the ways we are similar to non-Gays and non-Lesbians.

We live in sometimes difficult circumstances. At this point in our history for social justice, it is often in a minority group's best interest to avoid stressing the characteristics which make them different, and instead to stress the ways in which they are the same as the "majority" group. If we present ourselves as one of them, our audiences are much more likely to listen and absorb what we have to say.

Straight people frequently think we're really different from them. In reality, we sleep, wake up, go to school or work, return home, pay our bills, do our laundry, clean the bathroom, watch television, etc. (ad nauseam) -- exactly the same as they do. Straight people are so caught up in the negatives they've heard, it may not have occurred to them that we are actually just as human as they are themselves.

Gay and Lesbian Image

This is why in our panels we give our audience as many ways as we can to have them identify with us. This is also why we need to raise our consciousness about what we have to say, especially how we say it, and how we appear -- our "physical image."

We want to maximize *communication* with our audience and minimize *self expression*. If a man sashays onto a panel in an all leather outfit, he may be expressing himself, but he will be a poor communicator. A woman can plunge into an answer to a question by pulling out a battle axe and swinging a closed fist in the air, but this is poor communication for a general audience, too. Everyone has the right to self expression; but in this form of education, shock will close minds rather than open them. If you seem like one of the audience, you will begin to gain their trust. **WE ARE ON THESE PANELS TO ESTABLISH CREDIBILITY AND TO EDUCATE.** The Council stresses an importance on audience identification as a means of communication. We want every panel as effective as possible.

The MSU Lesbian/Gay Council in no way wants to discourage you from holding different opinions from the "majority," or from non-traditional thinking or pursuits. However,

the more "radical" you sound or seem to an audience, the less they can identify with you and the less effective the presentation becomes. We urge you to stress the diversity of our community; different viewpoints expressed by the panelists in the course of answering questions will reinforce this.

Maximizing Our Chance

Similarly, whether we like it or not, it is an unfortunate truth that panelists are often pre-judged on the basis of their appearance regarding what they are wearing. Clothes jewelry, hairstyle and even buttons will be scrutinized by our audience. Panelists need hardly be reminded that strong stereotypes exist of the appearance of Gays and Lesbians. If we avoid dressing stereotypically on a panel, we challenge those images more than if we do dress stereotypically which would reinforce them. Again, there are not really any restrictions on what to wear, but keep in mind your audience. They're far more likely to identify with you if you look like them, and this maximizes communication and panel effectiveness.

OPPRESSED GROUP IDENTIFICATION

Remember to respect other minority groups besides Lesbians and Gays. If you refer to other minorities, be cautious you're portraying them in an equally positive way. Some unenlightened individuals may devalue another minority group's situation or circumstance, perhaps, as a defense mechanism to build themselves up.

It is estimated that at least 10 percent (or more) of any population is exclusively Lesbian and Gay. No one has proven if this has a genetic or environmental basis, and ultimately it is irrelevant. If the question arises, explain to your audience we don't know the cause of anyone's sexual/affectional basis. Perhaps the reasons may vary between genetic and environmental factors.

Because we are 10 percent across the board, we are a very special minority. Though different, we have a great deal in common with other minorities as well as the majority. Gays and Lesbians come from all kinds of backgrounds, and working together, we have much to gain in our understanding of our neighbors. Possibly, we may be an important bridge between different communities.

Alluding to, and speaking in favor of, other minority groups, most of whom are protected by law, strengthens the connection in many people's minds between these "acceptable" groups and our own. You need to be familiar with the terminology these groups use for themselves. It is acceptable to use the terms, Women, Blacks or African-Americans, Asian-Americans, Native Americans, People who are Differently Abled, etc. It is not appropriate to say girls, Negroes, Orientals, Indians, the Retarded, and so on.

Keep in mind not everyone in your audience is a Christian. Many other religious minorities may be present at your panel and can identify with your struggle against an oppressive majority. A Jew, for instance, knows only too well what it is like to be "different" in a largely Christian country. He or she is likely to understand prejudice as clearly as any of us, but may not be familiar with the differences in social discrimination.

To re-cap, group identification is of great value on a panel. If your audience already knows sexism is bad, racism is bad, anti-semitism is bad, it's not such a great leap to homo-hatred is bad. The more different groups you can identify Gays and Lesbians with, the more easily people will see us in a "legitimate" light.

(See the Glossary for more information on terms.)

PANEL SOLIDARITY AND PUBLIC SPEAKING

Above all, tolerate the opinions of the other panelists besides yourself. While differences in opinion and perspective occasionally arise between panelists, in-fighting among the group is out of the question. If another panelist offers a view with which you disagree, it is appropriate to offer an alternate view, but inappropriate to criticize the first viewpoint. If you must argue, do so later, out of the public eye. The first reason panels exist is for the benefit of the audience.

Back each other up on the panel. If a fellow panelist is in trouble, don't sit back and do nothing. Help them out of the situation. Step in and interrupt a destructive exchange to move on to other questions. A prime example is when the subject of religion is brought in to the discussion -- and it usually will be there. It is important to keep things moving when the heat's up.

Since you are requested to arrive 15 minutes early, a discussion with other presenters before the panel on specific strengths you have can be invaluable. If one of you is not particularly religious, you may wish to defer questions on this matter to some one else on the panel who is.

Basic to good public speaking, take into account the following "dos" and "don'ts":

1. Do not talk aside to one another. (It breaks the audience's attention.)
2. Let your voice be well heard.
3. Don't fidget with a pen, your pants, etc.
4. Don't tell inside jokes.
5. Say whatever's important and try to be brief.

EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO PRIVACY

You may, at any time, refuse to answer a question you feel is too personal. Occasional assertion of this right will make the audience respect your integrity. If it is appropriate, answer the question one-on-one after the panel.

Although there are innocent questions about what happens in our bedrooms that may come up by people who honestly want to be educated, hostile audience members sometimes ask "sex" questions in order to provoke disgust or revulsion in other audience members. A sure way of taking the wind out of their sails is to talk about the emotions you feel towards someone else, instead of sex. It's tough to be against love, for instance, but easier for most audiences to be (or seem to be) against sex.

Again, you should not feel obliged to answer all questions asked of you. Simply say that you consider the question an intrusion into your privacy and the panel should quickly move on to the next question.

KEY PHRASES TO AVOID

Use words such as "normal," "regular," "choice," "preference," "natural" and so on, with *extreme* caution. Remember, a portion of every population is Gay and Lesbian and this *is both natural and normal. We are not outside of nature but an important and equal part of it.*

Sometimes on panels, you hear the statement that we can't be natural because we "don't 'fit' together like a man and woman in bed." But do men and women "fit naturally" when they have oral sex, anal sex or any other sexual position, including masturbation? When does anyone 'fit' by this definition? There is a basic assumption in the "fit" statement that man-woman missionary style is the only position to have "real" sex.

"Lifestyle" is often used when describing a person's economic surroundings. This may lead an audience to think of alternative (which implies a choice) lifestyle to mean something trendy – and changeable. However, there are plenty of Gays and Lesbians who use this term with no anxiety.

Baffling to Outsiders

Preference and choice in the context of our emotional/sexual partners suggests a conscience decision to be straight and then "turn" Lesbian or Gay. Most psychologists believe that people who say they were straight and then actually chose to be Lesbian or Gay were really in affect bi-sexual all along and "chose" to concentrate on one specific aspect of their lives. The choice is that they only act on one part of their emotional/sexual system.

Sometimes, we hear Lesbian and Gay people refer to "when I was straight," in answering a question. This can be as baffling to an audience as the term "choosing to be Gay or Lesbian," mentioned above. Many experts would say these people were always homosexual, but actually were repressing their sexual being during that time they referred to themselves as straight. Following this, it might be better to say "when I was posing as straight."

Sex Talk

Try using the term "affectional orientation" when referring to Gays or Lesbians -- but even this term is imperfect. Explain that your identity as a Lesbian or Gay is more than just sexual in the sense of a sex act, but honestly more of an emotional state. It may be difficult for a young audience that only knows about sexual activity to understand the importance of

affection to a mature man or woman. After all, many of them are too young to have fallen in love before and when they hear sexual anything, they think of the act. As stated before, we score points if we stress emotions.

The phrase used in many laws, is "sexual orientation." Along with the term homosexual, it sounds clinical or legal to many ears; plus, both use "*sexual*" and, as stated above, this often is interpreted as the act, rather than the emotional state.

On the subject of sex, we try in our panels to de-emphasize the physical aspects, most Americans have enough trouble dealing with their own sexual acts, let alone ours. Talk of physical sex fixates our audience in this one aspect of our lives and blocks them from dealing with us as emotional and intellectual mortals -- amazingly similar to themselves.

If you feel you can discuss sex calmly and intelligently without embarrassment, be very careful of any graphic language you may use. Again, we ask you to emphasize the sharing and caring part of sex, but use your own discretion. Think before a panel how you might answer sincere questions about sex without shocking a general audience.

The Four C's

Cool, calm and collected equals control. If you get angry or defensive, your audience will perceive it and credibility will suffer along with control of the course of the panel. Lashing out at an audience or becoming flustered with them is counter-productive and makes us become defensive.

Even veteran panelists can have this happen to them, occasionally. Religious questions, especially, invoke anger on either side of a panel. Be prepared for your own heat to rise sometimes -- and never show it.

If a fellow panelist falls prey to this trap, the panel leader or another member should point out that tempers are flaring and move on to another question. The situation must be defused before the panel can progress.

Keeping Control

The best defense when someone in the audience is getting more and more steamed is to control your voice -- become super calm and cool -- and relay any answers you may give back with a sincere smile. You may make no progress whatever with the bonehead that's excited, but you'll score valuable points with the rest of the audience (who often will come to the panel's defense!). You'll also feel better about yourself if you're able to control the situation. We can't educate everyone.

Everyone of Us is an Expert

The easiest way to educate your audience is to be yourself. Nothing will convey a better message to a straight audience than BEING HUMAN. By far, the best thing you can demonstrate to your audience is that you are just like them. You have hopes and dreams, you want to live a happy life, you want to finish school and you want to find a job that you enjoy.

You may, like any straight person, hope to fall in love some day, and spread the joy of this love to all of the other important people you have in your life. Who can be against love?

Perhaps, you will teach the people who attend your panel a lesson they will take back with them into their homes. Let us hope they spread tolerance to all parts of our society. Perhaps, they will learn what Gandhi spoke of when he said, "You will find, there is room for us all." Good Luck to you all.

APPENDIX

LEGAL ISSUES

Due to a lack of information and an absence of a state central research source, this section is dated in part and incomplete.

1. **Sex Laws and Decisions** -- 25 states have no laws on the books regarding consensual sexual acts between adults. Of the rest, five states have laws directed solely against Gays and Lesbians (which seem questionable in light of the 14th Amendment's demand for equal protection for all), and the other 20 have laws directed against both Gays/Lesbians and straights, but which are often enforced against us only. In 1986, the Supreme Court decided (*Bowers vs. Hardwick*) that since the Constitution is silent on the issue of sexual freedom, it is up to the individual states to legislate on the matter. This reaffirmed the Constitutionality of sodomy laws.

2. **Violence and Intimidation** -- Attempts have been made on national and state levels to include "sexual orientation" among the characteristics against which hate crimes would not be tolerated. Last year the Federal Government passed the Hate Crimes Statistics Act which gathers statistics of crimes against minority groups including Lesbians and Gays. The Federal Justice Department has been ordered to document violence perpetrated against gays and lesbians. The triumph of the law is that it was the first federal law that included us in its language, plus it gives us concrete documentation on which to build cases of discrimination down the line. Another first was that some (but not all) Lesbian/Gay Rights Groups were invited to the White House for the bill signing by President Bush. Despite the outcry from the far Right, many Lesbian/Gay groups were invited back again in July for the signing of an antidiscrimination measure that affects people with AIDS.

In Michigan, House Bill 4413, sponsored by Representative David Honigman, was passed and signed into law by the Governor. Called the "Ethnic Intimidation Bill," sexual orientation was removed by a hostile State Senate Committee. The bill makes crimes motivated by hatred of minorities open to stricter penalties.

3. **Anti-Discrimination** -- Only one state, Wisconsin, has full anti-discrimination legislation on its books, though Oregon and Massachusetts have executive orders banning discrimination in state government (that last only as long as their governors are in office). There are more than 70 states, cities and counties that have *anti-discrimination policies and the fight to expand the number continues*. Detroit, Ann Arbor, East Lansing, Saginaw and Flint all have these policies, and some of MSU's different bureaucratic levels cover the issue. Ingham County is the only county in Michigan that ruled it would not discriminate in hiring county employees based on sexual orientation, but this does not protect county citizens.

All of these anti-discrimination policies have been granted by governments (legislative or executive orders). Only one policy has ever been enacted by a vote of the people -- for the city of Boulder, Colorado. Time after time, popular votes on sexual orientation go down in defeat. In most areas in this country, discrimination in housing, jobs, services, and child custody is perfectly legal.

4. **Marriage Laws** -- No state but Colorado has legal marriages for same-sex couples (and this state law is nullified by federal law). Only Denmark currently allows legal same-sex marriages, but the state church there is not required to perform the ceremony. A similar law is under consideration in Norway.

Many American churches and synagogues and individual clergy will perform symbolic ceremonies (Holy Unions or Blessings), none of these has legal binding. Attempts are ongoing to have domestic partners recognized by sharing employee benefits. Many feel this will eventually lead to recognition by the governments.

5. **AIDS Test Disclosure** -- Laws have been promoted in many states (including Michigan) to disclose the names of people who test positive for HIV (Human Immuno-deficiency Virus) exposure. This virus is thought to cause AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome). The laws have been fought by many parties on the grounds that disclosure will discourage people from being tested. In Michigan, an HIV antibody test can be ordered in certain sex crimes such as rape.
6. **Insurance** -- Because of the AIDS crisis, many insurance companies have attempted to implement policies which discriminate against Gays or even straight men holding stereotypically "gay" jobs, like florists, hairdressers, etc. These efforts are being fought with a fairly high degree of success. Threats of discrimination in insurance seed fears which keep people from taking HIV antibody tests. This may contribute to the spread of the virus.
7. **Military Service** -- A California Appeals Court ruled that discrimination against Gays and Lesbians in the military is unconstitutional, but that ruling has been appealed. Discrimination continues, especially as cuts in military personnel are suggested. Throwing people out of the military for being Lesbian or Gay is much cheaper for the government than retiring them with benefits.

Many college campuses with non-discriminatory policies are challenging ROTC programs working on campus because they refuse Lesbians and Gays.

8. **The Bush Administration --** The White House has shown some signs of inclusion of Lesbians and Gays into recognized minority status. Besides inviting our groups to the two bill signings (which created a storm of opposition from Conservatives), the Bush Administration made the first major speech by a president on the subject of AIDS. In this speech, he called for compassion for those who are ill. He and Mrs. Bush visited an AIDS ward in 1990 and spoke with a group of Gays.

Also this year, Mrs. Bush placed candles in the window of the White House as a memorial for those who have died of AIDS. A warm letter the First Woman wrote to Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays denounced all kinds of discrimination. The letter was, once again, highly criticized by right-wingers.

Bush was taken to task by the Southern Baptist Church for "giving such official recognition to a homosexual-lesbian lifestyle [we] find abhorrent." Bush later canceled his appearance before their annual meeting because of the hub-bub over this issue.

On the other hand, during the international AIDS conference in San Francisco, Bush was notably absent -- raising campaign funds for our avowed enemy, Senator Jesse Helms (R-North Carolina). Obviously, the jury is still out on how far the administration will go to back our people.

FAMILY ISSUES

1. **Marriage** (see Legal Issues, part 4) -- We fight for the right to marry legally because such a right, granted to everyone else, lends legitimacy to the relationship, and conveys certain benefits. These include tax benefits, inheritance rights and visitation rights.

In one famous case, Sharon Kowalski, a woman who is in a coma following an accident, was for years denied visitation by her lover because Sharon's dad disapproved of their Lesbianism. With Gay AIDS patients, many lovers have been barred from hospital rooms and homes by the lover's family. It is interesting that the straight community has for decades called the Gay community promiscuous, yet at every turn they try to bar us from the blessings and securities of a legal marriage.

2. **Children** – It is understandable for many of us to have paternal/maternal instincts, and to want to have children of our own. However, our biological children or the *children of our deceased lover can be taken away from us legally and visitation with them can be curtailed.*

Adoption is not impossible, but extremely difficult in most cases. An excuse of some adoption agencies is that, like the children of inter-racial couples, a child with Gay or Lesbian parents could face problems when others find out about their parents' lives. This is, however, a product of externalized homophobia or homohatred. All studies show Gays and Lesbians are equally as qualified to be parents as straights, and their children do not turn out noticeably different from those of straights, except they are more secure in their affectional/sexual identity.

The answer to concerns about Gay and Lesbian parenting is to change society's fear and hatred and let our children live their lives without interference.

Lesbian and Gay couples may consider artificial insemination, with a close friend or relative supplying the necessary sperm or egg. This allows for the possibility of a biological kinship between the child and one of its parents or (in the case of a lover's relative being the donor) both parents.

3. **"Threat to the Family"** -- Lesbians and Gays are not a threat to the "family structure" as much hostile propaganda claims. Straight families are besieged with divorce, child or spouse abuse and other social ills. No families are perfect.

Many of us do not want to change the general perception of a family as two parents with children growing up in the suburbs. We want to be accepted into it. Others of

us have less traditional family structures and we should be free to choose those, just like anyone else.

Parents and Friends of Lesbians And Gays (PFLAG), a growing support network, disproves that the family structure can not be intact and binding with open Lesbians and Gays. The support of their members is invaluable.

Unfortunately, laws forbid us to marry; policies are allowed to discriminate against us in child-rearing, housing and jobs. We, as Lesbians and Gays, are in effect being raped of some of the basic elements in life.

RELIGIOUS ISSUES

WARNING! There is probably no subject that will over-excite an audience more quickly than religion. If there ever is an area where you need to remember the "four C's" (cool, calm and collected equals control) it is here. Religion is such a deeply personal aspect, it often hides within its bosom the highest hope -- and deepest bigotry -- of a tribe.

It may be unwise to take on Biblical scholars. You can never win and it usually just causes more antagonism. A reasonable approach might be to point out the historical variance there are in translations over the centuries.

Any religious questions should immediately alert the panel to slow the pace of the discussion. Speak carefully and clearly. If you are up against a zealot, forget about changing his or her mind, and appeal to the good sense of the rest of the audience. If this is accomplished, you will have scored an important victory. If, after some discussion, the zealot doesn't quiet down, ask the audience to move on to other subjects for time's sake. Do not allow repetitious religious questions to continue. Move on.

The following points are based on the King James Version of the Holy Bible.

1. **Sodom and Gomorrah** -- Often this Old Testament story is used against Gays and Lesbians. It is the story of a town destroyed because the male residents of the city attempt to rape angels sent out to enter the city (Genesis, Ch. 18-19).

Was the crime intended rape rather than the traditional homosexual lust for angels? It should be pointed out that the destruction of the city had already been decided before the angels arrived.

Elsewhere in the Bible (Ezekiel 16:47-59), the crime of Sodom is described as pride and comfort, and an unwillingness to help the poor and wretched. Luke 10:11-12, Matthew 10:14-15 and Wisdom 19:14, all refer to inhospitality as being Sodom's downfall, or that inhospitality is even worse than Sodom's crimes.

2. **Leviticus 18:22** (Thou shalt not lie with man as with woman, it is an abomination.) -- This is one sentence out of hundreds in the "law of holiness." If all of these laws are to be observed, animals sacrificed to the Lord must be eaten the day of or the day after the sacrifice (or face being cut off from your father's kin), you shall not put on a garment woven with two kinds of yarn, you shall not shave the edges of your beard (most of the men in the audience will be clean shaven). You can't eat a shrimp cocktail or a ham sandwich. If you're a woman, your husband should put you out in a

shack while you're menstruating. And so forth. It is interesting that bigots can be so selective, when they wish, in the name of religion.

Note, also, in both of the above cases women lying with women are not even mentioned. Lesbians, we must presume, are God's chosen people.

3. **Romans 1:26** ("Their women gave up natural relations for unnatural, and their men -- burn with lust for one another.") This entire passage deals with idol worshippers. Most religious Lesbians and Gays in America, you can point out, are Christian, so idol worship has no place in their lives. The passage is irrelevant to them.

In pagan (and less sexually uptight cultures) ceremonies, homosexual acts were not an uncommon part of ritual. Early Christians, like Saint Paul, wanted to differentiate themselves as much as possible from the neighboring religions. By establishing Christian orthodoxy, they made things associated with pagan worship taboo.

4. **Corinthians (I) 6:9-10** ("None who are guilty of homosexual perversion shall own the kingdom of God.") -- Talking as usual with men, the term "homosexual perversion" is often translated as "effeminacy." Still other words are often translated from the original Greek. Others included in this passage are fornicators, drunkards, thieves and slanderers. Sounds like a lot of a frat parties will be mighty hot. Once more, the bigots are selective on what they condemn.

5. **General Things to Keep in Mind** -- Among other things, Christianity states, "Love thy neighbor as thyself," "Judge not, lest ye be judged," "and there is, "no hierarchy of sins," (a sin is a sin, is a sin.). Whatever the Bible is believed to say, homosexuality is treated in context no worse and no better than anything else.

For Christians, Jesus of Nazareth said *absolutely nothing* on the subject. Repeat, nothing. But he did say, "Let he who is without sin cast the first stone."

4000 plus years ago, people struggled for survival and continuation of the tribe. They did not understand homosexuality in terms of an orientation, but as frivolous, "un-productive" sex.

Other forms of such sex such as masturbation, oral sex, sex with contraceptives or condoms, have also been condemned over the centuries based on Biblical interpretation. From this stand point, sex with a sterile person, or with a woman past menopause would also be an abomination.

Not only is the Bible a history and a book of laws that subjugates women, but it also condones slavery and was used by many Southerners as a justification for human ownership. Any bigot can justify just about anything they want. Could the author(s) ever have wanted the Bible to be used as a weapon?

Alas, it is too true that many people's homohatred and bigotry is shrouded in Biblical phrases. A telling sign is how many people quote the anti-Gay part of Leviticus -- but ignore the other laws that they, themselves, break daily. This demonstrates how deep-seeded the hatred is against us -- and how truly far it is from any sense of love of humanity.

It is simply amazing that two great religions such as Judaism and Christianity, which each record early histories of extreme persecutions by the Babylonians, Egyptians, Romans and others, could ever persecute other human beings and perpetuate or cause so much human pain.

GAY ISSUES

AIDS

Almost no Lesbians have AIDS; if AIDS is God's curse on Gays, then Lesbians must be in high favor. They're even less likely to have AIDS than straights.

Although blame-throwing brings no cure, this horrible decease has been blamed on Gays, Cubans, Haitians, Blacks, the CIA, the KGB, monkeys and God. In Africa, AIDS has long been a disease among straights; in Asia, it is prevalent among drug abusers and is spreading. In the U.S., Gays still comprise the majority of cases, but other minorities and age groups are rising fast in infection, even as Gay cases decrease in proportion. Intravenous drug users are nearly 1/3 of all people with the virus in the U.S., and this group continues to grow. AIDS feeds on ignorance of transmission; infections are on the rise among straights (especially college age people), men and women of color, African American men and prostitutes of all races. AIDS is always fatal.

What is AIDS?

AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) is syndrome which we believe is caused by a virus. In the blood it attacks the infection-fighting cells of the immune system, takes them over, and uses them to reproduce itself. When the immune system is destroyed, the AIDS virus withers, but the body is now open to "opportunistic infections." Ordinarily, the multiple infections that routinely enter the body would be destroyed by a healthy immune system; but as the body's immune system slowly weakens, these infections can kill. Eventually, one of them will.

The following are symptoms of AIDS (and many other illnesses): night sweats, swollen glands, weight loss, persistent coughing, fatigue, diarrhea, blue/brown/purple skin lesions, or white spots in the mouth. Whether these symptoms are AIDS or a myriad of other illnesses, a doctor should be consulted for anyone having these signs. It could just be the flu, but the flu needs to be checked out, too.

You are not tested for AIDS directly, but for the HIV antibody that is believed to cause it. Because the tests are not perfect, a series is done over a period of months. If someone tests positive he or she is told to not give blood or make organ donations. Men are also asked not to donate sperm. People testing HIV positive are often subject to discrimination, though most courts are deciding that AIDS patients fall under disabling-disease policies which forbid any discrimination.

Other Aspects of AIDS

The social stigma attached to AIDS is nearly as horrible as the illness itself, and certainly unnecessary. Not all people who test HIV positive develop AIDS (but it is highly expected they will). Some develop ARC (AIDS Related Complex), a lesser version of the disease, but more and more it is assumed that ARC leads to full blown AIDS. Support groups and buddy programs are often available for *people with AIDS* (never called "AIDS victims"). The Lansing area has several such programs.

It is important to know that many other viruses are much easier to transmit than AIDS, including hepatitis. AIDS is not transferred through everyday contact. Transfer of blood or semen through body membranes (especially, the intestines with regard to semen) or open cuts is the only way (outside of sharing needles or similar instruments) that AIDS is found to have been transmitted. Condoms and spermicidal agents are ways to prevent transmission, though not 100 percent effective. Ignorance and denial are the easiest ways to spread this preventable virus. "This one time without a condom," can kill you as dead as a doornail.

The acid in saliva appears to kill the disease. No AIDS case has ever been reported from french kissing.

Some people (often justifying their homohatred) ask why the government shouldn't spend more money on cancer prevention than AIDS prevention, since so many people get cancer. The answer is that we know how to stop AIDS from spreading (education), but we are clueless on some cancers. And we've already been spending millions on anti-smoking campaigns for more than 20 years. Why can we not do both? There is no reason not to educate the public on how to avoid the disease -- except homohatred. This may continue until the cases pile higher on the straight and white side of society.

Social Ramifications of AIDS

Well over 50,000 Americans have died of AIDS, more than all the U.S. citizens who died in the entire Vietnam War. Let reactionaries know that these are Americans that are dying, one of their own (whether they like it or not). And let them also know the government is already missing the taxes these people would have brought into the economy.

In 1990, it is estimated that AIDS treatment will cost \$100,000 per person per year. There are predictions that the insurance and medical industries in America will be radically and forever changed by this infection. Some predict this will be the final straw in favor of a national health insurance policy.

The Gay community had to raise hell to get the government to do much of anything about the crisis. This is among the greatest shames of American history. It has been called *genocide by default*.

Straight people may view AIDS activism as, "just those Gays whining, again." They don't realize how much Gay activism has had an impact on their own health care. For years and years, Americans have been trained to accept the long process for experimental drugs and other medical research. Government bureaucrats are notorious for taking their jolly time getting things done, and a ridiculous system of red tape formerly wrapped the health care system, including the Federal Drug Administration (FDA).

ACT-UP (AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power) has been instrumental in putting "heat" under the cumbersome health system and this sped up health care and research – for everyone. Straights, especially those who have had a terminal illness in their family, actually owe a debt of service to the Gay community.

Since this wasting disease came, there has been a marked rise in homophobia and hatred -- and this hits healthy Lesbians just as hard as Gays. Since they began keeping statistics on Gay/Lesbian bashing in New York City (January of 1990), 64 cases have been reported to the police. Over 350 were reported to a New York Lesbian/Gay violence program in the same period. Heaven only knows what wasn't reported to either group.

Renewed Activism

When the government did finally react to AIDS, it did so heavy handedly and often poorly. What is extraordinary is that it galvanized the Gay community itself. Originally, a new vitalized movement was started by the numerous AIDS support groups which sprang up in the hard-hit New York City and San Francisco areas. These organizations have spread all over the country, including Lansing.

Then, the work of the activist (and principally) Gay group, ACT-UP (AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power), helped to inject new stimulation and action into the Gay community. More recently, a Gay activist group that learned the high pressure tactics of ACT-UP has come into being. What part Queer Nation will play in the Gay and Lesbian civil rights movement is still to be seen -- but we aren't living in Kansas anymore, Toto.

More than ever before, there is an activism spreading throughout America with renewed effort to eliminate anti-Gay/Lesbian legislation and enact pro-"us" laws. The Lesbian community has also been stimulated by new activism and stronger bridges are being built between the men's and women's communities. We are united by our joint understanding that we need social change -- and also that the hatred generated by bigots falls equally among us both.

LESBIAN ISSUES

Gays are oppressed because of their emotional/sexual makeup. Lesbians are also oppressed for this reason *and* because they are women. This can make for some interestingly different dynamics between the men's and women's communities and how they view their circumstances.

Despite significant gains, women are still treated as if they don't quite exist in Western Civilization (and beyond), despite the fact that women do the majority of the world's labor. Relegated to a secondary position by a male dominated society, the modern woman's movement set out to change the disparity.

Feminism

Feminism for Lesbians and straight women is a concept that seeks to gain equal status for women with men, particularly in the social, economic and political fields. For some women, it simply means the advance of women, period.

Aware women are painfully cognizant of a system that not only down-grades them, but often makes them invisible in any action that holds importance (this is one reason why we are called the Lesbian/Gay Council and not just Gay Council).

Many Lesbians are very familiar with bigotry against their emotional/sexual orientation, but are even more tuned in to the way men second-rate their gender. Often, this means Lesbians are *feminists* first and *homosexual* second. The reason for this holds a lot of merit.

