

Join The Fight

Support The Vermont Coalition of Lesbians and Gay Men

in their work to pass legislation guaranteeing equal rights to Lesbians and Gay men in Vermont and insuring protection for People With AIDS and HIV+ persons. Contribute to our cause and add your name to our mailing list. We need your help.

Yes, I want to be a part of making Vermont safer for Gays and Lesbians. Add my name to your mailing list

Accept my contribution of _____ to help with expenses and general coalition building efforts.

See Address on VT Resources Page

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

THANK YOU!

How to Advertise

If you would like to run an ad in OITM, please contact Ellen at 860-1922 evenings for rates and information. Ads must be received by the 7th of the previous month to be included in the current months issue. Copy can be mailed to: OITM, P.O. Box 177, Burlington, VT 05402..

Gay National News

Group Addresses Men's Size

Men who are ashamed of their size (genitals and stature) can now connect with others who understand and are sympathetic through the newly formed organization Small Etc.

For too long, Small's members claim, the Small have been overlooked, ashamed, and neglected. The group is committed to the fact that Small men have rights, feelings, and a lot to offer. They offer support through advice, a sounding board, and making men know that there are others in the same situation.

For information, send a SASE to: Small, Etc., P.O. Box 294, Bayside, NY 11361.

ACT UP Sues U.S. Marshall

Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund announced that the Portland, Oregon chapter of ACT UP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power), an international AIDS protest group, filed suit in the Federal District Court of Oregon against the U.S. Marshall for the District of Oregon.

The lawsuit alleges that federal marshalls in Portland strip searched ten ACT UP demonstrators following their arrest for nonviolent civil disobedience at a Portland protest regarding Food and Drug Administration AIDS policies, specifically, bureaucratic delays in the approval of drug treatments for ailments associated with AIDS that are safe as well as promising, but which have not been scientifically proven effective to the satisfaction of the F.D.A. in strictly controlled trials. Some of these drugs are licensed in Europe of Asia, but remain unapproved for use in the United States.

The demonstrators, all lesbians and gay men, claim the strip search was unjustified and that the marshalls violated their fourth amendment right to be free from unreasonable searches. The lawsuit seeks money damages and injunctive relief against future strip searches of demonstrators under similar circumstances.

Dannemeyer Challenged on Youth Suicide Report

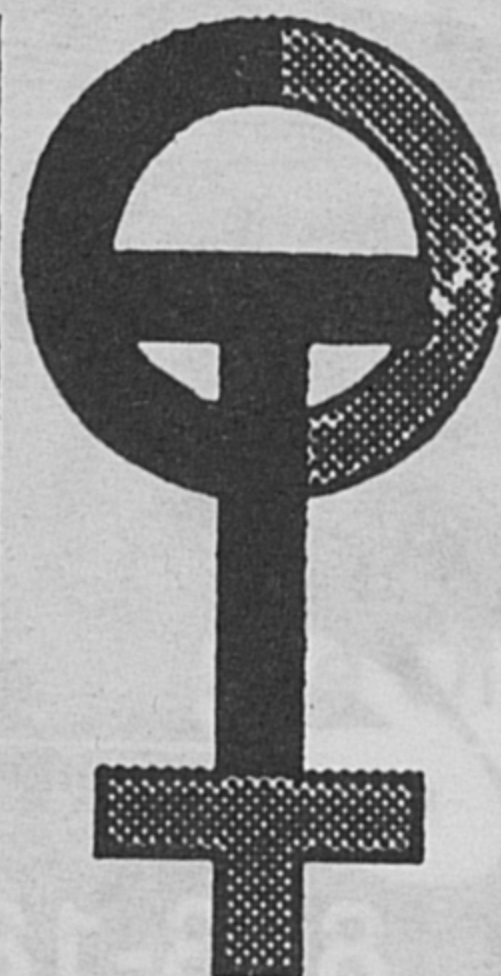
In a letter to President Bush delivered in September, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) challenged an attempt by Congressman William Dannemeyer (R-CA) to persuade the White House to repudiate sections of a Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) report that addressed lesbian and gay youth suicide issues.

In a September 7 letter to Bush regarding the Report of the HHS Secretary's Task Force on Youth Suicide, Dannemeyer asked the President to "affirm traditional family values by denouncing the portion of the Report that deals with homosexuality." Dannemeyer stated in his letter to the President that he had previously asked Dr. James Mason, Assistant Secretary of HHS, to denounce aspects of the report dealing with homosexuality. Wrote Dannemeyer, "I suggested to Dr. Mason that he will need to decide whether he will side with traditional family values or the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force."

Responding to Dannemeyer's letter, NGLTF's Urvashi Vaid wrote to President Bush, urging him to place "moral leadership" over "prejudice and moral posturing," and to vigorously implement the gay-positive recommendations of the report.

Noted Vaid, "The HHS report correctly identified the special vulnerability of lesbian and gay youth to suicide. By urging the President to ignore this tragic situation, Congressman Dannemeyer shows his true colors as a cold-blooded bigot who supports the senseless destruction of young gay and lesbian lives. We are also outraged by his false and pernicious claims about 'homosexual recruitment among youth'."

The report identified gay and lesbian youth to be at particularly high risk for suicide.



GOLDEN THREADS

a contact publication for lesbians
over 50 and women who love
older women.

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