

### Bieber Library Collection Now Forming

The Irving Bieber Memorial Library—named after the scientific pioneer whose research on homosexuality remains a classic—recently received a significant donation of books and papers from Dr. Bieber's widow and former research partner, Toby.

NARTH asks that our supporters consider making a donation of books or financial support to the library. We are particularly in need of the out-of-print, clinical case-history classics that are hard to find in other reference libraries.

Monetary donations to the library now total just over \$9,000. We are still in need of further assistance to develop the library.

### Do We Need Hate-Crimes Legislation?

Are certain kinds of "hate" worse than other kinds? The American Psychological Association's Office of Public Policy thinks so, and has called for expanded hate-crimes legislation.

But there is another side to this issue. What kind of logic could make certain kinds of "hate" worse than other kinds? And couldn't such laws easily be used to stifle politically incorrect *speech*? "Hate speech" is increasingly defined by the gay lobby to include *principled dissent* on the subject of homosexuality.

The *Chicago Tribune* (September 5, 1999, p. 19) carried a very thoughtful essay by Steve Chapman on the current proliferation of hate-crimes laws. Mr. Chapman's essay, "The Odd Logic of Hate-Crime Laws," argues in part:

"Matthew Shepard, a 21-year-old student at the University of Wyoming, was robbed, savagely beaten, tied to a fence and left to die in near-freezing temperatures. Gay rights groups said he was killed because he was gay, and lamented Wyoming's lack of a hate-crime law.

"But a hate-crime law wouldn't have prevented the murder—any more than the law against murder prevented it. Nor would it have meant a stiffer sentence: The crime carried the possibility of the death penalty, which happens to be the most severe punishment in our criminal justice toolbox.

"...[A] hate-crime...says that people who espouse certain disfavored views will be treated worse than those

who don't. That's not crime control; it's mind control. When we deliberately do things that harm our fellow citizens, the government has every right to punish us. What thoughts we have while doing them are none of its business."

### Now "Hate Crimes" Make News, Even Before They Can Be Accurately Labeled

The *Los Angeles Times* is a newspaper which has devoted itself to the editorial policy of normalizing homosexuality. Sympathetic stories of gays abound; the letters-to-the-editor column is full of gay-affirming and anti-religious correspondence; and it is unusual to read a powerful editorial from a traditionalist perspective.

Thus it is no surprise that a major article appeared on page three in the paper's October 22nd edition, entitled "Gay Minister Slain in Sacramento." A pastor who ran a food bank and worked with drug addicts and street people had been robbed, stabbed, and his vehicles stolen by two suspects who were seen fleeing with the property they had stolen from his home.

Although the police had no clue who was responsible for the crime when the *Times* article was written, the newspaper ran two accompanying photographs and gave the story extensive coverage, in anticipation that perhaps this might be found to be a hate crime because of the pastor's homosexuality. As of this writing, no such evidence has been uncovered, and the identity of the perpetrators remains a mystery.

### Dr. Laura Says: "Psychologist Group is Trading Science for Politics"

(Excerpt From Dr. Laura Schlessinger's syndicated column)

"*The American Psychologist*, the only journal regularly delivered to every member of the APA, published an article in its June issue called "Deconstructing the Essential Father." The conclusion of this study suggests that fathers in two-parent heterosexual families are not necessary to the psychological health of children, that divorce does not irretrievably harm the majority of children, and that any harmful effects of divorce are related to economics rather than the absence of a father. *Are you clinical psychologists who do family therapy out there buying this nonsense?*

"One of the authors is the past president of the APA's Division of Family Psychology and the chair of the

Feminist Family Therapy Task Force. These politicized agendas are taking over science.

"I call on all clinical psychologists to use your sense of professionalism and responsibility to resist. I know you're scared of the gay activists, intimidated by being called names, but you have a professional responsibility to your license, and you have a moral responsibility, too. You need to speak up, get involved. If you don't, your profession will become a total laughing stock..."

"If clinical psychologists will take up the fight on the inside, the rest of us will provide plenty of support on the outside."

### **Sound-Bite News: How it Can Misinform**

Recently a Los Angeles-area representative of GLAAD (a gay and lesbian activist group) appeared on Fox TV News's "The O'Reilly Factor" to criticize Dr. Laura Schlessinger. "Dr. Laura" has been an object of attack by GLAAD because of her recent change of heart on the gay issue; she now believes that heterosexuality is the only healthy form of sexual expression.

