



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

The Wisconsin Light

Hate Crimes At UW-Eau Claire Increases Tension

[Eau Claire]-Because of the rising tide of violence on the UW-Eau Claire campus, particularly directed against Lesbians or those perceived to be Lesbians, the Gay, Lesbian, Or Bisexual Equality (GLOBE) organization on campus will hold its first event addressing hate crimes. This according to Carol Gruba, GLOBE Facilitator. The event will take place April 23, 1992 and was occasioned by the bashing of one of the group's members, a woman named Susan.

According to the campus paper, the *Spectator*, Susan was assaulted on February 26 about 7:00 p.m. A man following her shouted "Dyke," she said. When she turned to face him, he hit her in the face and ran. According to the *Spectator* article, the man was about 6 feet, of medium build with long hair. The Eau Claire Police Department has classified the assault as a hate crime.

Jay, chairman of the Gay/Lesbian Organization on campus is reported to have said that physical violence has been rising on the UW-Eau Claire campus. Usually, when it occurs, he said, it happens to women and those who fit homosexual stereotypes, he added.

In response to this and other attacks on women and Gay men, GLOBE has planned a rally for April 23 to take place on the campus mall. The rally is being described as a "hate crime survivor speak out" — something along the lines of a Take Back the Night rally.

The campus mall is the core of student transit and will offer the rally participants the greatest possible exposure.

Survivors of anti-Lesbian, anti-Gay bashing will be invited to tell their stories. The planned keynote speaker is Richard La Fortune, lobbyist for AIDS research, musician, artist, writer and a cofounder of a Minneapolis group for Gay Native Americans.

Following the rally, there will be workshops on Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual hate crimes, homophobia, heterosexism, AIDS, Gay/Lesbian/Bi history and a legal overview of all hate crimes.

For more information, contact the UW-Eau Claire Gay/Lesbian Organization, UW-EC, Union Box G.L.O, Eau Claire, WI 54701.

Presidential Candidate Buchanan Speels Verbal Abuse Against Gays

[Washington, D.C.]—As part of its report on anti-Gay/anti-Lesbian violence, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) reports that on March 20, right-wing columnist-turned Presidential candidate Patrick Buchanan condemned New York City Mayor David Dinkins for his "insult" to Catholics by "prancing with sodomites" at the 1991 St. Patrick's Day parade. "A visceral recoil from homosexuality is the natural reaction of a healthy society wishing to preserve itself," he added.

Although widely condemned for his appeals to racial and religious bigotry, Buchanan's remarks about Gays have seldom been publicly acknowledged, let alone criticized.

According to a 1984 article co-authored by Buchanan and J. Gordon Muir, AIDS is described as "nature's retribution," "God's will," "the wages of sin," "paying the piper," and "ecological kickback."

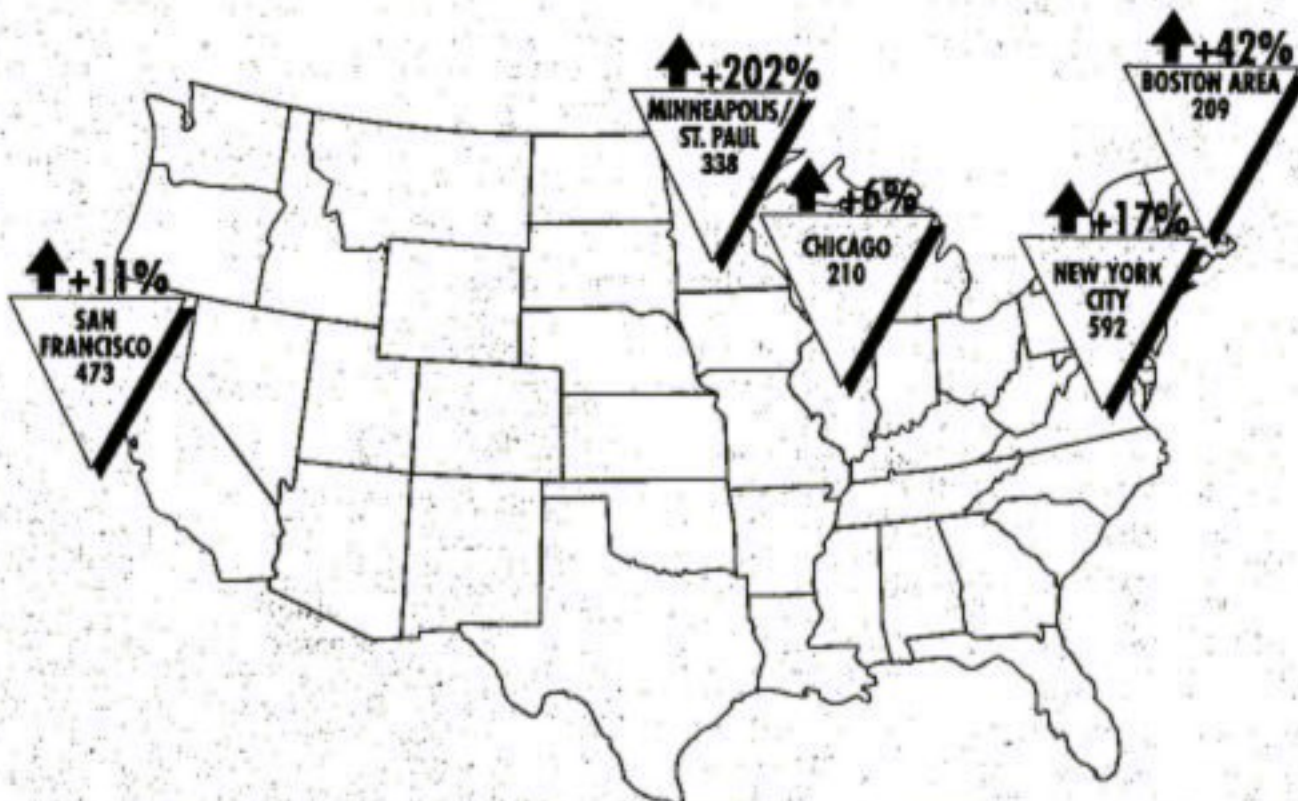
In a 1977 statement that recalls Hitler's *Mein Kampf*, Buchanan described his "final solution" for Gays and Lesbians: "In a healthy society homosexuality will be contained, segregated, controlled and stigmatized, carrying both a legal and a social sanction."

