

LEXINGTON GAY/LESBIAN SERVICES ORGANIZATION, P. O. BOX 11471, LEXINGTON, KY 40575

# THE 1990 CENSUS AND US

from lyy Young, director of NGLTF's Lesbian & Gay Families Project

As you can see, 1990 ends in a zero. That means it's time for the decennial count, by the Census Bureau, of the entire population.

Ordinarily, the Census Bureau ritual would be of little or no consequence to the lesbian and gay community. But his year things are slightly different. Unlike past national counts, the 1990 census could have a direct impact on some of the issues affecting lesbians and gay

For the first time ever, the Census Bureau has added the category "unmarried partner" to the relationship section of the questionnaire. Expanding the selection choice beyond "roommate/partner" or "roomer/boarder", the new category is, according to some sources, the Bureau's attempt to get an accurate count of the number of heterosexual couples living together

without "benefit of marriage."

Be simple deduction, however, Census officials will also be able to determine the number of same-sex couples living together in committed relationships. That same-sex coupled information will be published along with the statistics on heterosexual unmarried partners. For those of us working in the lesbian and gay families arena, that information could prove vital to the success of our efforts in the future.

The Census Bureau has been roundly criticized for its failure to alert affected groups that the question even exists, or, for that matter, what "unmarried partner" actually means. There has been no outreach effort, no community education, no discussion with lesbian and gay activists in particular, about how best to ensure that the question is understood and answered accurately.

The Census Bureau does not perceive, or more likely, does not care that for lesbian and gay couples answering the survey honestly

involves more than a simple check off. The issue of government intrusion and privacy is a crucial one for many lesbians and gay men; yet, census officials have made no effort to counter the fear and apprehension that could lead to a serious undercount of same-sex

Given the Census Bureau's negligence, lack of forethought, and apparent disregard of the lesbian and gay community, what are our options regarding the 1990 Census?

For some activists in our community, the answer is a simple one: boycott the 1990 Census. Their rationale is basically the criticisms outlined above; a serious lack of outreach by the Census Bureau, coupled with a deep-seated concern over confidentiality, will lead to a gross undercount and a skewed statistical profile.

Unfortunately, this issue is more complex, and requires more than a simple solution. Whether we choose to answer or not, the question is on the survey. Statistics will be gathered, no matter what. Whether we choose gathered, no matter what. Whether we choose to answer or not, we will be living with the results of the census for the next decade. Public and private industry programs are affected by census data; social and economic policy is guided by that same data; legislative agendas are set, initiatives launched, and priorities determined by the numbers gathered. If we choose to deliberately absent ourselves from this process, if we elect to "disappear" what advantage do we gain?

Some lesbian and gay activists have predicted that as few as ten percent of those couple affected by the "unmarried partner" question will respond honestly. But, a recent poll conducted by the Washington Blade found that of the couples responding, seventy-five percent said they [Continued on Page 2]

- [ ] Please send me an introductory issue and information on GLSO.
- [] I'd like to become a voting Member of GLSO, including home delivery of the GLSO NEWS and discounts at GLSO functions. Membership fee of \$10/yr. individual, \$15/yr. couple, is enclosed.
- [ ] I don't wish to become a Member but please send me the GLSO NEWS each month. I enclose the \$5 annual fee.

Name:

Address:

City, St, Zip:

Mail to: Newsletter, P.O. Box 11471 Lexington, KY 40575

GLSO News is published monthly by the Lexington Gay Services Organization, Inc. (Lexington Gay/Lesbian Services Organization), P.O. Box 11471, Lexington, KY 40575.

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# **AUNT MARY**

Dear Aunt Mary,

My mother, who remains a strong member of a fundamentalist church, has just informed me that she read Dennis Altman's "The Homosexualization of America" and thought it was well-written. A friend gave me the book several years ago but I have yet to read the entire book. I'm not sure I can deal with this my mother is ahead of me in some of her reading of commentaries on lesbian/gay life. What should I do?

In a state of disbelief

Dear Disbeliever,

Read the book.

Aunt Mary

If you would like to write to Aunt Mary, send your letter to: Aunt Mary, c/o GLSO, PO Box 11471, Lexington, KY 40575. For a personal reply, include a stamped, self addressed envelope. All names are strictly confidential.

CENSUS [Continued from Page 1] would answer the question truthfully. Granted, the Blade survey was conducted in a major metropolitan area with a history of gay visibility. Similar results may not emerge from some small town or hamlet. Then again, they might.