GLAAD's representative said, "Dr. Laura says gays are biological mistakes." The show's host expressed surprise.

In fact, Dr. Laura had said that if homosexuality is in any way genetic, it would be a biological mistake (in the same sense that autism would be a mistake, or Alzheimer's a mistake), not a part of healthy human design.

But her comment was distorted by the GLAAD representative to imply, "Gays as people are mistakes." Not being present on the show, Dr. Laura was unable to explain the actual meaning of her statement, and the erroneous implication was left to stand.

### **Gay Advocates Describe the Political Tactics that Work**

The *Massachusetts News* recently published some revealing excerpts of a speech by Kevin Jennings, Executive Director of the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Teachers Network, at a Human Rights Campaign Leadership Conference in March of 1995.

"In Massachusetts," Mr. Jennings said, "the effective reframing of this [gay] issue was the key to the success of the Governor's Commission on Gay and Lesbian Youth. We immediately seized upon the opponent's calling card—safety—and explained how homophobia represents a threat to students' safety by creating a climate where violence, name-calling, health problems, and suicide are com-

mon. Titling our report, 'Making Schools Safe for Gay and Lesbian Youth,' we automatically threw our opponents onto the defensive, and stole their best line of attack. This framing short-circuited their arguments and left them back-pedaling from day one.

"Finding the effective 'frame' for your community is the key to victory.

"It must be linked to universal values that everyone in the community has in common. In Massachusetts, no one could speak up against our frame and say, 'Why yes, I do think students should kill themselves.'

"This allowed us to set the terms for the debate...We know that, confronted with real-live stories of youth who had suffered from homophobia, our opponents would have to attack people who had been victimized once, which put them in a bully position from which it would be hard to emerge looking good...We won the vote in the Senate 33-7 as a result."

### **NARTH Advisory Board Member Calls APA to Task on Pedophilia Issue**

The American Psychological Association's *Monitor* (September 1999, page 5) published a letter-to-the-editor co-authored by NARTH Scientific Advisory Board member A. Dean Byrd, Ph.D.

Dr. Byrd criticized the A.P.A. for publishing a study which found that pedophilia is not necessarily harmful to children who willingly go along with the encounter. The study recommended that psychologists discussing "non-coerced" pedophilia should shift to value-neutral, non-judgmental terminology.

Some other psychologists, it should be noted, passionately defended the A.P.A. pedophilia study's conclusions as scientifically valid.

*Dr. Byrd's letter said:*

We are deeply concerned by the article in *Psychological Bulletin* (1998, Vol. 124, p. 22-53), which is at the center of the controversy on pedophilia. While Rind et al. seemed to demonstrate reasonable professionalism with meta-analysis, the conclusion and recommendations were very problematic: (1) referring to sexual abuse as a "value neutral term," (2) suggesting that adult-adolescent sex may fall within the normal range and (3) indicating that sexual abuse may not be "as harmful" as previously thought.

Such statements point to a political agenda that we are seeing all too frequently in APA journals. Nowhere in the arti-



cle could be found any evidence of whether these victims of child sexual abuse have been involved in psychotherapy that may have ameliorated the long-term impact of the sexual abuse. The authors' suggestions that child sexual abuse may not be harmful is tantamount to saying that an individual who has been raped or who has managed to struggle through the ensuing difficulties may not have been impacted by that rape.

Sexual abuse of children and adolescents is always harmful. It rips away a childhood innocence. It prematurely sexualizes a child. We who treat adults molested as children or adolescents know firsthand the damage done to their lives. APA must discontinue its rhetoric about the article and simply state, "We blew it by allowing the article to be published. While the meta-analysis appears accurate, the authors' Summary and Discussion section is abominable."

Your refusal to do so continues to hurt and offend practicing psychologists and the individuals and families they serve.

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### **Deep Wounding is at the Heart of Much Same-Sex Attraction**

Frank Worthen, an ex-gay man who is one of the founders of the ex-gay movement, aptly describes the "deep wounding" so often seen in people who struggle with same-sex issues. He says:

"Fear has caused most homosexual people to have exempted themselves from life's normal growing process—the process of trial and error. Because of deep insecurities—a fear of others and their reactions (rejection by others), they have avoided interaction and/or relationships with both the same and the opposite sex at some point in their growing process...

"Both gay men and women have early on lost hope in the desirability of heterosexual relationships... Marriage has been seen as a disaster. Many have taken vows in early childhood to avoid at all costs such volatile partnerships...