In the wake of the November 15 anti-Lesbian joke by then Presidential candidate Sen. Bob Kerrey (D-NE) David Beckwith, Vice-President Dan Quayle's press secretary, made another

Anti-Gay Violence Continues To Increase Across The Country

ANTI-GAY/LESBIAN INCIDENTS DOCUMENTED IN 1991
TRENDS IN FIVE U.S. METROPOLITAN AREAS

Prepared by the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force Policy Institute



Leaders Meet With United Way To Discuss Protests Against Boy Scouts

[Washington, D.C.]—Leaders of the nation's four largest Gay organizations met on March 27 with top officials of United Way of America to begin discussions on how to end Gay protests and boycotts of United Way because of the charitable organization's \$90 million in annual contributions to the Boy Scouts of America (BSA).

The four Gay groups were Queen Nation/National Capital, the Human Rights Campaign Fund, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and the National Federation of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG).

BSA has a national policy requiring exclusion of Gay children and adults from its programs and regularly justifies this policy by labeling 23 million Gays as "immoral," "bad role models," and

"counter to traditional family values." One-third of BSA's budget comes from United Way.

Leaders of the four Gay organizations demanded that United Way publicly condemn BSA's "homophobic apartheid policy," and recommend that all United Way chapters refuse funding to BSA unless they sign a binding, non-discrimination policy on the basis of sexual orientation.

The four groups also demanded that the United Way publicize its policy forbidding discrimination in employment on the basis of sexual orientation.

United Way Senior Vice President Robert Beggan indicated that his organization would like to find a solution that works for the Scouts and the Gay/Lesbian community. He invited Gay leaders to submit information on education programs designed to combat homophobia.

Reformed Jews and Bigotry

On March 30, Queer Nation (QN) met with the Union of American Hebrew Congregations' Commission on Social Action to discuss BSA's discrimination

TURN TO BOY SCOUTS, PAGE 11

ACT UP Milwaukee TV Commercials Admonish Politicians on AIDS Silence

[Milwaukee]- ACT UP Milwaukee has produced its own commercial to raise the AIDS issue in time for the April 7 primary election.

The 30-second commercial, which will run a total of 12 times in five Milwaukee-area stations, will also air on such programs as ABC's *Nightline* and before local noon news broadcasts.

The commercial, produced in both English and Spanish, features a bright "smiley-faced" alarm clock and flashed facts about AIDS. The commercial is described by ACT UP as "nonpartisan." It mentions no candidate by name, but admonishes all politicians to break their silence on AIDS. The commercial encourages viewers to "vote your hopes" in the April 7 Primary. The ad was produced as part of ACT UP Milwaukee's campaign to force candidates to speak out about AIDS.

ACT UP Milwaukee worked with the generous assistance of videographer Dena Aronson and actor Ric Oquita to produce one of the first political

[Washington, D.C.]—Violence against Gay men and Lesbians is pervasive around the nation, surging in key U.S. cities, and is having a "profoundly destructive" impact on Gay people and society in general, says a new report issued March 19, 1992 by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF).

Findings in the seventh annual NGLTF Policy Institute report, *Anti-Gay/Lesbian Violence, Victimization and Defamation in 1991*, reveal a disturbing increase in attacks on Gay people in five major urban areas around the country. In addition, the report cites examples of 1992 presidential campaign defamation by Patrick Buchanan and others, and negative portrayals of homosexuals in Hollywood movies — including *Basic Instinct* — as fueling anti-Gay prejudice.

A total of 1,822 incidents — including harassment, threats, physical assaults, vandalism, arson, police abuse and murder — were reported to agencies in New York, Boston, Chicago, Minneapolis/St. Paul and San Francisco. The incidents represent a 31 percent increase over 1990 in the same cities.

Among the most serious incidents that increased were anti-Gay murders, which more than doubled. Last year, eight people were killed for being Gay, up from three in 1990. Physical assaults, or "Gay bashings," leaped 15 percent and acts of police abuse jumped 29 percent, according to the NGLTF report.

"Anti-Gay and Lesbian violence continues to be a widespread and critical problem, provoked by official Gay bashing in politics and popular culture," said Kevin Berrill, NGLTF Anti-Violence Project director and author of the report. "Each attack sends a message of hatred and terror intended to silence and render invisible not only the victim but all Gay people."

"Unchecked, these crimes of hate create an atmosphere of fear and intolerance that undermines not only the Gay community, but the democratic and pluralistic foundation of our society," Berrill said.

The 1991 Report/Anti-Gay Backlash

This year's report focuses on trends in five key U.S. urban areas with professionally staffed Gay/Lesbian victim assistance agencies. However, the geographic and cultural diversity of the areas, combined with prevalence studies and reports from additional cities, "means it is likely that other U.S. urban areas, and perhaps suburban and rural communities, are experiencing a similar surge," said Berrill.

TURN TO VIOLENCE, PAGE 11

We are Pleased to Announce that this is Issue No. 100 of The Wisconsin Light