

# OPINION

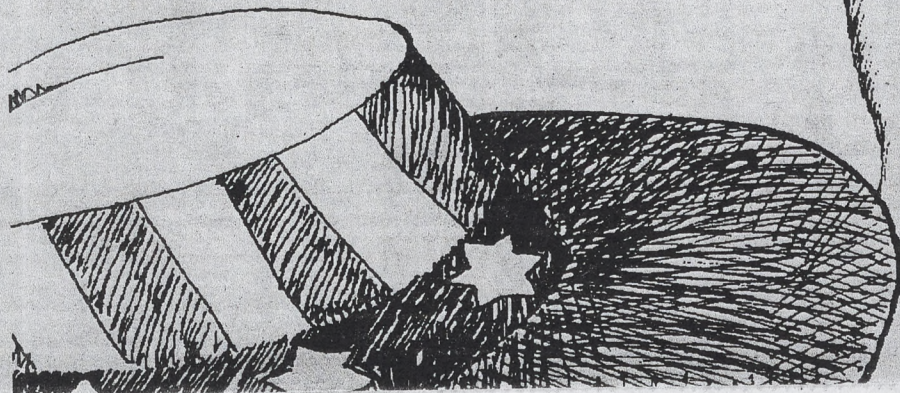
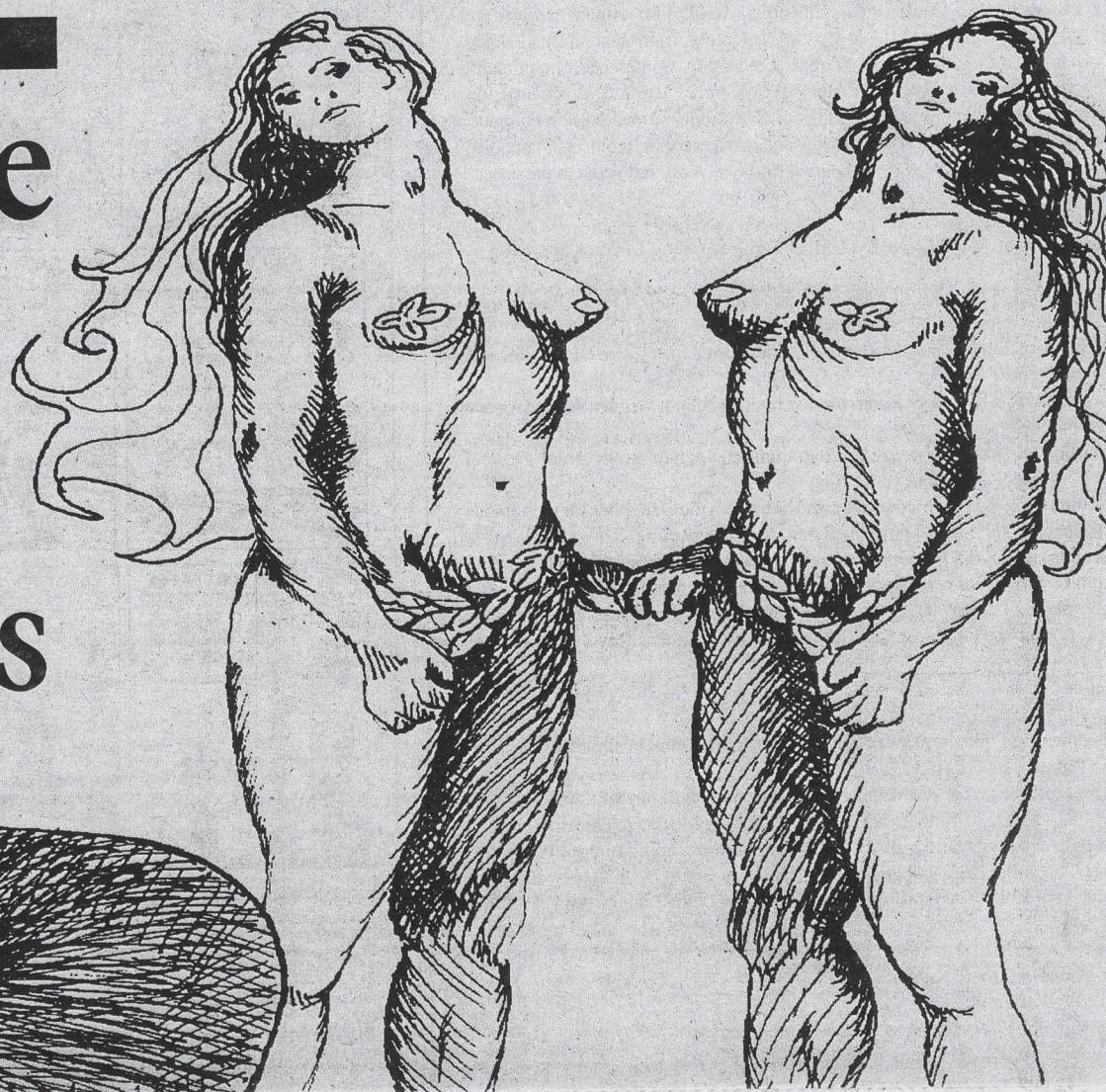
4 OPINION

The UCSD Guardian

Thursday, October 10, 1991

## COMMENTARIES

# Out of the Closet, Into the Lawbooks



## ■ Veto of AB 101 will force many gays to stay in the closet out of the simple fear of losing their jobs

By Daniel Calvi and Chandan Reddy  
Contributing Opinion Writers

*"I hear it was charged against me that I sought to destroy institutions, But really I am neither for nor against institutions...*



**For AB 101:**  
Wilson's veto says that discrimination towards gays, lesbians, and bisexuals is not only acceptable, but legal

entation, was a bad decision.

In academia, the university is our workplace. And as students we too have experienced the discrimina-  
See **RIGHTS**, Page 5

*Only I will establish... Without any edifices or rule or trustees or any argument, The institution of the dear love of comrades."*

—Walt Whitman,  
from *Calamus*

We are not against the government. We are against a bad decision.

On Friday, Oct. 4, 1991, we rallied at the State building downtown in protest of a bad decision. Pete Wilson's veto of Assembly Bill 101, a bill that would have prohibited discrimination in the workplace based on sexual ori-

## THE GAY RIGHTS BILL

### What is AB 101?

■ Currently, under the California Fair Employment and Housing Act, it is unlawful to engage in specified employment practices, including hiring, promotion, and termination on the basis of race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical handicap, medical condition, marital status, sex, or age. AB 101 is a bill proposed by State Assemblyman Terry Friedman which would have amended the employment and housing act (as well as other laws) to add sexual orientation to list of unlawful categories for discrimination.