Yes, there will be an undercount of gay and

Yes, there will be an undercount of gay and lesbian couples, just as there is with every other minority constituency in the United States. And, just as leaders in those communities have done following past national counts, we too will be able to offer valid arguments about why the numbers are not accurate: Census Bureau insensitivity, fears about confidentiality, the chilling effect of the on-going climate of homophobia in the US, etc.

Our responsibility now is to provide for our community what Census Bureau officials did not -- information and education. Our community must be persuaded to put aside the fear of being exposed and answer the Census honestly. We have nothing to lose by being truthful.

# US SENATE PASSES FEDERAL HATE CRIMES STATISTICS ACT

from NGLTF

The US Senate, February 9, voted by a 92-4 vote to pass the Federal Hate Crimes Statistics Act previously passed by the US House of Representatives. Before voting for passage, Senate lawmakers rejected, by 77-19, a move by Senator Jesse Helms (R-NC) to attach a four-part anti-gay amendment to the bill.

The landslide vote marks the first time in history of the Senate that the pervasive problem of anti-gay and lesbian violence has been addressed, the first time gay-positive legislation has passed the Senate, and the first time the gay and lesbian community has defeated Helms on an up-or-down, gay-related issue.

The bill requires the US Department of Justice to "acquire data about certain crimes which manifest evidence of prejudice based on race, religion, sexual orientation, or ethnicity."

Urvashi Vaid, executive director of the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force stated, "This bill is the beginning of the slippery slope downward for homophobic skinhead bigots, violent racists, anti-semites and other perpetrators of hate crimes." Vaid continued, "the US Senate sent a strong signal to the bigots and bashers in our country that violence against lesbians and gay men is as intolerable as violence against racial, religious and ethnic minorities.

The bill passed with an amendment offered by Senators Paul Simon (D-IL) and Orrin Hatch (R-UT), two major sponsors of the legislation. The amendment reads, "Congress finds that: (1) The American family life is the foundation of American society; (2) Federal policy should encourage the well-being, financial security, and health of the American family; (3) Schools should not de-emphasize the critical value of American family life; and (4) Nothing in this act shall be construed, nor shall any funds be appropriated to carry out the purpose of the act be used, to promote or encourage by Senators Paul Simon (D-IL) and Orrin Hatch be used, to promote or encourage homosexuality."

The Simon-Hatch amendment was considered a "pre-emptive strike" by bill supporters in an effort to head off a Helms' amendment.

The Helms amendment, overwhelmingly defeated by the Senate, stated, (1) The homosexual movement threatens the strength and the survival of the American family as the basic unit of society; (2) State laws prohibiting

sodomy should be enforced; (3) The federal government should not provide discrimination protections on the basis of "sexual orientation;" and (4) School curriculums should not condone homosexuality as an acceptable lifestyle in

American society."

NGLTF was instrumental in forming a powerful hate crimes lobby coalition that included People for the American Way, American Civil Liberties Union, Anti-Defamation League, American Jewish Committee, American Psychological Association, Human Rights
Campaign Fund and the Leadership Conference
on Civil Rights, among others.
Peri Jude Radecic, NGLTF legislative director,

credits passage to grassroots lobbying by thousands of gay and lesbian activists and their allies. Radecic stated, "Activists have moved their legislators on this issue. This bill shows

constituent lobbying work."

# LESBIAN SURVEY RANKS PARTNERSHIP **RIGHTS AS #1 ISSUE**

from Human Rights Campaign Fund

A recent survey of lesbians ranks partnership rights as their top issue for legislative advocacy. The survey was conducted by the Lesbian Issues and Outreach Project of the Human Rights

Campaign Fund.

Over two thirds of the lesbians responding to the survey directed to women who had contributed to the Campaign Fund or who had participated in its Speak Out program, picked partnership rights as the number one issue on their agenda. Lesbian and gay rights, abortion/privacy issues and parenting concerns followed close behind.

"It is time this country recognizes lesbian and gay families as entities just as important as the heterosexual families and just as deserving of support from our country's legal system," HRCF

director Tim McFeeley stated.

Kathleen Stoll, Director of the Lesbian Issues and Outreach Project, said the survey reaffirms the Campaign Fund's initiative for the National

Family Registry program.

"The survey shows that lesbians are angry that our families have no basic rights, protection or support. These very real families deserve the privileges and validation that society grants heterosexual couples," Stoll stated. "Until society is cured of homophobia, we must provide our own 'institutions' to celebrate our lives."