According to some feminists, the world is dominated by men in a system called "patriarchy." Whereas, women are by tradition and, perhaps, genetic makeup the nurturers of the planet, men are the hunters and aggressors. Many women (and some men, too) feel the balance of nurturers and aggressors is severely out of whack, especially in Western Culture.

Always the reflection of a people, the three great religions of the West certainly are patriarchal in concept. All three faiths refer to their Creator as He. The "shes" hardly get a decent, positive story in the three Holy Books, but an awful lot of blame.

A feminist can easily say that the history of men is the story of aggression, fighting and war. How can any of us be in favor of war? Women, on the other hand, represent security, family, and inspiration. A feminist, including men who see the point, might want to set a better balance in society, create a better sense of toleration.

Often, feminists spell the word "women" as "womyn" because the first word's origin was, "a man with a womb." This tone makes a woman more of an "anti-man" than a creature unto herself. Think about it.

The fusing of a matriarchy with a patriarchy can only make the world more tolerable for Gays, too! The hate generated towards Gays by straight men is primarily because they threaten straight's masculinity. This means that if there were not for sexism (viewing the genders as unequal in value) everyone would benefit. Gays and Lesbians, it would appear, are hated and abused in exact proportion of how men treat women.

The dual emphasis of Lesbians as homosexual and as women has led to the creation of a strong community spirit, in many geographical locations, more so than among Gays. Tied together with womanhood, there is much more of a cultural/social/political feeling to unite Lesbians. Gays don't really have an equivalent to feminism. The masculine nature in men is not celebrated in the same way as with women.

A frequent difference between how Gays and Lesbians want to solve problems is that Lesbians want to change the system of oppression, incorporating a new society in a holistic concept. Gays in the past have wanted to amend society to allow them in. This is why Gays frequently put an emphasis on changing laws (established primarily by men). Lesbians, on the other hand, emphasize a social, grassroots and direct movement of change throughout, with an extra emphasis on building a new community. Both are positive concepts. Unfortunately, the differences in perspective are often missed by people on both sides, resulting in tempers flaring.

Separatism

Separatism is a concept that seeks to bind women together in a common society. The idea is a positive one, despite what some men perceive. The hope of separatism is to create an all-woman society, especially enjoying the wonders of nurturing and all that is beautiful about women. This would be done away from outsiders -- non-separatists, including men. Unfortunately, some people interpret this to be negative towards men, rather than positive towards women.

Gays can have a form of separatism, also, but are less likely to have a conscious concept of the word. Many move to large city ghettos (like those in New York City or San Francisco) to be in a Gay setting away from straights. Why? Well, it gives a sense of security and allows them to be themselves without hassles from outsiders. It's also a kick to patronize Gay businesses, and help *their own* community out. Sounds a lot like what some of their women counterparts want, doesn't it?

There are some people that make a distinction between Lesbians (homosexual women who accept feminism as a social/political part of their life) and Gay women (homosexual women, not particularly interested in feminism). Issues of being women affect all Lesbians, however, and separatism and feminism flow in varying degrees throughout the Lesbian community.

It is now common for the term Gay to refer to men but not to Lesbians. Please make every attempt to continue this in your panels, even though your audience might at first think Gay means men and women. Lesbians are rightfully tired of being rendered invisible.

Lesbian Concerns as Women

There are many feminist issues that are important to Lesbians as a group. Among these are violence against women and the abortion issue.

There is an enormous amount of violence that is done to women -- rape and murder being only the *most* heinous -- by a system that targets women for victimization. By far, most of the crime of the U.S. is done by men. In 1980, 40 percent of all murdered women were committed by their husbands or boyfriends. Rape is a horrible crime for anyone but, again, the victims are overwhelmingly women.

Many, if not most, Lesbians see the anti-abortion movement as yet another in a long history of men's attempt to control the sexuality of women. There are many Gays who miss this and should be reminded it may be as important to a Lesbian as the AIDS crisis is to them.

OTHER ISSUES

In the course of a panel discussion, several of the following topics may come up that have yet to be covered.

1. **Child Molestation** -- Straights (overwhelmingly, straight men) account for 90 - 95 percent of child molestations, yet the molestation myth continues. The child molestation story (pushed by the Anita Bryant crusade and a score of so-called fundamentalist religious zealots) says that since we do not reproduce our own, we go out and seduce the offspring of straights to make them Gay and Lesbian and perpetuate our "race." The basis of this type of "folk racism" belongs in Hitler's Third Reich and not the modern world. If the question of molestation arises, set the record "straight." If 90 - 95 percent of the molestation is done by straights, then there is no reason we should not be allowed to become parents.
2. **Gay/Lesbian Teachers** -- On a related topic, Gays and Lesbians are no less qualified to be teachers than straights. There is no evidence that Gay/Lesbian teachers, for instance, make more advances on students than straight teachers; in fact, evidence is *quite the contrary*. *In fact, we have an awful lot to give to students. Gay or Lesbian teachers won't teach their student to be the same as they are -- any more than our straight teachers taught us to be straight.* The absurdity of this "theory" should be pointed out to an audience if teaching is brought up.
3. **Transvestitism** -- Almost always men, most transvestites are straight (studies imply 90%). Transvestites are people who enjoy (feel particularly comfortable in a sexual sense) dressing in the clothing traditionally associated with the opposite gender.

Lesbians who dress what is sometimes called "butch," are not cross dressing but dressing comfortably without the traditional ornaments of womanhood that are dictated by men to women (i.e. wearing a skirt and panty hose to show off their "sexy legs" for men.). Many Lesbians wear short hair because it's practical and easy to keep, not because they wish to be men.

4. **Transsexualism (Gender Reassignment)** -- Again, most of these people are men who feel they are mentally the opposite gender, though physically men. They often go through sex-change operations to arrange their physical with their mental being. Transsexuals are not Gay or Lesbian, nor are they transvestites, but something uniquely different.

5. **Bisexuality --** Bisexuals are men or women who can feel physically and emotionally attracted to some people of either genders. They do not chose this orientation any more than the rest of the population, nor do they hop, necessarily, from man to woman, to man, to woman. Rather, they enter relationships with people with whom they are attracted at a given time.

This means a bisexual person could be seen in a relationship with only one gender their entire lives, but they are still bisexual in nature.

They are frequently under attack by both heterosexuals and homosexuals. Many of the other two groupings say the bi's are really homo and just won't quite admit it. This is unfair. Panelists must not perpetuate these assumptions, and should correct audience members who make them.

GLOSSARY

AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) -- A syndrome caused by a virus, primarily transmitted by blood or semen, that attacks the immune system and renders it defenseless against infections. The majority of cases are still Gays, but the fatal disease is moving more and more into other sections of the population.

AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power (ACT-UP) -- An organization founded in the mid '80s in New York City to fight the spread of AIDS and bring pressure to find a cure for the disease. Civil disobedience and grabbing media attention by sharp advertising tactics are trademarks of the group. Today, ACT-UP still has a membership that is largely Gay, but it is not a Gay rights organization, it is an AIDS organization.

Bashers or Queer Bashers or Fag Bashers -- Homohaters who use violence towards Gays and Lesbians, or people they *think* are Gays or Lesbians. Too frequently they kill their victims and feel justified in doing so. It is extremely difficult to convict bashers. If they ask for a jury trial (and they usually do), jury members are often biased against us also.

Battle axe -- The double-edged symbol of feminism.

Bisexual -- A person of either gender who has romantic/sexual attraction for people of either gender. Bisexual people are not necessarily attracted to both men and women at the same time, but may be attracted to one gender or the other on an individual basis or be attracted to different genders at different times in their lives.

Drag -- To wear a type of attire traditionally assigned to the other gender. Drag can also mean any type of clothing/costuming.

Drag Queen -- A Gay who wears traditional women's attire.

Feminism -- Any doctrine that puts women on par with men or that is pro-woman. It is an important component of the Lesbian community. There are varying degrees of feminism from a special interest in women's advancement, to the advocacy of a separate, woman-only society.

HIV -- The virus that is believed to cause AIDS. It is the HIV antibody that people are tested for in the so called "AIDS tests."

Homohatred -- A term defining the bigotry used against Lesbians and Gays. This term is usually more accurate than homophobia.

Homophobia -- A term that means the irrational fear of Lesbian or Gay people.

Homosexual -- A term that is usually used as a scientific or clinical definition of a man or woman who has sexual/emotional attachments to members of the same gender. News media, hostile to us or ignorant of the nuances, might use this term rather than Lesbian or Gay. As an aside, "homo-" here does not come from the Latin word meaning "man," but from the Greek word spelled the same way, meaning "same."

Lambda -- A Greek symbol that looks somewhat like an upside down "Y." In chemistry it means the point at which something changes. It once was a prominent symbol for the Gay movement emphasizing the difference of that group from the others.

Queer Nation -- An organization similar in tactics to ACT-UP (media attention, awareness techniques, etc.) but dedicated to Gay rights.

Panel Coordinator -- An officer of the Lesbian/Gay Council who arranges panels and individuals to serve as panelists. The Panel Coordinator working with Council Co-Directors can forbid someone to participate on a panel. The Panel Coordinator can also stop a panel from the audience, just like the Co-Directors.

Panel Leader -- Chief member of the panel who does the Council introduction, picks the people in the audience who have questions, and ends the panel. The Coordinator may ask someone to be the Panel Leader or panelists may choose from among themselves prior to the presentation.

Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG) -- A nation wide organization dedicated to helping our families and friends deal with us being Gay and Lesbian often as a support group. Increasingly, these organizations are taking a public stance with their loved ones by joining in our parades and being seen in the media.

Pink Panthers -- A group formed this year in New York City to act as "Guardian Angels" for us against bashers. The Panthers work very closely with the police by patrolling Lesbian/Gay districts in large groups using walkie-talkies and police whistles.

Pink Triangle -- A symbol of oppression, especially for Gays, turned into a symbol of pride. The pink triangle was assigned to Gay prisoners in Nazi concentration camps. Other prisoners also had triangles: red for Communists; green for criminals; double yellow (a Star of David) for Jews; etc.

Out or Out of the Closet -- To admit and accept yourself as a Lesbian or Gay, or to admit to others you are Lesbian or Gay.

To Out Someone -- To expose someone as Lesbian or Gay against their will.

Rainbow Flag -- The multicolored, striped flag that is often used as the symbol of the Lesbian and Gay movement.

Stonewall Inn -- The place of origin for the modern Gay movement in Greenwich Village, New York City. On the night of June 27, 1969, a routine "bust" of this bar sparked a Gay riot lead by drag queens, who where the principle victims. Almost as soon as word of the riot spread, Gay rights organizations where founded and spread all over America. MSU founded a Gay organization the next year.

Transsexual -- A person who is genetically a man or woman but feels emotionally and sexually like the other gender.

Transvestite -- A person who derives sexual pleasure from wearing the other gender's traditional clothing. Approximately 90 percent of all male transvestites are attracted toward women.

Womyn -- A feminist way to spell "women" or "woman." By eliminating the traditional "man" or "men," it is felt, feminists can be their own unique being and not an "anti-man."

ISSUES YOU DIDN'T KNOW



SPECTRUM

UNDERGRADUATE NEWSLETTER THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS VOL. 2, NO. 3 SPRING 1992

GET INVOLVED IN STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Do you feel lost in the MSU landscape? Are you looking for a greater sense of connectedness with the university, your department, or other students? Why not join an MSU student organization?

Becoming a member of a student organization can enrich your years at Michigan State in many ways. The good friends and good times that an organization provides can help transform what is sometimes a large and overwhelming institution into a place you can truly call home. Student organizations also give you opportunities to explore new interests, develop skills, enhance your academic program, and make an impact on the University community. With over 400 organizations on campus, there's bound to be something for you.

To select a student organization that's right for you, ask yourself the following questions. What are you looking for in an organization? Do you primarily want to socialize and make friends, or do you want to be of service to the campus or community? Do you want to continue an interest from high school, or would you like to try something new? Should you be in a group that relates to your major or career choice? How much time do you have for an organization? Are there financial considerations?

Student organizations give you opportunities to explore new interests, develop skills, enhance your academic program, and make an impact on the University community.

Once you have asked yourself these questions, you may select a student organization from one of the many categories available at MSU. There are ethnic, fraternal, political, cultural, religious, service, sports, and social issues groups, just to name a few. There are also a number of organizations specifically associated with Arts and Letters departments or advised by Arts and Letters faculty. Here is a sampling of the organizations available:

ARTS AND LETTERS-RELATED STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Language Clubs

French Club, MSU

Promotes French culture through organized learning experiences and fun events.

Contact: Julia McMahon, 355-8923

German Club, MSU

Enhances awareness and experience of the German languages and cultures.

Contact: Erich Bandemehr, 337-2906

Italian Club, MSU

Contact: Bonnie Beldean, 332-1599

Nossa Turma

Provides educational and cultural insight into Portuguese-speaking countries.

Contact: Roxanna Dontley, 337-1047.

Performing Arts Groups

Housequake Music Productions

Promotes and provides professional experience for performing arts students.

Contact: Darnell Moore, 351-3624.

Musicians Connection Organization

Provides musicians with various information, including a referral service.

Contact: Steven Tod, 337-9615.

National Association for Music Therapy Students

Provides experience in music therapy and related techniques.

Contact: Denise Travis, 351-8896.

Orchesis

Promotes teaching and performance of dance (modern, ballet and jazz).

Contact: Dixie Durr, 355-0329.

The Rude Mechanical Underground

Promotes original, experimental and lesser known forms of performing arts.

Contact: Randal Robinson, 355-7579.

Twin Zeta Epsilon

Serves and supports MSU bands.

Contact: The Band Office, 355-7650.

(Continued on Page 2)

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS (Continued from Page 1)

Fine Arts Organizations

The Alchemist

Provides an interesting and informative alternative news magazine.

Contact: Sinda Werzynski, 332-8938,
Student Chapter of American Center for
Design

*Enhances the knowledge, experience, and
talent of Design students at MSU.*

Contact: Nicole Gladner, 332-0562.

Academic Organizations

Philosophy Club

Contact: Mark Risjord, 355-4586.

Undergraduate History Association

*Provides interaction between history
students and forums for discussions.*

Contact: Molly Richter, 355-8544.

Pre-Professional Associations

AIESEC

*Contributes to the development of
countries and international understanding
by providing overseas employment
opportunities.*

Contact: Phaedra Robson, 332-2320

PRE-LAW ASSOCIATION

*Acquaints members with methods of
preparation for law school.*

Contact: Elizabeth Callahan, 337-0721

These are only a few of the MSU organizations relevant to Arts and Letters departments or advised by Arts and Letters faculty. For more information on professional and non-professional organizations both in and out of the College, call the Student Life Center at 355-8286, or pick up a copy of the new "Michigan State University Student Organization Directory, 1991-92" at 101 Student Services.

Whatever you do, take time to get involved. Somewhere at Michigan State, there is a student organization for you.

The newsletter staff is eager to hear your comments about *Spectrum* and your suggestions for future articles. Please call Mark Galik at 355-6519 or 355-0366, or write to the College Office, 200 Linton Hall.

VISTA: New Prospects

The Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) is a program dedicated to "increasing the capability of low-income people to improve the conditions of their own lives." It seeks motivated people with an interest in broadening their own minds while helping others in one year of volunteer service. There are sponsors—public agencies or non-profit organizations—in all 50 states as well as the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

Volunteers live with those they serve in rural and urban areas, as well as on Indian reservations. Programs include projects to reduce illiteracy, hunger, unemployment, homelessness, drug addiction, and alcoholism. Volunteers help initiate and organize these projects and participate in the projects themselves by tutoring in reading, soliciting for food banks, providing training in job-seeking skills, developing housing cooperatives, or providing support for children of substance abusers. Other areas targeted by VISTA are health care in medically underserved regions and economic development in low-income regions.

VISTA provides volunteers with training both before and during service. Pre-service training concentrates on familiarizing volunteers with VISTA objectives and procedures, while later training focuses on the specific skills needed for particular assignments.

Because VISTA is a full-time program, volunteers are compensated for their efforts. Benefits include a living allowance for housing, food, and incidentals, as well as an exit allowance of \$95 per month of service, paid at the end of one's commitment. Of special interest to college students considering volunteer service after graduation is the deferral or partial cancellation of some Federal college loans. To be eligible for VISTA service, one must be a citizen or permanent resident of the U.S. and be at least 18 years of age. For more information, contact VISTA, 1-800-424-8867.



"The flowers are in full bloom. Thank goodness for Auntie Histamine!"

EVERYWOMAN'S CONFERENCE

MARCH 30-APRIL 1

Friday (12:00 noon - 12:00 midnight)

12:00 - 1:00 Films: It Happens to Us (30 min.)

Childcare (20 min.)

Lunch prepared by Morning Glory Kitchen--Natural Foods Restaurant (At a very reasonable cost.)

1:00 - 2:30 Workshops: Consciousness-Raising: An experimental glance into the potentials of the women's consciousness raising group. Abi Harris, graduate student and member of a consciousness-raising group. (Also at 1:00-2:00 Sunday)

Weaving as a Woman's Craft: Instructions will be given in the art of weaving and spinning will also be demonstrated at this workshop. Lansing Weavers' Guild (Also 10:30-12:00 Saturday)

Gay-Straight Relations in the Movement: Toward a better understanding of how the gay woman directs her energies in the Movement. Discussion of the psychic weapon--guilt by association. Gayle Swanbeck, MSU senior; Barb Grey, MSU senior. (Also 2:00-3:30 Saturday)

Politics of Marriage: Analysis of how decisions concerning housework, money and sex are made in a marriage relationship. Susan Derrabee: program director, YWCA, Paterson, New Jersey. Mother of two. (Also 1:00-2:00 Sunday)

Male Consciousness-Raising (for men only): Sharing of experiences of men who have participated in this process together. Jim Amundson, undergraduate and member of a consciousness-raising group. (Also at 1:00-2:00 Sunday).

2:30 - 4:00 Film: Salt of the Earth (94 min.)

4:00 - 5:30 Workshops: Pie in the Sky: The Failure of Higher Education for Women Dr. L. Fitzgerald, Professor of Education and Assistant Dean of Students. (Also at 4:30-6:00 Saturday)

Women and Their Bodies: The psychological aspects of body images. Nell Smith, graduate student in guidance and counseling. (Also at 4:30-6:00 Saturday)

VOLUNTEER READERS

(Continued from Page 3)

used even by people who can read the books unaided. These, however, are usually produced only for classics and best-sellers which have a broad market appeal. They would not serve the needs of most college courses.

What, then, is to be done about the books and articles which exist in no format accessible to the visually impaired? The Office of Programs for Handicapped Students has addressed this problem by organizing a volunteer reader program in which faculty, students, and service organizations lend their voices to those who need it most. Volunteers may meet regularly with visually impaired students and read to them in person, or they may devote an hour or more per week to reading books and articles into tape recorders. Says Michael Hudson, there are few volunteer activities on campus that are more urgently needed and few that are more rewarding. Volunteers are especially needed during the spring and summer months, when volunteer readers tend to be in short supply.

If you have a pleasant speaking voice, read well aloud, and would like to lend your voice to others, drop by the Office of Programs for Handicapped Students at 402 West Main Library, or call 353-9643 for more information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The College of Arts and Letters wishes to thank all faculty members and students for their fine contributions to MSU Open House and Arts and Letters Day.

Faculty and staff are reminded to check the AL Events Bulletin Board on E-mail for current postings. Anyone with access to E-mail may view this bulletin board. Those wishing to post an item should send it to A-L_Events through Quick Mail.

The College wishes to congratulate the MSU School of Music Saxophone Quartet for winning 1st place in the Wind Division of the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition. Competition took place in South Bend, Indiana, March 26-29.

The College also wishes to congratulate Tage Larsen, a talented trumpeter from Cambridge, Massachusetts, and a senior performance major, who won the 1992 Louis Sudler Prize, the highest student honor in the creative and performing arts awarded by the College of Arts and Letters.



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
College of Arts and Letters
200 Linton Hall
East Lansing, Michigan 48824-1044

Non-Profit org.

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Permit No. 21

April 8, 1989

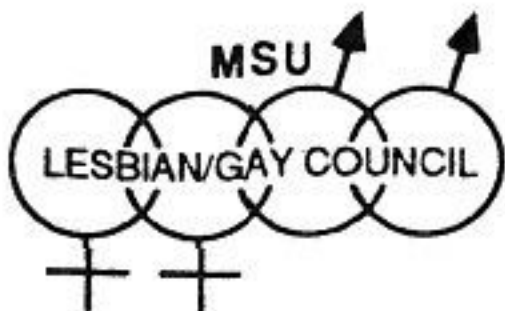
Dear friends and members of the Alliance,

Enclosed you will find a packet of information from the Lesbian/Gay Council of MSU regarding their pride week celebration. The Alliance agreed to send this information to you in an experiment in community cooperation, sharing our resources.

In an effort to protect our membership, we arranged for substantial thickness of envelopes and were careful to apply the labels ourselves so that access to the mailing list was not actually provided, just this particular mailing. The materials and costs of this mailing were funded by L/G Council.

Please let us know if this experiment in community cooperation is pleasing or troubling to you. Should we do more of this? Should we never do it again? We hope this information is pertinent and useful to you. Thank you for your continued support and lesbian presence.

In Sisterhood,
Sheila K.
(on behalf of the Board)



442 Student Union • Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan • 48824 • 517/353-9795

April 8, 1989

Dear Lesbian Alliance Member:

The Lesbian/Gay Council of Michigan State University would like to take this opportunity to invite you to be a part of our annual Pride Week celebration taking place May 5-13 on and near the East Lansing campus. Our theme is "1969 STONEWALL 1989: Twenty Years of Pride". We are hoping to have this Pride Week be an opportunity to stop and reflect where we have come from and where we are going as a community of lesbians and gay men. Enclosed with this letter you will find a schedule of events for the eight-day celebration.

But there is one event we think (and hope!) you will find particularly interesting. Pride Week will open on Friday, May 5 with a gala kick-off Dinner/Dance and Keynote address given by Leonard Graff, Legal Director of National Gay Rights Advocates in San Francisco. Mr. Graff is no stranger to the Greater Lansing lesbian and gay community. He is a graduate of both Michigan State University and Cooley Law School, and was instrumental in the initial passage of the East Lansing ordinance protecting the rights of lesbians and gay men. Mr. Graff is truly an important figure fighting for our rights on the national level.

We have planned quite an evening to go along with the Keynote Address. A dinner buffet will be served at 6:00 p.m. in Gold Rooms A & B of the MSU Union. The entrees will be Mandarin Walnut Quiche and Stir-Fry Chicken. To accompany these dishes we will be serving a Garden Salad and a Pasta Salad along with Seasoned Rice, Broccoli Spears and Au Gratin Potatoes. The dinner will be brought to a close with miniature pastries from Roma Bakery. Mr. Graff will speak following dinner, and there will be dancing beginning at 8:00 p.m. There will be many door prizes given away at the dance.

All in all, we think we have assembled quite an enjoyable evening to begin this anniversary Pride Week. We would really like you to be a part of this. Tickets for the Dinner/Dance and Keynote Address are \$15.00; \$10.00 for MSU students. In order to most efficiently plan for

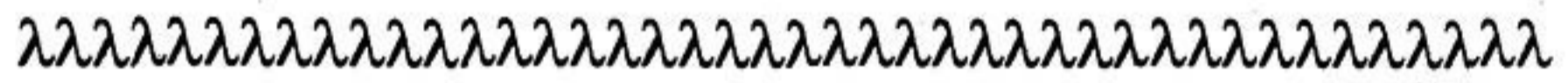
the evening, we need to have your reservations by **Thursday, April 28.**

At the bottom of this page you'll find a reservation form. In order to attend the dinner you will need to make advance reservations. Tickets for the dance only will be on sale for \$4.00 at the door starting at 8:00 p.m. Once we receive your completed form and check we will telephone you to confirm your reservation. If you would prefer that we not call, check the appropriate space and a discreet confirmation letter will be mailed to you.

For further information about the Dinner/Dance and Keynote address or any other Pride Week event please call the Lesbian/Gay Council at 353-9795. We hope to see you on Friday, May 5 and at other Pride Week events.

Sincerely,


Susan Hohner
Pride Week Committee



DINNER/DANCE RESERVATION REQUEST

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Please Reserve _____ Regular Tickets (@ \$15.00)

_____ Student Tickets (@ \$10.00)

Total Amount Enclosed _____
(Make Check Payable to "ASMSU")

Please do not call

RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 28,1989

P R I D E W E E K 1 9 8 9

'89 STONEWALL '89

20 Years of Pride

- May 5th - Friday:** KEYNOTE ADDRESS by Leonard Graff
Dinner and Dance
Gold Room A & B, Union, 6 PM to 12:30 AM
Reservations only. Call 353-9795
- May 6th - Saturday:** HUMAN RIGHTS RUN/WALK/WHEEL 11 AM
Registration in front of Administration Bldg.

"GET TOGETHER AT CASTELANNI'S"
After the Run, Gr. River, E. L.
- May 7th - Sunday:** R A P - Library Special Collections 6 PM
Purdue Room, Union

BOWLING at Union 7:30 PM
- May 8th - Monday:** TEA & CROQUET
3:30 pm Beaumont Tower

CANDLELIGHT VIGIL 9 PM
Meet at Union Circle Dr. Entrance
- May 9th - Tuesday:** GAY/LESBIAN AWARENESS DAY (G L A D)
For more info call 353-9795
- May 10th - Wednesday:** WOMYNS' FOLK MUSIC 8:00 PM
Featuring Pat Madden-Roth
United Ministries in Higher Education
For more info call 332-0661
- May 11th - Thursday:** WORKSHOP FOR LESBIAN & GAY RELATIONSHIPS 7:30-9:30
Purdue Room, Union

DOWNTOWN NIGHT
- May 12th - Friday:** LESBIAN/GAY ARTS FAIR 10 AM to 10 PM
Gold Room A & B, Union
5 FILMS ON VIDEO 10 AM to 10 PM
Gold Room A & B, Union

FILM FESTIVAL Co-sponsorship w/ Classic Films
7 & 9 PM B-104 Wells Hall, Fri. & Sat. \$2.00
"Maurice" "Desert Hearts" 355-0241
- May 13th - Saturday:** PICNIC/TIME CAPSULE CLOSING 2 PM
Patriarche Park, E. L.
BYOF (Bring your own food, games & toys, too)

FILM FESTIVAL (See Above)
7 & 9 PM B-104 Wells Hall (See Above)

GAY PRIDE WEEK

The Gay Liberation Movements throughout the country and abroad are planning to commemorate the birth of the gay liberation movement during Gay Pride Week--a week of affirmation of gay pride and dignity by thousands of homosexuals. Each year gay people the world over observe the week of June 28 by participating in activities to celebrate the events that led to a new gay awareness.

During the 1960's the gay population in America became affected by people struggling throughout the world for freedom--notably the civil rights and human rights struggles of Afro-Americans. Many gay people readily identified and sympathized with the plight of blacks and other oppressed peoples and began to see the necessity for a strong gay activist movement. Gay people began to realize that we could no longer passively accept the realities of gay oppression: harrassments, beatings, muggings, murders, unjust courts, job discrimination, etc. Gay people had obviously taken in too much to digest when, in the spring of 1969 militant gay groups emerged in California and Minnesota.

This militancy came to the forefront on June 28, 1969, when a well known gay bar, the Stonewall, was raided. The New York City policemen were in for a surprise--they found resistance. Gay people were no longer being intimidated, passive and non-violent; they refused to be hauled into police wagons--in fact, they overturned the wagons, they fought the police, and initiated the historic Stonewall Riots. Pinned-up frustrations from years of psychological retreat reached the boiling point and exploded.

Hundreds of gay people gathered from throughout Greenwich Village, pushed the police out of the bar onto the streets, threw rocks and bottles and courageously defended the one place we felt to be ours. The bar was defended because gay bars in general were the only places that gay people could feel at ease. We don't have to deny our human worth or be subjected to the ridicule and the general oppression of society in a gay bar. We could come out of our closets for a few hours without fear of societal intimidations. Gay people know that most of the bars are syndicate-owned and operated. But, until recently, there were no relevant alternatives. Now gay community centers are opening throughout the country, discussion groups have been formed and social and political activities are increasing.

The Stonewall Riots were followed by mass demonstrations, rallies, conferences, dances and the formation of the Gay Liberation Movement. Gay people have organized. The new gay awareness has shown oppressive straight society that we are a potentially powerful force for change. It has helped gay people realize that the first steps toward change and freedom is our awareness of our oppression--social, economic, and political--and refuse to accept it. The Stonewall Riots gave rise to the realization that we need not retreat to our closets in order to survive. Gay people are learning each day that ours is a struggle for life. There are now chapters of the Gay Liberation Movement in cities in 34 states, in Canada and in England. Gay people are now realizing that we can't suffer the shackles of America's shame any longer but must struggle to change ourselves and our decadent society.

Thursday, June 24, we will have a symposium on homosexuality in Room 35 of the Union at 7 P.M. This will be attended primarily by straights, so feel free to come; you won't be identified by your being there.

Join your gay brothers and sisters in Chicago, Sunday, June 27, for the second annual gay parade. There will be cars leaving on both Saturday and Sunday if you need a ride. For more information call 351-0466 or 332-0098.

**MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY**

Dear Friend of the Lesbian, Bisexual and Gay Community,

The Department of Student Life and the Alliance of Lesbian-Bi-Gay Students of Michigan State University are pleased to announce the 1993 Reception and Resource Fair for Lesbian-Bi-Gay Persons and Allies.

In the beautiful Ballroom of the Student Union of MSU will be the greatest gathering of sexual orientation friendly organizations, business and individuals of the year -- *with your participation*. We are contacting over seventy area resources to present at this event. This is a wonderful opportunity for you and your organization to make valuable connections as well as contributions to the community. Please return the enclosed response form as soon as possible.

In order to insure the success of this event, it is important that you get the word out! Even if you are unable to attend or send information about your business/organization, please include the Resource Fair in your newsletters and on your bulletin boards. We would like for you to make every effort to encourage your membership and patrons to attend this event. Flyers are included in this package.



**STUDENT
AFFAIRS
AND
SERVICES**

**Department of
STUDENT LIFE**

Michigan State University
Student Services Building
East Lansing, Michigan
48824-1113

**Reception and Resource Fair
for
Lesbian-Bi-Gay Persons and Allies
Monday, September 13, 1993
Union Ballroom on MSU Campus
6:00-8:00 p.m.
(set-up from 5:00-6:00 p.m.)**

Thank you,

Deanna Hurlbert
Co-Director of ALBGS

DH:jw

The Nineteen Ninety-Three

*Reception and Resource Fair for
Lesbian-Bi-Gay Persons and Allies*

Over SEVENTY Lansing
and East Lansing Area
Businesses and
Organizations have been
contacted!

This could be the
LARGEST community
event of the year- Don't
miss it!

FREE

*Monday September 13th
MSU Union Ballroom
6-8pm*

Matt Gatson
712 N. Francis
Lansing, Michigan
48912

As a former director of The Lesbian-Gay Council at Michigan State (1981-1982), it occurred to me that in the last fifteen years there have been events, political actions, social and business interactions, that have brought the Council, Lesbian and Gay rights, to "what" and "where" they are now. Many of these events and interactions have been documented; however, many have not leaving only a partial and segmentary history of this very important social movement.

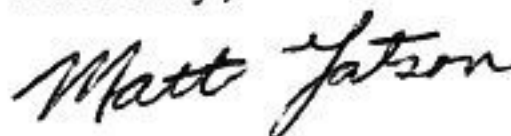
I am contacting you in an effort to compile a factual history, and social scientific perspective of the Lesbian and Gay Rights Movement at Michigan State University. I have been doing research in Special Collections at the MSU Library and your name has appeared in either documentation or news articles pertaining to the movement. Your first hand knowledge, coupled with your own evaluation to the social scientific factors involved would provide vital insight to the mass change MSU and East Lansing have undergone, and continues to undergo with regards to opinion, environment, and civil rights associated with our movement.

This paper will serve three immediate purposes: I will receive approximately six sociology credits, the paper will be used as a documented history of Lesbian and Gay rights at MSU and can be continually updated by the Lesbian-Gay Council at MSU; and finally, the historical data may be utilized as a tool in our continued efforts for civil liberties.

In matters such as this, some of you may be concerned with your confidentiality in reference to your activism. I can assure you that unless I have your express permission, your name will not be used. When citing specific acts an alias can be substituted or initials could be used. If you wish to verify the legitimacy of this project you may make inquiries through the Lesbian-Gay Council @ (517) 353-9795, Ann Tracy @ MSU Libraries Special Collections (517) 355-3770, or Dr. Fred Waisanen @ Department of Sociology (517) 355-6647 or his home number, (517) 351-6695. If you have any questions or wish to speak with me personally my home phone number is (517) 484-3890.

I have enclosed a questionnaire. If you would please complete and return it to me, it would be much appreciated. Thank you in advance for your consideration, time, and effort.

Sincerely,



Matt Gatson
Senior &
Executive Board Member,
ASMSU Lesbian-Gay Council

Encl:

Please add paper space if there is a need.

1. Please describe how you feel now pertaining to the role you played in the Lesbian and Gay Liberation Movement at Michigan State University or in the East Lansing/Lansing Area.

2. What motivated you to become active with the Lesbian and Gay Liberation Movement?

3. Can you describe what you felt in the past as an open Lesbian or Gay person active in the liberation movement?

4. Can you relate those feelings to specific incidents or interactions of the past? Ex. A liberation movement rally, an incident of police harassment, a social gathering, etc.

5. What other information do you think could be of importance pertaining to an adequate history of the Lesbian and Gay Liberation Movement at MSU?

Please react in your own words to these statements. Feel free to elaborate as much as you wish. Add paper space if needed.

1. Lesbian and Gay rights are still an issue of importance. Why or why not?

2. Perceptions and attitudes about Lesbians and Gays have changed significantly in the last fifteen years. Would you agree or disagree? If so how, if not why not?

3. Lesbians and Gays are better off presently as compared to the past. If so how, if not why not?

4. The media has played an important part in the liberation movement. If so how, if not how do you interpret their role with regards to the movement?

5. My activism helped me adjust to the Lesbian or Gay lifestyle. If so how, if not are there other factors that may have helped your transition?

Spring 1990



442 Student Union • Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan • 48824 • 517/353-9795



Information Sheet

MSU's Lesbian/Gay Council is a division of ASMSU's Programming Board. We offer a wide variety of services and information to Lesbian and Gay students and others in the Lansing metropolitan community. We also provide information to people outside of the Lesbian and Gay community in order to promote a better understanding of and to provide an education about the Lesbian/Gay lifestyle. Below is a listing and summary of various Council activities, services and facilities we provide:

Office Located on the 4th floor of the Union in room 442, the office is in a low-traffic, quiet environment. During each term, the office is staffed by volunteers to provide access to periodicals, books, information dealing with the community and our health, free condoms, and pamphlets. The office is a place where people can be free to relax, socialize, and inform themselves about upcoming Council events.

Support Each term, groups are formed to offer support to the needs of Lesbians, Gay men, and Bisexuals. The groups range in topics from "coming out" to general support. Group schedules are posted on the office door during the first week of classes each term.

Panels Many classes, residence halls, campus groups, and community organizations have gained a better understanding of our lives from Lesbian/Gay panels. A group of trained panelists are made available to answer questions about the lives of Lesbians and Gays. While often quite entertaining, and always informative, panels are used as a tool for promoting understanding of Lesbians and Gay men. Requests for panels are handled through the office.

Sundays Every Sunday during the term, the Council offers informative and entertaining programs for everyone. Programs range from movies with refreshments to lectures followed by discussions and other various social events. Schedules are printed each term and distributed from the office. They are our most widely attended programs and provide excellent opportunities to meet others.

Events The Lesbian/Gay Council plans special events to meet social needs of Lesbians and Gay men. Each term we hold a dance, with a DJ and loads of fun. Every Spring, we have our annual Lesbian/Gay Pride Week with special events planned for each day. We also plan special events to reflect some of the special days in the Lesbian/Gay calendar.

MSU LESBIAN/GAY COUNCIL *

PRESENTS:

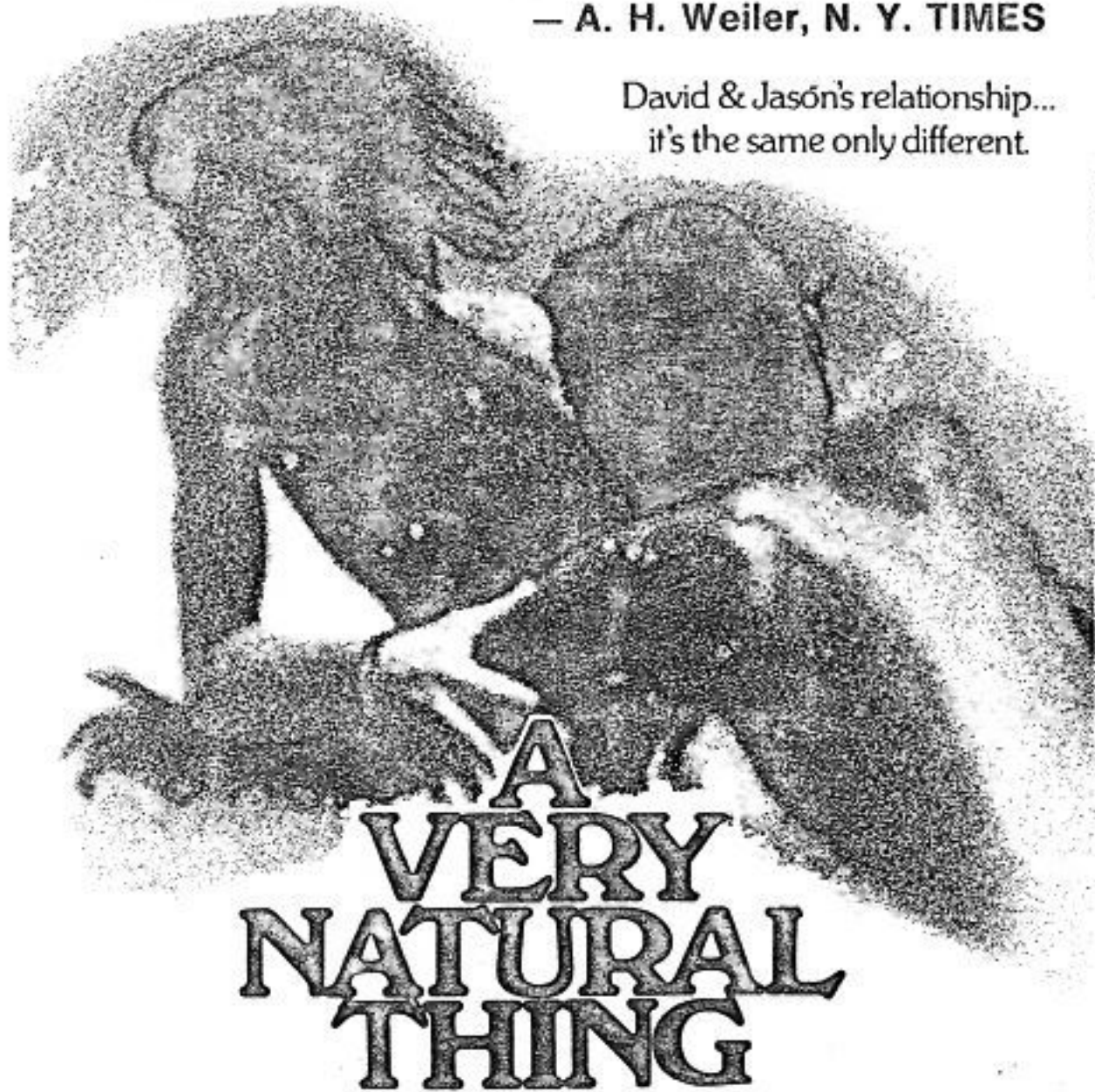
"A MOVIE TO MAKE YOU REMEMBER YOUR OWN
LOVES, WHATEVER YOUR PARTNER PREFERENCES
...an eye-opener and a heart opener."

— Norma McLain Stoop, AFTER DARK

"SENSITIVE AND REALISTIC IN ITS APPROACH...
IMPRESSIVELY NATURAL."

— A. H. Weiler, N. Y. TIMES

David & Jason's relationship...
it's the same only different.



A VERY NATURAL THING

A CHRISTOPHER LARKIN FILM

Produced by Montage Creations Starring Robert Joel, Curt Gareth & Bo White.

Released by New Line Cinema in Technicolor. • **R** RESTRICTED

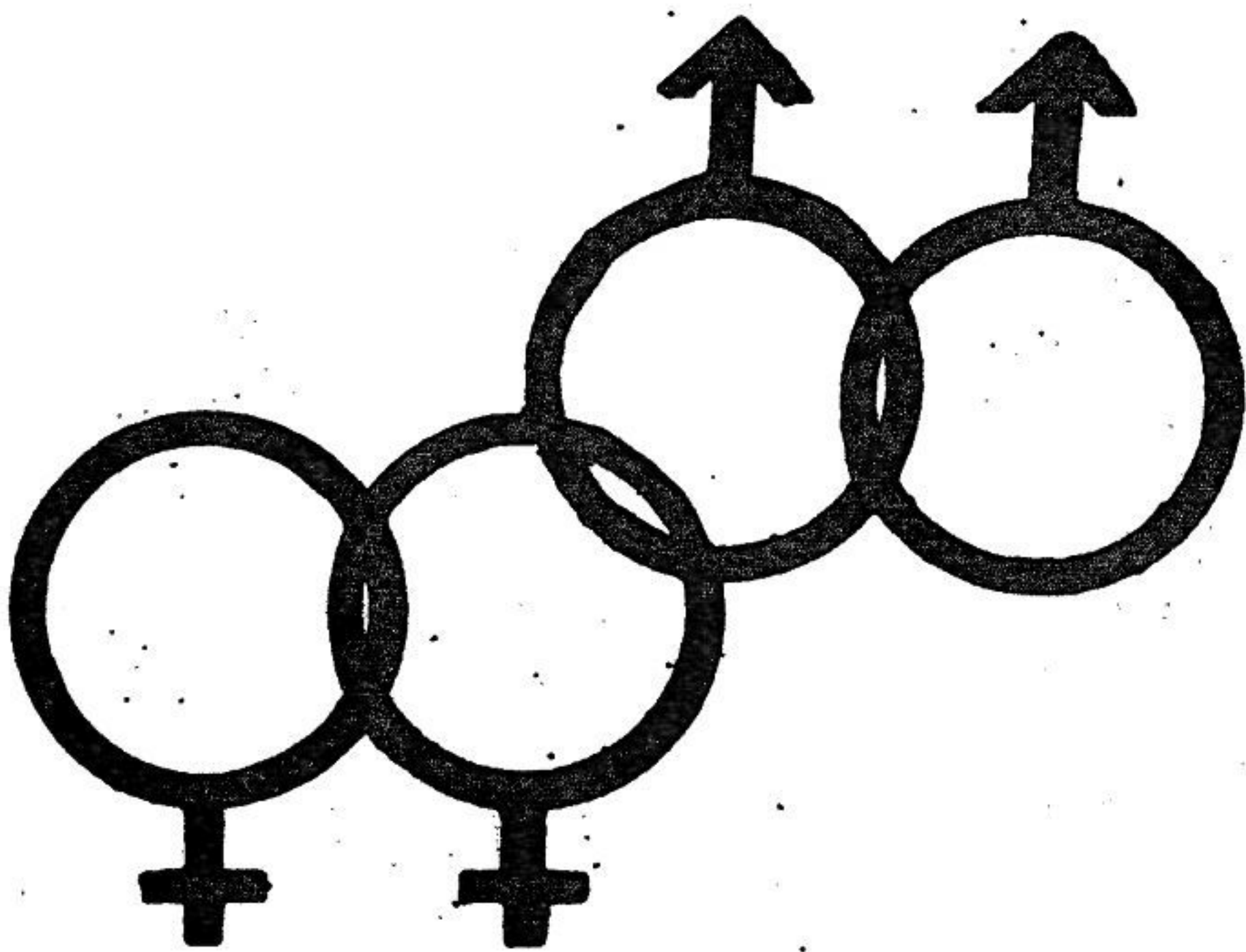
SHOWTIMES: FRI. NOV. 21, 7:00 & 9:00 P.M.

PLACE: 107 S. KEDZIE; ACCESSIBLE

* A DIVISION OF ASMSU PROGRAMMING BRD.

[1975?]

**KNOW
YOUR
RIGHTS**



**MSU
GAY LIBERATION
COUNCIL**

INTRODUCTION

This handout is meant as a guideline in informing you of your rights in dealing with police officers. This is meant to be a practical guide, not a legal document to "throw" in the face of a police officer who you believe to be abridging your rights.

IF YOU ARE STOPPED BY THE POLICE

1. Do not display any hostility in either a verbal or physical manner. This only causes the officer to lose her/his temper and does not help in relieving the situation. You might also be charged with resisting arrest. There are other avenues open to protect yourself.
2. A police officer must identify her/himself as an officer and if not in uniform show proper I.D. Try to make a mental note of the badge number and if the officer says his name, remember it.
3. Try to remain calm and appear as relaxed as possible: if you are nervous the officer might take advantage of that fact.
4. If the officer asks questions that lead you to believe that she/he is attempting to harass you, request an explanation for the questioning. If you feel there is sufficient cause, you can refuse to answer.
5. Although it is not a law, it is suggested that you always carry a pictured identification. Even though it is not legal, the police have been known to detain persons pending confirmed identification. If you do not drive, a State of Michigan I.D. can be obtained at any office of the Secretary of State.
6. When you get home, should you wish to file a complaint, write down in as much detail as possible, including times, persons and places, the total incident. It is important to write the facts down so that you know your story in a logical and presentable order.

IF YOU ARE TAKEN INTO CUSTODY

1. If you are taken into custody, it is important that you are told the exact reason. If the officer is unable to communicate this to you, request to see the Desk Sergeant upon arrival at the station.
2. Before questioning, the officer should read you your rights. You must be allowed to make one phone call. You are also entitled to have an attorney present during any questioning. If you cannot afford an attorney, one will be appointed.
3. Do not let the police interrogator intimidate you into saying something you do not want to say. If it is suggested that you give information rather than spend the night in jail waiting for an attorney, you should consider the possible consequences of your decision. A night spent in jail awaiting legal advice could be less damaging than a police record due to statements made out of fear during interrogation.
4. If you are taken into custody with another person, you should be aware that if you are separated from that person during questioning, the police might report to you (perhaps falsely) statements made by the other person. Under these circumstances, it is strongly suggested that you say nothing pending legal counsel. This tactic is often used to secure incriminating statements.
5. Try to remember exactly all statements made to you and by you. These could be useful in court as a defence or in filing a complaint.

HOW TO FILE A COMPLAINT

If you feel that your rights have been abridged in any way it is your right (and duty) to file a complaint. There are several methods of redress which include:

1. You can sometimes obtain good results concerning minor complaints against officers by talking to the police commander of the shift in which the problem occurred. You need only call the police

station at about the same time the interaction with the officers occurred. This should be done within a day or two. Request to speak to the watch commander. Give the officer your name, the badge number and/or name of the officer you are complaining about, specific times and places of the incident, and the facts surrounding your complaint.

2. If the Commander does not give you a satisfactory answer you might wish to pursue the matter and speak with a member of the city council. Of course, this is most effective if you live within the city of the police department you are complaining about. If you do not, it is best to contact a member of the State Legislature of your district. Since Lansing and East Lansing are covered by one Senate district it is advisable to contact that senator's office. Usually, this method is best utilized by writing a letter. Remember to state times, places, badge numbers and any previous action you have taken to relieve the situation.
3. If you wish to pursue the matter further, the American Civil Liberties Union has helped Gay persons whose rights have been abridged. Address your letter to the main office in Detroit and it will be forwarded to the Lansing area Board for action.
4. If you feel that you have been discriminated against on the basis of your sexual orientation within the City of East Lansing, you can file a complaint with the Human Rights Commission. Their office is very helpful in assisting persons filing complaints.
5. If you need any assistance in filing complaints you can contact the Lansing Area Gay Legal Assistance Committee. They will have a representative contact you. This Committee keeps all communications confidential. The Committee also requests that persons having success in filing complaints write them and share their experiences with the "system". This would in turn assist other persons who attempt to address complaints.

FINALLY...

1. Always carry I.D.; police can request to see it in a bar. However, it is suggested that you not carry employee I.D. since the police might decide to contact your employer.
2. Do not sign any statements without first consulting an attorney.
3. Entrapment by a police officer is illegal. If you believe you have been entrapped, consult an attorney before making any statements.
4. Police have been known to stop and ticket persons for jaywalking. Do not give the police an excuse to stop you for disobeying traffic ordinances.
5. Regarding searches: Never give permission for an officer to search your home or car. If you give permission, even when there is no search warrant, the search is deemed a legal one.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON GAY RIGHTS --

The Rights of Gay People: the Basic ACLU Guide to a Gay Person's Rights by E. Carrington Boggan. Avon Books, 1975. \$1.75, available in most bookstores.

DIRECTORY

Police

Lansing 372-9400
East Lansing 351-4220

City Council

Lansing 487-1376
East Lansing 337-1731

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)
808 Washington Blvd Building
Detroit 48226 (313) 961-4662

State Senator Earl Nelson
Capitol Building
Lansing 48913
373-1734

East Lansing Human Rights Commission
410 Abbott Road
East Lansing 48823
337-1731

Secretary of States' Offices
Lansing
316 N. Capitol 373-2470
East Lansing
327 N. Abbott 373-0297
332-0895-6

Gay Liberation Council
Michigan State University
309 Student Services Bldg.
East Lansing, 48824
353-9795

Lansing Area Gay Legal Assistance Committee
P.O. Box 10104
Lansing 48901

Ryan Allen

Office Manager

A.L..B.G.S.

442 Union

Michigan State

East Lansing, MI. 48824

(517) 353-9795

Reception and Resource Fair
for Lesbian, Bisexual and Gay Persons and Allies
Presentation Schedule

- =====
- 5:00 Set-up. CHECK IN AT RECEPTION DESK FOR PARTICIPANTS
-Please check in before 5:45
- 6:00 Opening/Introduction-Student Life
Deanna Hurlbert and Marie Hansen
- 6:10 Alliance of Lesbian, Bisexual and Gay Students of MSU
- 6:20 MSU Task Force on Lesbian and Gay Issues
Dr. Terry Stein
- 6:30 Break
- 7:00 Bohemian Barber
Terri Parks
- 7:05 The Real World Emporium
- 7:10 Michigan Organization for Human Rights
- 7:20 Michigan Campaign For Human Dignity
- 7:35 Lansing Area Aids Network
- 7:45 Alliance of Lesbian, Bisexual and Gay Students Closing
- 7:50 Closing Remarks-Student Life
Deanna Hurlbert and Marie Hansen
- =====

If you are presenting this evening-

- *Check in at the reception desk
- *Be at the podium and ready to go at the scheduled time
- *If you would like more time, let us know at the reception desk and we'll work it out
- *If you are not on the schedule and would like to make a presentation, go to the reception desk so it may be arranged
- *DO NOT GO OVER TIME-we want to make sure everyone has an equal opportunity

THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH FOR YOUR DEDICATION AND CONTRIBUTION TO THIS EVENING'S EVENT.

TAKE A STAND AGAINST
DANGEROUS PARANOIA

4-14-82
E.L.G.O.P.

Take a Stand Against

**HOMOSEXUAL
PERVERSION**

Romans 1:27. "And likewise also the men leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another, men with men working that which is unseemly . . ."

**GAY RIGHTS
COULD BE OUR
NATION'S LAST
RITES**

9:00 TONIGHT
110 ANTHONY

Special Guest Speaker: Rev. Stephen Harrison,
noted heterosexual Bible teacher



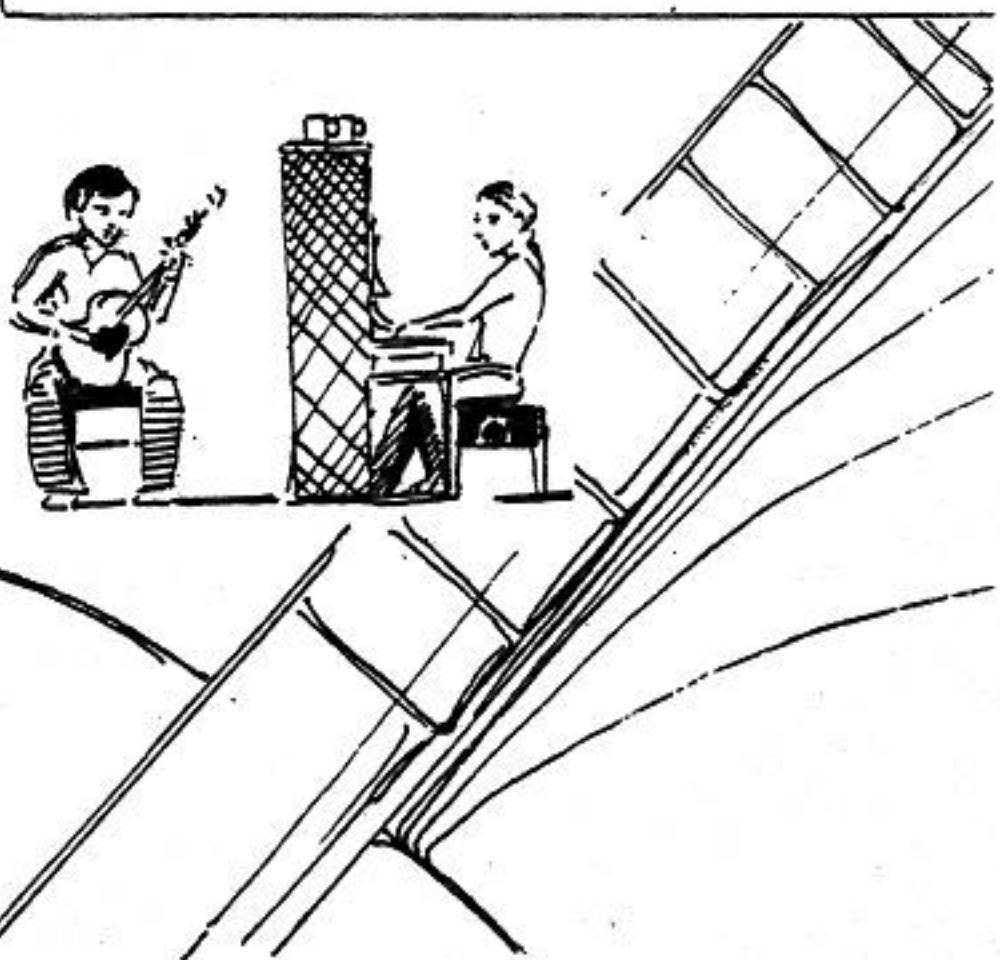
NOW
LOOK
AT
WHO
IS

PERVERTED

Come to our Coffee House



Feb 15, MSU
McDonel Kiva
8:00 pm.



Traditional + Contemporary
folk music performed
by members of the
Lesbian / Gay community

Coffee + Refreshments available
\$1.00 donation appreciated

Sponsored by the Lesbian / Gay Council and L.A.H.R.
Lansing Association For Human Rights
« with special thanks to the ASMSU. Programming Board! »



inaccessible





WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS PARTICULAR TIME CAPSULE?

The ten year time capsule sponsored by the MSU Lesbian/Gay Council has several points of purpose for designing this event. The major reason is to make an attempt at preserving the history of individuals who have a concerned input on the "gay" lifestyle. Very little exists today that tries to capture the personal side of our unique orientation. There are books which display collections of "coming out" stories or other sources which attempt to explain why we are "gay". We want our time capsule to capture the very personality of all those who participate. The collection won't be trying to accumulate information to explain how we are all the same because we're gay and lesbian. Rather, we want the capsule to show how different we all are from each other and how widely we cross the spectrums of race, sex, age, politics and religion.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

Absolutely anyone!! Whether you're gay, lesbian, bisexual or straight, if you have something to say about your relationship to this special orientation, then your input is wanted! Anything you have to say is important!!

WHAT CAN I SUBMIT? Anything you want to submit is welcomed! (That in v. thin reason in regard to size.) Absolutely nothing will be censored! The following are some ideas you might like to submit, but are by no means to be considered inclusive or exclusive:

- 1) write a letter to the future expressing your feelings and concerns about today's society or describing how you discovered your unique sexual orientation. Or, if you are straight, describe how you felt when a friend of yours "came out" to you.
- 2) explain why you feel you can't "come out" and your frustrations and anger for having to stay there.
- 3) describe how you and your significant other's *relationship came about*.
- 4) tell someone you never could tell (i.e. parents) that you're gay/lesbian/bisexual.
- 5) write a creative piece (i.e. short story, poem, play) which relays your ideas about your sexuality and/or your opinions about society.
- 6) Record yourself on tape singing a song, playing an instrument, or reciting your favorite poem or monologue.
- 7) send in articles, magazines comic strips, books, video tapes that deal with our unique sexuality.
- 8) write your predictions for the future, list your favorite movies, songs, "sex acts", books magazines, favorite sex symbols.
- 9) send in sketch work /artwork, pamphlets/photographs, papers written for class, matchbooks from gay bars...anything...anything, just think and be creative!!

WHERE DO I SUBMIT? Send what you would like to include in the time capsule along with the following information: your gender, age, sexual orientation (i.e. gay, lesbian, bisexual, or straight), and State of Residency to: The Lesbian/Gay Council, Attention: Time Capsule, Michigan State University, Union Bldg., Rm# 442, East Lansing, Michigan 48823

WHEN IS THE DEADLINE TO PARTICIPATE?

All the entries must be received by Saturday, May 13, 1989. This is the date the time capsule will be sealed at the Pride Week Picnic (see Tentative Calendar of Events on back).

WHEN WILL THE TIME CAPSULE BE OPENED?

The time capsule is scheduled to be opened in ten years (1999). Of course, the exact date can not be determined at this point in time. The best thing to do is to contact the Lesbian/Gay Council sometime near the end of the ten years for the exact opening date.