"The conditions that created same-sex attractions must be confronted and overcome before a relationship with the opposite sex can reasonably survive. These issues or conditions are like invisible demons or sharks below the surface ready to destroy all meaningful relationships, whether

with the same or the opposite sex.

[Describing some of the issues with which homosexual people must often struggle] "Males: passivity, dependence, complaining, envy, manipulation, extravagance, financial irresponsibility, resentment and hostility, avoiding responsibility, cynicism, depression, low self-esteem, guilt, fear, isolation, blameshifting.

"Females: dependent relationships, anger, jealousy, aggressive behavior, manipulation, retaliation.

"Yet even with the unhealthy conditioning most gay people have undergone, there remains a conscious or subconscious desire to be ... fully male or fully female."

---from "Marriage and the Ex-Gay," by Frank Worthen, New Hope Ministries Newsletter, July 1999, p. 2.

### **Fear of Males as a Block to Same-Sex Identification**

A study dating back twenty years offers some intriguing evidence in support of a basic psychoanalytic concept: that fear is usually the block that prevents masculine identification. Avoidance of rough-and-tumble play, or "sissiness," has been widely noted in the backgrounds of prehomosexual boys, but this study pinpoints something more powerful—specifically a "pervasive dread of male-male aggression." The study says:

"Thirteen of the 17 homosexual subjects (76%) reported chronic, persistent terror of fighting with other boys during the juvenile and early adolescent periods. The intensity of this fear approximated a panic reaction. To the best of their recall, these boys never responded to challenge from a male peer with counter-challenge, threat or attack. The pervasive dread of male-male peer aggression was a powerful organizing force in their minds. Anticipatory anxiety resulted in phobic responses to social activities; the fantasy that fighting might occur led to avoidance of a wide variety of social interactions, especially rough-and-tumble activities ( defined in the investigation as body-contact sports such as football and soccer). "

—From Friedman, R. and Stern, L. (1980) Juvenile aggressivity and sissiness in homosexual and heterosexual males. *Journal of the American Academy of Psychoanalysis*. 8 3: 427 - 440.

### **Winner in the "Tortured Reasoning" Category**

An associate professor at Barry University, Frank Muscarella, has devised a theory to explain why homosexuality would be a useful, adaptive and species-promoting behavior. The professor, who is gay, says that homosexual

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individuals help heterosexual family members reproduce (thus promoting their *own* family genes) by leaving home, abdicating the chance to take opposite-sex mates, and instead developing sexual bonds with other same-sex members.

Muscarella's theory is tailored to fit the emerging field of evolutionary psychology, which examines human behavior in terms of its contribution to survival or reproduction. His theory will be explained in detail in an upcoming article in the *Journal of Homosexuality*.

### **If Science is Our Guide, Why Don't the Conclusions Fit the Evidence?**

In an editorial published by the *Tampa Tribune and Times*, the Family Research Council described a bizarre discovery: high-school textbooks often honestly describe the difficulties of single parenting, including the enormous negative repercussions for children. However, these textbooks typically then conclude by saying that "each type of family is as acceptable as another."

If the facts show single parenting is associated with family stress and poverty, along with greater propensity for crime, poor school performance and teenage pregnancy among the children, then why do these textbooks reassure the reader that every type of family arrangement is equally valid?

The FRC editorial based its information on a new study, "The Course of True Love: Marriage in High School Textbooks," produced by the Institute for American Values. FRC reported:

"Such value-neutral fluff is contradicted by the weight of social-science evidence, which finds that children from broken families are at far greater risk of abuse and of damaging behaviors. Seeking to shield the children of fragmented families from greater emotional pain, they do them a disservice by affirming the living situations that are harmful to them.

"In addition, by offering subjective conclusions that contradict the findings of social scientists and their own analysis of divorce and single parenting, the book sends the message that there's no relationship between fact and conclusion."

Moving beyond families to the subject of homosexuality, we often see the same odd logic: in spite of the overwhelming evidence of health risks and traumatic, anatomic incompatibility in gay male sex, social scientists refuse to consider that there is any inherent disadvantage in a gay lifestyle. Thus educators send the message to children that -- as FRC's Policy Analyst observes -- "there's no relationship between fact and conclusion," while continuing to affirm homosexuality as equivalent to heterosexuality.

"By offering unsupportable conclusions, presenting factual inaccuracies and omitting critical information," FRC says of school textbooks, students are "unprepared for future family and civic responsibilities."

