

Grand River Rainbow Historical Project

www.grandriver-rainbowhistory.ca/

celebrating the lives and times of rainbow folk in Grand River country

Guelph Gay Equality Newsletter → Guelph Gay & Lesbian Equality Newsletter → Guelph Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Equality Newsletter

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Guelph Gay Quality

JUNE 1983

GAYS DEPLORE RIGHTS BILL'S END

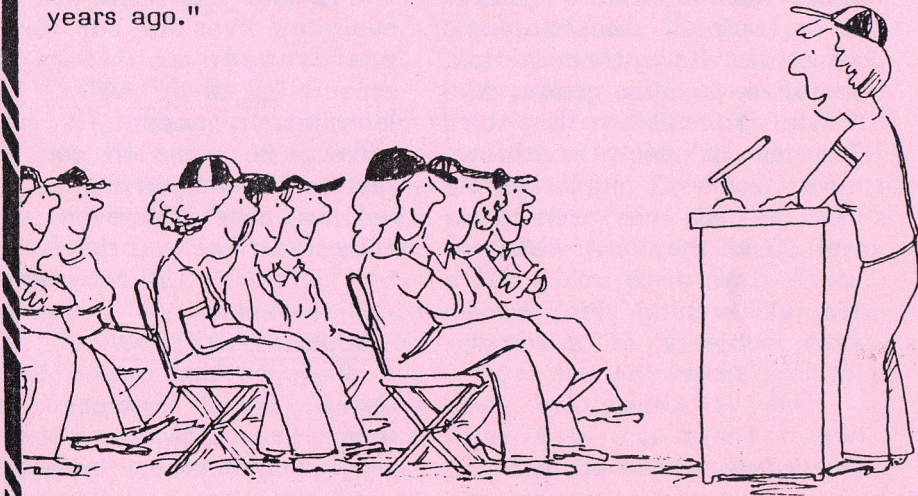
Ottawa (CP) - The sudden death of a homosexual rights bill in the Commons demonstrated the need for more gay people to discuss publicly the kinds of discrimination they

face daily, a spokesman for a homosexual lobby group said Thursday (May 12).

John Duggan, co-ordinator of Gays of Ottawa, was commenting on a Commons debate Wednesday on a bill designed to give homosexuals and heterosexuals equal protection in the Canadian Human Rights Act.

Some Progressive Conservative MPs opposed attempts by the government and New Democratic Party to send the bill to the Commons justice committee for study. The opposition effectively removed any chance for the bill getting passed or even debated again.

"It's a shame we are still having to argue for human rights at this point," Duggan said in an interview. "The government should have amended the Human Rights Act years ago."



"... And now I'd like to introduce the woman who organized the lesbian world into two softball teams ..."

Gordon Fairweather, human rights commissioner, has recommended such a change himself.

According to New Democrat Svend Robinson, who sponsored the private member's bill, and a Tory ally, Vancouver-Centre MP Pat Carney, up to two million Canadians are homosexual and could benefit from the bill.

Duggan said homosexual groups must concentrate more on changing public attitudes than on lobbying individual MPs.

HELP WANTED - WOMEN

No...this isn't a sexist job offer - but we do need help, especially from Women.

As many of you will know, we get together each Tuesday night about 8 PM usually in Room 536 of the UC building. At these gatherings we sometimes have a film, a speaker or a topic of discussion and sometimes its a time to talk, socialize or play games, like Trivial Pursuits. The third Tuesday of each month we have Womens' night. While men attend this evening as well (and they are welcome) we're trying to make it a special evening for Women with subjects of particular interest to us.

This is where we need help. There are still relatively few women attending.

We would like to encourage more and need input from Women as to what they'd like to see, talk about or do. Some things which have been suggested are hiking, horse back riding, baseball and sewing bees (no kidding), speakers on various topics and films. Some of the activities will have to be on weekends - I don't think we can have horses in the UC....Anyway please let us know what you need.