# LOCAL NEWS

# GLSO BOARD PREPARES FOR SPRING from Debbie Currie and Craig Clere

The January meeting of the GLSO Board of Directors began with a presentation by Charles Earley from AVOL's Stop AIDS Bluegrass Project. Earley explained the project to the Board and requested the Board's assistance in promoting Stop AIDS meetings. A question and answer session followed.

Edwin Hackney presented a pamphlet as a possible resource for Board approval. The pamphlet, "And God Loves Each One", is published by a support group within the United Methodist Church. Craig Clere suggested contacting Interweave, the Unitarian Universalist lesbian/gay group, about purchasing some of the booklets in conjunction with Pride Week.

Clere announced a one year advertising agreement with the Kentucky AIDS Education Program for a monthly one page ad. Beginning with the February issue of **GLSO News** nearly all layout activities for the newsletter have been computerized.

Bill Loggins, coordinator of the Speaker's Bureau announced a meeting in February. Two speaking engagements have been scheduled.

The treasurer reported continuing stabilization of income and expenses. Additional revenue has been generated by increased subscriptions to GLSO News and GLSO memberships. Reminders are now sent prior to the expiration of subscription or membership.

Work on GLSO's promotional brochure is nearing completion, with a rough draft to be presented to the Board at the February meeting.

GLSO's participation in Pride Week was discussed in some detail, as well as a fundraising drive in conjunction with Pride Week. Bill Loggins reported great success in lining up sponsors for a Raffle. John Cutright reported that Crossings has already pledged \$150 towards Pride Week. The first Pride Week Committee meeting will be held March 7.

Debbie Currie reported the January Coffeehouse and Dance generated over \$500 in profit. Currie suggested appropriating \$25 per month for an individual to control the stereo system at the dances. The Board approved.

GLSO Board meetings are open to the general membership and are held the last Wednesday of the month. Consult the Directory for a contact number.

# FROM DIGNITY'S PRESIDENT

Sometimes I worry that I have written this column for almost 4 years and that I repeat myself. My friends Melanie and Debbie told me the other day that there are only eight or ten messages in the world and their variations are played out over and over again. It reminded me of something Willa Cather (American lesbian writer) wrote, "There are only two or three human stories, and they go on repeating themselves as fiercely as if they have never happened before."

How true. How often we make the same mistakes, the same decisions, face the same choices as those around us. I think at how people have been treated over the centuries.

What have we learned?

Often, I think one basic human story is that people are basically unsure. How many times have people been cast out, rejected, scorned, even killed because people were unsure enough about others, about themselves, about how little differences seem more important than the basic similarities of people's lives.

As lesbians and gay men we have been treated differently for centuries because we are different. But then how different are we from all the others on our planet who have been treated differently as well. It makes me think of how I have treated others.

My human story is like so many others. I too am unsure. I, like everyone else, need to be told I'm valued, loved, and needed. I have been treated badly and treated others badly. I have been treated nicely and treated others nicely.

As I repeat this human story that has been repeated so often, I hope to break this cycle of judging people by how they are not like me and see how we are more alike than different. Those who wish to persecute me, persecute us, are more like me than they are different.

And as I write the column for the 30th plus time, I wonder how many times wonderings like this have been repeated. When does a story ever end? Like everyone else, I'm unsure. And we're all together on that.

I hope to see you at Dignity soon. Keith

# LOCAL NEWS

# PLANNING BEGINS FOR LOCAL LESBIAN/GAY PRIDE WEEK ACTIVITIES from GLSO News staff

This month the 1990 Lesbian/Gay Pride Week Committee will begin planning Lexington's annual June observance of gay and lesbian pride. The committee will meet on March 7 at pride. The committee will meet on March 7 at 7 pm for an organizational meeting. John Cutright, GLSO at-large board member, will coordinate the initial meeting. All lesbian/gay and supportive organizations are encouraged to send a representative to this meeting. meeting site or more information call Craig Clere (266-8887) or John Cutright (254-7396).

The Louisville March for Justice Committee has begun planning Pride Week activities in that city. The fourth annual March for Lesbian/Gay Rights is scheduled for Saturday, June 30, in

Louisville.