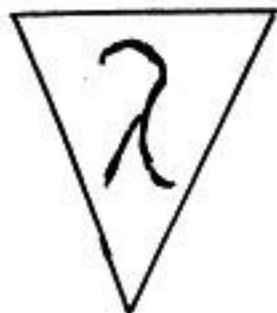
WHAT WILL BECOME OF THE INFORMATION WHEN THE CAPSULE IS OPENED?

It is intended that all the information will be published together in book form as a record of our thoughts and feelings for the general public as well as ourselves to hopefully increase understanding. The "original" materials submitted will be donated to the MSU Archives to be available for research purposes.

Contributions to help defer the cost of this project would be most welcomed!

To celebrate twentieth anniversary of both our organization's existence at Michigan State University, as well as the inspirational episode at Stonewall, the Lesbian/Gay Council wishes to design an event that will help capture this special moment of our history. For this reason, we are sponsoring a time capsule. It is our hope that this will act as a focal point on which people can reflect over the past twenty years through their participation in the collection of their thoughts and ideas, their successes and their failures, and their hopes and their fears. There has been very little of our personal history recorded for the future. This ten year time capsule, however, will offer an opportunity for all to express how they feel about themselves, their sexuality, and society.

WHAT IS A "TIME CAPSULE"? A time capsule is any collection of submitted items stored away for a period of time by people concerned with preserving their common past, as well as their individuality, for posterity.



**MSU LESBIAN/GAY COUNCIL'S
PRIDE WEEK 1989**

TENTATIVE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Fri, May 5th: Keynote address by Leonard Graft & Dinner Dance.**
LOCATION: Gold Room, Union Bldg.,
6PM to 12:30.
- Sat, May 6th: Human Rights Run/Walk/Wheel**
LOCATION: MSU River Run, 11:00AM
"Get Together at Castellanni's"
LOCATION: Castellanni's Market,
Grand River, E. Lansing.
- Sun, May 7th: Bowling Night**
LOCATION: Union Bldg. Bowling Alley
(in Basement), 7:30 pm.
- Mon, May 8th: Tea & Croquet**
LOCATION: Beaumont Tower, 3:30PM
Candlelight Vigil
LOCATION: Beaumont Tower, 9PM.
- Tues, May 9th:**
**Gay/Lesbian Awareness Day
(GLAD)***
- Wed, May 10th: Womyn's Folk Music ***
- Thur, May 11th: Downtown Night ***
- Fri, May 12th: Lesbian/Gay Art Show**
LOCATION: Green Room Union
10 AM to 10 PM
Film Festival
LOCATION: Wells Hall 7&9PM
- Sat, May 13: Picnic/Time Capsule Closing**
LOCATION: Patriarche Park 2PM
E. Lansing

* For these activities, contact the L/G Council for more information (517) 353-9795.

LESBIAN/GAY

TIME CAPSULE

'69 STONEWALL '89



"20 YEARS OF PRIDE"

What Do These People Have In Common?

ARVF - Michigan State University - Lesbian/Gay Council

Janis Joplin Pierre Loti
Natacha Rambora William Hanes
Francis Poulenc Alexander Hamilton
Virginia Woolf E.M. Forster Moliere
Horatio Alger Gertrude Stein "Moms" Mabley
Amy Lowell Susan B. Anthony Sir Francis Bacon
Rosa Bonheur J. Edgar Hoover Tallulah Bankhead
Edna St. Vincent Millay Franz Schubert
Mary Anne Talbot Christopher Marlowe
Michelangelo Buonaroti Carey Thomas
Bessie Smith Tyrone Power

Find Out
Lesbian/Gay Council
353-9795

LESBIAN/GAY COUNCIL



RAP



WINTER TERM

All meetings will be held in the Purdue(Tower) Room on the 4th floor in the MSU Union Building. Meetings begin at 6:00 P.M. on Sunday.

WELCOME BACK

January 8 Tonights Rap will be a chance for everyone to get to know new friends and ask questions you have always wanted to ask but were afraid to. Join us for an evening of fun and pizza after the meeting.

AIDS: DRAMA AND REALITY

January 15 The movie Tiding Endings will be shown. Starring Harvey Firestein and Stockard Channing, this is an emotionally intense film dealing with the effects on two individuals of the death of a man with AIDS. Afterwards, persons working with PWAS will answer questions from the audience.

LESBIAN AND GAY CIVIL RIGHTS

January 22 Tonight's Rap will feature three speakers who represent the Michigan Organization for Human Rights, Lansing Association for Human Rights and the Lesbian Alliance who will inform us and lead discussion about current issues in the battle for our rights.

COMING OUT

January 29 Would you choose to come out to your parents on national TV? Well some persons did come out on October 11th, National Coming Out Day during the Oprah Winfrey Show. Discussion will follow. Also, persons who went to Washington during the Quilt showing will be on hand to describe their exciting weekend.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS PFLAG

February 5 PFLAG Lansing will present a panel of parents of gay and lesbian children. You will have a chance to ask questions you've always wanted to ask your own parents.

SELF-DEFENSE AND YOU

February 12 Dan Wardlow and Sue Catallo from the MSU Karate Club will provide some tips on how to protect yourself from attack, and teach some basic techniques in self-defense and awareness of your physical environment. NOTE: Wear loose clothing.

PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH AND GAY/LESBIAN ISSUES

February 19 Gershen Kaufman, Ph.D, from the Counseling Center will be with us tonight to discuss the psychological health of gays and lesbians and the services that MSU offers to gay and lesbian students.

HOMOPHOBIA AND THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

February 26 Homophobia is a pervasive influence on individual identity and all social structures in American society. Melanie Morrison, M./Div., Th.D, an ordained United Church of Christ minister and present co-pastor of the Phoenix Community Church in Kalamazoo will be present to discuss Homophobia.

"MY SHAPE ACCIDENTAL"

March 5 With some help from his friends, Doak Bloss will offer a reader's theatre selection from his anthology, Keepers. It's a short story about letting go, moving on, pigeons and doves, what we keep, where things go, fear, love, and unimaginable consequences.



RAP RAP

LESBIAN/GAY COUNCIL

WELCOME BACK

AIDS: DRAMA AND REALITY

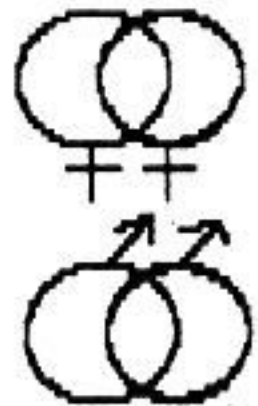
LESBIAN AND GAY CIVIL RIGHTS

COMING OUT

PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF

LESBIANS AND GAYS PFLAG

SELF-DEFENSE AND YOU



PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH AND GAY/LESBIAN
ISSUES

HOMOPHOBIA AND THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

'MY SHAPE ACCIDENTAL'

WINTER TERM

Forum:

Issues in the
Lesbian Community

June 8th 5:00 pm

rm. 336 MSU Union

Help build an organization to
provide economic, emotional, political
and physical support for Lesbians.

Open to all Lesbian womyn.

Tell your Lesbian friends.

ARVF-MSU - Lesbian/Gay Council

M.S.U. GAY COUNCIL

A Week of Celebration & Understanding

- | | | |
|-----------|----------|---|
| FRIDAY | MAY 20th | "Dance Unitl Dawn" at the Olds Plaza in the Lansing Room on Michigan Ave. at the Capitol in Lansing. 10:00 P.M. until dawn. |
| SATURDAY | MAY 21st | Support Your Local Gay Bar. |
| SUNDAY | MAY 22nd | MSU Gay Council Reception in the Tower Room of the Michigan Union, 4th floor at 3:00 P.M. (Tea will be served. |
| MONDAY | MAY 23rd | Lesbian Rap Session in the Michigan Union (Check State News for Time & Location). |
| TUESDAY | MAY 24th | Tea Party & Croquet at the Rock near Beaumont Tower at 4 P.M. "Hit Anita with an Orange." Special Event. |
| WEDNESDAY | MAY 25th | Continuation of Selected Topics in Gay/Feminist Life Styles. 8:30 P.M., 331 Michigan Union. |
| THURSDAY | MAY 26th | Gay Liberation for Straight People: An Educational Forum with Eleanor Monison. <i>7:00 331 UNION</i>
and
"A Comedy and Six Unnatural Acts" and other gay films will be shown at 8:30 P.M. in room 334 Michigan Union. |
| FRIDAY | MAY 27th | Support Your Local Gay Bar. "Selected discounts with current MSU undergraduate student I.D." Tonight Only!. |
| SATURDAY | MAY 28th | Pot Luck Cookout at 4:00 P.M. until Dark in Patriarch Park in East Lansing on Saginaw and Alton Rd. under the shelter. |

MAY 20 - MAY 28

ASMSU-Lesbian/Gay Council Presents

COFFEEHOUSE

An
evening of poetry reading,
song, conversation and
relaxation.



SUNDAY FEB. 24, 1991

6:15 - 8:00 pm

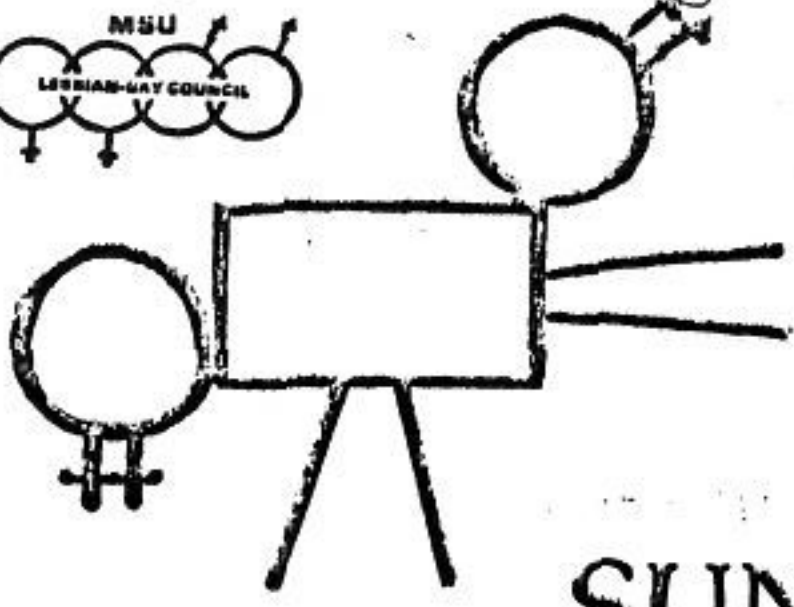
Purdue Room, 4th Floor

MSU Student Union

Admission Free/ Refreshments

For more information call us at:

353-9795



LESBIAN/GAY COUNCIL

PRESENTS:

SUNDAY CINEMA

SHOWING EACH SUNDAY NIGHT DURING FALL TERM 1988 IN THE UNION TOWER ROOM (FOURTH FLOOR) 6:00 PM

(program subject to change)

9/25 **BEFORE STONEWALL**

Fascinating documentary describing Gay/Lesbian life and movements before the 1969 Stonewall demonstrations.

10/30

PERSONAL BEST

Exciting portrayal of the track competition and relationship between two women as they train for the 1980 Olympics.

10/2 **MARCH ON WASHINGTON**

Video presentation of the massive March for Life on Washington, D.C., for Lesbian & Gay rights, of October 1987.

11/6

MY BEAUTIFUL LAUNDRETTE

Two men living in the slums of London struggle to make something of their lives and keep their business and relationship intact.

10/9 **VICTOR-VICTORIA**

Julie Andrews and James Garner in a hilarious farce about Gays and drag queens in Depression Paris.

11/13

LIANNA

Sensitive story of a woman who returns to college, falls in love with her professor, and decides to come out to her family and friends.

10/16 **DESERT HEARTS**

Touching story of a woman who discovers and embraces her true sexuality in the 1950s West.

11/20

KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN

Humorous story of the relationship which develops between two men, one Gay, one Straight, imprisoned together in South America.

10/23 **TIMES OF HARVEY MILK**

Powerful story of the San Francisco politician who rose to national prominence and who was gunned down in 1978.

ALL are welcome!!

ARAF - Michigan State University, Lesbian/Gay Comm.

Lesbian/Gay Council

Raps begin each Sunday at 6:15 pm,
in the Union's Purdue Room.

*see below

welcome, or welcome back, to East Lansing! Tonight, join us for an evening of catching up on each other after a long summer. Find out what's going on this year, and what happened since spring with the Council. Refreshments, too

T.B.A.

Can one be both a good gay or lesbian person, and a good religious person? In what ways does the anti-gay bias of many Christian denominations show itself, and how can this bias be understood? Tonight, Mary Catharine Knightwright, of the United Ministries in Higher Education, will help us resolve the conflict between our sexuality and religio

JOIN MARY McCORMACK of MSU'S AIDS Education Project for an update on the fight against AIDS.

Take a break from midterm studying to join us for refreshments and a movie to be selected earlier in the term. No involved program, just a chance to relax and socialize!

Coming out; for many gay and lesbian people, this can be one of the most exhilarating-- or exhausting-- times in our lives. Gersh Kaufman, of the MSU Counseling Center, will facilitate a discussion of what coming out is, as well as why and how one should approach this situation.

According to the Pride Institute of Chicago, thousands of gays and lesbians across the country are victims of drug and/or alcohol abuse. What makes people in our community turn to these substances? A panel of local gays and lesbians will discuss their stories, and help us learn to cope with substance abuse in ourselves and in our friends.

"You can never go home", they say, but we often do, especially around the holiday season. For many gay and lesbian people, this can be a very trying time. Don Richardson, of the Listening Ear, will give us some ideas on how to deal with parents and others who may not be integrated into our gay or lesbian lives.

What is feminism? What is sexism, and how is it directly related to homophobia? What does the philosophy of separatism involve? Join Professor Rhonda Kotzin of the Department of Philosophy for a very educational session on these, and other, ideas of this important viewpoint.

Take a study break! Join us for another refreshments-and-movie night and ditch the books before Finals start. This will be your last chance to get together with your friends for the rest of the decade, so don't miss out!

RAP

SEP 24

OCT 1

OCT 8

OCT 15

OCT 22

OCT 29

NOV 5

NOV 12

NOV 19

DEC 3

OSU Room

OSU ROOM

OSU ROOM



For more information contact
Lesbian/Gay Council

353-9795 in Room 442. MSU Union



D O Y O U F E E L

ALONE?

YOU DON'T HAVE TO!

CALL US!

MSU Lesbian/Gay Council

Find the support you need

MSU LESBIAN-GAY COUNCIL

PRESENTS

A RAP ON POLITICS

WITH GUEST SPEAKER:

MR. STEVEN BERG (1980 MSU GRAL)

TOPICS:

- LOCAL ISSUES
- THE ELECTION
- POLITICAL ACTION

SUN., NOV. 2

6:00 P.M.

ROOM 333

UNION

MSU LESBIAN/GAY COUNCIL ¹⁹⁸⁰

PRESENTS:

A Very Special Rap

ON:

Gay Mental Health

WITH:

an area Gay Mental Health
♀ Professional as our Special Guest.

SUNDAY
AUGUST 10
6:00 P.M.

MSU
STUDENT UNION
OAK ROOM

FRVF- ASMSU-Lesbian/Gay Council Presents

Coffeehouse

An evening of poetry reading, song, conversation and relaxation.



Sunday November 25, 1990

Purdue Room, 4th floor

MSU Student Union

6:15 pm- 8:00 pm

All are encouraged to join in. Bring a friend.

Admission Free. Refreshments.



Gay Liberation Movement
309 Student Services Building
November 9, 1971

Dr. Richard Chapin, Director
MSU Library

Dr. Chapin:

When Don Gaudard and I talked to you about the treatment of homosexuality in the library resources we promised to tell you of any new books we would like you to look into and to send you copies of several homosexual newspapers.

So far we have found three books, in addition to the list we gave you when we met, which we feel would be valuable additions to the library:

Homosexual Liberation, A Personal View, by John Murphy (Praeger Publishers) PTLR
1971 36.95

On Being Different: What It Means to Be a Homosexual, by Merle Miller 4.95 FT
(Random House) B373608

o The Gay Liberation Movement, by Jack Onge

We hope you will seriously consider each of these books.

We are also sending you copies of four newspapers and magazines: Tangents, Gay Activist, Gay Liberator, and Spectre. We feel that these are some of the best publications geared toward the homosexual community.

Thank you for helping us present homosexuality to the students as it should be presented--as a positive, viable life style. If you have any questions for us please call 353-9795.

Sincerely yours,

Janet Baldwin

Janet Baldwin



Associated Students

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

PROGRAMING BOARD

LESBIAN/GAY COUNCIL

313 Student Services Bldg.
East Lansing, MI. 48824

STUDENT SERVICES BUILDING

East Lansing, Michigan 48824

(517) 353-9795

LESBIAN/GAY PRIDE WEEK - 1980

May 16 - 24, 1980

East Lansing, Michigan

AGENDA

Tentitive Schedule

FRIDAY MAY 16, 1980

Banner Raising Rally!
Grand River & Abbott, 3pm

Pat Bond - As Gertrude Stein
Tom Wilson McDonel Kiva 8pm

SATURDAY MAY 17, 1980

"At Second Sight" - Ann Arbor Theatre Group
McDonel Kiva, 8pm
ERICKSON

Seminar/Workshop
Afternoon

SUNDAY MAY 18, 1980

Punk/Disco Rollerskating
MSU Campus 3pm

DIGNITY Mass
Alumni Chapel, 1pm

Potluck Dinner 6pm

MONDAY MAY 19, 1980

Seminar/Workshop
evening, MSU Campus

TUESDAY MAY 20, 1980

Tea & Croquet (Jon Yenna Memorial)
Beaumont Tower, 4pm

WEDNESDAY MAY 21, 1980

Film

THURSDAY MAY 22, 1980

Open

FRIDAY MAY 23, 1980

Dorm Dinner

Party- Off Campus

SATURDAY MAY 24, 1980

Concert - Sponsored with
Mellow Muse/Erickson Ki

Dance - Olds Plaza (tent.)
Live Music/Dancing Till
Dawn!



442 Student Union • Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan • 48824 • 517/353-9795



Information Sheet

MSU's Lesbian/Gay Council is a division of ASMSU's Programming Board. We offer a wide variety of services and information to Lesbian and Gay students and others in the Lansing metropolitan community. We also provide information to people outside of the Lesbian and Gay community in order to promote a better understanding of and to provide an education about the Lesbian/Gay lifestyle. Below is a listing and summary of various Council activities, services and facilities we provide:


Office Located on the 4th floor of the Union in room 442, the office is in a low-traffic, quiet environment. During each term, the office is staffed by volunteers to provide access to periodicals, books, information dealing with the community and our health, free condoms, and pamphlets. The office is a place where people can be free to relax, socialize, and inform themselves about upcoming Council events.

Support Each term, groups are formed to offer support to the needs of Lesbians, Gay men, and Bisexuals. The groups range in topics from "coming out" to general support. Group schedules are posted on the office door during the first week of classes each term.

Panels Many classes, residence halls, campus groups, and community organizations have gained a better understanding of our lives from Lesbian/Gay panels. A group of trained panelists are made available to answer questions about the lives of Lesbians and Gays. While often quite entertaining, and always informative, panels are used as a tool for promoting understanding of Lesbians and Gay men. Requests for panels are handled through the office.

Sundays Every Sunday during the term, the Council offers informative and entertaining programs for everyone. Programs range from movies with refreshments to lectures followed by discussions and other various social events. Schedules are printed each term and distributed from the office. They are our most widely attended programs and provide excellent opportunities to meet others.

Events The Lesbian/Gay Council plans special events to meet social needs of Lesbians and Gay men. Each term we hold a dance, with a DJ and loads of fun. Every Spring, we have our annual Lesbian/Gay Pride Week with special events planned for each day. We also plan special events to reflect some of the special days in the Lesbian/Gay calendar.



Michigan State University's
LESBIAN/GAY COUNCIL
CELEBRATES



FREEDOM AND FRIENDS

Times can be very lonely when you know you're gay but too frightened to talk to anyone about it. But once you build up the courage to "come out," your life can be full and meaningful -- just like you deserve.

Here's what some friends from MSU's Lesbian/Gay Council have to say:

Marc: *"I'm from Detroit, so I thought I'd have to go home to socialize with people who weren't uptight about black people. Then I started volunteering time in the Council office. No where else have I met a group of people who were so supportive of minority issues."*

Anne: *"When I came out, I found out there were gay and lesbian people all around me. It's great to be around people who support each other like we do."*

Bob: *"I hated the dishonesty in my life before I 'came out.' Now I can look myself in the mirror and feel really good about who I am. I know that being gay is just as natural a thing as being straight might be for the next person. It's gratifying to explain this to people when the Council presents a panel in the dorm."*

Barb: *"I used to be pretty much a loner when I tried to hide that I was a lesbian. Now, I'm one of the most outgoing in my group of friends. When the Lesbian/Gay Council throws a dance, I'm the first one in line at the door."*



**Find Out More About
What We Have To Offer**

Call Us

THE LESBIAN/GAY COUNCIL
353-9795



all calls kept strictly confidential



If you feel confused, stay around - you're not the only one.

Welcome to Gay Liberation! Gay Liberation welcomes all persons without regard to affectional or sexual preference. We have a loosely-organized system, but it works. (Usually.) General meetings take place on Wednesday nights, starting at 8 PM with a business meeting, where any questions, problems, or new ideas are brought up and discussed. If you are interested in other gay activities, you can usually find out about them at these meetings. We have no president. Chairpersonship is on a rotating basis. After the business meeting is a ten (twenty) minute break - usually around 9 PM. DO NOT LEAVE AT THIS TIME.

A "rap session" follows. There is a different format for each of these. We discuss subjects such as "coming out" and "bisexuality", or have a confrontational theatre session, various presentations by members, occasional social evenings, or small group discussions. Sometime between 10 and 11 PM, we break into small groups for personal questions or talks, or a continuation of the evening's discussion. Sometimes groups go afterwards to a gay bar or an East Lansing restaurant or bar.

The Gay Liberation office is located at 309 Student Services Bldg. (phone - 353-9795.) It is ~~usually~~ usually open 1-5 PM, Monday thru Friday during the school term, and people are there to talk to, by phone or in person. The office has a lending library of books and magazines of interest to gay people. A separate group, the Lesbian Center, for women only, is located at 547½ Grand River Ave., phone 332-1770. The following is a list of some current activities. If you are interested in any activities not listed here, bring them up at the meeting or ask someone - there's usually someone interested.

ACTIVITY:	PERSON TO CONTACT:
Encounter Groups	Rob Boblett 351-6195
Media Productions	Gary Phillips 351-5918
Speakers Bureau (Panels)	Gary Edmonson 351-0100
Political Activities	Max Smith 355-0646
Literature Discussion	Jane Phillips 351-5918
Integrity (Fellowship for gay Christians)	Gary Phillips 351-5918
Social/Dance Committee	Julie Lawrence 351-8660, 351-8661

The following is a list of people willing to talk on a one-to-one basis:

Gary Phillips (religious concerns)
Jane Phillips (& marriage concerns)
Helen Lane ('bisexuality', women's concerns) - 351-8660
Max Smith
Ted Kuykendall - 487-0735
Rob Boblett
Jim Parcells - 351-9336
Kris Alfredson (feminism, lesbianism, literary discussion, general intellectual nonsense) 355-2059
Tom VanDusen (gays and employment) - 371-4958
Julie Lawrence 351-8660

The gay bars in Lansing are: Covello's - (Thurs.- Dyke Nite), Stober's (Drag show Sun. Most East Lansing bars & restaurants are fairly open to gays.

Sep. 21, 1981
UnionServices:

- 24-Hour Information Line: 353-9795. Call for details on all activities and events. Messages can be left on the tape.
 - Contact People: Specific Council members, for questions dealing with Gay or Lesbian issues (roommate problems, etc.).
 - Informal ("peer") Counseling: Rap Group (see below), or Council small group session. Call for details.
 - Panel Discussions: Provided for dorm groups; generally consist of Lesbians and Gays (2 or 3), usually a question/answer format. Call to arrange.
 - Speaker: One or two people (male or female); address small groups.
 - Library: Resource place for research, reading; we also have pamphlets and current magazines.
- Activities:
- Gay/Lesbian Rap Group: Meets Sundays at 6:00 in 335 Union; various topics discussed; informal setting.
 - Movies, Speakers, other activities: Call for details.

RICK D. RAPAPORT

1634 Harding Ave. • Lansing, Mich. • 48910 • (517) 484-4945

**I'm looking
for a job.**

I care about the survival of the human species. I believe our situation is precarious. But if enough people work with sufficient diligence, integrity and intelligence, I believe we can back away from the abyss of extinction over the edge of which we now peer. I strive to be one of those people who make a difference. I'm seeking employment to expand my contribution and further my development.

I am experienced in gathering, organizing, analyzing and presenting information. I work well with people both as a supervisor and as one who is supervised. I want to be part of an organization in which I can hone these skills in collaboration with people from whom I can learn.

My long-range goals are subject to the vagaries of fluxious circumstance. However, possibilities include any – and perhaps many – of the following: media as a writer, editor or broadcaster; politics as a researcher, press secretary or candidate; and community activism as an organizer, lobbyist or attorney. Many of the skills and much of the knowledge necessary for these positions I already possess; some I do not. Thus, for the short term I seek to continue learning while working for a publication or organization I respect.

**I have a wide range
of practical experience
and a college degree...**

I will have graduated (B.A. in journalism, with honors) from Michigan State University on July 28, 1982. My cognate course work has been in political science, economics and history. In the 10 years since I graduated from high school (Lansing, Michigan, top five in a class of 600), I have written extensively, traveled through much of the United States and Canada, and held numerous and diverse jobs.

For nine months I worked as a writer for the State News (circulation 40,000) in East Lansing, Mich. For three months I churned out a series of one- and two-page magazine-type feature projects for the paper. The 50-member staff elected me to serve as their representative on the paper's editorial board. I have also produced, written and co-moderated a four-part documentary aired on cable TV, and written a treatment for a two-part TV docu-drama (not yet produced). I also write song lyrics, poetry and short stories.

I have crossed the United States at least 15 times – by plane, train, auto and thumb. I've spent time in 45 states, and respect and appreciate the diversity in this country. I have learned to communicate with almost anyone. I've worked as a janitor, gas station attendant, cab driver, waiter, cook, bus driver, wrestling coach (two years at the Michigan School for the Blind), insurance salesperson, advertising manager, fundraiser, organizer and reporter. After years of moving around — both in terms of geography and employment — I'm ready to settle down.

I have devoted much of my spare time for the past three years to studying why civilization seems hell-bent on self-destruction, and who's doing what to prevent it. As part of this project, I have maintained contact with more than 150 organizations ranging from the ACLU to the Moral Majority. I have studied material provided by groups as diverse as Friends of the Earth and the Electric Power Research Institute. I sometimes wonder why I don't have more hobbies. It's because reading, filing and cross-indexing all that information take a lot of time.

**...as well as energy,
initiative and discipline.**

I work hard. I have more ideas than I know what to do with, as well as strategies for their implementation. And when I start something, I finish it.

THE ALLIANCE OF LESBIAN-BI-GAY STUDENTS (ALBGS)

(formerly the MSU Lesbian/Gay Council)

Presents

PRIDE WEEK 1991

April 25th - May 4th

Thursday, April 25: KEYNOTE SPEAKER AND KICK-OFF BANQUET

This event will take place at 7:00 P.M. in the Lincoln Room of the Kellogg Center at MSU. The speaker will be Kevin Barro, director of the NGLTF Anti-Violence and Campus Projects. Please call 353-9795 about ticket and menu information.

Friday, April 26: PRIDE WEEK DANCE

This event will take place in the Gold Rooms A and B of the MSU Union from 7:30 P.M. until 11:30 P.M. Admission is free and refreshments will be served. Bring your friends!

Saturday, April 27: 4th ANNUAL ART FESTIVAL, WORKSHOPS, & COFFEEHOUSE

This day long series of events will include a visual and textual art fair from Noon until 6:00 P.M. in the Ohio State Room of the MSU Union; a series of informative and exciting workshops on various topics, also from Noon until 6:00 P.M., in the Indiana and Northwestern Rooms; and a Coffeehouse in the Minnesota Room from 6:00 P.M. until 10:00 P.M. [All artists -- visual, sculptural, performing ... -- are invited and welcome.]

Sunday, April 28: TEA & CROQUET AND A SUNDAY RAP

We will hold our traditional *Tea & Croquet* event on the green between Beaumont Tower and the Union starting at 2:00 P.M. Following *Tea and Croquet* will be a Rap Session focusing on Womyn's Issues in the Purdue Room at 6:15 P.M. (More information on the Rap topic and speaker(s) will be available by calling 353-9795.)

Monday, April 29: VIGIL AGAINST HOMOPHOBIC VIOLENCE

The Vigil will be held at Beaumont Tower beginning at 7:00 P.M. It will feature a short speech by Jayne Schuiteman on violence against the lesbian, bi, and gay community, and one or more short musical pieces to remember or protest violence against us. (Please bring a candle.)

Tuesday, April 30: MOVIES FOR FUN

We will be showing a series of lighthearted and entertaining movies beginning at 7:00 P.M. in the Northwestern Room of the Union.