### Why did Governor Wilson veto the bill?

■ Wilson was facing political pressure from the state GOP representatives and the religious right. He vetoed AB 101, saying that there were enough laws in the state lawbooks to protect homosexuals against job and housing discrimination. He also said that the bill would be "bad for business" by placing an adverse burden on employers, especially small business employers. Wilson criticized AB 101 for having complex remedies and enforcement procedures and said that a simpler resolution would have been "easily accepted."

James Collier/*Guardian*

## ■ The problem is not the veto of AB 101, but unnecessary government interference in the economy

By Ben Boychuk  
Opinion Editor

AB 101, the controversial Gay Rights Bill recently vetoed by Governor Pete Wilson, died a good death. Whatever conciliatory political aims the governor may have been trying to achieve are irrelevant. Wilson did not cave into the so-called "religious right" — even though it would appear as such. What he *did*, rather, was prevent California business from sustaining yet another unnecessary regulatory blow from the state and kept sexual preference — and all of its implications — a private matter.

The prevailing conventional wisdom that Wilson was attempting to redeem himself with the right-wing by vetoing the bill is absurd. A \$7 billion

tax hike is a difficult thing to forgive, especially for a party that considers taxes as evil as the Devil himself. By vetoing AB 101, Wilson succeeded only in alienating

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### Against AB 101

The governor's veto of AB 101 prevented more unnecessary regulation and kept sexual preference a private matter

## REGULATION: Keep the state out RIGHTS: Veto of AB 101 reinforces homophobia

Continued from page 4

the moderates and the Left. The Right had abandoned him months ago. Indeed, politically speaking, Wilson is as dead as the bill he killed.

Well, not quite dead.

The chaos that has ensued as the result of Wilson's political death rattle has been tragically ill-focused and misguided. The veto by no means gave license to every bigot and gay-basher in the state to take to the streets and assault homosexuals. Nor by any stretch of the imagination did Wilson's decision issue the metaphorical death warrant to every AIDS victim in California. Conversely, the veto certainly didn't give disgruntled activists the right to riot in the streets.

The question of civil rights for homosexuals is not for the state to resolve. AB 101 is rather reminiscent of the feminist attempt in the early 1980s to implement legislation defining "pornography" as anything which portrayed women as submissive. The presence of obscenity or nudity was not essential to proving that something was pornographic.

A federal court struck the ordinance down, and rightly so. While the court acknowledged that violence against women is a real problem plaguing society today, it could not sustain the law. The court held that the regulation attempted to create a state-sanctioned view of women — "thought control" as the court put it — and was therefore unconstitutional.

AB 101 is similar in the sense that it would create a state-mandated view of homosexuality, compelling employers to throw away their moral and ethical beliefs by force of law. Despite the assertions of the gay and lesbian community, homosexuality cannot be treated the same as racial or sexual discrimination.

Homosexuality involves moral questions which, for many people, have only one answer. The gay and lesbian community may be correct when it says that its lifestyle is not a choice but a way of life, just as the so-called "religious right" may be correct when it argues that homosexuality is immoral and anti-family. Each faction has its own absolute position. Each has its own political agenda.

But it is not for the state — a secular and utterly inefficient decision-making entity by its very nature — to answer these questions for society. Nor is it for any interest group to pander to politicians and ultimately undermine the public interest. This is an issue which can only be decided by the people.

There can be no doubt that there are bigots and hate-mongers in this world who are unwilling and seemingly incapable of allowing people different from themselves to co-exist in society unmolested.

The rising tide of "political correctness" in this country is inevitably doomed to failure because its proponents seek to reeducate the incorrect into their own image. If

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tion that is perpetuated by the institutionalized homophobia created by such bad decisions.

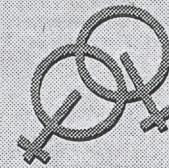
The veto of AB 101 reinforces this institutionalized homophobia on our campus in such a way that the coming out of a member of the faculty or staff is made even more problematic — not only must they deal with the moral judgements of their colleagues and superiors, but also they must face the reality of the termination of their economic livelihood.

Wilson's veto conveys to the public that discrimination toward gays, lesbians, and bisexuals is not only acceptable, but legal.

And it is this forced closetedness of faculty and staff at UCSD that deprives us of queer role models and queer studies. We are deprived of a full-timed, staffed gay/lesbian/bisexual resource center. We are deprived of a sufficient collection of queer literatures and periodicals in our libraries.

And most of all, we are deprived of the formal and administrative recognition as people of an underrepresented population deserving attention in areas of outreach, recruitment, retention, and special services provided to other culturally-based, underrepresented organizations (i.e. MEChA, AASU, APSA, NASA).

At UCSD, we are privileged, as difficult as that has been made for us, to be openly gay. However, we realize that after graduation the privilege of being openly gay is a



**An inside view:**

At UCSD, we are privileged, as difficult as that has been made for us, to be openly gay. However, we realize that after graduation the privilege of being openly gay is a luxury that must be deliberated with every application we submit, with every interview we have, with every promotion we are up for.

luxury that must be deliberated with every application we submit, with every interview we have, with every promotion we are up for. Wilson's bad choice has insured this.

To think that it is a privilege to be openly gay at an on-campus job, to be allowed to even write this commentary in the *Guardian*, to be given a chance to speak out at a rally in the

Price Center supporting AB 101 and measures like it, we are reminded of the excessive heterosexism on our campus.

To be visible, to write and be read, to be outspoken and to be heard are not allowances or privileges, but rights. These actions are not gifts that we should feel grateful and indebted for, but rather rights that are inherent of all people on this campus. At UCSD we are *only* privileged.

Wilson's veto of AB 101 forces gays, lesbians, and bisexuals on the job or seeking employment to be secretive about their partners. Thus maliciously attempting to perpetuate a popularized conception that a secretive love between two men or two women obviously stems from their shame and admittance of their perversion. This is wrong. His misconception that gay love and lesbian love is not the "traditional family" of 1950s America that he spoke of to an audience of dignitaries at Stanford University — "a sacred union born from romantic love" — is not only unacceptable politics (Californians favored the bill), but completely homophobic.

*Everything* about our love for one another is romantic, and we rally and protest Wilson's veto to protect our "dear love of comrades."

The absolute ridiculousness of Wilson's politics is, above all else, his perception that AB 101 needs a vote, that AB 101 needed his signature, or that AB 101 was debatable in any sense. Human rights are not negotiable.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# There Are Huge Differences in Biases Facing SAAC and LGBA

### Editor:

After reading the opinion ("A Political Ghetto for LGBA," Monday, Oct. 7) expressed by you regarding LGBA and SAAC, I must respectfully disagree.