# STOP AIDS MEETINGS **BEGIN IN LEXINGTON**

from AIDS Volunteers of Lexington

A Stop AIDS Meeting:

is a one time, 3-4 hour discussion; is facilitated by a trained facilitator;

is free;

is not therapy; is not instructional;

aims at having participants share their personal experiences and struggles with the epidemic so that we can learn from one another;

is sponsored by AIDS Volunteers of Lexington

(AVOL).

The general purpose of the project is to support the community in dealing with AIDS by bringing large numbers of community members into a dialogue about the epidemic. Through this dialogue we hope to get the community mobilized to deal with the ongoing and changing needs of the epidemic.

Anyone interested in attending a STOP AIDS meeting, please contact STOP AIDS Bluegrass at

(606) 276-2865.

## GLUE AND GLSO CONDUCT JOINT MEETING from GLSO News staff

The February Forum of GLSO was held in conjunction with the weekly meeting of GLUE, Gay & Lesbians United for Education. GLUE is the student/faculty/staff group recently formed

at the University of Kentucky.

GLSO's Board of Directors was introduced to GLUE by Steve Savage, GLUE's faculty advisor. Craig Clere, GLSO President, explained GLSO's role in the Lexington lesbian and gay community and described the services the organization provides. Edwin Hackney, Debbie Currie, and Bill Loggins also reviewed GLSO's Gayline, Coffeehouse & Dance, and Speaker's Bureau, respectively. All encouraged that GLUE members take advantage of the activities that GLSO organizes.

Following the presentations, Ray Stump, GLUE co-chair, presided over a question and answer session. The two organizations agreed to coordinate activities, as much as possible, to avoid an overlap of services. It was also agreed to have formal representative contact

between the organizations.

The meeting concluded with an informal "getting to know you" time. Both groups expressed the desire to continue the process of mutual cooperation.

# AVOL HOSTS SUCCESSFUL BENEFIT from GLSO News staff

On Sunday evening, February 18, the AIDS Volunteers of Lexington (AVOL) hosted dinner for about 85 supporters at the Radisson Hotel. Belinda Mason, a member of the National Commission on AIDS, and Ron Jerrell, secretary of the National Association of People with AIDS, were guest speakers. The dinner attracted a number of community and political leaders, and received supportive coverage from the local press. State Rep. Paul Mason attracted special media attention because of the omnibus AIDS legislation he introduced in the current session of the General Assembly.

Dinner at the Radisson was tollowed by a reception at ArtsPlace. The reception was less formal and similar to previous benefits AVOL has held at ArtsPlace. The evening concluded with the awarding of "silent auction" prizes.

# NLGLA CAUSES AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION TO ADD DISCRIMINATION PROTECTIONS

from National Lesbian & Gay Law Association

The National Lesbian and Gay Law Association has announced the inclusion of a ban against antigay discrimination in the court

systems.

Successful lobbying by the National Lesbian and Gay Law Association (NLGLA) caused the American Bar Association (ABA) to include a ban against discrimination based on sexual orientation in its draft Model Code of Judicial Conduct. Specific protection in the code means that lesbians and gay men can expect and demand fair treatment in the judicial system.

The code applies to judges throughout the country and subjects them to discipline if they violate its ethical canons. It will now send an explicit message to judges that they will be held personally accountable if they discriminate

against gay people. In May 1989 the committee issued a draft of the revised judicial code which banned only

discrimination based on race, sex, religion and national origin. After receiving oral and written testimony from NLGLA, the draft was changed to state, "A judge shall not, in the performance of judicial duties, by words or conduct manifest bias or prejudice, including but not limited to bias or prejudice based upon race, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, sexual orientation or socioeconomic status, and shall not permit staff, court officials and others subject to the judge's direction and control."

In February 1989 the ABA House of Delegates overwhelmingly passed a resolution endorsing legislation which prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation in employment, housing and public accommodations. The House is also expected to give final approval of the revised scale which give final approval of the revised code which will be presented at its upcoming February

meeting in Los Angeles.

# HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN FUND TO HIRE AREA CANVASS SUPERVISORS

from Human Rights Campaign Fund

The Human Rights Campaign Fund is looking for well-organized, enthusiastic and assertive individuals nationwide to become "Area Canvass Supervisors" in the next stage of development for the highly successful Speak Out program.

Speak Out is HRCF's program to generate timely constituent mail to federal legislators prior to votes on issues of importance to the lesbian and gay community. In less than a year, Speak Out has become the most successful grassroots program in the history of the gay and lesbian movement.

