



Give the People Light and they will find their own way.

The Wisconsin Light

UWM Sponsors AIDS Awareness Day Feb. 7th

[Milwaukee]- The 10% Society, at UW-M is sponsoring an AIDS Awareness Day on Wednesday, February 7, 1990 at the UW-M Student Union, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd. The day's workshops will be presented primarily by the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) and other human services agencies from the Milwaukee area.

Activities will include lectures, discussions, booths, films and a play. All events are FREE and open to the public. For more information, call the 10% Society at (414) 229-6555.

58 Senators Now Support Hate Crimes Bill

[Washington, D.C.] Senate Minority Leader Bob Dole (R-Kan.) has signed on as cosponsor of the federal Hate Crimes Statistics Act, bringing the total number of supporters of the bill to 58 in the U.S. Senate.

According to the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), Herb Kohl (D-WI) is also one of the cosponsors of the bill. Robert Kasten (R-WI) is not listed as a cosponsor. Kasten has voted against Gay/Lesbian issues 75% of the time in the 101st Congress according to NGLTF figures.

"Dole's support is an important step forward for the Hate Crimes bill," said Peri Jude Radevic, NGLTF's legislative director. "As a leader of Republicans in the Senate, he carries formidable power for moving legislation. His cosponsorship sends a clear message that this law has strong bipartisan support."

Jude, who has lobbied extensively on the bill since its original introduction in the previous Congress, said the goal is to reach 60 cosponsors or more.

Sixty supporters equals "cloture" in the Senate, which means, said Jude, "we would have enough votes to block an anti-Gay filibuster by Senator Jesse Helms." Helms has repeatedly opposed



SENATOR HERB KOHL

the bill and may try to filibuster, or block, the legislation from moving to a vote.

The Hate Crimes Statistics Act directs the U.S. Department of Justice to compile and publish data on crimes that manifest prejudice based on race, religion, sexual orientation or ethnicity. The bill has garnered additional attention on Capitol Hill in the past weeks after recent mail bombings against Black civil rights figures and judges.

NGLTF has identified the bill as a top legislative priority and an important first step in stemming the alarming pervasiveness of "Gay bashing" and other crimes of prejudice. The House passed the bill last June by a vote of 368 to 47.

Milwaukee ACT-UP Marches in Georgia to Protest Sodomy Laws



Nine Milwaukee ACT-UP members and friends journeyed to Atlanta, Georgia Jan. 9 to protest the State's sodomy laws and demonstrate in the streets.

Jesse Helms Blasts Gays As He Announces Candidacy for 4th Term

[Washington, D.C.] U.S. Senator Jesse Helms (R-NC), who in the closing days of the last session of Congress single-handedly blocked Senate action to provide federal funds for low income People with AIDS in need of AZT, announced his candidacy for a fourth term in the U.S. Senate on Saturday, January 13, 1990. Lashing-out against his favorite targets, Helms declared that "homosexuals and lesbians (are) disgusting people, marching in our street demanding all sorts of things, including the right to marry each other."

Tim McFeeley, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, the nation's largest Lesbian and Gay political organization, responded with a direct challenge to Helms. "Any politician who categorizes millions of Americans — people who pay their taxes, serve their country, build communities, lead productive lives in every work setting in the United States — as 'disgusting' is unfit for public office," McFeeley stated.

Support Group For Young Women Announced

[Milwaukee]- A support and discussion group for young women 17-20 years-old who are exploring their sexual identity or who are in the process of coming out is being sponsored by the Counseling Center of Milwaukee.

The group, called "Insight", is a joint venture of the Women's Support Group Program and the Prevention/Education Project.

Insight will provide a supportive place in which to discuss topics like self-esteem, family and school life, coming out, sexuality, relationships and life planning. The myths and realities of Lesbian life will be explored and sessions will be geared to the particular needs and concerns of the women attending.

Participants are assured of confidentiality and an understanding environment in which to work out their feelings. Young women interested in Insight can call 271-2565 and ask for Kathy Herbst or Cheryl Orgas. Concerned friends who may know women in need of this kind of support are encouraged to pass this phone number on to them.

The specific times and meeting dates of Insight will be arranged when the first group is established.