We live in a racist, patriarchal society. Persons of color and women have always been the target groups for such bias. Obviously, such bias is based solely on skin color, eyelid fissure, and/or gender, among others. The bias encountered by persons of color and women is in large part based on intolerance for physical, cultural and a number of other differences.

Accordingly, people within these groups should be given a support/redress system such as is accorded through SAAC and

similar organizations.

The fact stands for itself that the plurality of gay males in LGBA are white. Without announcing their sexual orientation, they have the built-in societal recourse of their skin color and gender to afford them unlimited opportunity. Further, lesbian women are not excluded from the Womens Resource Center, which is available to all women, regardless of sexual orientation.

My argument is not against gays and lesbians coming out; the point rests simply in the difference between the bias faced by members of SAAC and LGBA.

There is no denying that persons of a non-heterosexual sexual orientation are victims of bias. Therefore the real question is

whether LGBA and its agenda falls within the scope of SAAC and its agenda.

There is no question that when sexual orientation is brought into question, gays and lesbians face bias. However, this is not the same situation for members of SAAC and similar organizations.

The surface, or physical differences between Anglo males (the power structure) and persons of color and women are the basis for such ignorance and intolerance on the part of the power structure.

Such differences are self-evident and bias emanating from the power structure is a consequence. There is no physical indicator labeling a person's sexual orientation, and accordingly, it is clear that gays and

lesbians face problems outside the scope of the reasoning behind, and necessity for, SAAC.

Perhaps this point is brought to light best in the following situation. Consider: An African-American and a gay white male both interview for the same job, both have identical educational and experiential backgrounds.

However, the interviewer and employer are predisposed to bias (the type of bias being based on dissimilarity of any type).

If both show for the interview at the same time, without either applicant saying anything, can we guess which applicant will be the victim of bias?

**Matthew D. Murphey**

# Coming Out Day Acknowledges Human Rights

## Editor:

I am writing this letter in response to the "Coming Out of the Closet," article that appeared in the Monday, October 14, 1991 issue of the *Guardian*. It was good of the *Guardian* to cover this important event in the front page. My objection is to the fact that the coverage was simplistic and limited.

National Coming Out Day is not only a day of students publicly announcing their homosexuality or bisexuality: it is a day of coming out and showing support for homosexual and bisexual rights. It is a day centered around human respect. No one should be forced or conditioned to feel ashamed for who they are. No one should feel "closeted" or limited in expressing who they are and what they think.

National Coming Out Day is opening closets and breaking out of limitations. The closets and limitations are not solely confined to the homosexual or bisexual community.

The article is structured on the basic premise that if one speaks in support of gay, lesbians or bisexual rights, then one must be gay, lesbian or bisexual. This conclusion is false. One does not have to be gay, lesbian or bisexual to speak.

For me, speaking was not based on an issue of sexuality but, one of human respect. One's sexuality is not and should not be the sole defining characteristic of a person.

Everyone's sexuality is one facet of a whole being. Emphasizing one characteristic of a person is an extremely limiting approach to understanding what it means to be a human being.

National Coming Out Day is for everyone to express their sensitivity and support for gay, lesbian and bisexual rights.

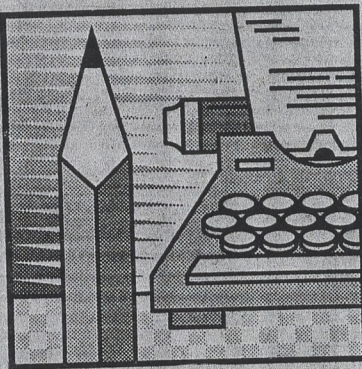
Consuela Scott

## Concern Over Housing Discrimination Discussed

*Editor's note: The following is a letter to Graduate Student Association President Denise Fenton from graduate students concerned about housing discrimination against homosexuals.*

### Editor:

We are very concerned about the domestic partnership issue, and are



pleased that you are planning on bringing it up with President Gardner, and urge you to present our case forcefully. Many graduate students in our department are outraged at policies that so blatantly discriminate against people on the grounds of marital status and sexual orientation. We have a large and politically active group of lesbian and gay graduate students in the literature department, many of whom are members of GALL (Gays and Lesbians in Literature), a registered graduate student organization, and GALL is also planning protests against these discriminatory policies.

As we see it, to amend its housing policies would simply bring UCSD, and/or other UCs if they were to jointly carry out this action, into compliance with their written policies about non-discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. However, we would like to see this amendment addressing the needs not only of gay and lesbian students, but of unmarried, heterosexual couples and other non-traditional couples as well. It goes without saying that unmarried heterosexual, lesbian, gay and other non-traditional couples can be just as committed to each other as married, heterosexual couples.

To discriminate against people in these relationships is to force economic, emotional and transportation burdens on them. Quite simply then, we would like to see the regulations, and language about regulations, regarding student housing at UCSD (and other UCs if possible) changed to recognize the needs and rights of lesbian, gay, non-married heterosexual, and other non-traditional couples.

Questions that could be studied toward this goal:

1) On what campuses, UCs and others, is this issue presently being fought? What is happening? Have any campuses amended regulations yet?

2) What would it take to bring a change about? Do we, here and at other UCs, need to help get another bill before the state assembly/legislature, for example? In other words, are there larger political issues to be addressed before we can settle our immediate issue?

3) What steps can we take to get this process moving forward? Would student protests—and at what level—bring attention to this matter?

4) What suggestions and ideas do UC administrators have for us? Are they willing to be helpful in this matter?

5) What legal rights do we have here? How do we press for those rights?

Members of GALL and many other Literature Department graduate students are invested in seeing a positive outcome to this issue and would be happy to work with you on it. We also urge you to contact LGBA, the Stone Wall Club, and the faculty/staff lesbian/gay association so that their energy, efforts and numbers can be added to this negotiation.

Ian Barnard  
Janice Chernekoff  
GSA representatives,  
Literature Department

# HRC Steering Committee Sets its Goals, Responsibilities

■ The coalition hopes to incorporate more than two student organizations

By Daniel Krauss

Guardian Reporter

Vowing to tackle such issues as hate crimes, discrimination and infringement of first amendment free-speech rights at UCSD, the newly formed Human Relations Coalition (HRC) has begun to determine its goals and responsibilities through a steering committee.

The steering committee is headed by Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Association (LGBA) Officer of Internal Affairs Chandan Reddy.

At an Oct. 29 meeting, the steering committee drew up a list of philosophies, goals and responsibilities based on San Diego County's (SDC) HRC Duties and Responsibilities.

SDC HRC was created by the San Diego City Council in 1985 to promote positive human relations. Its guidelines were modified for use by the UCSD HRC, which is not affiliated with the San Diego group.

The committee decided at the meeting that one of the primary responsibilities of the HRC will be to promote

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## HRC

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and foster mutual respect and understanding among all groups and individuals within the UCSD community.

In addition, the coalition will examine the causes of tension and conflict, discrimination and intolerance.

The coalition will organize conferences and workshops through Student Affirmative Action and Human Relations (SAA & HR) Director Anthony Jemison in order to educate the UCSD community about various aspects of group tensions and prejudice.

The HRC will also act as a liaison between all groups, individuals, and the administration within the

UCSD community. According to Jemison, the HRC will be able to communicate directly with the administration through him.

Andy Fink of the Union of Jewish Students (UJS) said he is excited about this new link to the administration. "There is a need on campus for students to voice their concerns to the administration in a different

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## HRC

Continued from page 3

way. The HRC offers another avenue for students to communicate with the administration," he said.

According to Jemison, the HRC allows a broader range of groups and individuals to express their concerns.

"To students, SAAC [the Student Affirmative Action Committee] is very focused. It serves to represent and raise the concerns of underrepresented populations. HRC is much broader than that — it is issue-oriented rather than population-oriented," Jemison said.

SAAC is a student group comprised of minority groups that can

take its concerns directly to the administration, unlike the HRC which first must go through Jemison.

Most committee members agreed that although the goals of HRC and SAAC are similar, the types of groups represented are different.

So far, only two organizations, the Lesbian Gay & Bisexual Association (LGBA) and the Union of Jewish Students (UJS), are represented in the 13-member committee. Jemison said he expects interest in the coalition to rise when the group is more established and becomes more visible to the UCSD community.

At this week's meeting, the HRC steering committee began work on a constitution for the HRC based on

SAAC's internal guidelines. The committee voted on technical matters such as the structure of the coa-

“

HRC is much broader than [SAAC] — it is issue oriented rather than population-oriented.

”

### ANTHONY JEMISON

*SAA & HR Director*

lition, the responsibilities of HRC, and the responsibilities of the Student Chair.

According to Reddy, the rela-

tionship between the HRC and SAAC has not yet been clearly defined. But, he said, "SAAC is a good starting point for this committee — a good guideline." SAAC representative Alan Rodriguez added, "The [SAAC] guidelines work, that's why we're modeling them."

Reddy said the coalition hopes to be operational by the beginning of Winter Quarter. The HRC steering committee will eventually be dissolved after the HRC gains autonomy.

The HRC was originally created by the SAAC program as a means "to provide populations on campus which do not have an appropriate forum to voice their concerns with a place where religious issues, free-

speech issues, and hate crimes can be appropriately addressed," said Jemison.

Groups such as LGBA and UJS do not qualify as legal minorities and therefore cannot join SAAC. HRC was created partly as a solution to this problem.

Jemison added, though, that the HRC was also created to deal with conflicts between groups on campus.

According to Reddy and Jemison, the UCSD HRC is probably the first HRC in the UC system. Jemison said his SAA&HR interns are investigating this possibility.

To the best of their knowledge, there are no other student-run HRC groups in the San Diego area.

NewsBank InfoWeb  
**The San Diego Union-Tribune**

December 16, 1991

**Death fuels rage, fear of community**

By Joe Hughes; Tribune Staff Writer

Section: LOCAL

Edition: 1,2,3,4,5,6

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*Index Terms:*

ASSAULTS  
CONFERENCES  
HOMOSEXUALS  
KILLINGS  
MULTIPLE  
NEIGHBORHOODS  
POLICE  
SAN DIEGO  
THEFTS  
VIOLENCE  
YOUTH

Article Text:

More than 100 people jammed a Hillcrest coffeehouse yesterday to angrily demand more police protection and the formation of a citizens patrol against a series of some 50 nighttime muggings that has left one teen-ager dead and dozens of people injured.

The noontime rally at SoHo Tea & Coffee House, attended by City Councilman John Hartley and a representative of Police Chief Bob Burgreen, was called by activists in the gay and lesbian community to deal with an increase since June in violent crime in Hillcrest and North Park, much of it directed at homosexuals.

The rally was organized after three teens were attacked near the coffeehouse Friday night by two men with shaved heads. John Wear of San Carlos, a 17-year-old junior at Twain Junior-Senior High School, was fatally stabbed in the attack.

"It is time we start doing something to take these streets back," said Karen Marshall, administrative director of the Lesbian and Gay Men's Community Center.

She said street patrols by citizen volunteers may be the only answer if police do not beef up their own patrols.

The citizens patrol will be discussed at a community meeting called for 7 tonight at the North Park Center at Howard and Oregon streets. "We need to pull together and protect ourselves," Marshall said. "I'm not talking about taking on a vigilante standard."

She said members of the gay and lesbian community have to "get out of the closet" and become involved in trying to solve these crimes. "Incidents must be reported; people cannot be afraid of someone finding out they are gay," Marshall said.



Police say they have been hampered in their investigations by the refusal of a number of victims and witnesses to cooperate. They say not all the attacks have been directed at gays, lesbians or bisexuals.

Many of the people at the rally criticized the police.

"These attacks have been going on since June, and nothing has been done," said Ken Wood. "Why aren't police decoys out walking the streets, trying to trap these guys, just like they do with prostitutes and drug dealers?"

Another said, "Police decoys should be attacked instead of us." Councilman Hartley, whose district includes Hillcrest and North Park, told the rally he was "stunned by (the) very vicious attacks," which he said were not necessarily directed only at gays and lesbians. But others contend the attacks are aimed at people perceived to be gay, lesbian or bisexual. Police said 48 men and four women have been attacked since June.

Hartley said he will discuss with Burgreen and City Manager Jack McGrory this week the formation of a task force to deal with the attacks, believed to be the work of a group of about 15 teen-agers. "We need greater police response to stop these vicious,

indiscriminate attacks," Hartley said.

San Diego police spokesman Matt Weathersby said he did not know if all the attacks are linked to so-called gay-bashing. He said there are not enough officers to saturate the area adequately and look for the attackers.

"Some of the victims were gay or lesbian," Weathersby said. "But we are more concerned that there are this many victims, period." Community leaders say there may have been more than 100 such attacks because many go unreported.

Weathersby said police have used plainclothes detectives on the streets. But, he said, so far the attacks have not occurred at the times the detectives were on the streets.

He characterized the attacks as "crimes of opportunity," usually occurring between 10 p.m. and 2 a.m. in an area where there are a number of people on the street because of the many businesses open at night.

"This area is known as easy pickings -- that's the problem," Weathersby said. "People walk to their cars on darkened side streets.

He called for people going to Hillcrest and North Park to be more careful.

"Right now we have pictures of 25 people with their skulls cracked open," he said. "One of the victims of the series is a vegetable for life."

Tony Valenzuela, a spokesman for the rally, said, "We have a lot more power to protect ourselves than we think.

"We cannot afford another gay-bashing" in the community, he said. "We have to watch out for each other."

Others suggested asking bus drivers and cabdrivers to watch for pedestrians in danger.

Caption:  
Glenn Cashmore, standing center, angrily confronts city officials over a series of savage muggings in Hillcrest and

North Park  
Tribune photo by Robert Gauthier  
1 PICTURE

Record Number: SDU2938129

NewsBank InfoWeb  
**The San Diego Union-Tribune**

December 16, 1991

**Gays, lesbians angry over Hillcrest street slaying  
Series of violent crimes reaches 52; none solved**

ByRONALD W. POWELL; Staff Writer

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*Index Terms:*

ASSAULTS

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NEIGHBORHOODS

POLICE

PREVENTION

SAN DIEGO

VIOLENCE

Correction: Correction Name of man at Hillcrest meeting was misspelled The name of a speaker at the Hillcrest meeting was misspelled yesterday in a picture caption on the front page and in an article on Page B-1. The speaker was Glenn Cashmore. The San Diego Union regrets the error. (Union, 911217, A-4)

Article Text:

Already seething over a series of 51 unsolved violent crimes in Hillcrest and North Park, gay and lesbian residents lashed out in anger yesterday after the latest victim died of a stab wound from a beating.

John Robert Wear, 17, died Saturday night at Mercy Hospital -- slightly more than 24 hours after police found him bleeding on a sidewalk in the 1000 block of Essex Street in Hillcrest. He was the first victim in the crime spree to die.

Wear, a student at Mark Twain High School, was kicked, punched and stabbed in the chest while walking with two companions Friday night, police said. Two men wearing short-cropped hair and combat boots, features associated with "skinheads," attacked Wear and a friend, Brian Baird, 18, who was injured, police said.

Police said the assault -- without warning and the most violent in a six-month crime wave in areas with large concentrations of gays -- is being investigated as a hate crime because the attackers called out "faggot." Authorities did not say the victim was gay.

No suspects have been arrested.

With the fatal beating as a backdrop, city officials met yesterday with members of the gay

community, many of them residents of Hillcrest and North Park. The meeting was held at Soho Tea and Coffee House, the destination of Wear and his friends Friday night, according to police.

In the crowd of more than 100 people -- jammed elbow-to-elbow in the restaurant -- the prevailing sentiment was that the police are not tough enough on crime in the gay community.

"I saw a police car pass by on the way here with 'To serve and protect' on its side," said Frank Buttino, a gay former FBI agent. "People are getting hurt, maimed and killed here. I want the police to start protecting us."

City Councilman John Hartley, who represents the 3rd District, said solving the slaying and the other crimes "needs to be the highest priority" of the Police Department. Hartley said he will meet today with Police Chief Bob Burgreen to establish a plan to attack the problem.

Hartley said he would like to unveil the department's plan at a community meeting at noon next Sunday at Rich's on University Avenue. On a second front, Hartley said he is organizing a citizens' security patrol for the area and a task force to look into hate crimes. Some in the audience said police need to reassess where officers are assigned. Gay activist Nicole Murray complained that he had seen vice cops in gay bars watching for signs of prostitution and other illegal activity. Murray called the search for "victimless crimes" a waste of manpower.

"If they can have 'Operation John,' they can have an 'Operation North Park,'" Murray said to thunderous applause. "Take the vice cops out of gay bars."

Matthew Weathersby, community relations assistant to Burgreen, was on the receiving end of the angry talk. Weathersby is the department's liaison to the gay community.

Weathersby came armed with data. He told the group that 49 males and three females -- all white -- have been attacked during the crime spree, usually between 10 p.m. and 2 a.m. He estimated that half of the victims were gay.

Understaffing has hampered police efforts to solve the cases, Weathersby said, because the force has 1.6 officers for every 1,000 residents -- making it among the thinnest of the thin blue lines in the nation.

The nighttime crowd in Hillcrest and North Park is vulnerable to street crime, he said, because it is perceived to be affluent and "easy pickings" as people flock to restaurants, bars and theaters. The only way to bring a greater police presence to the areas hit by the crime wave, said Weathersby, is to report every crime. "All of you are mad as hell and maybe you'll do something about it," said Weathersby, adding that likely many more crimes had gone unreported. "If you're mad, then call."

His words failed to cool down the angry people.

Some in attendance wanted answers to many questions, such as: Since police use decoys in vice operations, why don't they put decoys on the streets where the crimes have occurred? Why aren't there more marked police cars in the area? Why is police response so slow when reports are made?

Weathersby, who conducts self-defense and other crime-prevention seminars specifically for the gay community, calmly handled many of the queries. But when someone in the audience questioned his compassion for the stabbing victim, he heatedly replied: "You don't think I know someone died? You think I don't feel it? Get real." Karen Marshall, administrative director for the Lesbian and Gay Community Center, urged the crowd to create a support network that would make certain that crimes against members of the gay community are reported to police.

"We need to stand up as a community and take our streets back," Marshall said. "We need to say, 'If you don't like us, go somewhere else. These are our streets and we should be allowed to walk on them.' "

She said gays and lesbians should seize this crisis as an opportunity to become more accountable to themselves.

"We need to stand up and be counted," Marshall said. "People need to come out of the closet and quit saying, 'I'm not going to report it because people will know I'm gay.' Too many people have been hurt, and we need to do something about it."

Some people, like Glenn Cashmere, 30, said they have reported crimes. Cashmere said he was struck in the shoulder eight months ago by a pellet fired from a passing motorist in Hillcrest. He said the man, who has not been found by police, yelled "faggot" after firing. But others, like a 45-year-old man who did not want his name used, have suffered in silence. He said two men attacked him last weekend, possibly breaking one of his arms, as he emptied the trash at a Hillcrest restaurant where he works.

"I didn't go to the police because I didn't know what they would say if they knew I was gay," he said, adding that he has not seen a doctor because he cannot afford it. "Today, I'm ashamed for not calling," he said.

The robberies, assaults with a deadly weapon and hate crimes began last June. Police spokesman Bill Robinson said the offenses have been committed by what appears to be different attackers.

"It's not like we have a group like the Aryan Brotherhood (committing the crimes)," said Robinson. "These are different individuals involved in random acts of violence."

Robinson said the majority of the crimes have not been hate crimes, defined as offenses committed out of hatred for a victim's race, religion, sexual orientation, gender, age or other group

characteristic.

State lawmakers have become so concerned about hate crimes that they doubled civil and criminal penalties for their commission earlier this year. After the legislative action, Lt. Gov. Leo McCarthy created a Commission on the Prevention of Hate Violence.