Looking at the situation from another angle, we might say that when society has only one moral absolute, "tolerance" —meaning unconditional approval of every lifestyle choice—then the conclusions must be made to fit the philosophy, even if the facts simply don't support it.

### **Columnists are Relentless with Misinformation**

A Washington State newspaper, *The Sun*, carries an advice column called "Family Questions." A reader wrote in to say:

"My 16-year-old son has just informed his father and me that he is gay. This is a shock to us, and we are not sure what to do. I thought counseling may help, and this is the reason for contacting you."

The *Sun's* columnist answered:

"Scientific research indicates that sexual preference is determined by genetic factors.

"Your son, if he is gay, does not have control over the makeup of his genes. Lack of awareness of scientific information about sexual orientation is one of the major challenges facing gays and lesbians....Contact Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays."

NARTH member Mary Swoboda responded in a letter-to-the-editor:

"The columnist's response to the parents of the 16-year-old son who decided he was gay was deceptively misguided. She told the parents they should accept their 16-year-old's decision and affirm his choice of lifestyle. She told them to adjust to their son. She took away their hope.

"Although Ms. Brown claimed scientific research indicates sexual preference is determined by genetic factors, science does not support, in any way, the idea that one is 'born gay,' or that being homosexual is purely a function of genetics. The sooner the popular press gets clear about this fact, the better for all of us.

"She also promoted P-FLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) as the only group of its kind who can 'help one another' and 'educate the public.' Yet she denied the existence of other organizations who are also helping families and educating the public, such as NARTH, Exodus International, and P-FOX.

"She gave no hope to homosexuals who are in the



lifestyle but are afraid to tell anyone. The intense propaganda from outspoken gay activists makes it very difficult for those who don't want these same-sex desires to fight it or seek help.

"Finally, she dishonored those who have found healing from their homosexual struggle and have come out of the lifestyle."

### **"Born Gay" Is No Longer the Best Strategy, Says Gay Advocate**

The *Harvard Gay and Lesbian Review* recently published an opinion column, "Gay Rights Cannot Be Hatched in the Lab" (by Edward Stein; Fall 1999, p. 5), which urges gay activists to move away from reliance on the "born that way" political strategy:

"My research for the past several years for my book on sexual orientation has led me to be highly skeptical of the claim that homosexuality is hard-wired from birth...Linking gay civil rights to the ups and downs of scientific research is very risky...Rather than scientific arguments, ethical and political arguments should be deployed, as they are with regard to racial and religious minorities...unlike the claim for biological causation, they can provide a solid foundation for lesbian and gay rights."

### **Princeton Defends Diversity (Of a Sort)**

Recently, Princeton University defended its hiring of a controversial bioethics professor by claiming that the school champions a diversity of ideas.

The University's new professor, Peter Singer, stirred up controversy when he proposed that parents have one month to decide whether to kill a severely disabled newborn child. Since newborns are not yet self-aware, he says, their lives are inherently of less value than that of a pig or a monkey; so (following utilitarian philosophy) if pleasure would be maximized and pain minimized by killing a disabled infant, then the law should be changed to allow the parents to do so.

Ironically, Professor Singer presides over the University's "Center for Human Values." As one cultural observer commented, it is odd that the University should have chosen a director for the Center who believes that human beings have no intrinsic value.

When demonstrators and some alumni protested Singer's appointment, the university defended itself by comparing his appointment to the hiring of a history professor who required his students to study Hitler's *Mein Kampf*--that is, Princeton was simply making students aware of all sides of an issue.

What they did not mention is that a professor who **defended** *Mein Kampf* would inevitably be fired. So, quite likely, would a psychology professor who taught that human design has created us to be heterosexual, and that other forms of heterosexuality are deviations from what is healthy and normal.

### **Taking on Pro-Gay Bias in the Media: New "Media Accountability" Project**

(The following article by Peter LaBarbera is excerpted from the *Media Accountability Report of Americans for Truth about Homosexuality*.)

"In recent years, the mainstream media has swerved far off the American mainstream by joining with gay activists to advance their goal of normalizing homosexuality. Reportorial bias on this issue has gotten so bad that--save for the obligatory quote or two by a conservative--the typical homosexual-related article in a major newspaper looks like it was written by a gay PR firm.

"The media's favoritism toward homosexual activists is so pronounced that many on the pro-family side have given up on getting a fair shake. Instead, they are turning to the expanding "new" media, including web publications, to get out their stories. However, as exciting as these new information sources are, their reach and influence pale compared to those of the established broadcast and print media.