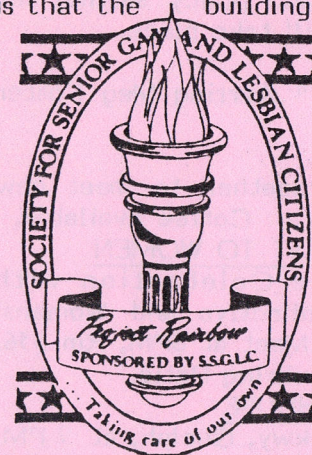
GGE is a support group to provide counselling education, role models and company for many Gay men and Lesbians, especially people who are just starting to come to terms with their sexuality. The more people we have attending on Tuesdays the more varied the group is - the more support we can provide. There is little positive reinforcement "out there" in our everyday lives for our sexual preferences or life-style, especially when we're just learning to accept it ourselves. So come to our gatherings Tuesday evenings and help us make GGE even more effective. See you there.....

Lin McInnes

PROJECT RAINBOW

Project Rainbow, a California based society for senior gay citizens, with a program that offers referrals

in housing, medical, legal, food assistance and employment, recently opened its new offices in Hollywood. Current residents of the huge apartment complex where the group is now located are nervous that the building will



be turned into a gay old folks home. One straight resident, aged 93, commented, "they ought to build a little island and send them all there. Those folks are too wild for us."

THE TOOTSIE ROLE

The smash success of Dustin Hoffman's drag role in Tootsie makes a lot of sense to at least one California behavioral scientist, Dr. Herbert Z. Francelli, who recently expounded at length to the National Examiner on his theory that everyone has a deepseated desire to switch sexual identities. Here are some of his more pithy observations: "we would all like to change sexual identity, if not actual gender, even the most macho and feminine among us.

The movie Tootsie permits us to live the experience vicariously through an actor, Dustin Hoffman. And that, of course, is the very safest way...a surprising number of men - executives to truck drivers - secretly wear frilly feminine underthings to work and to social gatherings under their outer clothing. Yet these are people whose romantic relationships are absolutely heterosexual. The phenomenon is more common than you might expect - especially here in California." Is that what is meant by the state of androgyny?

HELP YOURSELF

The sobering AIDS crisis has caused a furor frequently bordering hysteria with the Gay community. That's why it is so comforting to find a succinct, sensible pamphlet filled with facts and intelligent advice - such as, a list of the symptoms to watch for, the most sensible ways to get medical help and to select the right doctor if necessary. The brochure is available from the Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC), Box 274, 132 West 24th Street, New York, NY., 10011. The pamphlet is free, but donations are welcomed. As they say, help yourself!

If you have an article, story or any other material suitable for publication in this Newsletter, we need your input. Send it in to us today.

COMING EVENTS

Thu. June 2: GENERAL MEETING

GGE members and anyone else interested in the internal workings of GGE are invited to our June General Meeting. General business and policy setting for the organization will take place.

Tue. June 7: VIDEO MOVIE NIGHT

"A Different Story" starring Meg Foster and Perry King.

Tue. June 14: COFFEE HOUSE

An informal get-together to meet new and old friends alike. Coffee available.

Tue. June 21: OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO WOMEN

Summer Solstice Celebration with Womens' Issues Collective and Womens' Resource Centre. Meet at 8PM, Rm 536, for directions to Bullring Patio.

Fri. June 24: DANCE AT SCHOOLHOUSE

611 Silvercreek Prkwy, Guelph, at 9 PM. Don't forget your membership card for admission discount.

Sat. June 25: LESBIAN/GAY PRIDE DAY

The annual Lesbian/Gay Pride Day festivities in Toronto. For more information call Gayline.

Tue. June 28: DEMONSTRATION

With summer coming on this meeting will appeal to all the swimmers. One of our members will give a demonstration of C.P.R. Don't miss this one!

Tue. July 5: VIDEO MOVIE NIGHT

"Missing" starring Jack Lemmon. A critically acclaimed film from both the Gay and Non-gay film world.

PLEASE NOTE

ALL FUNCTIONS AS LISTED ABOVE ARE HELD IN
ROOM 536, U.C., UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH
AT 8 PM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED!