

National/International News

AFL-CIO to Oppose Anti-Gay Ballot Measures

San Francisco, CA - The national AFL-CIO, meeting at its biennial convention in San Francisco, had approved unanimously a proposal to "take an active role in opposing measures which reduce the rights of people based on their sexual orientation", and pledges to participate in "appropriate coalitions to defeat such measures." According to San Francisco gay labor activist Howard Wallace, who authored the proposal, "It allows us to go to every union body in the U.S. where we are under attack, and enlist their participation in coalitions to defeat the ultra-right."

The resolution was approved by the full convention on October 6th as part of the labor union's civil rights resolution. The resolution urges AFL-CIO "affiliates, and their members, to work closely with its civil rights and women's rights allies to sup-

port strict enforcement of equal employment and political rights laws." It denounces "violence motivated by bigotry, prejudice and hate", specifically naming cross-burning, police brutality, church defacement, and gay bashing.

The resolution also reiterates the AFL-CIO's historical positions in favor of lesbian and gay rights which state that personnel actions against workers based on sexual orientation are irrelevant, and that the AFL-CIO "supports enactment of legislation at all levels of government to guarantee the civil rights of all persons without regard to sexual orientation in public and private employment, housing, credit, public accomodation and public services".

Other Mothers

Los Angeles, CA - The CBS School Break Special, broadcast on the afternoon of October 15, depicted the travails of a high school freshman who weathers homophobic ostracism when his peers discover that he has two lesbian mothers. Other Mothers, directed by Lee Shallot and produced by Joseph Stern, depicts a happy home life for teenager Will Jergenson (William Russ), his biological mother Linda (Joanna Cassidy) and his "other mother" Paula (Meredith Baxter).

In a Read More About It postscript to the program, actress Meredith Baxter says: "To learn more about the changing roles in our parenting society, the Library of Congress recommends these books: Diversity in American Families, by Maxine Baca Zinn and D. Stanley Eitzen, and Rethinking the Family, edited by Barrie Thorne and Marilyn Yalom."

Advertisers on this affirming program were: Multigrain Cheerios (General Mills), Jell-O Actifed Sinus medicine, Cortisone-10, Campbell's soup, Sears, Airwick, Purina Cat Chow, Yuban Coffee, Aquafresh toothpaste, Efidac 24, Fleishmann's Egg Beaters, Lever 2000 soap, Mrs. Dash spic-

es, JC Penny, 1-800-DENTIST (a registered service mark of Applied Anagramics, Inc.), Post Raisin Bran, Muggies diapers, M&M's, V-8 juice, Prego spaghetti sauce, Preparation H, Hershey's Hugs, and Roloids. Comments should be sent to Jeff Sagansky, President, CBS Entertainment, 7800 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90213. (GLAAD Media News Briefs)

P-FLAG Denounces NAMBLA

Washington, DC- In light of ILGA's [International Lesbian and Gay Association] newly granted consultative roster status to the United Nations and the discovery of NAMBLA [North American Man/Boy Love Association] as one of its members, PFLAG denounced the intent and inclusion of NAMBLA in any function related to the gay, lesbian and bisexual human rights movement. The following statement was adopted by the Board of Directors on October 31, 1993.

"As a family organization, Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Inc. (P-FLAG) strongly condemns the sexual exploitation of children by any individual, group, or organization, in any form and under any circumstance.

Although the majority of sexual abusers of children are heterosexual men, and the majority of victims are young girls, the North American Man/Boy Love Association (NAMBLA) is a pedophile organization whose sole purpose is to facilitate sex between adult men and young boys. P-FLAG, therefore, repudiates NAMBLA and its aims.

P-FLAG opposes the inclusion of NAMBLA in any umbrella organization, coalition, event, or activity that is associated with the gay, lesbian, bisexual communities or their families and friends."

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