In San Diego, the district attorney's office reported 256 hate-crime incidents in the 1989-90 year. Forty-four percent of these were directed at gays and 36 percent focused on race, it said.

Caption:

1. Hearing anger: Responding to questions about attacks against gays are Councilman John Hartley, left, Tony Valenzuela, Matthew Weathersby, Chandin Reddy and Karen Marshall. 2. Anger in Hillcrest Glenn Cashmere speaks at a meeting in Hillcrest yesterday, after the latest victim of a violent crime wave in the neighborhood died of a stab wound. Angry gay and lesbian residents demanded that police do more to protect the gay community. (A-1)  
The San Diego Union/ROBERT GAUTHIER  
2 PICTURES

Record Number: SDU2938074

**NewsBank InfoWeb**  
**The San Diego Union-Tribune**

December 23, 1991

**Hundreds march against Hillcrest attacks**  
**Demonstration follows candlelight vigil for teen killed in apparent hate crime**

By DANA LYNN FRIED; Staff Writer

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KILLINGS  
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NEIGHBORHOODS  
PREVENTION  
SAN DIEGO  
THEFTS

Article Text:

About 700 people marched through the streets of Hillcrest last night after a candlelight vigil to mourn a high school student killed in what is considered among the latest in a spate of hate crimes that has plagued the area in recent weeks.

"It took a murder to mobilize this community and to let the perpetrators know that we will not tolerate violence any more," said activist Michael Spradley, who helped organize the vigil.

John Wear, who attended Twain High School, was stabbed in the chest, beaten and kicked on Dec. 13 while walking to a popular Hillcrest coffeehouse with two companions along Essex Street near University Avenue. He died 24 hours later at Mercy Hospital -- the first victim killed in the crime spree.

Two men apparently with short-cropped hair and wearing combat boots -- features associated with "skinheads"--attacked Wear and a friend, Brian Baird, 18, who was treated for a cut to his head and later released from Kaiser Hospital.

A third teen escaped uninjured.

The attack is one of a series of 35 robberies, assaults with a deadly weapon and hate crimes that began in June on the streets of Hillcrest and nearby North Park, according to police. However, community leaders have said that there may have been more than 100 such attacks that have gone unreported.

"I feel homophobia has played a lot into these crimes," rally organizer Tony Valenzuela said last night.

"I want people to leave here understanding that hate crimes against gays and lesbians are much higher than against any other group in the nation," Valenzuela said.

Most of the victims of the nighttime attacks have been whites assaulted and robbed by blacks, or gays and lesbians attacked by skinheads. In many cases, police say, money was taken only as an afterthought and attackers yelled derogatory terms for gays. Such an expression reportedly was shouted at Wear and his companions although they were not gay, police have said.

In a show of solidarity last night, hundreds of gays and lesbians joined forces with community leaders, including City Councilman John Hartley, the Rev. David Farrell of Metropolitan Community Church in North Park, police Lt. Tom Giaquinto and Twain Principal John Arrington.

"One of the things we will remember most about John Wear is that he completed his assignments and did them with a smile," Arrington said to a crowd of people jammed together outside the Soho Tea and Coffee House on University Avenue, which was the destination of Wear and his friends.

The 7 p.m. vigil concluded with a march that began at University Avenue and went south on Fourth Avenue, east on Robinson Avenue, north on Fifth Avenue and then back to University.

Members of a police task force have arrested two men who allegedly shouted anti-gay epithets while assaulting a 24-year-old man in North Park Wednesday in another attack.

The suspects in that attack, both white men, were being held in lieu of \$25,000 bond each while authorities investigate whether they might have been involved in Wear's death or the series of other hate crimes.

Community members hailed the arrests, which were the first by the task force since it opened a mobile command post and assigned extra officers to Hillcrest and North Park to increase foot patrols, undercover surveillance and decoys in the troubled areas. Citizen patrols equipped with maps, portable phones and flashlights also have been deployed in response to mounting fears and in an effort to reclaim their neighborhoods.

Caption:

1. CANDLELIGHT VIGIL Michell Gibian, Kenneth Lightfoot and Michael Gibian, from left, participate in last night's Hillcrest vigil to mourn John Wear and to protest hate crimes. (B-1)
  2. Lighting up the night: Police estimate that 700 people participated in last night's mourning and protest vigil.
- 1,2. The San Diego Union/JOHN NELSON  
2 PICTURES

Record Number: SDU2945043



Sue Mapes/Guardian

Jeffery Tom (far right), from Gay and Lesbian Asian Pacific Islander Social Support, spoke at an LGBA Multicultural Panel.

## LGBA Awareness Week Addresses Heterosexism

By David Snow  
Staff Writer

"When a man loves a woman," reads the Valentine's Day display in the Price Center Bookstore. While this romantic message may apply to a majority of the population, it also fails to recognize a significant part of it.

"[People are] assuming that all men love women, and that all women love men exclusively," says Daniel Calvi, publicity director for UCSD's Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Association. This

heterosexism is one of the issues which LGBA hopes to bring to light during its Awareness Week, which started Monday.

According to David Zingarelli, director of internal affairs for LGBA, this year's Awareness Week, entitled "True Colors," represents the increasing interaction between LGBA, which has about 15 active members, and the larger homosexual community. Also sponsoring the event are San Diego institutions

See LGBA, Page 8



# LGBA

Continued from page 1

not connected with UCSD, such as the Bluedoor Bookstore and Club Bombay. Members said that it is also the most ambitious effort undertaken to date by LGBA, with daily lectures, workshops and movies running virtually back-to-back from late morning until evening.

With presentation titles like "Homo-homophobia," and "Leather and S&M," it is evident that Aware-

ness Week is not "Homosexuality 101." "We're moving the focus away from education towards more of a celebration, a celebration of diversity," Zingarelli said.

## Community

Chandan Reddy, a UCSD student and gay activist, said that one objective of this year's awareness week is to "start meshing the outside gay and lesbian community of San Diego and the UCSD gay and lesbian community, to start working more toward conglomerate

projects and to see them as one community."

According to Zingarelli, LGBA has focused publicity for this year's event more on the San Diego community. One move aimed at drawing outside participants was sponsoring UC Berkeley professor and performance artist Susie Bright, who has in the past performed in San Diego to sell-out crowds. Bright performed her "All Dyke Action" show on Monday night.

This Sunday, the "True Colors Community Fair" will be held at Reville Plaza and is expected to draw over 40 different organizations, vendors and merchants from the gay and lesbian community. Organizations will set up booths, tables and displays dealing with gay and lesbian issues and will sell items connected with gay pop-culture. Reddy predicted that the fair will be a "wonderful highlight" of the week.

## Diversity

Reddy described the second objective of "True Colors" as an attempt to "help gays, lesbians and bisexuals on this campus learn of their culture, their history."

Zingarelli noted that the stereotype of the gay white male still persists, and that even many members of the homosexual community are unaware of the diversity existing in gay culture.

"By focusing on diversity, we are focusing on people of color, we're focusing on women's issues," Zingarelli said.

"I think that a lot of people have the misconception that most gay people are young," remarked Calvi, "I mean, I had that misconception, and when I first... met a man who

was 70 years old and gay, it flipped me out. I had never connected the two."

Reddy, who, along with activist Tony Valenzuela, gave a lecture on Wednesday entitled "OUT: What's it all about?," said the spectrum of events featured this week helped him appreciate the "variant cultures within this culture."

## Obstacles

For UCSD's gay and lesbian community, the level of understanding and awareness is still far from satisfactory. The LGBA office still receives an occasional hate-call, and their flyers are sometimes torn down or defaced.

When students in a class snicker upon mention of a gay novelist, LGBA members point this out as evidence that many in the heterosexual community still do not understand and are uncomfortable with the issue of homosexuality.

"Many [lesbian and gay] people don't feel like they can fully participate in some of the social things that occur at the university," said Christine Oakley, an administrator at Student Health Service and acting chairperson of the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Faculty Staff Association.

Oakley also noted that UCSD faculty and staff members who have same-sex companions do not enjoy the same benefits, such as health programs, offered through the university to married faculty and staff. The LGBFSA will be sponsoring a petition regarding this issue at Sunday's community fair.

LGBA members said they hope to dispel misunderstandings not only within the "straight" community, but within the homosexual one as

well. Many within gay and lesbian circles regard bisexuals as "fence-sitters," according to Zingarelli and Calvi. A workshop on "bi-phobia" will address this issue.

A workshop Friday afternoon called "Leather and S&M" will seek to promote better appreciation of a subculture regarded by many in the gay community as deviant.

## AIDS

Missing from the many titles in the "True Colors" line-up is a four-letter word, AIDS, that has in the past ten years become associated with homosexuality. One of the reasons for this, said Zingarelli, is that AIDS Awareness Week is next week, during which a segment of the AIDS Memorial Quilt will be displayed at the Price Center.

The juxtaposition of the two awareness weeks has caused some concern among members of LGBA. Zingarelli pointed out that "so many people already associate AIDS exclusively with the gay community, and that is a very dangerous misconception."

But he also noted that the quilt, which is a large conglomeration of smaller, personalized quilts made in tribute to AIDS victims, was made largely by the gay community for the gay community, and its beauty outweighed any concerns that the timing of AIDS Awareness Week would reinforce the inaccurate notion that AIDS is an exclusively gay disease.

Organizers of "True Colors" report that participants from gay and lesbian organizations at other universities, such as Mesa Community College and San Diego State, have been "impressed" with the program.

# Spectacle

*UCSD Guardian Features*

*February 10, 1992*



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Gay Reference Spoils Holiday

Editor:

As a student here at UCSD, I've been exposed to many different opinions and points of view which are contrary to the status quo. These are, after all, what a college education is supposed to be all about — turning America's youth into thinking participants of society. However, throughout these encounters, I've always enjoyed the reassurance that comes with returning to a culture which is based on sound, time-tested moral principles rather than a professor or department's twisted political agenda.

An important part of our cultural principles is expressed through the celebration of holidays. With Valentine's Day around the corner, I was looking forward to another humorous issue of the *Guardian* dealing with the ever-confusing issues of love. With these expectations, I opened up your paper and was accosted with the vile, offensive picture of homosexual perversion.

The first question to my mind, as well as many others who were equally appalled, was 'why?' Is this another ploy in sensationalism meant to stir up the campus? Has your paper *finally* buckled under the pressure of a very few, but quite vocal, members of a special interest group? Is this a shadowed attempt at humorous debasement of homosexuality?

For whatever the reason, the *Guardian* with or without pressure from the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Association, does not have the right to turn Valentine's Day into Valentine's Gay. Nor does it have the right to turn Cupid's arrow of love into a phallus as it is shot into the rear of an unsuspecting person. Your antics are reproachable in every way.

Oh, I can hear the limp-wristed responses already, the shouts of "homophobic" spewing from the puckered, lisping mouths of people who revel in their shameful lifestyles. I can see the legions of pink triangle bearers in studded, black leather who would feel I am being narrow-minded in my criti-

cism.

Frankly, I don't care.

If the homosexual community wants to have a celebration of same-sex love, fine, but don't presume to do it, and thus pervert, a long established holiday that the heterosexual community has enjoyed.

The next thing you know, society will be asked to accept a literal tooth-"fairy" and a Santa Claus dressed in drag.

Name Withheld by Request



Katie Roe/Guardian

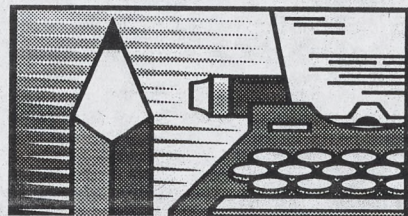
# A Universal Sign of Love?

## Student Was Misinformed

### Editor:

This letter is a response to the student's letter (Feb. 13) about the *Guardian's* photograph of two gay men kissing each other.

The student stated that "a college education is supposed to be turning



The author speaks of the time-honored tradition and sanctimony of Valentine's. However, as Greek art depicts the free expression of homosexuality as early as the sixth century B.C., and St. Valentine did not die until 269 A.D., one must wonder which of the two time has honored more. Furthermore, as Valentine's Day originated as a pagan festival of the British Isles, it

haircut and a J. Crew catalog stuffed under his mattress for secret midnight browsing.

My Valentine and I returned to his place and passionately engaged in acts that would get even straight people into Hell. But we did it sweetly, safely, and with deep affection. Does any of this sound familiar, or is everyone as shocked as Miss Rabid

America's youth into thinking participants of society." Furthermore, the student realized that returning "to a culture which is based on sound, time-tested moral principles" gives better reassurance than "a professor or department's twisted political agenda."

Well, our direct answer to that student is it looks like you might need to go back to the professor or department you refer to because someone there might be able to explain to you that your own moral principles are no longer generally accepted by everyone.

We are ordinary people. We are brothers, sisters, daughters, sons, mothers and fathers. If you ever realize that we are not to be feared or despised, only then will you know that we lead no lifestyles, rather we live lives — like yours!

Soon, you will find that we are not what you call a special interest group, but rather a group of people who want to be accepted as human beings into a society which is, for now, plagued by homophobic, uneducated bigots like you.