Wednesday, May 1: B-GLADay (Bi-Gay-Lesbian Awareness Day)

A day to be proudly out and about on campus and in our communities. We encourage everyone to wear pink triangles, labryses, and other symbols of lesbian, bi-sexual and gay pride. We also encourage everyone to join us for a nighttime theatrical and musical performance featuring the Lansing Gay Men's Chorus and other performers at the Erickson Kiva.

Thursday, May 2: MOVIES FOR THOUGHT

This event will feature a series of thoughtful and informative movies, including *Longtime Companion*. The movies will begin at 7:00 P.M. in the Northwestern Room of the MSU Union.

Friday, May 3: PDA MARCH & DOWNTOWN NIGHT AT TRAMMPPS

At 2:00 P.M., students and supporters will gather at the Union for the *Public Display of Affection* March through campus and along Grand River. Later that night, Trammpps and the Alliance will celebrate the week together with special drink prices, and other incentives to come out and have a night of fun.

Saturday, May 4: PICNIC

Our wrap-up picnic will be held at Alton (a.k.a. Patriarch) Park. Equipment for volleyball, softball, and other sports will be provided. This will be a vegetarian potluck, so everyone should bring their favorite dishes.

(If you would like any additional information about events or have comments or suggestions please call 353-9795 or stop by the Alliance office in 442 of the MSU Union.)

The Alliance of Lesbian-Bi-Gay and Transgendered Students

The Alliance of Lesbian-Bi-Gay and Transgendered Students (ALBGTS) is a student-run organization which provides a valuable resource to Michigan State University and the greater-Lansing community. ALBGTS was founded over 25 years ago to provide support and advocacy for the needs of lesbian-bi-gay and transgendered people in the area.

This student organization is overseen by a student board of directors and is funded and housed by the ASMSU Programming Board. There are four co-directors for the 1995-1996 school year: Paul Harris, Maggi Rohde, Jason Chenoweth, and Deirdre McDaniel. Seven co-directors have been elected for the 1996-1997 year: Sarah Farrell, Dereth Glance, Bobby Colpean, Erin Linn, Adrian Rogers, Maggi Rohde, and Shannon Maynard. Brent Bilodeau, MSU's Assistant for Lesbian-Bi-Gay Concerns, serves as staff advocate to the organization.

ALBGTS sponsors support groups, panels, and special events throughout the year. Support groups provide a safe place for diverse groups of people to come together with their peers and share their thoughts and feelings about issues vital to their lives. They can be an open forum for discussion of politics or coming-out issues, or just for chatting in a friendly environment. There are different groups for different needs. Men, women, coming out, bisexual, and transgendered are the areas of support currently offered.

Panels are available for classes, residence halls, or staff training. Each year, ALBGTS trains a number of volunteers to form panel discussion teams, in order to interact with and educate audiences. Panels may be general discussions about the LGBT community, or they may focus on one specific aspect, depending on the need.

National Coming Out Day, which celebrates the first display of the Names Quilt on October 11th, is



celebrated by events which ALBGTS organizes. Traditionally, there is a panel discussion during the day, and a dance in the evening. Last year's dance drew record numbers of students. Almost 200 people attended.

Pride Week in early April celebrates the beginnings of the Gay Pride movement at the Stonewall Cafe in New York over 25 years ago. A full week of activities is typically planned, including special speakers, comedians, panels, marches, and a dance.

The ALBGTS is here to serve the lesbian-bi-gay or transgendered students at MSU, as well as others in the surrounding community. If you would like to meet with people who have interests and issues similar to your own, or if you have friends or family who are part of the LBGTS community, please join our organization or attend our yearly activities. It is our belief that coming together in openness and understanding breeds friendship, and friendship is a first step toward acceptance.



The ALBGTS Co-Directors (left to right): Paul Harris, Brent Bilodeau (MSU's Assistant for Lesbian-Bi-Gay Concerns), Maggi Rohde, Erin Linn, (ALBGTS Panel Coordinator), Beth Seymour, Jason Chenoweth, Deirdre McDaniel.

At eight in the morning, it was cool and misty on campus as Brenda headed across the wide concrete bridge to the low and spreading library fronted with broad, shallow beds of scarlet, mauve, and white tulips. This bridge across the tiny Red Cedar River was one of her favorite spots at Michigan State; the aged weeping willows here were so dense and hung so low (like flowering trees after a downpour) that looking off either side of the bridge, you couldn't see any buildings at all. Especially in the morning, you could easily think you were isolated, alone—not surrounded by thousands of students.

Halfway across, she was stopped by white scrawled letters chalked inside jagged circles: KILL ALL FAGS, DEATH TO HOMO QUEERS, STOP FAG DAY, FAGGOTS MUST DIE, GAY? GOT AIDS YET?

She stopped. The crude white letters grew larger, pushing her slowly back against the round steel railing. She could feel herself unable to breathe.

She heard laughter.

Two handsome runners in fraternity T-shirts came loping across the bridge, the incarnation of power and ease. "Awright!" one shouted. "It's about time." The other laughed. "Man, I hate fags," he said, and their pounding effort drew them away.

I have to do something, she thought, trying to feel resolute and strong.

But someone had beaten her to it, perhaps. A skinny kid with masses of thick black hair streaked lime green was crouching at the other end of the bridge, taking pictures. He kept saying, "Oh, wow!" Behind him, a campus police car crept along one of the paths to the bridge, lumbering and out of place.

"Hey," the kid called to her, "I'm with *The State News*. Can I interview you?" His voice was heavy with the nasal twang of western Michigan.

She wanted to run, but he was over in front of her, armed with a pad and a wide-eyed look of attentiveness he might have bought at the campus bookstore along with his journalism course materials.

"My name's Jim. Can I ask you some questions?"

He was already writing in his pad, as if he knew her answers. She wanted to shake up this kid so fashionably dressed in black T-shirt, jeans, and high-tops.

"It's like Selma," she started.

"Wait—" he squinted at her. "Who? I don't get it."

"Like Alabama, the bigots. The lynchings. It's sick. Whoever did it should be arrested and expelled."

He chuckled as if pleased by her intensity, made notes, and then asked for her name and major. He grinned when she said she was a former graduate



Stephen Stewart

student and now a temporary assistant professor in history. People on the way to morning classes were stopping on the bridge, pointing.

Off behind the little reporter, two campus policemen with barely concealed smiles were examining the scrawls.

Brenda rushed over to them. "You have to find these morons." She realized she was being loud—and at MSU, any raised voice except at a sports event, or if you were drunk, was the source of instant contempt, people turning, staring, appalled at your rudeness: where could you be from, for God's sake, New York?

"They're dangerous."

The two handsome policemen, who looked like ex-jocks—thick-necked, wide-shouldered bodies straining at their blue uniforms—nodded, eyeing her a bit suspiciously, as if she had done it.

Desperate for some kind of response, she blurted, "My brother's gay."

They glanced at each other. "Too bad," one brought out.

—From Lev Raphael, "Abominations." In *Dancing on Tisha B'av*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1990: 215-16.



442 Student Union • Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan • 48824 • 517/353-9795

LESBIAN/GAY COUNCIL

MSU's Lesbian/Gay Council (L/G C) is a division of ASMSU's Programming Board. We offer a variety of services and information to Lesbian & Gay students, and others in the East Lansing area. We also provide the same to people outside the Lesbian and Gay community to promote understanding and provide education on issues within the Lesbian/Gay life. Below is a listing and summary of various L/G C activities, services, and facilities:

Office Located on the 4th floor of the Union, the office is in a low-traffic, quiet environment. During each term L/G volunteers staff the office to provide access to periodicals, our library, community info, health info, free condoms and pamphlets. The office is a comfortable place for people to read, meet others, and become informed.

Support Each term groups are formed to offer support to the needs of Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual people. The groups range in topics from "coming out" to general support. Group schedules are posted by the beginning of the 1st full week of classes each term.

Panels Many classes, residence halls & floors, campus groups, and community organizations have learned a great deal from L/G Panels. A group of trained panelists are made available to field questions about Lesbian & Gay life. Often entertaining, and always informative, Panels are a great tool for promoting understanding of Gay Men and Lesbians. Requests for panels are handled in the office.

Sundays Each Sunday of every term, L/G Council offers informative and entertaining programs for all people. Programs range in focus from movies to lecture/discussions to panels to guest speakers to social events. Schedules are printed each term, and are distributed from the office. Free pizza is served to all in attendance. This is our largest weekly social gathering.

Events L/G Council plans special events to meet the social needs of Lesbians and Gay men. Each term we hold a dance, with a live DJ - and lots of fun. And every spring we have our annual L/G Pride Week with special events each day. We also plan special activities to reflect some of the special days and happenings in the calendar of Lesbian and Gay Life. Current schedules are available through the office.



LESBIAN/ GAY COUNCIL

• A Division of AS MSU Programming Board •

**Michigan State University
442 Union Bldg.
E. Lansing, MI 48824**

353-9795

RAP

An Opportunity to:

- *Learn* — about contemporary gay/lesbian issues
- *Discuss* — reactions, ideas, concerns
- *Question* — informed guest speakers
- *Meet* — one another

For Those Who:

- Have been wondering about their sexual orientation
- Feel strongly attracted to their own gender
- Identify themselves as lesbian, gay, or bisexual
- Are just interested in becoming more informed

- Lesbian/Gay Related Readings (10 minutes)
- Feature presentation including brief formal presentations by distinguished speakers followed by group discussion and questions (50 minutes)
- Socializing at local establishments after meetings

Schedule

All meetings will be held in the Northwestern Room in the MSU Union Building. Meetings begin at 6:15 p.m., on Sunday.

April 5 **MEDIA IMAGES**

Radio, television and other forms of mass media present images of people, lesbians and gay men included, which affect how the public perceives us and how we perceive ourselves. This evenings speaker is Mark Silberstein, Assignment Editor at WILX-TV 10. Before coming to the local NBC affiliate station, Mark worked for radio stations in Flint and Detroit.

April 26 **NETWORKING UPDATE**

On October 26, 1986, a Rap was given on networking lesbian and gay resources for the purpose of a stronger union for interests and needs. Tonights Rap will be an update on our progress to date and hopes and plans for the months and years to come.

May 1-9 **PRIDE WEEK**

This is it, Pride Week. This event is the cumulative efforts of dozens of people organizing many events to better serve the community. You are encouraged to come out and celebrate pride week. Call the Council for a calendar of events.

~~2005~~ **AIDS AS A METAPHOR**

In responding to an issue as emotionally charged and troublesome as AIDS, there is a constant temptation to resort to metaphoric thinking—that is to treat this unique medical event in symbolic or mythic terms that correspond to our own emotional needs or ability to hear. Doak Bloss, former coordinator of Lansing's Buddy Program, will describe his own struggle to cut through the "mythology of AIDS" in order to understand the existential reality of the illness.

May 31 **SPIRITUALITY AND WHOLENESS**

There are many facets to being human and some aspects receive more attention than others. It is important, however, to address all facets: physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual. This evening Reverend Janet Pillman will be a returning speaker from United Ministries in Higher Education on the topics of Spirituality of Self.

For more information, call the Lesbian/Gay Council at 353-9795 or stop by the office in Room 443 of the Union.
Non-students in the mid-Michigan community are strongly urged to attend.
The Lesbian/Gay Council is part of the ASMSU Programming Board, funded by undergraduate student tax dollars.



RAP

An Opportunity to:

- *Learn* — about contemporary gay/lesbian issues
- *Discuss* — reactions, ideas, concerns
- *Question* — informed guest speakers
- *Meet* — one another

For Those Who:

- Have been wondering about their sexual orientation
 - Feel strongly attracted to their own gender
 - Identify themselves as lesbian, gay, or bisexual
 - Are just interested in becoming more informed
- Lesbian/Gay Related Readings (10 minutes)
 - Feature presentation including brief formal presentations by distinguished speakers followed by group discussion and questions (50 minutes)
 - Socializing at local establishments after meetings

Schedule

All meetings, except for November 16, will be held in the Northwestern Room in the MSU Union Building. The November 16th meeting will be held in Wisconsin Rooms A&B also located in the Union Building. All meetings begin at 6:15 p.m., on Sunday.

September 28

WELCOME (BACK)!

Tonight's gathering is a chance to informally welcome our friends back and meet new ones. There is no scheduled topic, just a few words about our Fall Term plans. The meeting will be short and we will adjourn to a local restaurant afterward.

October 5

COMING OUT

Coming out to one's self, family, and friends can be one of the most traumatic—or exciting—experiences in a gay person's life. Members of Council's Sexuality Panels, Council Officers and perhaps audience members, will share some of their coming out stories and offer different perspectives and tips on telling others you're gay. If you seek a relaxed atmosphere in which to talk, you are invited to attend.

October 12

AIDS: PSYCHOSOCIAL ASPECTS

The effects of AIDS are not only medical—they affect every person, gay or straight, healthy or ill, and how we view each other and ourselves. Our featured speaker is Dr. Terry Stein, M.D., a psychiatrist specializing in psychotherapy of gay men, and past President of the Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists.

October 19

BEING OUT IN THE WORKPLACE

Coming out to coworkers is an issue many lesbians and gay men are wary of addressing. Being open about one's sexuality in the workplace can have many personal and professional ramifications. Tonight we welcome Dr. Chris Carmichael, Ph.D., the Curator of Mammalogy at MSU Museum; joining him will be Mary McCormack, a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Sociology, and Dr. Terry Stein, M.D., a returning guest speaker, for an informal panel discussion.

October 26

UNITED WE STAND, DIVIDED WE LOSE: NETWORKING BETWEEN THE LESBIAN AND GAY COMMUNITIES

Women from the Lesbian community will discuss ideas on communicating and working toward issues that affect us all. Through better understanding, perhaps we can begin to work together.

November 2

AIDS: THE LEGAL REACTION

The ongoing AIDS crisis has produced legal and political fallout which lesbians and gay men cannot ignore. Robert Lundy, a co-chair of the Michigan Human Rights Campaign Committee and President of the Lansing Association for Human Rights-Political Action Committee, will talk with us about different legal issues arising from AIDS, the Supreme Court's sodomy decision, and homophobia. Emphasis will be placed on current Michigan legislation.

November 9

GAY HISTORY

Gay history did not begin with the 1969 riots at New York's Stonewall Inn, as some believe. Gays and lesbians have been coming out, meeting others, and building a culture for a long time. Tonight's video presentation, "Before Stonewall," will trace the hidden development of gay society in this century. Informal discussion will follow.

November 16

THE BIBLE DOESN'T SAY "NO"

Many opponents of lesbians and gay men support their claims with quotations from the Bible, but how appropriate are the current translations of Scripture? The Reverend Janet Pillman, from United Ministries of Higher Education, will be joining us this evening to discuss the results of ongoing research into original Biblical texts.

November 23

SOCIAL CONTACT GROUPS

A Council goal is to help put people in touch with other gay/lesbian social contact groups. These organizations can be helpful in addressing more specific concerns and interests of gays and lesbians, as well as in offering alternative, non-threatening methods of meeting others. Representatives and information from various groups will be available at tonight's meeting to inform, help, or advise you.

For more information, call the Lesbian/Gay Council at 353-9795 or stop by the office in Room 442 of the Union.

Non-students in the mid-Michigan community are strongly urged to attend.

The Lesbian/Gay Council is part of the ASMSU Programming Board, funded by undergraduate student tax dollars.

RAP

An Opportunity to:

- ▼ *Learn* —about contemporary gay/lesbian issues
- ▼ *Discuss* —reactions, ideas, concerns
- ▼ *Question*—informed guest speakers
- ▼ *Meet* —one another

For Those Who:

- ▼ Have been wondering about their sexual orientation
- ▼ Feel strongly attracted to their own gender
- ▼ Identify themselves as lesbian, gay, or bisexual
- ▼ Are just interested in becoming more informed

(This is not intended to be primarily a political action group—rather a safe environment for people to meet in.)

FORMAT

- ▼ Readings from gay literature (10 min.)
- ▼ Feature presentation including brief formal presentations by distinguished speakers followed by group discussion and questions (50 min.)
- ▼ Informal socializing with refreshments

SCHEDULE

All meetings begin at 6:30 P.M., Sundays, on the 3rd floor of the Union.



Coming Out

Oct. 6
Iowa
Room

"As a young child I unquestioningly accepted the popular perception of homosexuals until I discovered I was one."

"I thought I'd grow out of it. I didn't; my gay feelings kept getting stronger and stronger."

"... coming out is more than a bit confusing because it isn't a single, momentous event, but a series of stages. *Perhaps the most difficult part of this process is realizing and admitting, 'I am gay.'*"

"In the past, few people were lucky enough to have come out in a relaxed way. Perhaps today fantasy and reality can come a little closer."

AIDS: Medical Aspects

Oct. 13
Illinois
Room

With no cure and no vaccine expected in the near future, the number of new cases doubles every 10 months, and, at this alarming rate, will become the #1 cause of death among 15–34 year olds. To protect yourself, become better informed. Joseph Alfano, a student representative to the recent national medical conference on AIDS and other gay health issues held in Vancouver and a medical student will speak about medical aspects of AIDS, AIDS related complex (ARC), HTLV-III testing and strategies for reducing your risk.

Video: Living Your Lifestyle

Oct. 20
Illinois
Room

"Living Your Lifestyle: Ideas and Information about Gay Health and Disease" (28 min.) was put together by MSU graduate Dr. Paul Benson, D.O. Dr. Benson will be with us to answer questions following this entertaining, educational production which includes essential information about sexually transmitted disease, hepatitis, safe sex, and more.

Legal Issues

Oct. 27
Illinois
Room

The civil rights of gay men and lesbians are not guaranteed in our society. Two lawyers will discuss legal and illegal sex and employment discrimination. Jim and Don are members of the Michigan Bar. Don has a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology.

Sociological Issues

Nov. 3
Illinois
Room

Homophobia is institutionalized in our society and has a far reaching impact on how we live our lives. Jo Belknap, Ph.D. (candidate), School of Criminal Justice, will address such issues as the invisibility of lesbian and gay people and child custody rights.

AIDS: Psychosocial Aspects

Nov. 10
Illinois
Room

As the number of cases grows and the media focus increasingly on the disease, anxiety is also growing. Terry Stein, M.D., will discuss the profound impact of this devastating illness on gay and straight individuals and society. Dr. Stein is a psychiatrist specializing in psychotherapy of gay men and immediate past president of the Association of Gay Psychiatrists.

The Gay Rights Movement

Nov. 17
Illinois
Room

Craig Covey, new executive director of the Michigan Organization for Human Rights (MOHR), founder and former director of the Stonewall Union, and co-producer of the first gay television program has extensive knowledge of the gay rights movement in Michigan and the United States. Videos included.

Self Defense

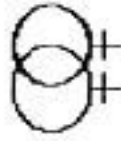
Nov. 24
Minnesota
Room

Phil Boyer, an MSU graduate, medical student, and black belt, will provide some tips on how to protect yourself from attack, and teach some basic techniques in self-defense and awareness of your physical environment.

For more information, call the Lesbian/Gay Council at 353-9795 or stop by the office in Room 442 of the Union.

Non-students in the mid-Michigan community are strongly urged to attend.

The Lesbian/Gay Council is part of the ASMSU Programming Board, funded by undergraduate student tax dollars.



LESBIAN/GAY COUNCIL

RAP

SPRING TERM



All meetings will be held in the Purdue(Tower) Room on the 4th floor in the MSU Union Building. Meetings begin at 6:00 P.M. on Sunday.

WELCOME BACK

April 2 Tonight's Rap will be a chance for everyone to get to meet new friends and just have a good time. Join us for an evening of fun.

EMPOWERING THE HOMOPHOBIC

April 9 We can never be usefully offended by prejudice until we recognize that we always participate in it. If this is true, responsibility for homophobia and its consequences rest with each of us individually, and the work of helping others overcome their bigotry begins only when we recognize our own. Deak Bloss, Associate Director of the Michigan Network of Runaway and Youth Services, will present a shortened version of this workshop on sensitizing oneself to irrational fears around sexual orientation.

FOR MEN ONLY

April 16 This Rap will deal with all the isms - such as classism, racism and sexism and how gay men can educate and heighten their awareness about these issues. This rap is for Men only.

FOR WOMYN ONLY: LESBIANS AND AIDS

April 16 What is AIDS and how does it affect Lesbians? Answers to this question and a discussion of safe sexual practices will be presented by Lorraine Nickels, from the Special Office of AIDS Prevention, Michigan Department of Mental Health. This rap will be held in the Minnesota Room on the third floor of the Union. This rap is for women only.

GAY/LESBIAN PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH ISSUES

April 23 Karyn Boatwright, M.A., from Blue Care Network-Health Central's Mental Health Division will facilitate discussion on the aspects of seeking therapy. Issues will include how do you go about seeking a therapist, confidentiality, group therapy, self esteem and any other issues that concerning mental health that persons attending want to discuss.

THE AIDS QUARTERLY-AIDS MEMORIAL SERVICE

April 30 The AIDS Quarterly (Winter 1989), which was recently shown on TV in March will be shown at this Rap. The one hour film deals with the many aspects of the AIDS crisis. We will conclude by 7:00 P.M. so that all those who wish may go to the AIDS Memorial Service that begins at 7:30 at the Unitarian Universalist Church of East Lansing. The memorial service is being held in memory of all who have died of AIDS and AIDS related complexes.

May 5 - 13

PRIDE WEEK-TWENTY YEARS OF PRIDE

May 7

GAY AND LESBIAN PERIODICALS

Peter Berg, Head Librarian of the Special Collections Library, and Ann Tracy, Librarian Assistant, will talk about the Special Collections Library holdings that pertain to the Lesbian/Gay community. Make sure to see the main exhibit on Stonewall in the MSU Main Library lounge on the first floor.

May 14

NO RAP SCHEDULED

May 21

EXPLICITLY SPEAKING

This Rap includes explicit videos on safer sex along with a discussion on past lifestyles and present behaviors that are healthy or dangerous. Craig Covey, from the Special Office on AIDS Prevention, does not mince words when it comes to educating people on having a healthy safer sex life.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS

May 28 Back by popular demand, PFLAG of Lansing will present a panel of parents of gay and lesbian children. You will have a chance to ask questions you've always wanted to ask your own parents.



A guide to gay living in the capital area

By KIM SEVERSON
State News Staff Writer

While the network of the gay men and lesbian communities in most cities is extensive, discovering where to find organizations and hangouts that cater to homosexuals can be difficult.

Because of the large gay population in Lansing and East Lansing, both cities have laws on the books protecting gays and lesbians from discrimination in housing, at work and in government. The communities have also developed several organizations that serve as political, social and support groups.

The most extensive group is the MSU-connected Lesbian/Gay Council, in 442 Union. The council offers rap groups, educational groups, a hotline and serves as social organizer, participating in and running Lesbian/Gay Pride Week each spring.

"We have movies, coffeehouses, dances and various speakers," said President Matt Gatson. "While we primarily serve the gay/lesbian community, there are no requirements that a person be gay to be involved. We also cater to bisexuals and straights with gay friends."

GATSON SAID the council talks to about 500 people each term and has connections for legal and medical advice. They also run a housing referral service. They also run a housing referral service.

In addition, the council runs a gay rap group which meets at 6 p.m. every Sunday in the Union lobby. Topics range from "coming out" to politics. It is open to anyone.

The phone number for Lesbian/Gay Council is 353-9796 and the phone number for the gay hotline is 482-3307.

For parents of lesbians and gays, there is a support group that meets on the third Monday of every month at 7:30 p.m. in the United Ministries Church, 1118 S. Harrison Road in East Lansing.

Parents of lesbians and gay men was formed a year ago when three women found they needed to share their

experiences concerning their children's homosexuality.

"WE'RE PRIMARILY A support group. We have speakers and presentations occasionally," said Anna, a founder of the group. "It is a family thing where people can talk to each other and find out more about lesbian and gay lifestyles."

The group's phone number is 484-4945. They also can be reached at this address: P.O. Box 46, Okemos, MI, 48864.

For alternative literature relevant to both lesbians and gay men, there is the Book Co-op, 201 1/2 E. Grand River Ave. The co-op has the best collection of lesbian-oriented books, records and periodicals in the city and is developing a new section of alternative literature for gay and non-sexist men.

Director Deane Silver said the co-op's new rental library is also growing fast and that the co-op provides literature for many of MSU's women's studies programs.

The co-op offers memberships for \$5 per year which includes access to the library. Rebates are given twice a year and the amount varies depending on the amount of purchases made. The co-op is staffed by volunteers and is always looking for more people to add to their staff. A volunteer can get up to 15 percent off purchases.

FOR LESBIANS, Lansing offers the Helen Diner Memorial Center which sponsors dances and social events and is also the home of the Lesbian Connection, a

newsletter written for and by lesbians. The center, which has been operating for five years, is run by a group of women called the Ambitious Amazons. The center, in addition to coffee houses, softball games and dances, houses a lesbian library and offers a housing referral service.

To get in touch with the Amazons and find out more about the Center, call 484-3903 or write: P.O. Box 811, East Lansing, MI, 48823.

The newly formed Greater Lansing Women's Co-op (Lesbian Co-op) is another woman-run resource available in the Lansing area. The purpose of the co-op is to provide a lesbian-controlled organization that focuses on a variety of activities. Aside from social functions, such as picnics and dances, the co-op is forming a lesbian mothers group and an MSU chapter aimed directly at students.

"We are working toward being a resource center and clearing house for lesbian activities," said one board member. "We want to also focus on outreach to women outside the mainstream community and be a forum for political discussion."

The dues for the co-op are \$3, \$5 and \$7 depending on income, but the dues will be raised soon because the co-op

is currently updating some by-laws. The contact phone number is 484-3940. Ask for Cindy.

DESPITE THE size of Lansing, there are only two bars that cater specifically to gays and lesbians. Two are located a few doors apart in the "red light district" Lansing: Joe Covelles, 535 E. Michigan Ave., is a women's bar that does, however, contain men at times. The men are usually gay but there are one or two straights who occasionally stop by.

Just down the street is Trammps Disco, 523 Michigan Ave. Trammps is male-oriented but usually nice male-female mix can be found. The music is loud than at Joe's and at times the mood is a bit more upbeat. Both bars charge cover on the weekends and Trammps also charges cover on Thursday nights — the most popular night at both places for the college crowd.

A bar that has recently come out as gay is The Twilig Zone (formerly Apples), 2350 W. Grand River Ave. This is a neighborhood type place that hosts euchre tournaments on Sunday afternoons and a birthday party for everyone with a birthday that month at the beginning of each month. The place is quiet and mixed, but does have women's night on Monday and men's night on Thursday.

Lesbian-Gay Council

Group stresses support, friendship and education

By RICK RAPAPORT

Lesbians and gays can lead happy, fulfilling and productive lives, according to Glenna Barnard and Matt Gatson who, along with Bill Clemmons, will direct the MSU Lesbian-Gay Council during the coming year.

"I enjoy myself," Barnard says. "I enjoy my relationships now. I enjoy the way I am even when I'm not in a relationship. And I wouldn't want to change even if I could."

Gatson says accepting his own homosexuality was "a whole new experience, a whole new feeling. I could finally show emotion and love. I could finally let myself be loved."

But despite their own positive feelings, Gatson and Barnard say many MSU students feel differently. And they say many gay students suffer as a result.

"THEY'RE JUST starting their careers," Barnard says. "And that's a challenge in itself. But they're also starting their lives as adults, and they have to start dealing with the freedom and responsibility that adults are accorded."

Thus, Barnard says, college offers students who think they may be gay a double challenge.

"If they are gay," she says, "they're starting on a road that they can't see a clear path for. Every step is something new to them."

Barnard and Gatson say Lesbian-Gay Council tries to make that road a little easier. The organization focuses its efforts in three areas: support and social events for lesbian and gay students, and education for the non-gay MSU community.

By way of support, Gatson says the council tries to let

lesbian and gay students know "that there's someone who's going to back them, to be there when they need somebody."

SUCH STUDENTS, he says, "need to know they are not alone."

"We try to tell people that they're all right," Barnard adds. "Then they can go ahead and be what they are."

She says the problem is that "there's nothing in this society that says we should exist, or even that we do exist."

"So it's up to us to say what we're like, what the experience is, and that we do exist. According to Kinsey's research, about 10 percent of the population is gay."

One of the support programs offered by Lesbian-Gay Council is an every-Sunday rap group held in the MSU Union. The rap group gives students an opportunity to meet one another and examine gay-related issues.

"Even if they're not sure," Barnard says, "they have a chance to explore a little and find out what it's about."

HELPING THE non-gay MSU community understand what it's about is the purpose of the council's second major function — education.

Gatson says the primary means of education is through panel discussions. When classroom instructors, RA's, dorm councils, advisors or counselors request, the council sends groups out to discuss — from personal experience — what it means to be gay.

"Many of the people who attend the panels," says Gatson, "have never had any contact with a person they knew way gay." Still, he says, many come to the discussions with preconceived notions.

After talking with the group, Gatson says, and especially

after the frank question-and-answer sessions, many of these notions are overcome.

The questions range from "What is it like?" and "What kind of suppression do you feel?" to often-lengthy discussion about religious and moral issues.

Gatson says that, although it's "hard to explain emotion," the audience response is generally "very positive."

"I think we've made friends through the panels," he says. "I'm sure we've made a couple enemies too, but most often I think we've made friends."

HELPING GAY and lesbian students make friends among themselves is the third element of Lesbian-Gay Council's purpose. Barnard and Gatson say the group plans to offer a variety of social events for lesbians and gay men in the coming year. They mention movies, sporting events and parties as possibilities.

