

top legislative priority - the Employment Non-Discrimination Act - were reelected. Of 120 House cosponsors, 100 were reelected, and 11 new members have pledged to cosponsor the bill.

These results confirm trends seen in a series of public opinion polls, which show broad public support for equal rights. A *U.S. News & World Report* poll found that two-thirds of voters support equal rights for lesbian and gay people, including majorities of Clinton, Bush and Perot voters. The respected Times Mirror Center for the People & The Press reported that the most important swing vote in the electorate - comprising one-fifth of all registered voters - is "highly tolerant of homosexuality".

Perhaps this is why none of the right's social issues are included in the Republican's "Contract With America". Extreme anti-gay views do not attract mainstream voters. Voters sent a message of frustration and alienation with an unresponsive government - sentiments that lesbian and gay people know only too well. We must join together to tap into the good will that exists for us and appeal to the values that we share with all fair-minded Americans. From a position of unity and strength, we can advance into the uncertain future ahead of us.

*Tim McFeely*

Executive Director, Human Rights Campaign Fund  
Washington, D.C.

*(Editor's note: Both Senator Jim Jeffords and Representative Bernie Sanders, who were reelected in November, support ENDA, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act. Senator Patrick Leahy, who was not up for reelection in 1994, also supports ENDA.) ▼*

## Letter to Another Editor:

### Mona Limbaugh?

*The following letter appeared in the November 12, 1994, edition of the Burlington Free Press. The letter's author, Joseph F. Watson, is a current board member of the Vermont Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights.*

In her commentary, "Sex survey explodes liberal myths," Mona Charen says, "The sex survey ... will disappoint ... gay activists and other purveyors of myths." Well I'm a 31-year-old gay man, and I'm not at all disappointed by the numbers in the survey. I feel it doesn't matter how many people are gay. ... Gay people are entitled to equal rights to housing, employment, etc., whether they make up 4.2 or 10 percent of the population.

I'm also not disturbed to learn that Americans are not "madly bed-hopping

before marriage." I've only had sex with one person in my life. (I don't generally mention this fact in polite conversation, but Charen, seemingly obsessed with sex herself, brought the subject up at my breakfast table, so ... ) That person, my spouse, and I have been together for years and expect to be together for the rest of our lives. ...

Finally, Charen says, "... there is bad news for AIDS activists in this research as well. The survey found that people tend to have sex with people like themselves. This means that AIDS is likely to remain concentrated among the groups who are already infected ..." To suggest that AIDS activists would consider it bad news that AIDS is in any way contained, is horribly cold-hearted, selfish and truly disgusting. ...

Who is this Mona Charen anyway, Rush Limbaugh in drag?


*Joseph F. Watson*  
East Middlebury ▼

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