"The Media Accountability Project, launched with a generous matching grant, will seek to hold journalists accountable when their reporting crosses over into activism...We will introduce journalists to formerly homosexual men and women to get them to look beyond their jaded stereotypes... Through MAP and the Media Accountability Report, Americans for Truth will help the media put this debate in its proper perspective.

"You can help by monitoring the media in your area. For more information, call 301-261-1716. Our web site is [www.americansfortruth.org](http://www.americansfortruth.org)."

### ***Journal of Homosexuality* Eulogizes Pedophile Advocate: "Trailblazer for New View of Sex Between Men and Boys"**

(Memoriam dedicated to Edward Brongersma, who died by assisted suicide in April 1998. Reprinted from *The Journal of Homosexuality*, vol. 37, no.3, 1999)

"Without doubt, Dr. Edward Brongersma was the most striking personality among those advocating greater freedom for man-boy love. The Dutch legal expert, who passed away at the age of 86 in April 1998, was a man with

a mission. ... he was a beacon of hope for many who felt oppressed by laws condemning sexual contacts with adolescents.

"... In 1987 and 1990, his largest work, *Loving Boys*, came out in two volumes, totaling 847 pages. Together with Sandfort and Van Naerssen, he was editor and co-author of *Male Intergenerational Intimacy: Historical, Socio-Psychological and Legal Perspectives* (also published as *Journal of Homosexuality*)

"... [H]e has not hidden his personal involvement... his *Loving Boys* starts out by stating that "quite obviously" (given all his work on the subject) his interest was personal.

"Brongersma's importance, therefore, lies not so much in the rigidity of his academic standards, but in the fact that he was a trailblazer for a new view on sex between men and boys. He helped ignite the discussion of man-boy love and move it away from the trodden paths. This was appreciated in the more enlightened academic circles; witness the fact that the Dutch Society for Sexology made him an honorary member in recognition of his work in 1992.

"... The main problem encountered by pedophiles is that society generally regards all sexual contacts between adults and children as abusive, even if they are not.

"His main legacy is his collection of books, films, letters and other documents in the field of boy-love. Many of these documents are accounts of personal experiences...

"... In 1978, a year after his retirement as a Member of Parliament at the age of 65, he "came out" in a long interview in a mass circulation weekly. Contrary to his own, more pessimistic, expectation, he received fifty personal letters in reaction to the interview, all of which praised him. Other interviews in the printed media, radio and television followed. In this period, a greater understanding of pedophilia emerged in The Netherlands ...

"Whereas in 1970 he had still advocated the beginning of puberty as a proper age of consent, he argued in favor of a total abolition of the age of consent in later years."

### **The Claremont Institute Says: One Cannot Defend A Philosophical Tradition Unless He Knows It**

The Claremont Institute, co-sponsors of the 1998 Annual NARTH Conference, recently released a very useful booklet called "Making Sense of Homosexuality." This 56-page publication summarizes the very informative speeches given by Hadley Arkes, Thomas West and Edward Erler at the 1998 NARTH Conference, and is available for \$5 from the Claremont Institute at 250 West First Street, Suite 330,

Claremont, CA 91711, (909) 621-6825.

In his speech, Professor Hadley Arkes lamented that we as a society have lost the capacity to give intelligent reasons for our convictions. In medieval times, he explains, a schoolteacher could readily tell a person the reasoning behind society's condemnation of cannibalism. Today's citizen may be vaguely disturbed by a magazine article that presents child sacrifice in a positive light (as a *Newsweek* story did recently); but he cannot tell you *why* he would object to it, because he is living off the capital of a tradition he no longer understands, and thus is not able to defend.

Professor Arkes argued persuasively against gay marriage. By what principle, he asks, could we alter the centuries-old definition of marriage which was created to conform to the natural design of the body, and to provide the best protection for children? We cannot simply change the definition of marriage by popular vote; we would need to work from a new defining principle. Without that, the law would be unable to hold back the future challenge of those who argued for group marriage, or for the right to marry other family members. What if a man wanted to marry his horse? How could the law hold back those challenges?

Love alone cannot be the new basis for marriage, he says, for a man may *love* his little sister or the family pet, but surely he shouldn't be able to *marry* them. If the definition of marriage becomes simply a subjective opinion—whatever a community decides by popular vote to say it is—then it can be given virtually any shape, even "the Oscar Wilde version—the man who wishes to marry himself because, as they say, he is quite at ease with himself."