"The U.S. Senate is an honorable institution reserved for people who respect and desire to help all Americans and should not be occupied by haters. I am sure the voters of North Carolina will agree," McFeeley said.

"Senator Helms' bigotry has no place in the federal government, and the Human Rights Campaign Fund will continue to oppose his extremist rhetoric whenever it rears its ugly head," McFeeley stated.

Helms, who made his announcement

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Government Must Change AIDS Definition

By Doug Radtke

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) defines AIDS on the basis of the presence of specific opportunistic diseases which are traditionally exhibited by the high-risk groups; namely Gay white males and IV drug users. These diseases are Kaposi's Sarcoma (KS) and Pneumocystis Carini Pneumonia (PCP).

The problem is that not all people who are HIV+ or who have ARC develop KS or PCP even though they often become very sick, sometimes to the point of death.

This is especially true of women and people of color.

Our demonstration at the CDC was to raise three issues: since statistics show that the "risk groups" are shifting, it makes no sense to continue to define AIDS by using the old risk groups as a marker.

Secondly, as the onset of AIDS has gone into different factions of society, the CDC must begin tracking new behaviors as probable modes of transmission, such as cunnilingus.

Thirdly, that not only is it dangerous to claim that the number of AIDS cases is going to be less than projected, it is tantamount to being a party to the killing of these women, children and people of color who could not get adequate information and health care because they were not defined and counted as AIDS patients by the CDC.

Until the CDC changes its definition of AIDS to include the presence of other AIDS related diseases and allow a T-Cell count of less than 200 as being indicative of AIDS, it will continue to have blood on its hands.

By Doug Radtke

[Atlanta, GA]- On January 8, 1990, people lined the streets of Atlanta, Georgia to watch, point, laugh and jeer as 300 AIDS activists from across the country marched to protest the Georgia sodomy law. The following day, over 200 of the same activists staged civil disobedience actions in front of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to protest that Federal agency's unrealistic and dangerously limited definition of AIDS.

For those who participated in these events, there was a great deal of passion, excitement, uncertainty, laughter, anger, pain, time, money, work and camaraderie which forged the memorable experience which our two days in Atlanta encompassed.

As for myself, as one of the nine members and friends of Milwaukee's ACT-UP chapter who made the thirteen hour journey, my experience has left me a changed person. It is my belief that in some small way, acts of civil disobedience will always tend to liberate the souls of those who are non-violently struggling for justice. And justice for all people is exactly what the demonstrations in Atlanta were all about.

In order of their happening, there was the "Sodomites In Action" demonstration.

"Suck my dick, lick my clit, the sodomy laws are full of shit. You're a sodomite, we say rabidious!" "Your gloves don't match your shoes, they'll see on the evening news." (a reference to the fact that the Atlanta and DeKalb police wore latex gloves during our protests)

These are just a few of the obnoxious and witty chants we shouted as we marched and picketed in front of the State Capitol building in downtown Atlanta.

The focus of this demonstration can be summed up by the following: "If the government has seen fit to force itself into the privacy of our bedrooms, let's take our bedrooms to the government."

We carried a brass bed with two blow-up dummies in various sodomizing positions down the streets and up the steps of the capitol building. We picketed. We listened as speakers from many groups spoke about the absolute necessity of repealing this law. We calmly tried to interest and involve those passers-by, whom the police would have directed away from us and our cause.

And 63 of us got arrested for running into the streets to stop traffic while others pantomimed the "sodomical acts" for which people are being criminalized.

At the second demonstration, things were different. In front of the CDC we chanted:

"Cunnilingus counts; the CDC doesn't." and "Act up, Fight back, Fight AIDS," among other things.

The CDC protest was more agitated than the one before at the capitol. For one thing, the CDC demo was more relevant to all of our lives. At the capitol, those of us from out of state lent support, but it was not directly our cause. At the CDC, everyone there had been directly affected by AIDS and the CDC's handling of it.

For another, at CDC the we had no idea how the police were going to react.

Before the Capitol demo, leaders had discussed with the Atlanta police what was permissible and what was not. This had not been done with the DeKalb police.

We had been warned that obstruction of a public highway was an offense which carried a heavy fine and possible jail sentence and yet, when we moved into the street, the police did nothing. Neither was anything done when ACT-UP chapters formed a sit-in line across the highway. The police simply closed off that stretch of road.

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