Andy F. Panado  
Kenneth P. Landres

## All Forms of Love Are Valid

### Editor:

First, I would like to boldly claim that St. Valentine's Day is not about sex, it's about love. (True, love can incorporate sex, but it is not a necessity) I would then venture to say that many "straight" sexual practices (including anal sex) are very similar to those found in the queer repertoire, and that love is not exclusive to the straight community. Why then accost the *Guardian* for printing a picture of two men who appear to be in love in honor of St. Valentine's Day?

That brings one to the true nature of homophobia: ignorance and a lack of self-



## Special Letters to the Editor Section

In the Feb. 10 issue of the *Guardian*, the "Spectacle" section ran a photograph of two men kissing. This photo has sparked much debate over the acceptability of homosexuality in today's society.

esteem. The author must be extremely uncomfortable with her/his own sexuality, and unaware that love is not confined to the restrictive boundaries of heterosexuality.

Queer relationships are just as beautiful as any straight situations; and when you take into consideration all of the bashing and socialized disapproval that queer lovers have had to deal with, it makes them all the more beautiful.

Rajendra Roy

## Homosexuality is 'Time-Honored'

### Editor:

I do not make a habit of addressing those who are either too afraid or too ashamed to make their identities known, but, as a rational individual who is not homosexual and respects the rights of all humanity, I feel obligated to reply to the hateful, anonymous letter regarding homosexuality and Valentine's Day.

seems unfounded to cite it as the cornerstone of American values.

It seems to me, the author feels the *Guardian's* expose will make Valentine's Day a "gay" holiday, thereby threatening his/her own sexuality. One would be ignorant to think that before the *Guardian's* photograph, homosexuals had not participated in Valentine's Day.

Also unwarranted is the author's fear that he/she will, one day, be accidentally anally intruded. Unlike tripping on a curb or spilling a glass of water, this is not an act that occurs by chance or without the knowledge of both parties. It should also be noted that anal sex is not the stock and trade of the homosexual community.

Finally, if the author is concerned about being accosted with images of homosexuality, I suggest he/she think twice before leaving the house.

Deborah Kirkham  
Sean Kunkle

## A Gay Valentine's Day

### Editor:

In an effort to increase visibility, let me describe my Gay Valentine's Day. It started late as my special someone is a member of one of the sports teams here on campus, and his practice/competition schedule kept him on campus longer than he expected. As it turns out, he actually spent the whole day cooking. When I arrived at his place, an amazing meal was set out on the table with fresh-cut flowers as a centerpiece. We had a great dinner and an even better dessert.

Afterwards we went dancing and met up with some of our friends. We ended the night at a nearby café, laughing about the ignorant letter printed in the *Guardian* the day before. Revelling in our "shameful lifestyle," "limp-wristed" and "lisping" we concluded that the letter's author was actually some silly freshman with a bad

Gay visibility is increasing on TV, in the movies, in your neighborhood, even, finally, right here on campus. Positive gay images are popping up everywhere — not because of some radical underground movement, but because people everywhere are growing tired of hatred, tired of ignorance, and tired of the "moral minority" shouting fire and brimstone anytime someone embraces an alternative.

Dave Mills

## Prejudice is Never Funny

### Editor:

The author of the letter, hiding behind the cloak of anonymity, vented such vituperative and rabid sentiment that it was almost laughable. But in actuality, there is nothing funny about the prejudice and bigotry of extremists like this—they are dangerous and deadly serious.

For example, in December, just three months after Governor Wilson vetoed legislation which would have protected gays and lesbians from discrimination, a 17-year-old San Diego boy was attacked, savagely beaten, and stabbed to death by a gang of skinheads spouting the same anti-gay hatred that was expressed in the *Guardian* letter.

The young man, John Robert Wear, was the 52nd victim in a series of unsolved violent crimes directed against gays and lesbians in San Diego in recent months, all of which went sadly unmentioned by the *Guardian*. Instead of an article denouncing the recent wave of "hate crimes," the *Guardian* offered a commentary urging us to protect "the right to hate others" (Jan. 9).

We should never deny anyone's right to express their beliefs. But while we can only pity the small-minded cowards who exercise their right to hate, we should respect and admire those with the courage to exercise their right to love.

Joshua Rodin

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Spectacle Photo Showed Universal Human Love

**Editor:**

The brave soul that wrote a letter to the editor (Feb. 13) complaining about the "vile, offensive picture of homosexual perversion" deserves an answer to his question, "Why?"

*Spectacle* Editor Brett Rhyne had asked me to write a piece for the Valentine's Day issue. He wanted the "alternative" view of this otherwise "straight" holiday. I declined, not because the alternative view was not needed, but because I did not feel qualified to give the subject its due quality and depth.

I agree that the photo was shocking, but in no way was it inappropriate. Too often it is assumed that all the signs of affection, love and even passion, are the sole property of the heterosexual community. It is not well known that homosexual love is the "status quo." Without such realistic portrayals of our modern world we are left with moronic stereotypes and misconceptions.

While the image could be seen as a simple acknowledgement of the many

forms love may take, this "educated" student instead chose to view it as a threat to his or her version of sexuality.

It is understandable that the sight of two men kissing is an unexpected surprise, but one can only hope that people stop and consider what it represents before declaring it vile and shameful.

**John Rice**

**Editor:**

I am writing in response to the letter "Gay Reference Spoils Holiday" (Feb. 13). I am ashamed and disgusted that prejudice of that sort exists on this campus. But better to have it out in the open so that we can open up a dialogue and talk about it rather than keep it closed and inaccessible where it could do some serious harm.

The author apparently has never taken the opportunity to introduce him or herself to any group of LGBA members. Most of us could not be distinguished from the rest of the students on this campus by those features typically associated with gay men: the

lisp, the limp wrist, the swish.

And what is this issue of "perversion"? Since when does *anyone* have the right to tell me or you what to do in your or my bedroom? People do what what people do.

Despite the widespread existence of gay, lesbian and bisexual people, the way that they love in this world has often been completely ignored by the dominant society, which believes that the only valid way for two people to love is for a man to love a woman or for a woman to love a man.

Lesbians, gay men and bisexual people are tired of being ignored. I praise the *Guardian* for daring to print two men kissing on the cover of the *Spectacle* section last Monday. Love is a universal human emotion. Why should it matter what the sex of the participant is? Isn't it time to recognize the basic humanity of emotion, even if it doesn't fit societal norms?

**Adam Maass**

**Director of External Affairs,  
Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual  
Association**

## Demonstrating Affection



*Sue Mapes/Guardian*

LGBA members and friends gathered at the Price Center yesterday for a "Kiss-in," in which both homosexual couples and good friends showed their affection and love for one another. See story, page 3.