The critical problem, Professor Arkes says, is that gay activists acknowledge no overarching principle that would stand as a barrier to prevent such absurdities if marriage is redefined to accommodate gay couples.

He also notes that gay activists have made aggressive use of the law to enforce not "tolerance," but fully conforming approval. People who have "serious doubts about the homosexual life" must now keep their opinions to themselves, because they are considered liabilities in corporations, law firms, and universities; there is the very realistic fear, on the part of their employers, that the company could be the subject of an expensive anti-discrimination lawsuit.

The gay movement is not about tolerance, Claremont's Edward Erler explained. Tolerance of homosexuality was achieved many years ago. Now it is about freedom from all constraints—most particularly, the constraints imposed by nature—and this same motive is the driving force behind radical feminism and other liberation philosophies.

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## The New Tolerance

Once, tolerance was defined as recognizing and respecting others' beliefs and practices without necessarily sharing them. Tolerance would often entail enduring, or putting up with, someone or something not especially liked.

But society's new definition of tolerance is very different. Now, a "tolerant" person views all values, beliefs, lifestyles, and truth claims as equal. This language shift is eloquently described in Josh McDowell and Bob Hostetler's 1998 book, *The New Tolerance*.

Where this new tolerance reigns, there can be no hierarchy of truth, and no standard by which to discern between competing truth claims. Every man's position must be praised and considered equally valid. This is because the new tolerance considers all truth claims to be mere opinions—not absolutes that are true across time and cultures, but culturally created and conditioned ideas.

By this new standard, any system of belief which claims to be transcendent and absolute—making truth claims that are not qualified as *relative* according to time, place, and person—is considered to be "intolerant." In a society which scorns absolutes and denies the existence of any natural law written on the heart, or any intrinsic human nature, there can be only one universal virtue—tolerance—and that virtue must be enforced with almost religious fervor.

The authors say this state of affairs is ominously reminiscent of the language of "Newspeak" from George Orwell's novel *1984*. Among the Orwellian tactics now in use, they say, is the labeling of any disagreement or objection *phobic*... as in "homophobic."

## More "Newspeak" in Social Science

One particularly interesting social-science term now gaining popularity, to describe members of the mammalian world, is "*non-human animals*." (As if to distinguish them from "human animals.") It is, of course, used to imply that humans are just one more species along the long evolutionary chain of beasts. Because of its philosophical implications, social scientists should consider giving some thought to adopting the term into usage.

## California Legislation Will Change School Sex-Education Instruction

Four new pro-gay bills have passed in the California legislature, including AB 537 (which inserts "sexual orientation" into the state education code), and AB 1001.

According to Lowell Holcomb of Traditional Values Coalition, "California now has homosexuality as a civil right which will be promoted and taught in public schools as good, normal and healthy... Values taught at home and church will be undermined by government schools, as they will be forced to stop any message that does not say that homosexuality is normal."

"The media is to blame for a large part of this problem by their misrepresentation of the facts," Mr. Holcomb said, "and also by their intentional omission of much of the news."

When the pro-gay bills were at the governor's desk, oppositional rallies in several cities drew as many as 2,000 demonstrators, but the press failed to cover them. The bills were simplistically represented as a means of preventing deaths such as Matthew Shepard's, and opposition was often presented as little more than an expression of bigotry and hatred.

## Speakers at "Coming Out of Homosexuality Day" Harrassed

The fifth annual "Coming Out of Homosexuality" Day Conference, held in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park auditorium in October, resulted in assault and battery charges after two assailants hit ex-gay speaker Michael Johnston with pies, and other audience members hissed and booed Johnston and ex-lesbian speaker Yvette Cantu.

Family Research Council's *Culture Facts* reported on the event. FRC noted an interesting irony: gay protesters marching outside the event called for tolerance and an end to the "hate and violence," while inside, speakers were taunted and booed by Act-Up and a group of black-clad, shaved-headed lesbian protesters who heckled them.

## Sexaholics Anonymous Clarifies Policy on Gay Relationships

At its July International Conference in Cleveland, Sexaholics Anonymous (SA) clarified its policy on sexual sobriety: same-sex relationships will not be supported. The vote was in response to recent attempts to promote the idea that SA's definition of sexual sobriety could include same-sex partnerships.

SA has members from a wide diversity of religious beliefs, including those with no religious conviction. It is one of the very few non-religious programs supportive of those wishing to stop same-sex behavior.

For more information, visit the SA website at [www.sa.org](http://www.sa.org) or phone the Central Office in Nashville at +1 615-370-6062■