Both emphasized that the main focus of the council is to help students deal with what can be a very difficult period in their lives.

Barnard encouraged women who want more information about lesbianism to "contact LGC or other established groups, instead of going out to the bar first."

She seemed concerned that women who think they may be lesbians meet others in a supportive, rather than competitive atmosphere.

Gatson encouraged men who have questions about their sexuality to do the same thing.

"Come and see us," he advised. "It's important. Your sexuality is one of the main things in your life. Don't fight it. Don't suppress it."

"Be yourself — and if that means being gay, then do it."

PH HEN
Apr. 12, 1982

Letter

What Christ felt

Since when does Christianity teach intolerance to fellow human beings? The Maranatha Fellowship's anti-gay action this week doesn't espouse the values I have learned Christianity stands for. Christ taught compassion and love of one's neighbor. For instance, He didn't point his finger at the adulteress woman, call her "immoral" and enjoin his disciples to disassociate themselves from her. (John 8:3-11)

I find it hard to imagine a Christ that suffered and died for love of humanity would choose to label all people with certain sexual orientations as not "for the Glory of God." In fact, many devout Christians are also gay.

Gay men and women certainly deserve an educational/service group just as do other minority student populations. I am very sorry to see the Maranatha Fellowship acting under the label of "Christian" to make a public anti-gay statement. I for one support ASMSU funding of the Gay/Lesbian Council and don't find that inconsistent with my Christian beliefs.

Carol Schuck
East Lansing

~~State~~ News 1-26-82

An effective but

p. 4

offensive ad

In response to the Lesbian/Gay Council's advertisement in the Jan. 13 State News, we as resident assistants would like to clarify that we have already met the council's challenge.

Mason-Abbot Hall has sponsored hall-wide panel discussions to heighten the residents' awareness of gay/lesbian lifestyles for the past four years. The program held during Fall term 1981 was organized by Kurt Titze.

In light of these facts, we find it inappropriate and exploitative that our names and the other Mason-Abbot resident assistants' names were used in conjunction with your media stunt.

We resent the publication of our names and consider your approach to be a slap in the face to our willingness to support your organization.

Hopefully, you will follow your own advice to be careful and change your minds about how you want to treat your supporters in the future.

James Mulady
Gina Lucchi
Marji Hess
Kurt Titze
Mason-Abbot Hall

not participate and do not feel such warmth and reward by the latest greek activities?

Second, I don't know what Gregory has been reading lately, but the SN has done an adequate job of covering Greek Week; specifically the edition (SN, 5/14) where they not only had a front page photo but also a full page of pictures on page 5. I ask you Gregory, what more do you want —

an entire issue devoted exclusively to the greeks? (I personally wouldn't read it)

And third, I sincerely hope in all fairness you wrote a letter to the editor of the Detroit Free Press for putting the plight of the gay Delt Sig in their paper. I do agree with you that it is a sad situation when the media blows such an issue out of proportion, but I would be very

embarrassed if this issue was getting coverage as far away as Detroit and the SN didn't print it because of a few hyper-sensitive greeks!

News is news, and the students of this university have the right to read about the reputation MSU's greeks are earning for themselves. If it offends you personally, don't read it!

Mark Hawkins
Bailey Hall

Media supported

This is in response to Gregory Hawkins' letter "Appetite for gays" (SN, 5/18). First, I am happy for Gregory that he felt so personally rewarded by the hundreds of participants in the Greek Sing, but did he ever consider the thousands who did



There are no cold days in hell

By NORBERT DICKMANN

In his viewpoint (SN, 5/17), Daniel Jones laughs at what he terms the Christians' "self-created punishment of 'eternal hell.'" Obviously he does not enjoy the hell-fire and brimstone preaching of some of the Christians on campus. Not many people do. I am one of the students who have taken the opportunity this spring to speak about Jesus Christ on campus. And, yes, I have even mentioned hell a few times. One reason I do talk about hell is that I am not so much concerned about people enjoying my speech as I am concerned that they understand the message.

A lot of times the rhetoric that is used to describe hell only serves to make it less readily understandable. Phrases that are used over and over and over outside their original context soon become cliches. There is nothing inherently wrong with cliches. Many of them pack a lot of power because they sum up a whole concept in a few easily remembered words. But their major failing is that it is often difficult to understand them without having the concept explained more fully. What would it mean to you when someone shrugs his shoulders and says, "Well, a bird in hand . . ." if you had never heard the parable that it refers to? Some of the cliches about hell are only slightly more understandable on face value. When a preacher thunders, "Repent or be damned to the eternal fires of hell!" can the average student even figure out what he's trying to say?

Jesus often spoke metaphorically to describe hell. Outside Jerusalem there was a city dump called "Gehenna" that was continually smoldering and breaking into fire. Jesus told the people there to turn from their rebellion against God or they would be thrown into Gehenna. Did he mean that they would be thrown into the city dump? Of course not. But it certainly made more of an impression on the people he was talking to than if he had blandly said, "Hey, hell is bad news. You don't want to go there." The key idea is that hell is bad news. You don't want to go there.

What exactly is hell and why do people go there? Jones shows clearly that he does not understand it at all when he accuses Christians of not seeing that some people just plain do not want to be "God-fearing." That is exactly the point that the preachers on campus are trying to get across. Most people do not want to give God the place in their lives that he deserves as their creator. They are rebels against God. Jesus said that there were sure consequences of this continued rebellion. The hell-fire and brimstone preachers only want to communicate Jesus' message. Even if we don't do a good job it does not detract from the truth of the message.

God tells us in the Bible that all men are rebels against him. That's not too difficult to acknowledge. We're not so different from one another. Homosexuals and those who are otherwise immoral continue in sexual behavior that God condemns. Without

God's help I tend towards self-love and laziness; a far cry from the love for others and life of service that God requires. If one of us is a rebel, we all are.

Our Creator puts the matter before us very bluntly. We have only two choices. We can turn from our life of rebellion, admit that he is who he says he is and put him in his rightful place as our master in every area of our life, or we can continue in our rebellion in one form or another. In the first case God offers complete forgiveness through the death of Jesus. We can then live in a close relationship with him forever. In the second case God says in effect, "Since you don't want to accept me for who I am and submit to me, you shall have no part of me." That is what hell is. Spending the rest of forever completely separated from God "as far as the East is from the West." What? Another metaphor? Yes, and an exceedingly clear one at that.

Hell is that state of being completely separated from God forever. Think about it. God is the source of all love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, faithfulness, goodness, gentleness and self-control. Try to imagine a whole year. Then an eternity. The analogy of flames that burn but never consume you suddenly becomes weak in its impact.

Make sure you realize that God is not only the creator of man. He is the creator of everything that exists. Do not be so quick to wish to be independent of him.

Dickmann is a senior in engineering arts.

SN, 5-26-82 p. 4

Maranatha protests gay council

By PETER McLAUGHLIN
State News Staff Writer

Protesting the funding of the Gay/Lesbian Council, eight students from the Maranatha Christian Fellowship signed refund cards at the ASMSU office in Student Services Monday.

The 50-member fellowship said in a signed statement: "We could be using it (the money) to put in our own treasury where it will be used for the glory of God instead of something which is immoral. So therefore we wish to retrieve these dollars so we can put them to better use."

Trent Erway, a member of the fellowship, said members would arrive in groups of 10 to the ASMSU office all this week to receive their refunds.

Director of the Gay/Lesbian Council, Matt Gatson, said the Maranatha group was atypical of most student views.

"I'M SORRY they see it that way, it's a real shame," he said.

Gatson said the Gay/Lesbian Council acts as a social service and education group for students on campus. "We only receive about half a penny from every dollar students donate to ASMSU," Gatson said. The council received

\$2,400 from the ASMSU Programming Board for 1982 from a programming budget of \$140,000.

Scott Kennedy, chairperson of the student board which created the programming board, said ASMSU gives support to as many groups as possible that have substantial backing from students.

"We're prohibited from funding purely political

groups," he said, "but we do consider funding some religious organizations that have social and cultural value."

Executive director of the student board, Therese Grossi, said, "It is my job to guarantee that all the students on campus have a voice." Grossi said the Gay/Lesbian Council has a right to be heard and should be

funded.

"I WAS RAISED as a Christian and I was always taught that humans should not judge each other and that God was the only judge of man."

Grossi said MSU prohibits the discrimination of any individual based on sexual preference and that ASMSU will follow that policy.



Concert/Social

Music of:

TREES

& Barb Harte

w/ Cathy & Sheckee

Friday Oct. 8, 7:00 p.m.
Parlors B & C Student Union
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MSU



LESBIAN-GAY COUNCIL

Lesbian/Gay Council
442 Student Union
353-4795 (24 hours)



A division of ASMSU Programming Board funded by student tax money. For more information on PB events call the Hotline 353-2010.



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innumerable off-the-wall letters from homophobic individuals. Now they are back (already!). I'd like to ask the new students at MSU to excuse me for calling for a halt to this persistent waste of space on the editorial page. Don't worry, you won't miss a thing, except maybe a sick stomach.

Sure, everyone has the right to be heard, but enough is enough. How many times do I have to hear fundamental Christians bark? Look, your teaching tells you to love everyone and not to judge others. So shut up and quit shoving your religious/moral beliefs down my throat.

As for whether or not gays are a

minority group or not, we are a group of people in a struggle for justice. Sound familiar women? Blacks? Latinos? . . .

When are we going to stop calling each other names and try to bring some freedom and justice into this world of ours? We all have common needs that are not being met. How long do we have to listen to the judgments before we realize no one is getting anywhere alone? We have to work together to create the equitable world we desire.

Let's cool it on the garbage editorials and address *real* issues.

Jimm Shattuck, senior
park and recreation resources

THE STATE NEWS

Contents Copyrighted

Thursday, October 7, 1982

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P.4

**Stop wasting
editorial space**

I was hoping this would be an interesting year.
Last spring I had to sit through

Council forms liaison for lesbians, gays

By H.D. BOMSTA
State News Staff Writer

Though without a formal job description, MSU's first liaison to the Lesbian/Gay Council Jayne Schuiteman has some ideas about what to do with the new addition to her duties.

The creation of the position came in April after students, faculty and staff met with Ralph Bonner, director of the department of human relations, and requested the University create a more direct link to the lesbian/gay community. Bonner said the assignment will give the lesbian/gay community a "focal point for their concerns and issues."

Though new to MSU, several other schools including U-M have lesbian/gay support service offices with full-time staff.

Schuiteman said the liaison assignment is not full time, but will be added to her other responsibilities.

BONNER ADDED that the position is permanent within the University, but may become the responsibility of another department in the future.

Bonner said there is enough work to turn the assignment into a full-time job, however, budget constraints make that impossible right now.

Schuiteman said MSU has a "long way to go" to make it a truly "hospitable" environment for people no matter what their sexual orientation. According to statistics, about 10 percent of MSU's student population is lesbian or gay, she added.

"A lot of people, they're not even aware there are lesbians and gays," Schuiteman said.

Among her goals are raising sensitivity and awareness of gay and lesbian issues. Many students are not aware they might know lesbians or gays, and are afraid because they do not know. Knowledge can break down the

barriers of fear and ignorance, she said.

SCHUTEMAN HOPES to be a resource person for the lesbian/gay community. Additionally, as a kind of faculty/staff adviser, she will provide some continuity for student groups, whose leadership is constantly changing and graduating.

Housing is just one of several issues she and others will examine.

"I think it's important that students not be discriminated against whether they are heterosexual or lesbian/gay," Schuiteman said. "Right now students have to present a marriage license (to be eligible for married housing) and that's discriminating against several groups, not just lesbians and gays."

Schuiteman received word Monday that she earned her doctoral degree in physical education and exercise science. She earned both her master's and bachelor's degree at MSU.

Exhibit shows family diversity

By CATHERINE NGUYEN

State News Staff Writer

Several student groups have been working for months to bring "love" to campus.

Today their efforts will pay off when they feature a photo and text exhibit celebrating gay, lesbian and transgendered families.

"Love Makes a Family" is sponsored by the Alliance of Lesbian-Bi-Gay and Transgendered Students, the Gay and Lesbian Faculty and Staff Association and the Union Activities Board.

The photos feature members of different races, gay or lesbian moms, dads, grandparents and children. The pictures are complemented by edited interviews of subjects and family members.

ALBGTS co-director Maggi Rohde said the photos will remind MSU there are many kinds of families, and that unconventional ones, such as those depicted in the photos,

are still functional.

"Instead of making negative portrayals of ourselves and getting angry, we chose to portray something positive," she said.

The groups also hope the exhibit will remind MSU officials why they feel granting domestic partner benefits is important. The MSU Board of Trustees last November opted not to take action on the issue for at least two years.

In conjunction with the exhibit, the alliance also will hold a panel discussion.

The group is holding a formal reception Nov. 13 to give students a chance to meet MSU members who support the lesbian-bi-gay and transgendered community.

The reception is by invitation only, but the exhibit is free for everyone and will be open at the Union Green Room today. After making an appearance at Lansing's Real World Emporium, 1214 Turner St., it will return to campus at the International Center from Nov. 14 to Nov. 18.

East Lansing, Mich.

Blue Jean pact called 'victory'

By **DAVID STEARNS**
State News Staff Writer

A November agreement that resolved the dispute over spring term's "Blue Jeans Day" was called a victory Sunday by MSU College Republicans Chairperson Jeff Holland.

The MSU Lesbian/Gay Council filed a complaint with the University Anti-Discriminatory Judicial Board June 10, saying the MSU College Republicans' flier promoting "Straight Shirt Day" was discriminatory and violated University policy.

The agreement stated that a letter be submitted from Holland including an apology to ASMSU for unauthorized use of its logo on the "Straight Shirt Day" flier and for violating University laws of placement and posting of the handbills.

The agreement "does not constitute an admission of wrongful discrimination by the (MSU Lesbian/Gay Council), nor is it based upon any findings of the Anti-Discrimination Judicial Board," the report states.

LESBIAN/GAY Council Assistant Director Aryc Mosher said the group was satisfied with the agreement.

"We're satisfied in the sense that the College Republicans have an understanding that they can't have discriminatory activities," Mosher said. "Straight Shirt Day is fine with us as long as it's not done in a discriminatory manner."

But Holland said his group has no plans to resurrect "Straight Shirt Day."

"There won't be anything like that again," he said. "People would see it as beating a dead horse."

Although the group is "ideologically against homosexual rights," the MSU College Republicans were protesting the jeans day just as a group would protest against foreign policy in Central America or the Strategic Defense Initiative, Holland said.

"WE WERE protesting the activity and not a way of life," Holland said. "We didn't have to apologize for what we believed in."

While the organization does not think the Lesbian/Gay Council should be protected as a minority group by an MSU anti-discrimination policy, Holland said the Republicans follow it as law.

The out-of-court settlement reached Oct. 26 was signed in November by Holland, Mosher, ASMSU Executive Director Lance Brown, and Sallie Bright, mediator for the Anti-Discrimination Judicial Board and counsel for the human relations department.

The mandatory letter, written by Holland on Nov. 17 to Brown and Bright, stated that the MSU Campus Republicans "do not actively promote discrimination toward anyone, and we will continue that policy." The letter said "Straight Shirt Day" was intended only as a protest of other activities.

Subsequent to the agreement, Mosher was to ensure the 1988 "Blue Jeans Day" be held with a public rally and that it be advertised at least two weeks before the event to help avoid confusion.

Mosher's letter states "we realize that there should be some sensitivity built into 'Blue Jeans Day' to less offend those students who do not wish to show support for human rights."

OUT ON CAMPUS

► The University of Akron (Ohio) Gay-Lesbian Task Force has formed a hot line to serve students as well as the community at large. The telephone line, (216) 375-7877, is operated 9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m., M-F, by specially trained volunteers who provide referrals on gay businesses and social services, as well as AIDS information and safe-sex guidelines.

► The Lesbian/Gay Council at Michigan State University (MSU) in East Lansing has asked the university to take disciplinary action against the MSU College Republicans for deriding the gay group's Blue Jeans Day with a Straight Shirt Day.

According to the *Michigan State News*, the council submitted a complaint with MSU's Anti-Discrimination Judicial Board. Council director Aryc Mosher said that if convicted, the GOP organization could lose its status as a registered student organization or be required to issue a public apology.

On the council's Blue Jeans Day, scheduled during MSU's Gay/Lesbian Pride Week in May, students were asked to wear blue jeans to demonstrate support for gay rights; it was expected that some heterosexuals would experience antigay comments, showing them the kind of discrimination homosexuals face on a regular basis.

But the College Republicans distributed fliers calling Blue Jeans Day a "ridiculous farce" and urging heterosexual students who were "against homosexuals" to "fight back" by wearing white shirts, with their jeans that day.

In filing their complaint, the gay group was quoted as saying, "We regret that such drastic measures have to be taken, but the council has...the responsibility to the university's student body in general to assure that no other individual or student organization discriminates against or harasses anyone."

► Members of Gay & Lesbian Alumni of Lawrence [Wis.] University (GLALU) are seeking former students. Lawrence's alumni magazine will not allow GLALU to advertise in its pages, so contact the group directly at: GLALU, Old Chelsea Station, P.O. Box 234, New York, NY 10011

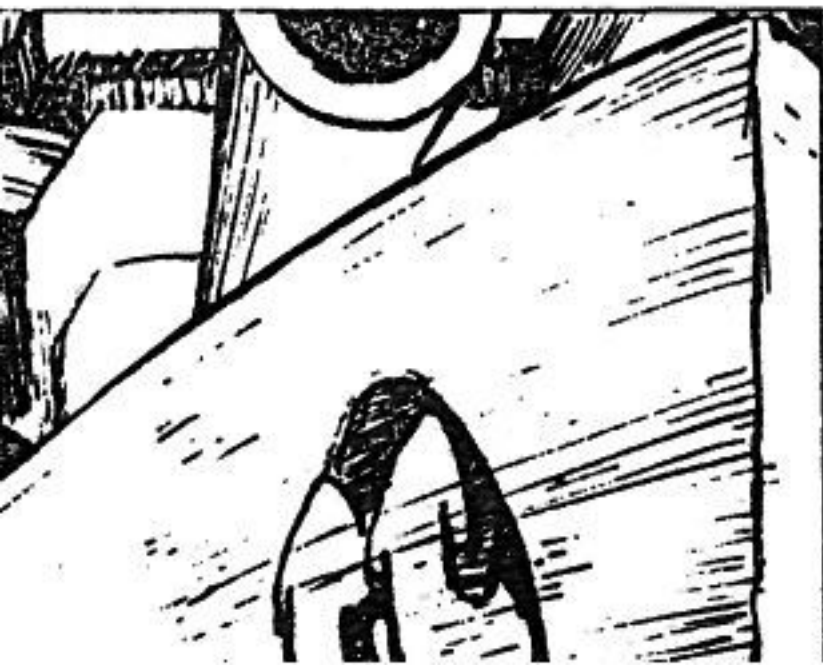
again. MSU's 15 meal program for the next year discounts only \$72.00 per year when it should return \$318.75. Living on campus next year doesn't sound so great after all.

Steven P. Weikal
Hubbard Hall

Open invitation

I agree with Carol Schuck that Jesus loves homosexuals (SN, 4/12), but there is a difference between loving people and approving of their lifestyles.

Although I am not a member of Maranatha Fellowship, I do not believe that their action of protesting funding for gay/lesbian activities constitutes "intolerance of fellow



human beings." Their stand is not against a group of people, for whom their Savior gave His life, but rather against a way of life which is incompatible with a life lived to His glory. It is true that Jesus did not condemn the adulteress woman (John 8:3-11); yet at the same time, He in no way condoned her sin. His parting words to her were, "Go and *sin no more.*"

Jesus calls us to the same thing. His purpose in coming to earth was not to give us a code of rules to live by, but rather to give his very life for us so that in committing ourselves to Him, we can be given new life. This means we no longer live for ourselves, but for Him who loved us and gave Himself for us (II Cor. 5:15). If a person turns to Jesus, it means that he must turn away from all that doesn't please Him (2 Tim. 2:19). You can't have it both ways.

Am I saying that if someone is gay he can't come to Jesus? Of course not! But, if anyone does come to Jesus, his life will be changed, sometimes slowly and painfully, but always joyfully, into a life that pleases God. So, if someone becomes "devoutly Christian" he cannot remain devoutly gay.

David DeGraaf
Bailey Hall

St
News
4-16-82
p.4

AIDS kills local gay leader

By TOM MICHELS
State News Staff Writer

One of the men active in the development of MSU's Gay Pride Week, which is being observed this week, died of AIDS Saturday.

Rick Rapaport, 31, died at Lansing's E.W. Sparrow Hospital from complications resulting from acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

Rapaport is the third person to die of AIDS in the Lansing area this year. There are approximately 60 people suffering from the disease in Michigan.

AIDS, originally thought to be found primarily in homosexual males, is also common among hemophiliacs and intravenous drug users. The disease weakens the body's ability to fight infection, and doctors estimate that approximately 60 percent of AIDS victims die within two years of diagnosis.

RAPAPORT'S DEATH falls in the midst of the 1985 celebration of Gay Pride Week, which will run through Saturday. The week is designed to increase attention to problems faced by lesbians and gays.

In 1981, Rapaport wrote, filmed and produced a series on Gay Pride Week for WELM-TV.

"This was the first of the sensible Gay Pride Week celebrations at MSU," his mother, Geraldine, said Monday. "I was very, very pleased with the work he had done with it. I think he was a damn good friend. He was also a hell of a son. I couldn't

have asked for a better one."

A 1972 graduate of Lansing's Eastern High School, Rapaport attended U-M from 1972 to 1974 and graduated cum laude from the MSU school of journalism in 1982. Rapaport also served as a reporter for The State News in 1981.

"Rick was a very intense individual; he was a vital force on the paper's editorial board," said Jim Mitzelfeld, State News editor in chief during the 1982-83 school year. "He frequently played the devil's advocate to question the traditional views of others."

THE GAY and lesbian community will miss Rapaport's drive, innovative abilities and dynamic personality, his friend, Matt Gatlin said.

"Rick was a leader," Gatlin said. "Rick would come up with ideas and put them into action. He was a motivator."

Rapaport also had served as a research assistant to Robert Greene, a former dean of MSU's urban affairs programs who is president of the University of the District of Col-

umbia.

Greene could not be reached for comment.

In addition to being active in anti-nuclear and environmental protection organizations, Rapaport had planned to open a bookstore in Lansing, his brother, Roger, said.

ALTHOUGH HE will be missed, Rapaport's death could help MSU's gay community, said Tim Zlomak, director of the MSU Lesbian/Gay Council.

"I think maybe it will shake people up and make them more aware of what kind of a threat this is," Zlomak said.

The MSU Lesbian/Gay Council will make a donation in Rapaport's name to a local AIDS foundation, Zlomak said.

Services for Rapaport will be at Gorsline-Runciman East Chapel, 1730 E. Grand River Ave., Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. The Rev. Rod Reinhart and the Rev. Ann Garrison will officiate.

Home economists to meet

An intellectual revolution in home economics is the focus of the Home Economics Educational Midwest Regional Research Conference Thursday and Friday.

Marjorie Brown, professor emeritus of home economics education at the University of Minnesota

and a specialist in the field, will present the keynote address at 9:30 a.m. Thursday at the Harley Hotel of Lansing, 3600 Dunckel Road.

Her speech, "The Need for Alternative Modes of Research in Home Economics," is open to the public.

HETEROSEXUAL

PRIDE WEEK

WEEKS ACTIVITIES:

*MON-FRI, MAKE LOVE AND PARTY

*SAT, ALTON PARK SOFTBALLING

*SUN, SMILE, RELAX, AND DONT WRITE ABOUT IT
IN THE PAPER I I

SPONSORED BY: **B.G.O.Y.O.**

BE GAY ON YOUR OWN

(BECAUSE WE'RE SICK OF READING ABOUT IT)

S.N. 5-24-82 P.9

Group needs more staff members

By KEVIN KETELS
State News Staff Writer

Although four out of the six board positions have not been filled, leaders of the Alliance of Lesbian-Bi-Gay Students (ALBGS), said they are still planning a strong year of student activism.

Co-directors Kimberly Hauze and Audrey Anger said this year's goals include continuing lesbian-bi-gay support groups and Sunday night rap sessions, providing social outlets and promoting community awareness about lesbian-bi-gay issues.

Hauze and Anger said they also are looking forward to the Oct. 11 National Coming Out Day, and participating in the annual Washington D.C. pride march and MSU Gay Pride Week.

Anger said the lack of executive members should not affect the amount or quality of ALBGS programming.

"It's not a major concern. From what I understand, we're running all right — right now," she said. "It would be nice to get other people in

here, but we have a lot of support staff and people in appointed positions who are doing the work."

Anger said many organization members are unable to hold executive board positions because of other commitments.

The group is continuing their search to fill the positions, Anger said.

"It is a matter of finding people who have the energy to do the work," Hauze said.

Although it is difficult to identify exactly what a member is, Hauze said about 300 people attended at

least one ALBGS function last year.

A main aspect of ALBGS, Hauze said, is to educate those in the MSU community about lesbian-bi-gay issues.

"We would like to bring our lives out into the public, like using case panels to discuss lesbian, and bi-gay lifestyles. This makes people deal with issues they may not otherwise have chosen to do," she said. "We would like to see an outreaching to make people aware that we are here and we deserve respect."

AS
IP

Council hosts coffeehouse

WHAT: Coffeehouse
WHEN: 8:15 p.m. Sunday
WHERE: Union's Purdue Room
ADMISSION: Free

The Lesbian/Gay Council will sponsor a coffeehouse at 8:15 p.m. Sunday in the Union's Purdue Room.

The event will include a poetry reading and music. It is a social event with an incredible sense of sharing, said Lesbian/Gay Council member Christopher Meyer, a Lyman Briggs senior.

"The performers are also the audience," he said. "They will share poetry that is important to them and portions of plays that

are meaningful to them. A lot of performers are doing their own songs."

The show was first performed in May during Lesbian/Gay Pride Week, but last term was the first formal presentation, Meyer said.

There are no formal auditions for the coffeehouse. Interested performers only need sign up by calling the Lesbian/Gay Council at 353-9795, said Lesbian/Gay Council member Eric Hoheisel, a social science senior.

"(At the show) you could ask and see if there's time for your performance, but they'd prefer if you sign up in advance," he said.

—Suzanne Wimmer

Gays, lesbians 'liberated' 20 years ago

State News

By PEGGY MURRAY
State News Staff Writer

In the 1960s, many gays and lesbians were told they could not have a drink in a bar or were arrested because of their sexual preference.

But fighting against this type of discrimination is a fairly new movement for the gay and lesbian community. The battle began in June 1969 at the Stonewall Inn basement bar in New York.

This year MSU's Lesbian/Gay Pride Week commemorates the 20th anniversary of Stonewall — the first time a group of lesbians and gays

fought back against police whom they believed violated their rights and randomly closed down their hangouts.

Phil Duran, Lesbian/Gay Council's assistant director, said Stonewall was "the spark" that began a larger movement ensuring the rights of gays and lesbians.

TODAY IS Gay/Lesbian Awareness Day, a time for people to be aware of sexual diversity and the right to be different.

Although the actual anniversary date of Stonewall is June 28, the Council celebrates in May while most students are still on campus, he

said.

Henry Messer, a board member of Michigan Organization for Human Rights, lived very near Stonewall during the time of the confrontation. Messer was a member of a conservative gay rights organization called Mattachine, which organized lectures and talks to help people understand it was OK to be gay, he said. He did not participate in the rebellion.

Stonewall was an unlicensed, illegal bar that was believed to be Mafia-owned, Messer said. Police had closed down the legal bars frequented by gays and lesbians in an attempt to "clean up" Please see RIGHTS, page 2

RIGHTS

continued from page 1

Greenwich Village, leaving no legal places for gays and lesbians to go, he said.

Stonewall was a basement bar that catered to the "young, footloose gays who had no place to go." Most had no jobs and many were "drag queens" — they had nothing to lose, Messer said.

POLICE RANDOMLY raided the bars looking for "payoffs," he said. But on June 28, 1969 something different happened.

"Somehow, no one knew how, the boys began to rebel," Messer said. "They began to throw pennies, as if to say, 'here's your payoff, cop.'"

Patrons were so unruly that police were forced into the bar to call for help. Windows were broken, the bar was set afire, and people piled onto fire engines and rocked them as they came through the street, Messer said.

The attitudes had changed; gays no longer behaved like sheep, he said.

"(Before Stonewall) the fact that you were gay automatically meant that you didn't have rights — I don't believe most gays feel that way anymore," Messer said. "I'm sad to say that there are a lot of non-gays

that still believe that."

THE CONFLICT at Stonewall gave a sense of strength to the gay/lesbian community, he said.

"From that day, gays in the United States and in the whole world found

a new type of world," Messer said. "It is a different world. No longer is it considered that gays have no rights."

In 1970, MSU began a campus support group, the Gay Liberation Movement, which had its first meetings in the basement of Snyder Hall, Duran said. In 1976, the Gay Council was formed and was transformed into the current Lesbian/Gay Council in 1979.

