

Letters to the Editor

Trouble With Morality

Statement of Purpose
 The purpose of *Out in the Mountains* is to serve as a voice for lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, and our supporters in Vermont. We wish the newspaper to be a source of information, support and affirmation. We also see *OITM* as a vehicle for celebration of the goodness and diversity of the lesbian, gay, and bisexual communities.

Editorial Policy
 We will consider for publication any material which broadens our understanding of our lifestyles and of each other. Views and opinions appearing in the paper do not necessarily represent those of the staff. This paper cannot and will not endorse any candidates and actions of public officials on issues of importance to lesbians, gay men, and bisexuals.

We will not publish any material which is overtly racist, sexist, anti-Semitic, ageist, classist, or homophobic.

All materials submitted must be signed so we can contact the author should we need to consider editorial revisions. However, within the pages of the newspaper, articles may appear anonymously, upon request, and strict confidentiality will be observed.

We welcome and encourage all readers to submit materials for publication and to share your comments, criticisms, and positive feelings with us. This paper is here for you. The deadline for submitting material for each issue is the 10th of the month prior to publication.

Materials should be sent to:
Out in the Mountains
 PO Box 177
 Burlington, VT 05402

How to Advertise

If you would like to run an ad in *OITM*, please contact us for rates, sizes, and information. Ad copy must be received by the 10th of the month to be included in the next month's issue. Copy can be mailed to: *OITM*, P.O. Box 177, Burlington, VT 05402, or call Ellen at (802) 860-1922.

Dear *OITM*,

Mr. Rick Wold's commentary, "The Morality of Gay Love" (February 1991), made it sound as if our only defense for morality is that the *Bible* is outdated. Whether his motivation for the article was to ease the mind of anyone with a moral dilemma or to pose an argument to the moral majority, using reproduction as his sole argument for moralizing homosexuality in his article made it seem as if we have no other defense.

The subject of morals in homosexuality is so far-reaching and encompassing that it could almost be considered a specialized discipline in itself. Treating it in such a short article with such shallow defenses only demeaned the subject for those who are seriously torn by orthodox morality versus what they feel inside of them.

As a gay advocate I appreciate any defence of homosexuality by anyone, but when a gay person brought up in a conservative atmosphere tries to justify the morality of their feelings to themselves and others, there is more than reproduction involved.

I'm sure that Mr. Wold didn't intend to treat his subject lightly or he wouldn't have

gone to the trouble of writing an article about something that is as important to us as the debate of morality. But he not only failed to provide his argument with facts (of which there are many), he did not do justice to a subject that is ambiguous at best for those who need most to understand it.

I don't mean to bash Mr. Wold for trying to enlighten people on a topic that many need to know (and want to know) more about. But if he wanted to tackle the issue of morality he should have acknowledged the fact that for many people the difference between coming out and living a lie comes down to knowing that morality is simply a matter of opinion, interpretation, and upbringing. Sexual morality was not carved in stone three thousand years ago and is only a tradition that has been handed down since the fall of Greek civilization.

If Mr Wold would like to justify the morality of gay love he should have started with a definition of 'morality' and just what it really is. The only way to prove an argument is to begin at the beginning.

Thank you for listening.
 Truly,
 Sherrie Fuqua
 W. Chazy, N.Y.



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____ Please also let us know if you'd like to get involved in the newspaper.

THANK YOU!