Supervisors will identify community events and other opportunities for enrolling participants in the Speak Out program. In addition to canvassing themselves, the supervisors will recruit, train and supervise other canvassers at events. Those selected for the positions will set their own hours and remuneration based on Speak Out enrollments and will have responsibilities for a specific geographic area of the country.

"Winning on life-and-death AIDS issues and on bills such as the Hate Crimes Statistics Act depends so much on the active involvement of lesbians and gays throughout the United States. Constituent pressure generated by the Speak Out program is an important way to participate," Tim McFeeley HRCF's Executive Director noted. For information contact Cathy Nelson, Box 1723, Washington, DC, 20013.

# PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR LOUISVILLE from GLSO News staff

Central Presbyterian Church in Louisville. Kentucky will host the More Light Churches Conference, April 27-29, 1990. The theme of the conference is "Integrating Sexuality and Spirituality: A Call to the Churches". More Light is the organization of lesbians and gay men within the Presbyterian Church (USA).

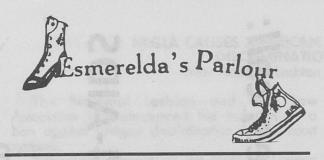
Registration is \$45 before March 13, \$50 after the 13th. Some home and dorm space is available on a first come, first serve basis. For information, write More Light Task Force, Central Presbyterian Church, 318 West Kentucky, Louisville, KY, 40203, or call Jim Oxyer, (502) 897-5719, or Nick Wilkerson (502) 635-7003.

# MAKE SURE YOU KNOW HOW TO USE A CONDOM PROPERLY. IGNORANCE CAN KILL!

For information on safer sex practices, call: 1-800-342-AIDS

Kentucky residents, call: 1-800-654-AIDS

Kentucky AIDS Education Program



# from Angela Martin

I'd like to talk a little bit about the things that divide us as a group within the lesbian community. I remember writing a couple of months ago (I believe it might have been in the December GLSO News) about hearing Joann Loulan speak and my impressions of that. Basically Joann said that we need to pool our energy and our monetary resources more within our own community to help with fighting our own battles - because no one is going to fight those battles for us. Lately, though, I have come to realize that we have greater obstacles facing us as lesbians than a dispersion of our resources to other causes, and I believe that these obstacles may stand in the way of whatever united and concerted effort we choose

to make for our cause in the future. As a group of womyn with a common identity we, as lesbians, comprise our own sorority, as Teresa Reynolds said to me - we have our own jewelry, our own popular music, and a certain number of ways it is considered cool for us to dress as lesbians. In effect, we have established our own realms of 'normal' behavior within which ourselves and all of our lesbian sisters are supposed to fall. What does this mean? It means that we are not very different from the disgusting hoards of cloned barbie dolls, stamped with greek letters one is easily overrun by on campus: we simply find our own image more palatable, more comfortable. Now, you may scoff at this comparison and auickly insist that we are different - that we are not clones, that we can think for ourselves, that we can do and dress as we please without complaint from our lesbian colleagues, but this is not the reality. Anyone who believes this to be true is likely to be the very image of the perfect lesbian, living and working and representing herself entirely within the realm of our lesbian Womyn who dress radically, those who hold different political views, and lesbians who

participate in some sort of sexual behavior that most of us would consider 'deviant' (remember that word?) sexual behavior for lesbians, i.e.. S&M and sex with men, will quickly find themselves talked about, chastised, or even ostracized by the lesbian community at large. We effectively turn our noses up at any sort of behavior which we consider incorrect behavior for a lesbian.

At January's Lesbian Passion Group we discussed an article that brings this very problem into focus and illustrates the effect that it has on the lesbian identity as a whole. Once again the words of wisdom were issued from the lips of our ever-present guru Joann Loulan. In an interview given to a Womyn Musician's periodical Joann was asked what she thought about the apparent growing number of young lesbians who seem to be participating in S&M apparently many lesbians are concerned by this, and from the talk I heard over the article at the Passion Group, very close-minded about the issue. Joann simply answered that we as lesbians and womyn need to concern ourselves with more important and pressing things than what our sisters are doing in bed together as consenting adults. In so many ways we mirror the behavior of the straight community, and this is to be expected for we are all of us only human. But we, as lesbians and an oppressed minority, should be more aware of the pitfalls involved in falling within the judgmental confines of a limited ideology. We should know how unfair our judgments can be on others. Unfortunately, there is more danger involved here than unfairness. Remember that every issue that divides us as a community of lesbians weakens us and our position. We need to move to a more realistic approach - one that does not involve separatism and the limiting confines of a self righteous attitude. Most of all, we must remember to keep our minds open and our judgments more limited and private.

