letters

Progress

Now that the elections are over and I have gotten over my disappointment of the outcome, I am reflecting on just how much the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender community has achieved in the past few years – even with President Bush in office.

I have been out only a few years now and have witnessed such fantastic results because of the brave and persistent behavior of so many GLBT people and others that know that we deserve respect and have supported us in so many different ways. They realize that they would love to live in a country that is fair and does not show prejudice towards anyone. I too love this country even though sometimes I feel that it does not tolerate me I am still proud to be a part of it.

This time Kerry did not persevere. But maybe the next time we will elect someone who can look past our differences and just see them as differences not a path of destruction. Correct me if I'm wrong. I was brought up knowing that this country was a melting pot. Everyone was supposed to be able to express their freedoms and live their lives accordingly.

Timothy Pyer
Fairlee

Don't Buy Gay Blame

Months ago, we all knew that if George Bush was re-elected, "gay marriage" would be blamed. A scapegoat is required. Offer up the gays.

The right wing was indeed energized. I would be too if I shared their "values." The Bush Administration has catered to their every request and fed them tons of red meat – abstinence-only-until-marriage "sex education," the "Faith-Based Initiative," the ban on late term abortion, restrictions on overseas contraception programs, the ban on stem cell research, and yes, gay marriage. It's sickening and fascinating that when one in five voters said "moral values" was the most important issue for them, pundits immediately equated that with gay marriage alone.

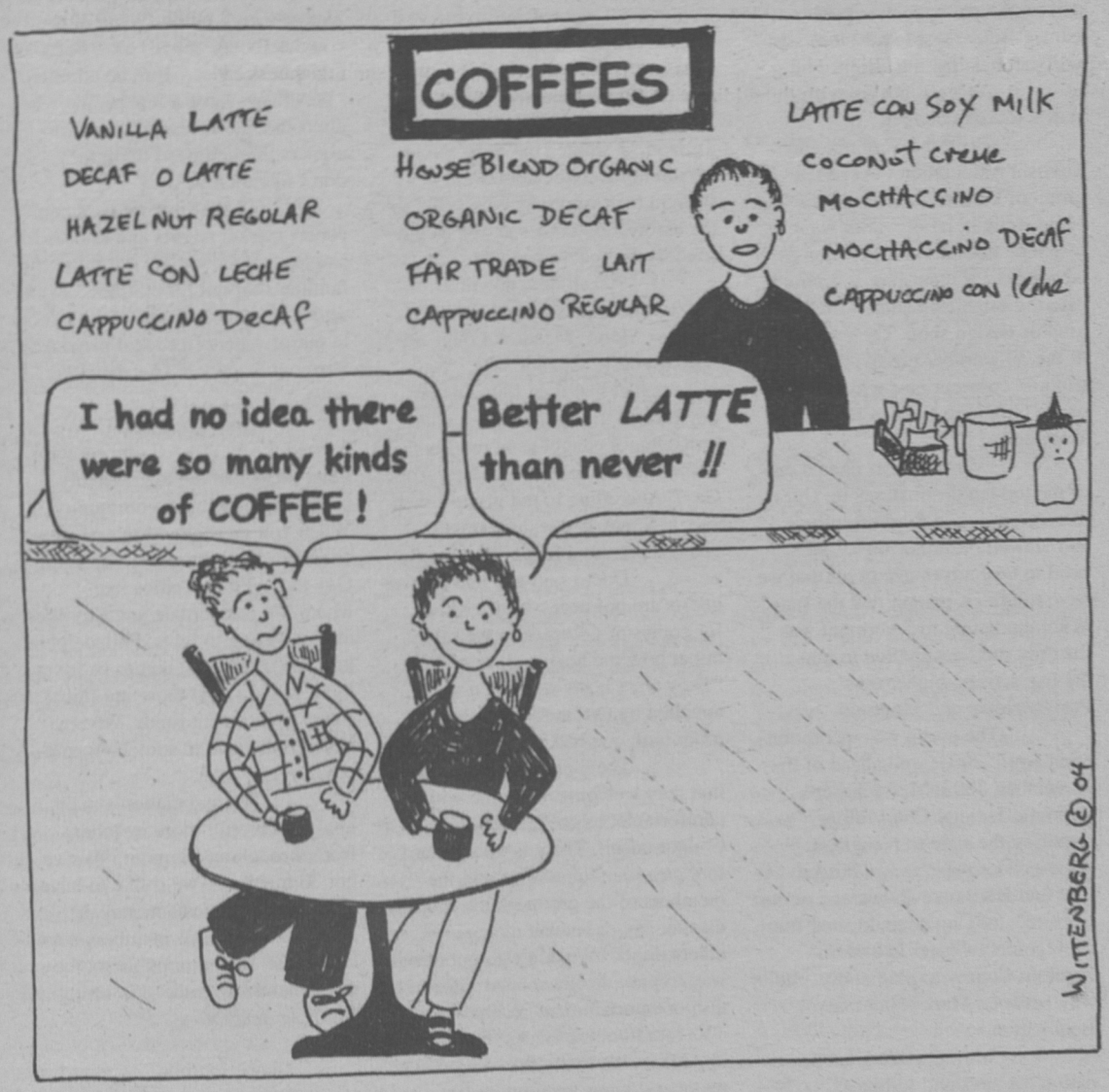
Frankly, the right did a better job in turning out their vote in key places. They've been building their machine – illegally, unethically, or both – through churches for 30 years. They have seized and occupied "moral values" for years.

Our side is not going to make up these deficiencies in one cycle.

Matt Foreman
Executive Director, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force

Correction: In Cynthia Potts' story "Looking for Lesbian Love, Virtually" (November), Peggy Luhrs was quoted as using the (not-quite) word "commodization." The actual word she used should have been written as "commodification." We regret the error. ▼

At Witt's End — Leah Wittenberg



"When we were in Alaska for 6 months, *Out in the Mountains* kept us in touch with home ... and helped us decide to come back."
Becky Roberts, Colchester

out in the mountains