**We're here for the confused,
unsure . . .
even the straight.**

**Lesbian/Gay Hotline
372-8519**

**Sunday - Friday
7 p.m. to 10 p.m.**

Councils seek special voting unit on ASMSU Programming Board

By AMY BARNES
State News Staff Writer

The MSU Handicapper Council, the Lesbian/Gay Council and the Women's Council may wield more power on the ASMSU Programming Board if students give them the nod spring term.

The three councils aim to form a separate unit on the Programming Board to increase their voting powers.

The Programming Board passed a bill supporting the proposal Feb. 11 and handed it to the the ASMSU Student Board for approval. The Student Board will vote tonight, and if passed as expected, the proposal will be put up to a referendum vote by MSU students during spring term registration.

The three organizations are members of the Programming Board Public Services Council, along with the Asian Pacific American Student Organization, the Coalition of Hispanic Students for Progressive Action, the North American Indian Student Organization and the Office of Black Affairs.

Currently, each member of the Public Services Council — one of 10 Programming Board councils — holds one-seventh of the voting power. The three groups do not feel this is reasonable.

Tara Williams, Women's Council director, said the groups want higher visibility and greater autonomy on the Programming Board.

"We want better equity on the Board," she said. "The system is not fair right now."

Lesbian/Gay Council Director Scott Bronson said the seven public service organizations represent over 1,000 students, and there is an unfair vote distribution because some activity boards represent fewer members but receive one vote.

The three groups, backed by the four other Programming Board Public Services Council members, decided to band together, because of the fundamental difference between them and the other member organizations who fight for racial equality, he said.

"We fight a different type of oppression," he said. "It is a non-racial issue."

Lesbians and gays: forgotten minorities

By FLODEAN S. RIGGS
State News Staff Writer

When fights for civil rights are remembered, marches by ethnic groups and women immediately come to mind, but lesbians and gays often are overlooked, a Lesbian/Gay Council member said.

Phil Duran, the Lesbian/Gay Council representative for ASMSU's Programming Board, said blacks, Native Americans, Hispanics, Asian Pacific Americans and women are recognized as campus minorities, but lesbians and gays are not.

Minority groups work to raise awareness for their struggles with such activities as Take Back the Night, Black History Month and Civil Rights Awareness Month, Duran said.

MSU's Lesbian/Gay Council members also work for the same recognition, but the response often is different.

TO CLEAR up misconceptions about lesbians and gays, the council schedules lecture discussions and shows a series of movies — that deal with lesbian or gay issues, Duran said.

Some of the movies may be viewed as controversial, but people of all ages and backgrounds attend them, he said.

Although movies are trendy, the forums — which help to open minds — are the council's most beneficial offering, he added.

"There are a lot of misconceptions," he said. "There are a lot of strange impressions people have about lesbians and gays.

"The discussions give people a chance to talk on a rational level," Duran said. "They're really good . . . very positive."

MEAGAN FRIEND, a council member, said students ask important questions during the forums, inquiring about the relationships between gays or lesbians and their families and friends.

But she said a more compelling question students sometimes ask is whether the lesbian or gay lifestyle is determined biologically or environmentally.

Duran said the panels help the council to attack homophobia effectively — fear caused from a lack of understanding of lesbians and gays.

Friend agreed the discussions are worthwhile.

"The biggest thing we have to deal with is fear and ignorance," Friend said. "So we try to educate people."

BUT DESPITE the programs, Friend said when council members march on campus during "Pride Week," they are not always greeted positively.

"We get harassed," she said.

Duran said, once during "Pride Week," some individuals — who may or may not have been council members — scribbled pro-gay sayings on campus sidewalks. While the writings had basically the same intent as messages from other student groups and marchers, a wave of pessimism emerged, he said.

The negative responses are not institutionalized discrimination, Duran said. They come from misinformed people, he said.

The establishment of the Lesbian/Gay Council, then called the Gay Council, was a sign of the times, Duran said. It was a result of the Gay Liberation Movement, which occurred about the same time of the Black Power Movement and the struggle for women's rights.

It was not long before gays and lesbians formed and appeared on campus as a group in 1970, he said.

Lesbian/Gay Week aims at awareness

By PEGGY MURRAY
State News Staff Writer

In the early 1970s, MSU students were afraid to dance — at least some of them.

Gays and lesbians were afraid to hold dances in the Union because of treatment they might receive from other students, said Leonard Graff, the keynote speaker at the Lesbian/Gay Council's dinner and dance Friday night in the Union.

About 60 people — mostly men — danced fast and cheek-to-cheek to popular music played by a disc jockey. The dance kicked off Lesbian/Gay Pride Week events.

Phil Duran, Lesbian/Gay Council assistant director, said women have alternative events and groups in which to participate, which makes it difficult to get them to come to the dances.

NIK GERVAE, a U-M linguistics and computer science junior, said he came to the dance because his friend invited him, but also because U-M does not have Lesbian/Gay dances. Gervae said he had heard a lot of bad things about gay and lesbian dances.

"I was terrified the first time I attended one of these things," Gervae said. "But I learned the

truth — we're all normal people. If you want to find perverts you have to go look for them."

James Madison senior Paula Brantner said she has not missed a dance yet. Although she is not a lesbian, she said she likes to attend the events. Brantner said she is concerned about the treatment of gays and plans to go to law school to become a gay rights lawyer.

"All these people are my friends," she said. "I have a lot of gay friends."

Criminal justice senior Jerry Mattioli said the Council, which sponsored the dance, is a very important group for students.

"IT'S TOUGH to 'come out,' it's tough to deal with your sexuality," Mattioli said. "If 10 percent of the population is gay, then nightly 10 percent of the people are going through a trauma that they don't know how to deal with."

Among the events scheduled for this week are:

- Monday — Candle Light Vigil for Human Rights at 9 p.m. near the Union.
- Tuesday — Gay/Lesbian Awareness Day (GLAD).
- Thursday — Workshop on Gay and Lesbian relationships at 7:30 p.m. Union Purdue Room.

ROTC program still under fire

Activities bar lesbian, bi, gay students

By AREEYA CHUMSAI
and JEAN L. BONNETTE
State News Staff Writers

Two MSU student groups are discussing how the campus ROTC program continues to exclude lesbian, bi and gay students.

Although ASMSU and the Student Council are partway through respective fact-finding missions, neither of the groups is ready to present recommendations concerning ROTC to the University.

During an open forum Monday night, ASMSU's Student Board policy committee gave interested students a chance to express their opinions. While some students said the Board should recommend moving Air Force and Army ROTC programs off campus, others disagreed.

Representatives from ROTC, the Alliance of Lesbian-Bi-Gay Students and other students discussed how the ROTC program affects the University and how lesbian, bi and gay students feel they are being discriminated against.

Lt. Col. Donald Schulz, a military science chairperson, said the leadership and excellence qualities ROTC encourages are available to any student through military science classes. However, some students — including lesbians, bis, gays, and students with physical or mental problems are not entitled to take part in the program's extracurricular organizations or receive scholarships, he said.

"Any student can take four years of military science," Schulz said. "ROTC on the other hand is run by federal law."

And federal law excludes lesbian, bi and gay citizens from serving in the armed services, he said.

Kirn Greymalkin, Alliance co-director, said there is no factual data to prove lesbians, bis and gays are a greater military risk than heterosexuals.

"There are about 4,000 lesbian and gay students and who knows how many bis on campus," Greymalkin said. "How many of those students want to get involved? Gays, lesbians and bis are in the military and are serving honorably."

During Tuesday's Student Council meeting, the exclusion of certain students by the ROTC surfaced again.

Although both student organizations say they don't want to limit scholarship opportunities for students who depend on ROTC for financial aid, they agree ROTC is discriminating against lesbians, bis and gays.

The question both groups are raising is: Should MSU allow an organization that discriminates to remain on campus?

Steven Schwinn, ASMSU Student Board chairperson, said more than 50 schools across the country are fighting to remove ROTC from their campuses.

ROTC has been on MSU's campus for 75 years, and as a land-grant institution, MSU is required by the Morrill Act to maintain courses in "military tactics," Schulz said.

In 1989, MSU received \$1,620,000 in grants and research funds from the U.S. Department of Defense.

excluding those who are not "friends of the bar" is blatantly discriminatory and possibly illegal. Also, his statement in his ad, "Are you tired of going to the bar to meet men and ending up talking to boys all night?" is not only derogatory but ridiculous. I've not heard too many women in East Lansing bars complain that "there's too many 'boys' here — I want to talk to a 'man.' "

Somers' solution of excluding people 18-20 is a bit drastic coming from a bar that makes such a feeble attempt at enforcing the law as Mac's — the best solution for all is admitting people over 18, but at least making an attempt at enforcing the asinine law. Other bars do.

Mike Knowles
East Lansing

Such tolerance!

To all those wonderful people who believe they are being so kind as to put up with all those minorities such as blacks, women, Jews, and so forth. Thanks so much. Your kindness is appreciated. How can anyone blame you for being opposed to gays?

On Wednesday, a very interesting letter appeared in the State News where an individual described how appalled he has become with the gays trying to gain their rights. After all, they aren't human, are they? You know, if we let things continue to go on with these disturbed people, they may advance as far into our society as women.

It's ridiculous how a woman gets equal pay for the same job a man does. Worse yet, they may even earn as much money as those Jews! Perish the thought. They will soon invade society and be teaching our future children and fixing our future plumbing. Who knows? They may be doing those very things right now.

p.4
Rachel Margutes
Yakeley Hall

Rice is all right

Jim Mitzelfeld's column on the opinions and attitudes of fraternities that appeared in The State News on Jan. 20, 1982, proved that, not only is Mitzelfeld a poor writer, but he is also prejudiced. Although his fictitious story might reflect the true convictions of fraternities, it makes an unwarranted attack on Birmingham Brother Rice. As alumni from Brother Rice, we feel that Mitzelfeld's portrayal of a former Brother Rice student as a rich, racist frat boy is a gross and prejudiced stereotype. Like most Catholic schools, Brother Rice has a great cross section of students, from both ends of the economic scale and of all nationalities and races. This cross section is probably much greater than that of the high school Mitzelfeld attended, Birmingham Groves, where he undoubtedly gained his prejudice and incorrect attitude of Brother Rice. In attempting to display the failings of fraternities, he inadvertently showed his prejudices, that date back to high school. Mitzelfeld clearly owes the school of Brother Rice and its alumni a public apology.

Jack Harrington
Greg Smith
Case Hall

~~State News~~

~~1-26-82~~

~~Gruff Letter~~

Mr. Bruff,

I am in receipt of your letter of December 4th (SN, 1/6) to the alumni of MSU and must voice my complete and utter disgust at your recent actions.

Lesbian-gay ads get support from readers

By ANN E. FISHER
State News Staff Writer

An unusual newspaper advertising campaign, produced by the Lesbian-Gay Council, is faring well, according to a Council spokesperson Monday.

Matt Gatson said there has been little negative response — less than expected — and an encouraging number of requests for educational panels, which was the goal of the first ad which appeared in the State News Jan. 13 listing the names of MSU administrators and staff.

"We've had a couple of negative incidents, but I've had people actually congratulate me on the street for the ad," said Gatson, adding that those compliments did not come from just lesbians and gay men.

"A few people called to say they didn't agree with using the peoples' names," he said, "But the idea was so they couldn't shrug the ads off. We wanted to reach them personally and come to the residence halls and talk with them."

GATSON SAID he met with Jim Wall, vice president of student affairs and services, and Ron Stump, assistant director of student activities, in December and talked with them about the ad.

"Everyone listed is either employed by the university or are in a student government position. Their names are a matter of public record," he said.

"Wall said he would inform them of the ad. If the

information didn't filter down, it's not our fault," Gatson said.

"The overall goal is to let people know it's okay to be gay," Gatson said, "The ads are also meant to reach out to closeted lesbians and gay men for their own physical and emotional well-being and to educate heterosexuals about gay concerns.

"The main reason I felt it should be done is because I denied my own homosexuality for many years and was very unhappy about it," he said, "I realize the anguish closeted gays and lesbians go through thinking they are different when they're really not."

GATSON SAID the council had no more than the normal problems getting financial support from the Associated Students of MSU Programming Board for the ad campaign, which began Jan. 13.

"There was a tremendous amount of questions to be answered, just like anyone who gets money from ASMSU," he said, adding, "Probably because I was a member of ASMSU, they grilled me a little harder."

Gatson, who has been working on the idea since the beginning of fall term, said the campaign probably couldn't have been done in the past.

"People are becoming more aware of human rights," he said, "Three years ago it would have been very difficult — not that it was easy this time."

A point of order

In his letter of 1/6/82, Professor Lewis correctly stated the case as to why "scientific creationism" is not, and cannot, be considered a science. My concern here is with his remark regarding the exclusion of the supernatural from scientific thought. This central criterion to the scientific process extends much further back in time than the "... 300 years ..." referred to by Dr. Lewis. It is more appropriate to give credit to the Ionian School of Philosophy in ancient Greece (6th century BC) for emphasizing the need to remove supernatural first cause as an explanation of natural events. This is not to say these philosophers rejected "gods." Their cosmologies are filled with divine figures. But, the supernatural played no role in their explanations. For example, Thales postulated that earthquakes occurred when the waters upon which the earth floated became agitated. Although the specific answer is wrong, the fact that no reference is made to Poseidon, or any other god is what is of significance.

The capacity for the rational examination of nature omitting the supernatural extends back in human history over 2500 years and not merely three centuries.

Theodore Lopushinsky
Department of Natural Science

Open minds not hostilities

Two inspiring letters appeared in The State News on Monday, the 17th. They were titled "Greek Intolerance," by Annette Weathers, and "Gays: apologize to the victims," by Gil Huston. To acknowledge Annette for sticking her neck out, we called and offered our thanks. During the conversation we found that our call was but one of many. However, the others had been negative. For this we are sorry; for her effort, we are thankful.

As members of the Lesbian/Gay Council we support the goals of the organization. However, as individuals, we agree with Gil Huston's letter and extend an apology to those persons whose names appeared in the advertisement (1/13/82). We feel this ad did violate those individuals' rights and invited antagonism by taking the form of a challenge.

It seems silly for us as gays to be judgmental toward a point of view when the Council itself is striving to eliminate the barriers to acceptance

caused by self-righteousness. However, the Council's intentions were good. It is our opinion that this ad fell short of creating the camaraderie needed to develop an environment conducive to acceptance. We do not feel it necessary for people to change their minds, as stated in the ad, but simply to open them.

Douglas Hughes
Dean Frick
East Lansing

A new fight for age-old fetal rights

Nine years ago tomorrow, the Supreme Court ruled that the unborn child is a "non-person." Applauding that decision was Dr. Bernard N. Nathanson, a New York obstetrician-gynecologist, who was the first physician in the leadership of the National Association for Repeal of Abortion Laws.

New findings in embryology have changed Dr. Nathanson's position on legalized abortion. He now believes that:

"Biology requires any civilized society to react with revulsion at the Supreme Court's policy of abortion on request..."

One of the new findings that convinced Dr. Nathanson is the fact that the embryo overrules the chemical/immune attack that the mother's body mounts against this foreign



invader. This proves that the embryo is not just a part of the mother's body. Nine years, and over nine million abortions later, it is time for us to realize, as Dr. Nathanson does, that an embryo or fetus is "an inescapable part of the human community."

Michael James Dunn
Michael Hugh Burney
Bryan Hall

State News 1-21-82 p. 4
A bunch of losers

Picture this: You are walking down a hallway of a major city newspaper. Suddenly, you hear great whoops of laughter in an office up ahead. Your curiosity beckons you to find out what is going on. As you enter the office, you inquire of a secretary what the hoopla is all about.

"Well," she giggles, "we just had a young gentleman from MSU's State News editorial staff apply for a job here."

Being unfamiliar with the publication, you probe further, to find out why his past journalistic work on The State News would cause him such ridicule.

"Well you see," said the woman, "The State News' editorial staff is so unimaginative that all they ever do is print daily assaults on the fraternity system. Rarely do they ever print anything in the student's interest."

Wise up State News and lay off the greek system. If you are truly the

"student's newspaper" then you have no right to harass countless thousands of those you supposedly represent.

Andy Prentice
Case Hall

Shame on the SN

Using a Fifth Avenue advertising ploy, the Lesbian/Gay Council (SN, 1/13) successfully caused a stir in our community. They got what they wanted; a lot of talk and publicity, about their organization. Unfortunately, the effort was improperly executed.

First, I question the judgment of Michael Sheldon and The State News in printing this ad. Surely a publication of some merit would not permit such a bold, distasteful, and unjust ad to be run. Not predicting the furious outrage of the more than 350 people (myself included) those names were listed is obviously poor management.

Second, I question the effectiveness of the ad and the public image the Lesbian/Gay Council sought to attain. If an organization wishes public attention, there are better methods of achieving it. It seems desperation and frustration motivated the Council in this effort.

I accept the challenge of the Council. However, I am not sure they know what they are up against, as I do not intend to contest on their terms.

Susan Kolon
Wonders Hall

G. News 1-27-82

Furgus' folly p. 9

Dear Dave Furgus,

This is in response to your letter on 1/20 which asks the gay community to go back into the closet or at least to segregate themselves from the straight community. You stated it is best if gays don't live on dorm floors or in communal houses. Do you also want gays to use different water fountains and to stand in the back of the bus? Really, this homophobic out-of-sight-out-of-mind philosophy is quite interesting.

How far do you want to take this discrimination? Should families disown their own flesh and blood or should we just dispose of them the way Hitler did? Then you wouldn't have to worry your little egocentric head about the chance of actually talking with a gay and liking it.

This separation that you call for is impossible. "We are everywhere" has become a slogan of the gay liberation movement for good reason. So has "Keep your laws off my body." Hopefully through acceptance we can try to understand the diversity and richness that abounds.

Thomas Mooney
East Lansing

Are you sexual?

Think about the sexual feelings you've had in your lifetime. Fantasies and experiences are not any different when understanding emotions. Be honest, and you'll find your feelings are extremely diverse in content and social acceptance.

So often labels are abused ("homosexual," "heterosexual," "bisexual" . . .), that segment individuals into insensitive categories of "us" and "they" or "normal" and "abnormal." It is a lack of understanding of oneself that wants separation. Labels put frightening images and uncomfortable ideas on other people.

In order to gain sexual awareness, start with oneself (and keep an open mind!). Think of *all* your fantasies and very first experience and later fantasies and more recent experiences. We are all more alike than different. Only with acceptance and understanding of ourselves can all people exercise true sexual freedom.

Cynthia Ann Wright
East Lansing

serve the students' wants and needs, *not* to increase the balance on one department's profit and loss statement.

For those people who wish to play these video games, the service has been provided in the ground level recreational area of the Union. I feel the Union has failed to ascertain information pertaining to their market's desires, and in doing so has overlooked the fundamental purpose of the facility's existence; to serve the students and affiliated parties of Michigan State University.

Peg Freeman
East Lansing

No minced words

I am soon to be erstwhile library clerk here at MSU. Since I have no qualms (and if you all wish to bomb me, you had better hurry), I will freely admit that I have harbored an anti-Greek sentiment ever since coming to MSU. I'm sorry, but people whose "individuality" seems to de-

pend on dressing, talking and thinking like everyone else within a rather large clique, and then act smug about it, offend my — admittedly idyllic — sense of how college-educated persons should conduct themselves.

The recent adolescent blathering in *The State News* concerning what intelligent people have long recognized as a trivial and indeed moot issue (it is an antiquated maxim that those who rail about others' sexual preferences are actually exhibiting a self-conscious lack of confidence in their own sexuality), is quite depressing, and evokes a disheartening feeling of resigning pathos for the state of our thought-to-be-liberal "higher educated."

What truly amazes me, however, is the extent to which these people are so willing to flaunt their ignorance and childishness to all the world. One can only shake one's head and paraphrase Dickens: "Ah Epsilon, Ah humanity!"

Jerry Quick
East Lansing

Video madness

I am voicing my extreme displeasure concerning the move of four computer video games in the Union Grill. The back room in the grill area is used predominately for academic study purposes. The grill room *had* been an excellent area for independent studying and group projects.

These video games emit loud, obnoxious noises which cause a great disturbance. Thus, they impinge on the student environment enjoyed by so many.

The manager of the grill attributes the reason for the move of the games to the fact that they were not making any money where they were before. I feel the function of the Union is to

THE STATE NEWS

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Friday, January 29, 1982

Editorials are the opinions of State News. Viewpoints, columns and letters are personal opinions.

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1-14

Take a Stand Against

HOMOSEXUAL PERVERSION

Romans 1:27 "And likewise also the men leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly . . ."

GAY RIGHTS COULD BE OUR NATION'S LAST RITES

**9:00 TONIGHT
110 ANTHONY**

**Special Guest Speaker: Rev. Stephen Harrison,
noted heterosexual Bible teacher**

formula for the number of people that can die per minute per gallon of jet fuel.

The most ludicrous aspect of Mr. Cardella's letter is his lament that with a cut in GSL's, Uncle Sam will be losing out on college grads that can provide death technology. Obviously Mr. C got mixed up somewhere along the line. It seems that he doesn't need a university education anywhere near as much as training in a terrorist camp.

I do admit, Mr. Cardella, that the military industrial complex produces "amazing" technology. However, to term it "excellent" is more than warped, for it has been produced with only the most vile of intentions.

Kevin Howard
Lansing

St News
4-15 p.4

Christ: Gays sick

In "What Christ Felt" (SN, 4/12), Carol Schuck writes from the standpoint of Christ tolerating homosexuality. From what I have read in the Bible, I would have to disagree.

The only reason Christ bothered to come to earth was to expose man's sickness as "sin" and offer the eternal cure. He never hid this purpose from

those who humbly followed Him.

Once, when the religious leaders back then asked why He dined with tax-gatherers and sinners, He said, "It is not those who are well who need a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." (Luke 5: 31-32)

Two passages in the New Testament — I Corinthians 6: 9-11 and I Timothy 1: 8-11 — label homosexuality as sin. Other verses say that everyone has sinned at least once, leaving all of us flawed in God's flawless sight.

Christ did not dwell on the specifics of man's many sins. All He did was offer the eternal solution to anyone choosing to take Him seriously.

Al Palmeri
Emmons Hall

Zionist racism

I would like to protest the inaccurate reporting by The State News reporter with regards to the Land Day Rally sponsored by the General Union of Palestine Students (SN, 3/31).

First, Zionism is described as the "Jewish people's cultural identity" in

A guide to gay living in the cap

By KIM SEVERSON
State News Staff Writer

While the network of the gay men and lesbian communities in most cities is extensive, discovering where to find organizations and hangouts that cater to homosexuals can be difficult.

Because of the large gay population in Lansing and East Lansing, both cities have laws on the books protecting gays and lesbians from discrimination in housing, at work and in government. The communities have also developed several organizations that serve as political, social and support groups.

The most extensive group is the MSU-connected Lesbian/Gay Council, in 442 Union. The council offers rap groups, educational groups, a hotline and serves as social organizer, participating in and running Lesbian/Gay Pride Week each spring.

"We have movies, coffeehouses, dances and various speakers," said President Matt Gatson. "While we primarily serve the gay/lesbian community, there are no requirements that a person be gay to be involved. We also cater to bisexuals and straights with gay friends."

GATSON SAID the council talks to about 500 people each term and has connections for legal and medical advice. They also run a housing referral service. They also run a housing referral service.

In addition, the council runs a gay rap group which meets at 6 p.m. every Sunday in the Union lobby. Topics range from "coming out" to politics. It is open to anyone.

The phone number for Lesbian/Gay Council is 353-9795 and the phone number for the gay hotline is 482-3307.

For parents of lesbians and gays, there is a support group that meets on the third Monday of every month at 7:30 p.m. in the United Ministries Church, 1118 S. Harrison Road in East Lansing.

Parents of lesbians and gay men was formed a year ago when three women found they needed to share their

experiences concerning their children's homosexuality.

"WE'RE PRIMARILY A support group. We have speakers and presentations occasionally," said Anna, a founder of the group. "It is a family thing where people can talk to each other and find out more about lesbian and gay lifestyles."

The group's phone number is 484-4945. They also can be reached at this address: P.O. Box 46, Okemos, MI, 48864.

For alternative literature relevant to both lesbians and gay men, there is the Book Co-op, 201 1/2 E. Grand River Ave. The co-op has the best collection of lesbian-oriented books, records and periodicals in the city and is developing a new section of alternative literature for gay and non-sexist men.

Director Diane Silver said the co-op's new rental library is also growing fast and that the co-op provides literature for many of MSU's women's studies programs.

The co-op offers memberships for \$5 per year which includes access to the library. Rebates are given twice a year and the amount varies depending on the amount of purchases made. The co-op is staffed by volunteers and is always looking for more people to add to their staff. A volunteer can get up to 15 percent off purchases.

FOR LESBIANS, Lansing offers the Helen Diner Memorial Center which sponsors dances and social events and is also the home of the Lesbian Connection, a

newsletter written for and by lesbians. The center, which has been operating for five years, is run by a group of women called the Ambitious Amazons. The center, in addition to coffee houses, softball games and dances, houses a lesbian library, and offers a housing referral service.

To get in touch with the Amazons and find out more about the Center, call 484-3903 or write: P.O. Box 811, East Lansing, MI, 48823.

The newly formed Greater Lansing Women's Co-op (Lesbian Co-op) is another woman-run resource, available in the Lansing area. The purpose of the co-op is to provide a lesbian-controlled organization that focuses on a variety of activities. Aside from social functions, such as picnics and dances, the co-op is forming a lesbian mothers group and an MSU chapter aimed directly at students.

"We are working toward being a resource center and clearing house for lesbian activities," said one board member. "We want to also focus on outreach to women outside the mainstream community and be a forum for political discussion."

The dues for the co-op are \$3, \$5 and \$7 depending on income, but the dues will be raised soon because the co-op

State News
welcome week Edition 1982

o gay living in the capital area

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is currently updating some by-laws. The contact phone number is 484-3940. Ask for Cindy.

DESPITE THE size of Lansing, there are only three bars that cater specifically to gays and lesbians. Two are located a few doors apart in the "red light district" of Lansing. Joe Covello's, 535 E. Michigan Ave., is a woman's bar that does, however, contain men at times. The men are usually gay but there are one or two straights who occasionally stop by.

Just down the street is Trammpps Disco, 523 E. Michigan Ave. Trammpps is male-oriented but usually a nice male-female mix can be found. The music is louder than at Joe's and at times the mood is a bit more upbeat. Both bars charge cover on the weekends and Trammpps also charges cover on Thursday nights — the most popular night at both places for the college crowd.

A bar that has recently come out as gay is The Twilight Zone (formerly Apples), 2359 W. Grand River Ave. This is a neighborhood-type place that hosts euchre tournaments on Sunday afternoons and a birthday party for everyone with a birthday that month at the beginning of each month. The place is quiet and mixed, but does have women's night on Monday and men's night on Thursday.

Anti-gay group said to violate 'U' policy

By MICHAEL B. MILLS
State News Staff Writer

An anti-gay, religious group violated MSU's outside speakers policy Wednesday night when it refused to allow gay rights activists to voice their opinion, according to the director of the Lesbian-Gay Council.

The meeting, titled

"Take a stand against Homosexual Perversion," attracted more than 200 people to Anthony Hall, with about half of the crowd expressing support for gay rights. The Rev. Stephan Harrison, who spoke at the meeting, refused to allow members of the audience to express their opinions.

"They (The Way, the group which sponsored the event) were in violation of MSU's policy on open speakers, which is in the Spartan Life student handbook," said Matt Gatson, director of the council. The handbook states: "At meetings dealing with controversial issues, ample time shall be allowed for ques-

tions and free discussion of the ideas presented."

Ronald Stump, coordinator of student services met Thursday with two leaders of The Way to review the policy with them.

"I FEEL they were not fully aware of the policies that govern open meetings at MSU," Stump said. "Outside speakers must allow open discussion of ideas. However, the people from The Way felt that that kind of give-and-take discussion could not occur in that atmosphere."

Stump said he feels they now understand the MSU policies on outside speakers.

John Stauffer, a member of The Way which he

described as a "biblical research and teaching fellowship ministry," said he wasn't surprised the meeting didn't include an open forum.

"That's the way it was designed to be," Stauffer said. "If there were to be a question-and-answer session, it would have been absolute chaos. They (the gay activists) were welcome to come and hear if they wanted, but if you were to let them ask one question, you lose total control."

Dan Bushong, campus co-ordinator for The Way, said he felt the meeting accomplished the group's goal.

"It was not a debate. The meeting was organized

simply to take a stand against homosexual perversion in society," Bushong said.

AMONG SEVERAL attacks at gays, Harrison attempted to satirize a statement by a New York bishop that the ordainment of a lesbian priest was "a great step forward."

SEE POLICY — page 16

Athlete sought for trial no-show

MSU senior basketball star Kevin Smith has had a bench warrant issued for his arrest by East Lansing's 54-B District Court for failing to appear at a trial on a shoplifting charge.

The warrant, signed by Judge Daniel Tschirhart after Smith did not appear for his April 5 jury trial, means Smith can be charged with contempt of court and required to post a cash bond to ensure his appearance in the court, a spokesperson for Tschirhart said.

Smith is charged with stealing two bottles of wine from Majik Market, 210 E. Michigan Ave., March 28, 1981. The offense is a

misdemeanor and carries a maximum penalty of 90 days in jail and/or a \$100 fine.