# UK WOMEN WRITERS CONFERENCE from Angela Martin

The 12th Annual Women Writers Conference is March 28-31 at the UK. In the past the conference has been challenging and though-provoking. Fees are: Starving Artists \$7/day or \$16 for whole Conference by March 9; Sustainers pay \$10/day or \$25/Conference by deadline; Angels pay \$15/day or \$40/Conference by deadline.

# Acquired Existence Deficiency Syndrome by Mischelle Myers Talley

The darkness is so visible in this empty room.

There is nothing to stand out against the shadows,
nothing to hold back the grim helplessness of the void.

This room could be infinite or the walls could be just out of reach.
The darkness is enveloping, engulfing, taking the light away degenerating to ignorance or maybe indifference.
You struggle for recognition in the face of anonymity.

I stand in this empty room, in combat with this sinewy disease of illusion.
How long before the sun rises sending beams of illumination
to prove the existence of this empty room?
The room I cannot see.

Dedicated to my Brother, Charles Boyd Talley (1-19-90).

# MIDWAY COLLEGE CELEBRATE WOMEN'S HISTORY from GLSO News staff

Midway College and the Women's History Coalition of Kentucky are presenting "Courageous Voices", a one day conference, on March 3 from 9 am to 4 pm. Merlene Davis, Lexington Herald-Leader columnist, will deliver the keynote address at 10 am.

Other speakers and topics include: Cass Irvin, "The Radicalization of Disabled Women: A Personal View"; Laura Mangus, "Women's Work: Healing the Planet"; Aingred Dunston, "No 'Mourner's Bench' for Us: Black Women and R.J. Reynolds"; Bonnie Cox, "Kentucky through Women's Eyes: Kentucky Women Writers in the 20th Century"; and Nola Hadley, "Bringing My People Along: Urban Appalachian Women as Community Builders".

The on-site registration fee for the conference is \$15 with lunch included. For more information contact Linda Buchanan, Dean of Students, at Midway College.

# WOMEN MAKE MOVIES RELEASES NEW FILMS AND VIDEOTAPES BY AND ABOUT LESBIANS from GLSO News staff

Women Make Movies, the nation's largest distributor of films and videos by and about women, has announced the release of the following new lesbian films: Out of Our Time, a drama of female friendship and love in the 1930's and today; Night Visions, the story of two women whose lives become intertwined as their community struggles with racism and homophobia; No Need to Repent: the Ballad of Rev. Jan Griesinger, a portrait of a remarkable woman who is a leader in the church and the lesbian-feminist community; and Flesh and Paper, a lyrical portrait of Indian lesbian writer Suniti Namjoshi from Britain's "Out on Tuesday" talovicion series

"Out on Tuesday" television series.

Two exciting packages of short films are also available for public programs and festivals.

"Bursting Out" includes The Way of the Wicked, a stylish adventure story about

transgression and female awakening; I Need a Man Like You, an hilarious burlesque of sex and sex roles; and Because the Dawn, the sultry, seductive tale of a modern day vampire and the warman who is absented with hor

woman who is obsessed with her.

New video tapes include A Woman of My Platoon, an evocative tape on the repression of lesbians in the armed forcs; Let's Play Prisoners, an exploration of power and dependence in relationships between women; No More Nice Girls, an hilarious look at a generation of veteran feminists facing political backlash of our times; and Memory Pictures, a documentary on gay Indian photographer Sunil Gupta. The Women Make Movies complete catalog of more than 175 films and videos is available free of charge by writing: Women Make Movies, Inc., 225 Lafayette Street, New York, New York, 10012.

# **GAY AMERICA**

# WASHINGTON, DC

Gay sales clerk Duane Rinde applied in December for a spouse discount card for his lover from the department store Woodward and Lothrop. Woodward and Lothrop refused his request based on marital status. Rinde filed a union grievance against the store and charged the retail store violated District of Columbia and Montgomery County, MD anti-discrimination laws.

Following negotiations with the Gay and Lesbian Activist Alliance and the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force, Woodward and Lothrop agreed to grant discount cards to the partners of both gay and non-gay employees, add "sexual orientation" and "marital status" to its Equal Opportunity policy, and said it would advocate for similar benefits elsewhere in the retail industry.