Smith pleaded not guilty to the charge and requested a jury trial, the spokesperson said. The original trial date was set for Nov. 9, 1981, but a series of postponements because of the basketball season put the trial back to April 5, the spokesperson said.

Smith, who transferred to MSU from the University of Detroit in 1979, played three years for the Spartans, averaging 15.6 points and 4.5 assists per game his senior year. He was named first-team All-Big Ten in 1981 by the Associated Press.

MSU Basketball Coach Jud Heathcote said Smith's failure to appear before the court was probably because of a breakdown in communication.

"Kevin is the unfortunate victim of a piece of publicity that is totally unwarranted," Heathcote said.

Neither Smith nor his lawyer could be contacted for comment.

UAB/SUP
Presents

"A NIGHT OF
CONTEMPORARY
MUSIC"

st. News 4-16-82 p.3

continued from page 3

Halfway through the statement, however, gay rights supporters responded with a 45-second standing ovation for the bishop's remark. The pro-gay half of the audience often heckled Harrison, who at one time, threatened to call campus police if order was not maintained.

Harrison closed the meeting after a half-hour reading of biblical scriptures, which followed a satirical presentation of gay-related terms and phrases. He then announced the meeting was over, adding that those wishing to stay and discuss the Bible were welcome.

"This meeting is officially over," he said. "Those who want to stay and not interrupt may do so, but if you're going to cause a disturbance then get the f--- out."

Harrison's followers reacted with a standing ovation.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS from both sides of the issue lingered around the auditorium for more than a half hour after the meeting "ended."

Then, Harrison came back and spoke of a "three-pronged plan" to "eliminate homosexual perversion around campus."

After the meeting, Harrison said he was satisfied with the outcome of the meeting.

"I did what I came here to do, to preserve the word regarding homosexual perversion," Harrison said.

The Rev. Dr. Anne C. Garrison, special assistant to the Bishop of Episcopal diocese in Michigan in matters of human sexuality, said that the Biblical readings quoted by Harrison were either taken out of context or were incorrectly interpreted.

"Their point of view is satanic," Garrison said, adding that she would never agree to a debate with Harrison.

"They (Harrison or The Way) are unscriptural, un-scholarly and incapable of intellectual discussion and I will not debate them," Garrison said. "They are beneath contempt."

St Petersburg 4-16-82 p. 16

LESBIAN

Local groups offer an opportunity to meet in a relaxed atmosphere

By DENISE NOTZON
State News Staff Writer

Like it or not, Moral Majority, the fact is that "pot" no longer refers to a large kettle and "dyke" is not a wall to hold back water.

Both are slang terms for phenomena that are becoming increasingly common these days.

And if Kinsey Institute research statistics are correct, about ten percent of all women — or 2,000 at MSU — are lesbians, some through a political feminist choice and others simply through a desire to share their lives primarily with other women.

Since lesbianism is largely ignored by society and rendered invisible — one of the few remaining taboos — lesbians who are new in town or are closeted may feel lonely and isolated.

This can be especially true in a dorm situation where lesbians fear rejection or harassment by roommates or other homophobic individuals who may feel threatened by their presence.

BUT LESBIANS need not feel alone or unsupported by other women. Lansing has a fairly large, active lesbian population, and the only trick is in finding it.

MSU's Lesbian-Gay Council, while primarily catering to and run by gay males, can put you on the right track with a referral to lesbians who can provide information about community activities and resources.

The East Lansing Book Co-op, located on Grand River across from the MSU Union, is an invaluable resource for feminist and lesbian literature. The Book Co-op also has information on lesbian activities and events.

In addition, there are area groups in which lesbians can realize their creative potential.

Lesbian Community Theatre, an open collective which sponsors productions by and for women, varies in membership from about seven to more than 30 during productions. The collective is always open to new members, with the only requirement being that you make a commitment to LCT.

Policies and decisions are determined by members of the collective, who are striving to meet the demands and needs of LCT and the lesbian community.

DON'T LIKE acting? Get bored with those theatre types? If singing is your forte and you always dreamed of accompanying Holly Near, then the Lesbian Chorus may be your best bet.

The chorus performs at lesbian-benefit coffeehouses, concerts by women musicians, and other events throughout the lesbian community. No singing experience is required, but enthusiasm is a must.

Chorus members meet every Sunday afternoon to practice and share each other's company, and new members with voices only or instruments are always welcome, according to the director, a senior music student at MSU.

Songs by women, lesbian songs, and chorus originals are performed and arranged by chorus members.

For details on both Lesbian Community Theatre and the Lesbian Chorus, as well as other community activities, write to P.O. Box 89, East Lansing 48823 for the Lesbian Newsletter.

THE NEWSLETTER, now in the beginning stages, will serve as a forum for discussion about topics of concern among lesbians in the area and as a general information aid.

Athletics are popular in the lesbian community, and softball in the summer is like orange juice in Florida. Although the season is over, the Lesbian Softball Invitational, a Lansing lesbian's equivalent to the World Series, is coming up in late August or September.

Again, the newsletter will give the pertinent details later.

In keeping with the general oppression and invisibility of lesbians and gays, there are very few places where lesbians can feel relaxed, safe, and comfortable in public.

One such place was the Women's Center, hidden in a remote section of Lansing, which provided a place for women to dance and party together, or to simply hang out.

BUT A FIRE destroyed the center last July, so the next obvious place to go is Joe Covello's, a bar on Michigan Avenue near the Capitol. Granted, this is not exactly a plush, glamorous disco, but it does provide a space where lesbians can dance, socialize, and enjoy one another's company.

Feminist politics are an integral part of many lesbians' lives, and these politics reflect themselves in different ways among women.

Separatism is an important issue among some lesbian women. Loosely defined, separatism means choosing to devote one's energy to women only, and to exclude to the largest degree possible men from one's life.

But there are varying degrees of separatism. Some women forego traditional career opportunities to work at lesser paying jobs with women — or lesbians — only, and others simply keep their social and personal lives separate from men.

"It's a difficult issue, and requires a lot of serious thought and decision about who you interact with and how," says Susan, a 23-year-old student who became a lesbian last year.

"But I really love sharing my life with women in such a supportive atmosphere. The benefits of lesbianism far outweigh the hassles," she says.

Whether you are new to the area or new to lesbianism in general, there are resources, information, and people available who can help. It may seem difficult, but in the long run the supportive women-identified atmosphere should be worth the initial effort in seeking it out.



Photo : Jean Manning

ASMSU debates results of ROTC pressure plan

By KEVIN KETELS
State News Staff Writer

Since the first ASMSU action plan addressing the "exclusionary" policies of the MSU ROTC program was passed, student leaders have disagreed on whether the plan's initial goals have been attained.

On April 16, ASMSU passed an action plan to pressure the Department of Defense into changing ROTC's policy against lesbians, bis and gays — a policy Army ROTC Lt. Col. Donald Schulz says is exclusionary, not discriminatory, which would be illegal.

Aron Mefford, Student Assembly chairperson, and Chris Meyer, gay co-director of the Alliance of Lesbian-Bi-Gay Students (ALBGS), said their expectations since the plan's implementation have not been fulfilled.

Chris Kemnitz, outgoing

ASMSU executive director and Jeff Wilson, outgoing ASMSU chief of staff, said that with the constitutional transition, the ASMSU action plan's goal was to create contacts and educate those students who will be working on the plan next year.

They said they were satisfied with the plan's action.

David Peeples, ASMSU ROTC protest coordinator and outgoing ASMSU director of minority and progressive student affairs (DMPSA), could not be reached for comment this week.

Citing the importance of ASMSU's decision to address the issue, Mefford said the ROTC assignment to the DMPSA may have to be reconsidered.

"I expected more to get done — I had more expectations," Mefford said. "With (the Council of Racial and Ethnic Students and the Council of Progressive
Please see ROTC, page 2

ROTC

continued from page 1

Students), it is too much for (the DMPSA) to do — we owe it to the students."

Part of the ASMSU plan is to work with the ALBGS in protesting the policy. According to Meyer, he was not informed of a meeting between ASMSU student leaders and Provost David Scott May 18 to discuss the ROTC policy.

"If things were working closely, I would have known the date of and been invited to attend the meeting with the provost," he said. "It's all good and well, but no one asked us whether we wanted to work with student government — it's not a good way to go about things."

Although Meyer said ALBGS is interested in the issue, his organization can only wait to see if the ASMSU measures will be

effective.

"If student government isn't able to implement this plan, it may be necessary to bring a more concrete, resolved, harsher and more radical proposal — for instance, the phase-out of ROTC," he said. "Unless there is progress, the case for more action will be strengthened."

Kemnitz said educating the new DMPSA on the issue and collecting information regarding the policy were the only two realistic goals for this term.

"We talked to the provost about the history of the issue and the possible courses of input by students into administrative bodies," he said. "I think finding someone to work on it full-time

2 Thursday, June 4, 1992 / The State News

would be difficult at this time of the year where there are many distractions."

Wilson said that it was important to gather information at this time rather than rush into the issue.

"The way it was planned by Student Assembly, it was not conducive to getting much done other than training — because

they are just now approving the new DMPSA," he said. "If (Peoples) were to have focused only on that issue, other issues he was dealing with would have gone to the wayside — it wouldn't be fair."

Gay author to 'let loose' on issues of war, AIDS

By KELLEY L. CARTER
STATE NEWS STAFF WRITER

If there is one thing the Vietnam War and the AIDS epidemic have in common, it's this: It isn't always easy to talk about either of them.

Christopher T. Leland, a 45-year-old Wayne State University professor, said that thought ran through his mind as he sat down to write a novel dealing with the two subjects.

Leland, a gay author, comes tonight to MSU to conduct a reading on "Letting Loose," a story of three people who are forced to confront memories of a missing-in-action war veteran.

"I think the book has a very significant gay story line, but one of the things which has happened since the emergence of the gay novel is that there has been a tendency to ghetto-ize it," he said. "Like stories about gay people are only read by gay people."

The MSU Alliance of Lesbian-Bi-Gay and Transgendered Students is sponsoring the presentation, which will take place at 7:30 p.m. today in the Union Northwestern Room.

Leland said the book focuses on Barry, the protagonist's gay half-brother.

"One of the (plots) behind the book is to try to tie these two catastrophic incidents together," Leland said of the war and the AIDS epidemic.

Brent Bilodeau, MSU assistant for lesbian-bi-gay concerns, said Leland has "a fascinating background as a gay

author."

"I think that one of the things that the novel captures is a unique and historical perspective of the gay movement," he said. "He is a delightful man and has a terrific sense of humor. I think that comes across in his novels."

Leland said it's crucial that straight people read stories about gay people. He said the most significant thing he tried to accomplish in his novel was to sum up the last 25 years.

"Essentially, it's a novel that covers the last 25 years of American history, particularly as it related to (gays and the war)," Leland said. "One of the things I think the book tries to do is to be global."

Bilodeau said Leland spent last summer teaching a gay studies class at the University of Madrid.

"In many ways, I think that Chris has lived his novel," he said. "They are all things that Chris has been touched by, shaped by and moved by. He is a dynamic speaker and a delightful reader."

Maggi Rohde, an alliance co-director, said students should come to hear Leland for a lesson in diversity.

"I believe that diversity is a good thing and learning about the way other people live their lives is certainly an enriching experience," she said. "Reading books about any experience that I'm unable to have wouldn't be useful. If straight people are able to read about gay people, then maybe they can understand better."

Activist began 'U' gay rights

By ALYSSA R. HARVEY
State News Staff Writer

Leonard Graff believes so strongly in the gay and lesbian movement that he has devoted much of his life fighting injustices which obscure their rights.

Graff said he did not fully acknowledge he was gay until his late teens, just before he arrived at MSU.

"For me, if I look back now, I'd say I was probably gay in junior high school though I didn't know it," he said.

Graff, a 1973 MSU social science graduate, said he stopped questioning his sexuality by the time he arrived on campus in 1971. It took him just three or four days to get involved in working for gay rights.

GRAFF, 39, said because he always had been interested in political events, it seemed natural for him to become active in the gay rights movement at MSU.

Once involved in the organization which was then called The Gay Liberation Movement, Graff brought an action against MSU in 1972 because they refused to let the organization fly a banner announc-



ing Gay Pride Day.

Through this action, Graff played a large role in enabling the first Gay Pride Day to take place on campus.

Graff said the mood on campus was very conducive to political activism.

"At that era, there was a very liberal mood in the country," he said. "It was the era of the hippies, the black civil rights movement, the women's movement. There was a lot of political and social change going on."

THE ONLY obstacle to face on campus was the administration, Graff said.

"It seemed like there were always extra bureaucratic hurdles that we had to clear," he said.

He said one time it took the organization about a year to reserve space in one of the campus buildings.

When he was not busy being a campus activist, Graff said he used to hang out at the movies, gay bars, parties and the Union.

"The Union building was sort of like a gay center," he said. "There were always gay people there."

THE ONLY really negative thing Graff experienced during his college days as a result of being gay occurred at another campus — U-M.

"I was stoned once walking through their campus," he said. "I was holding hands with my lover."

After the incident, Graff said he felt fear, humiliation and perplexity about a society that does not tolerate differences.

The isolation gays and lesbians can feel because of their differences is one of the reasons Graff said he feels things such as gay pride marches and gay rights laws are necessary.

While in East Lansing, Graff lobbied successfully for East Lansing's gay rights ordinance, which was one of the first in the nation.

(GRAFF, A Detroit native, also



State News/KYNDELL THOMPSON
1973 MSU graduate Leonard Graff

helped organize the first statewide coalition of gay organizations and the first Gay Pride Day parade in Detroit.

"Celebrating Gay Pride Day is important for your self affirmation that you are a good person, that gay is good," he said.

Graff took the ideas he fought for Please see ALUMNI, page 2

Wed. May 10, 1989
The State News

ALUMNI

continued from page 1

at MSU into his professional career.

In his private law practice, Graff worked on many gay rights cases, including one which brought about the official recognition of gay student groups on a private university campus.

To become even more active in the issues of gays, Graff left his law practice in 1982 to become legal director of the National Gay Rights Advocates, which handles legal cases related to gay rights.

ONE LAWYER and friend of Graff's, William Molner, said he has the utmost respect for the work and legal abilities of Graff.

"He is forging new laws on important civil rights issues," he said. "He has chosen to dedicate himself to the advancement of his cause."

In his private life, Graff said his relationships with "straight" friends have not dissolved when they found out he was gay.

Molner, who attended Thomas Cooley Law School with Graff, said Graff's being gay did not present a problem with their friendship. He said it was not until a year and a half into school that he discovered Graff's sexual preference.

Gays: apologize to the victims

The Lesbian-Gay Council managed to scratch bedrock (SN, 1/13) by publishing the names of private citizens in their "public-service announcement." It was clearly the most blatant display of hypocrisy I have witnessed in a long time. Just as homosexuals claim to have the right to express their sexuality, the same right also exists for those private citizens to exclude themselves from the activities (and even the cause) of the Council. In printing those names,

State News 1-18-82 p. 4

they did no more than violate the rights of 377 people personally, and indirectly hundreds of others comprising the rest of the organizations

Don't be mistaken. This is not an attack on the preferences of the members or on the basic right of the organization to exist. (I decline to address that controversy at this point. It makes no difference in this matter.) This is merely a criticism of the method used to attract attention to their cause. (They may feel proud to have attracted my eye, though. I've been known to be extremely passive when it comes to social issues.)

The ad states that the words "gay" and "lesbian" may create an idea in my mind. They're right. What that idea may be is not important. What is, though, is that they failed to improve that image and have apparently taken every possible step to further alienate themselves from potentially open-minded individuals.

In conclusion, I offer a challenge to the Lesbian-Gay Council. If they care to present to me any evidence that they had obtained prior permission to print those names I would gladly rescind this letter publicly. If not, I feel that they owe that same consideration to those whose privacy they have violated. I have been led to believe that it took a great deal of inner strength to organize the activities of the Council into a productive concern. How about having the strength to print an apology to those who have been victimized?

Gil Huston
East Lansing



Who are Gays ?

A Gay person is no different from anyone else—he or she is just like your neighbor in the dorm. However, the same-sex life style allows individuals to plan their futures with persons of the same sex.

Originally, the word "homosexual" was used by medical doctors to clinically describe physical, sexual acts. Such a word cannot convey a feeling of emotional attachment or of an essentially social relationship.

That is why Gay people prefer the term "Gay"—because it describes a life style that may or may not include a sexual act.

"There is probably more nonsense written about (same-sex life styles), more unwarranted fear of it, and less understanding of it, than of any other area of sexuality."

--Doctor Wardell Pomeroy, researcher and co-author of the Kinsey Report

Lend a hand

University students are well aware that a "new sexuality" is taking root throughout America. People are reacting against a sexually repressive society that is afraid of emotion and of sex itself. That society has created repressive laws to control love and expression of affection between individuals.

GLM represents a part of the new sexuality. We are showing society that Gay people do indeed exist. They are all around you.

GLM wants nongays to understand Gay people as individuals, not as a category. No single generalization about the nature of Gay people can be applied to all Gay people. On the contrary, Gay people exist in all walks of life, all professions, with a wide range of reactions to social, political and economic issues.

GLM seeks to secure for Gay people the same legal, social and economic rights now enjoyed by nongays.

GLM encourages Gay people to develop pride in their own identity, their impersonal orientation. GLM hopes nongays can begin to respect Gay Pride and Gay Power.



"You're SICK!"

At Michigan State and elsewhere, one of the things you can expect to hear about your Gay brothers and sisters is that they are "sick". When you hear a friend talk like that, it might be helpful to try to understand why he or she feels that way.

Some will say Gays are ill because some psychiatrists say so. But those psychiatrists have dealt only with Gay individuals who sought clinical therapy—people who felt they had mental problems in the first place. If we judged all nongays by only those who see analysts, we would conclude that all nongay people are sick, too.

On the other hand, when we use a more representative sample, the truth begins to emerge. In 1957, for example, professional researchers (under Doctor Evelyn Hooker, UCLA psychologist) studied matched pairs of both nongays and Gays who were not seeing analysts. They could find no real differences between them—in fact, could not tell them apart.

The position of the National Association for Mental Health is that a same-sex life style "appears to be as deeply motivated as normal heterosexual behavior." The NAMEH concluded that the living of a same-sex life style "does not constitute a specific or emotional illness." There is no evidence, either in empirical research or in the experience of other countries that a same-sex life style by itself endangers the individual or the society.



WHAT WE'VE DONE

Sept. 1972: Given you and some 8,000 other people this leaflet to publicize Gay is Good to the straights and to let the Gays know there are friends here at MSU.

August 1972: The Community House, a place run by gays for gays opened in Lansing. This building provides housing for gay tenants, holds the office of the Lansing Gay Liberation, the gay newspaper, and is a center for gay community services.

July 1972: MSU-GLM took Executive Secretary Jack Breslin to court over his retraction of permission to put a Gay Pride Week banner on campus.

June 1972: MSU-GLM marched in Detroit to celebrate the anniversary of the Stonewall Riots--Gay Freedom Day. Aetha, Lansing's Queen, was the hit of the parade.

May 1972: Radical Gays participated in protesting the mining of Haiphong harbor--in the streets.

March 1972: MSU-GLM hosted a convention of gay activist groups from all over Michigan. The convention formed the Michigan Gay Confederation, the nation's first statewide organization of gay groups.

March 1972: The city of East Lansing amended its personnel rules to prohibit discrimination in hiring and firing on the basis of sexual orientation--a resolution initiated and pushed by MSU-GLM. This was another first in the country.

GAY LIBERATION MOVEMENT
24 STUDENT SERVICES BLDG.
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EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN

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LANSING, MICHIGAN

353-9795



Love and let Love.

HOW OPEN DO I HAVE TO BE? MSU-GLM is fighting the way straight society forces gays to play a role; no one in the Movement is forced to be any more open than they feel comfortable with! Liberation activities include all-gay parties, staffing the office phone, working on committees, writing letters, testifying before governmental agencies, demonstrating in the streets. All this is done strictly by volunteers--who choose what they feel comfortable doing.

WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO TO JOIN? There is no initiation and no requirement to prove your homosexuality. All gays (women, men, black, white, yellow, etc.) are members--just show up at a Liberation event and you're part of it. We might add, the meetings and activities are not orgies, contrary to popular opinion.

WHERE DO I CONTACT GAY LIBERATION? Call 353-9795, drop by the MSU-GLM office (24 Student Services), stop in at the Community House at 177 S. Pennsylvania in Lansing, or read *It's What's Happening in the State News* for announcements of meetings, parties and other events.

DO YOU CARE ABOUT...

FRIENDS

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HUMAN RIGHTS

RELATIVES

SEXUALITY

WOMEN

RELIGION

MEN POLITICS

RELATIONSHIPS

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442 STUDENT UNION
24 HOUR HOTLINE:
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Alliance of Lesbian-Bi-Gay Students Fall Dance



THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW

Now and forever, Don't dream it, Be it...

Saturday, Oct. 26, 1991
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night out at "Rocky"
Meet at Union outside Room 442
at 11:15 p.m. for rides
or meet us at Spartan Triplex Theater
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A REFERENCE LIST OF MATERIALS ON HOMOSEXUALITY PREPARED BY MSU GAY LIBERATION MOVEMENT BOX 416 EAST LANSING MICHIGAN THIS LIST IS INTENDED TO DRAW ATTENTION TO SOME WORTHWHILE MATERIALS THAT HAVE RECEIVED LITTLE PUBLICITY AS WELL AS TO EMPHASIZE ITEMS THAT TEND TO MOVE AWAY FROM STANDARD NEGATIVE VIEWS ABOUT HOMOSEXUALITY

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- ABBOTT, SIDNEY AND LOVE, BARBARA. SAPPHO WAS A RIGHT-ON WOMAN. CODE 1
- ALTMAN, DENNIS. HOMOSEXUAL OPPRESSION AND LIBERATION. CODE 2
- ANDERSON, LESBIANS SPEAK OUT II. CODE 27
- ATKINSON, RONALD. SEXUAL MORALITY. PUBLISHER CODE 10
- BAILEY, DEBRICK SHERWIN. HOMOSEXUALITY AND THE WESTERN CHRISTIAN TRADITION. PUBLISHER CODE 11
- BECKER, HOWARD S. OUTSIDERS/ STUDIES IN THE SOCIOLOGY OF DEVIANCE. CODE 12
- BELL, ARTHUR. DANCING THE GAY LID BLUES. CODE 27
- BENSON, R.D. WHAT EVERY HOMOSEXUAL KNOWS. CODE 13
- BROOK, RITA MAE. THE HAND THAT CRADLES THE ROCK. CODE 32
- SCHUBCHILL, WAINWRIGHT. HOMOSEXUAL BEHAVIOR AMONG MALES. CODE 14
- CLARKE, LIGE AND NICHOLS, JACK. I HAVE MORE FUN WITH YOU THAN ANYBODY/ A GAY MEMOIR. CODE 3
- CORRY, DONALD WEBSTER. THE HOMOSEXUAL IN AMERICA. CODE 15
- FISHER, PETER. THE GAY MYSTIQUE/ THE MYTH AND REALITY OF MALE HOMOSEXUALITY. CODE 1
- FORD, CLELLAN S. AND BEACH, FRANK A. PATTERNS OF SEXUAL BEHAVIOR. CODE 16
- GAGNON, JOHN, AND SIMON, WILLIAM, EDITORS. SEXUAL DEVIANCE. CODE 16
- GIOLON, ELSA. MOODS OF EROS. CODE 30
- GRAFF, JUDY. EDWARD THE DYKE. CODE 28
- HART, M.L.A. LAW, LIBERTY, AND MORALITY. CODE 17
- HOFFMAN, MARTIN. THE GAY WORLD. CODE 18
- HYDE, H. MONTGOMERY. THE LOVE THAT DARED NOT SPEAK ITS NAME. CODE 19
- KINKEY, A. C., POMEROY, W. B., MARTIN, C.C. AND GERHARD, P. H. SEXUAL BEHAVIOR IN THE HUMAN FEMALE. CODE 20
- KINKEY, A. C., POMEROY, W. B., MARTIN, C.C. AND GERHARD, P. H. SEXUAL BEHAVIOR IN THE HUMAN MALE. CODE 20
- HARTIN, DEL AND LYON, PHYLLIS. LESBIAN/WOMAN. CODE 4
- MILLER, ISABEL. PATIENCE AND SARAH. CODE 33
- MILLER, MERLE. ON BEING DIFFERENT, WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A HOMOSEXUAL. CODE 5
- MURPHY, JOHN. HOMOSEXUAL LIBERATION/ A PERSONAL VIEW. CODE 6
- ROEDERHOLTZER, W. DAUGHT, EDITOR. 15 GAY GOOD. CODE 21
- ONOF, JACK. THE GAY LIBERATION MOVEMENT. CODE 27
- PERRY, TROY. THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD AND HE KNOWS I'M GAY. CODE 7
- WRITENBER, W. NORMAN. MAKING SEXUALITY HUMAN. CODE 22
- REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOMOSEXUAL OFFENCES AND PROSTITUTION (CHND, 297.) (THE VOLPYNEN REPORT). CODE 23
- SCHOFIELD, MICHAEL. SOCIOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF HOMOSEXUALITY. CODE 19
- SCHUR, EDWIN M. CRIMES WITHOUT VICTIMS. CODE 24
- SPACK, THOMAS S. THE MANUFACTURE OF MADNESS. CODE 16
- TEAL, DONN. THE GAY MILITANTS. CODE 1
- WORTH, KAY AND VICKER, RANDY. THE GAY CRUSADERS. CODE 8

- HYLFF, PARKER. SCREENING THE SEXES/ HOMOSEXUALITY IN THE MOVIES. CODE 9
- VALLENTE, MICHAEL P. SEX/ THE RADICAL VIEW OF A CATHOLIC THEOLOGIAN. CODE 29
- WEINBERG, GEORGE. SOCIETY AND THE HEALTHY HOMOSEXUAL. CODE 3
- WELTGE, RALPH W. EDITOR. THE SAME SEX/ AN APPRAISAL OF HOMOSEXUALITY. CODE 22
- WINANT, FRANK. LOOKING AT WOMEN. CODE 29
- WOLFF, CHARLOTTE. LOVE BETWEEN WOMEN (RESEARCH ON LESBIANISM). CODE 3
- SLEEPING BEAUTY/ A LESBIAN FAIRY TALE. CODE 31

PAMPHLETS

- A.C.L.U. STATEMENT ON HOMOSEXUALITY. AUGUST 30, 1967. CODE 41
- THE ARMED SERVICES AND HOMOSEXUALITY. CODE 42
- ABERNE, DAVID. THE HINDSIGHT OF ONE HOMOSEXUAL STUDENT. CODE 26
- BARBETT, ELLEN. BUT YOU NEVER SAW ME/ A LESBIAN STUDENT'S REFLECTIONS OF TEN YEARS INSIDE HERSELF. CODE 26
- BARBETT, ELLEN. LESBIAN STUDENTS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES. CODE 26
- BLAIR, RALPH. COUNSELING AND OTHER STUDENT PERSONNEL SERVICES AND HOMOSEXUALITY: A NATIONAL REVIEW OF PROVISIONS AND OPINIONS OF DEANS OF STUDENTS, DIRECTORS OF COUNSELING, AND GAY STUDENTS. CODE 26
- BLAIR, RALPH. THE ETHNOGRAPHIC LITERATURE ON HOMOSEXUALITY/ A REVIEW. CODE 26
- BLAIR, RALPH. ETIOLOGICAL AND TREATMENT LITERATURE ON HOMOSEXUALITY/ A CRITICAL REVIEW. CODE 26
- BLAIR, RALPH. RELIGIOUS PROBLEMS OF HOMOSEXUAL STUDENTS/ POSITIVE PASTORAL RESPONSES--JEWISH, ROMAN CATHOLIC, CHRISTIAN SCIENCE, WOMON, LIBERAL PROTESTANT, AND EVANGELICAL. CODE 26
- BLAIR, RALPH. VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE AND GAY LIBERATION. CODE 26
- BIRNBAUM, WILLIAM H. ON OPENING AN ADMISSION OF BEING DIFFERENT/ A COLLEGE PRESIDENT LOOKS AT HOMOSEXUALITY AND COLLEGE PUBLIC RELATIONS. CODE 26
- BLUMENFELD, WARREN. THE NATIONAL GAY STUDENT CENTER OF THE NATIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION. CODE 26
- A ROLE ON INJUSTICES/ AN INDICTMENT OF OUR SOCIETY IN ITS TREATMENT OF THE HOMOSEXUAL. 1965. CODE 43
- THE CHALLENGE AND PROGRESS OF HOMOSEXUAL LAW REFORM. 1966. CODE 44
- COUNCIL ON RELIGION AND THE HOMOSEXUAL 1964-1966. CODE 44
- FINAL REPORT OF THE TASK FORCE ON HOMOSEXUALITY. 1969. CODE 45
- FISCHGRUND, CECILE. COLLEGE COUNSELING AND HOMOSEXUALITY/ A DISCUSSION BY COLLEGE COUNSELORS. CODE 26
- FLUCKIGER, FRITZ A. RESEARCH THROUGH A GLASS, DARKLY/ AN EVALUATION OF THE BIEBER STUDY ON HOMOSEXUALITY. 1964. CODE 43P
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