# PALM BEACH COUNTY, FL

Palm Beach County became the first in Florida to prohibit discrimination in housing, the financing of housing, and public accommodations in January. The new law, which was introduced in August 1988, prohibits discrimination based on race, sex, color, religion, national origin, handicap, familial status, sexual orientation, age or marital status. The law provided for civil fines of up to \$50,000 for those who discriminate.

### ATLANTA, GA

The Georgia House of Representatives rejected a move to repeal the state's sodomy law. Atlanta activists vowed to press for sodomy repeal in 1991, and blasted homophobic remarks made by Georgia's Speaker of the House during the course of the bill. Before the vote, House Speaker Tom Murphy stated he didn't "know enough about sodomy to talk about. Believe me, I don't know about it." In response to a Atlanta lesbian and gay demonstration against sodomy laws, Murphy said, "Those gay people, I didn't go

around them. I didn't want to get too close."
In its post-vote editorial **The Atlanta Constitution** said of Speaker Tom Murphy,
"Ignorance is a fully plausible explanation for [the sodomy] vote, though it is no comfort to be confronted so brazenly by a legislator boasting of his stupidity."

# **NEW YORK, NY**

Syndey Biddle Barrows, a Manhattan blue blood who is known as the "Mayflower Madam" because she once owned an exclusive escort service, apologized for what she said was an insensitive passage about people with AIDS in her new etiquette book, Mayflower Manners.

The passage said, "Most people know that they cannot contract [AIDS] by being seated at a dinner table with a carrier. But it is a courtesy to all to let them know ahead of time." Barrows and the book's publisher, Doubleday, received many complaints about the passage. The passage will be deleted in future printings.

# PITTSBURGH, PA

The Rev. David Johnson, a Roman Catholic priest, was relieved of his religious duties after he testified in favor of a man who he admitted was his former lover. Johnson testified that his ex-lover, Charles Neff, was in a bar at the time Neff was alleged to have raped a woman elsewhere. Under questioning by defense lawyers, Johnson testified that he and Neff had been lovers.

The priest said he testified because he was worried that Neff would be imprisoned for a rape he did not commit. Johnson said he knew the testimony would jeopardize his career and upset his family, adding, "I thought to myself, If the Lord could be in my position - bizarre as it is - what would He do?"

### **AUSTIN, TX**

The Texas state attorney general has ruled that the Texas Department of Health may not legally deny funds for AIDS programs to gay organizations. Department guidelines forbade giving money to groups that are trying to repeal the state sodomy law or that have openly gay people on their governing boards.

# INTO THE FUTURE

Events listed are representative of the many gay and lesbian oriented cultural, political and social activities taking place around the country.

April 16, 1990. Nancy Chodorow lecture. Singletary Center, UK. Lexington, KY. April 21-22, 1990. Spring Meeting of Affirmation-United Methodists.

Kansas City, MO. April 27-29, 1990. More Light Churches Conference (Presbyterian). Louisville, KY.

May 4-7, 1990. 10th Annual Gay & Lesbian Press Association Convention. San Francisco, CA.

Francisco, CA.
May 20, 1990. Seventh Annual Worldwide

AIDS Candlelight Memorial.

May 24-28, 1990. IGBO X, the International Gay/Lesbian Bowling Tournament.

Los Ángeles, CA.
May 31-June 3, 1990. Womonwrites 12th
Annual Southeastern Lesbian Writers'
Conference. Central Georgia.

### **CLASSIFIED ADS**

Roommate wanted preferably beginning of May, 1990. 2 B/R apt. close to downtown and EKU. Utilities & everything included. Please call 623-2283 and ask for Sylvester.

Good looking Asian guy looking for friends. I'm 5'8", 26, 125 lbs. Like reading, writing, travel, music, movies, walks, quiet evenings, and nature. Replies assured - photo preferred. Write Joey, c/o PO Box 34, Richmond, KY, 40475.

# NATIONAL GAY/LESBIAN CRISISLINE

(800) 767-4297

# **DIRECTORY**

<u> BIREGIORI</u>	
GLSO Gayline call Craig,	231-0335 266-8887 266-8887 266-9175
GLSO Coming Out Group call Alan, or Teresa, GLSO Coffeehouse & Dance	253-2414 252-3106
call Esmerelda, GLSO Rainbow Bowling League	255-3851
call Chuck,	268-8541
Gay/Lesbian Literature Group call Alan,	253-2414
Lesbian Potluck call Esmerelda, Lesbian Passion Discussion Group	252-7837
call Esmerelda,	255-3851
call Angela,	255-3851
Bluegrass Human Rights Advocates	231-0350
call Kate/Amy, GLUE (UK Support Group) call Suzanne,	231-0255
Gay/Lesbian AA	277-9522
Gay/Lesbian Al-Anon call Robert, Imperial Court of the Bluegrass Empire call Terry,	293-0516
Imperial Court of the Bluegrass Empire call Terry	266-8715
Dignity/Lesbian call Keith,	263-5940
Liturgy call Don, Interweave call Craig,	299-4458 266-8887
(UU gays, lesbians and triends.)	
(AIDS support and education)	
ACT-Lexington (AIDS education and referral) HIV+, ARC, AIDS Support Group	201-3131
call Edwin.	233-0444
Lexington-Fayette Co. Health Departm	288-AIDS
(For anonymous counseling and testing, co above number and ask for an AIDS Counse Madison County Health Department	selor.)
AIDS Testing	623-7312
(For anonymous counseling and testing, co above number and ask for an AIDS Counselland (FO2)	selor.)
Louisville Crisis Hotline(502	103/-4342

# MARCH EVENTS CALENDAR

Contact names and numbers for all events listed can be found in the Directory on the previous page. The Comp Care Center is located at 201 Mechanic Street, Lexington.

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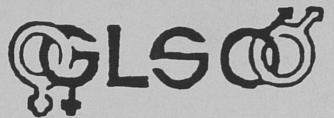
	WEEKLY EVENTS	
SUNDAY	Gay/Lesbian AA, 4 pm, Comp Care Center; Gayline, 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm	0 0
MONDAY	Gays & Lesbians United for Education (GLUE), 7:30 pm, St. Augustine's Church, 472 Rose Street	el G F
TUESDAY	Gay/Lesbian Al-Anon, 7 pm; GLSO Rainbow Bowling League, 9 pm, Joyland Lanes	
WEDNESDA'	Y Gay/Lesbian AA, 8 pm, St. Joseph Hospital, CCI Meeting Room; <b>Gayline</b> , 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm	'
THURSDAY	HIV+, ARC, AIDS Support Group; <b>Gayline</b> , 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm	
FRIDAY	Gay/Lesbian AA, 8 pm, Comp Care Center; Gayline, 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm	

# SPECIAL EVENTS

THU	1	GLSO Coming Out Support Group, 7:30 pm, Central Library, Conference Room B
SAT	3	"Courageous Voices," a celebration of Women's History, 9 am - 4 pm, Midway College (see article)
SUN	4	Bluegrass Human Rights Advocates, 6:30 pm
WED	7	Pride Week Committee Meeting, 7 pm, (call 266-8887)
FRI	8	Holly Near Concert, 8 pm, Berea College Main Auditorium
SAT	10	Interweave Potluck, 7 pm
SUN	11	Lesbian Potluck, 2 pm; AVOL, 5:30 pm, Comp Care Center
MON	12	GLSO Forum, 8 pm, Topic:

MON	12 GLSO Forum, 8 pm, Topic: Coming Out, Comp Care Center
THU	15 GLSO Coming Out Support Group, 7:30 pm, Main Library, Conf Rm B; Lesbian Passion Group, 7:30 pm
FRI	16 GLSO Coffeehouse & Dance, 8:30 pm, Unitarian Universalist Church; Dignity Potluck & Liturgy, 7 pm
MON	19 Pro-Choice Alliance, 7:30 pm, Alfalfa's Restaurant
WED	21 Interweave, Topic: Unitarian UniversalismWhere Do Lesbians and Gay Men Fit In? 8 pm,

	Unitarian Universalist Church
THU	22 Dignity Rap Session, 7:30 pm
WED	28 GLSO Board Meeting, 7:30 pm; Women Writers Conference, UK, 106 Frazee Hall (see article)



COFFEE HOUSE presents

MARCHing into Spring with Music and Dance...

featuring the \*
Grinders

\* Doors open at 8:30 pm.

\$400 admission \* (\$3,00 with valid GLSo membership Cond).

\*Money collected Out your Coffee- K house goes toward GLSo Monetine and Newsletter.

Friday, March 16th Unitarian Universalist Church 3564 Clays Mill Road Lexington, Kentucky

\* want to help open close the & Coffee house? volunteer... Call Esmerelda 255-3851.

\* Snachs Soda available

BYOB.

Loose Item