

# RAINBOW

LGBT RESOURCE CENTER NEWSLETTER

VOLUME #26 ISSUE #3  
Thursday, October 18th, 2007

## TOP STORY

### "Masquerade!" this Saturday!

UCSD's Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Queer/Questioning Intersex Association plans two non-sexist dances each quarter. Hundreds of queer people and allies from the UCSD and greater San Diego community show up to the six dances that happen every school year. LGBTQIA will host their first non-sexist dance of the year this Saturday October, 20th at Porter's Pub from 9PM to 1AM! In the spirit of Halloween, the theme will be "Masquerade"!



## LGBTRC Announcements

### LGBT Speakers Bureau Fall 07 Panelist Training

October 24th, 2007 5-8pm @ the LGBT Resource Center Conference Room

Feel the need to speak about an important part of your life and want to find a good outlet? Want to be involved in the LGBT community in one of the easiest and most flexible ways? Ever wish you could have the opportunity to dispel stereotypes and myths about the LGBT community? Then Speakers Bureau is for you! Please RSVP to Ariel Smith at [LGBTspeakers@ucsd.edu](mailto:LGBTspeakers@ucsd.edu) if you'd like to attend the training. Food and Drinks will be provided!



For more information:  
<http://lgbt.ucsd.edu/speakers>

### World AIDS Day 2007

UC San Diego will honor World AIDS Day on Friday, November 30th, 2007. We again honor World AIDS Day one day earlier than most, as December 1st is a Saturday when most of our community is away from campus. Please plan to spend time on that day at the AIDS Memorial Quilt, which will be on display at the Price Center Ballroom, as well as other to-be-determined activities.

Our World AIDS Day planning meetings of 2007 have been a great success. If you are interested in being a part of this broad-based, campus-wide planning group, please contact Shaun at [stravers@ucsd.edu](mailto:stravers@ucsd.edu)



## Our Eye On...

### Brianna Marquez

My name is Brianna Marquez and I am the Youth and Seniors Intern at the



LGBT Resource Center. I'm a second year at Muir College with the hopes of majoring in ethnic studies and critical gender studies. My position at the Resource Center involves connecting the youth and senior LGBT community and bridging the gap that exists between them. This also includes outreach to the UCSD and San Diego LGBT communities.

I have a passion for social justice, with an emphasis on gender equality. I chose to work at the center to further inform and educate others of the issues that the LGBT community faces on many



### Dialogues in Sexuality Studies

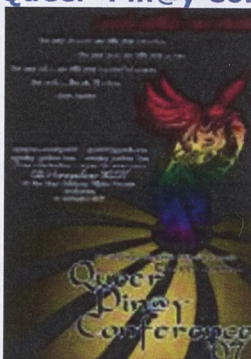
Tuesday, October 30, 6:30-8:30 pm at the LGBT Resource Center

Dialogues in Sexuality Studies presents "The New Politics of Gay Conversion Therapy". The presentation examines the experiences and politics of queer therapy, especially therapy designed to "cure" queer patients. The event brings together UCSD faculty members and graduate students from across campus interested in the growing interdisciplinary field of Sexuality Studies.

The program will feature Eileen Myles, Professor of Literature at UCSD and Tom Waidzunus, Ph.D. Candidate from the Department of Sociology and Science Studies Program at UCSD.

### Organizations

#### Queer Pin@y Conference 2007 at UCSD



The University of California, San Diego's Kamalayan Kollektive will be hosting the 6th Annual Queer Pin@y Conference on November 3, 2007, titled "And Still We Rise". The conference aims to raise awareness not only on gender and sexuality in the Pilipina/o - American communitiy, but also addresses a range of issues such as indigenous/tribal issues, colonization, history, networking, global diaspora, and building allies with other queer-identified and straight-identified communities. For more information about the Queer Pin@y Conference, visit the MySpace page at

[www.myspace.com/qpc007](http://www.myspace.com/qpc007)!

#### SIAPS Overnight Hosts Needed!

Student Initiated Access Programs and Services (SIAPS) is hosting our annual Overnight Program for High School Seniors. We need UCSD students who live on campus to host a high schooler and take them to their classes on Friday and bring them to workshops at the Cross on Saturday.

Engage San Diego, Give Back, Change Lives! Contact [SIAPS@UCSD.EDU](mailto:SIAPS@UCSD.EDU) before Friday, October 26th (4th week) if you can help out!

#### Queer by Nature

Here it is! Queer by Nature will be holding it's first bonfire of the year this Friday, October 19, 2007 from 7pm to 10pm at Mariner's Point in Mission Bay. S'mores and firewood will be provided, all you need to bring is your amazing selves. This is the first event of the quarter for QxN so please come on out and join us for one of the most fun times this quarter.

Click [here](#) for directions to Mariner's Point. If you have any questions, need a ride or are able to drive other people, please e-mail [qxnature@ucsd.edu](mailto:qxnature@ucsd.edu) or call Kade at 858-413-5500!

### Campus Community Centers

#### Three Cheers for Title IX!

The UCSD Office of Sexual Harassment Prevention and Policy (OSHPP) along with UCSD's Women's Center invite you to take part

different levels. It is a privilege to work at a center that provides a "family" environment that consistently builds community and fosters positive energy. I look forward to working at the Resource Center this year and forging new relationships with its members.

### Friday Night Movie



#### Saved!

Good girl Mary can't believe it when she gets pregnant by her newly-gay boyfriend. She also can't believe the actions of her popular, relentlessly devout best friend, Hilary Faye, who's looking after her wheelchair-bound brother Roland, attempting to convert adamantly Jewish Cassandra, and trying to snag cute newcomer Patrick, a hip skateboarding missionary. By the time Mary's secret is revealed, Hilary Faye has gone to extremes to get the outsiders expelled from school, with spectacular results, and Mary is forced to decide what's worth believing in the first place. In this dark comedy, a young, talented cast comes together to get Saved.

### In Our Library



#### The Complete Hothead Paisan by Diane DiMassa

Hothead Paisan, the over-caffeinated, media-crazed psychotic lesbian "with scary hair and a fetish for guns, grenades, mallets, and sharp objects," returns for more search-and-destroy missions and preventative homicides! A cult favorite, The Complete Collection combines Hothead Paisan and Revenge of Hothead Paisan with new strips in a single volume for



in a series of events designed to explore the impact of Title IX in improving educational opportunities for students during its 35 years in existence. The events will go on until October 30th.

For more information, please check out the OSHPH web site <http://oshpp.ucsd.edu>

### Fall Quarter Diversity Dinner

October 25, 5-8PM  
at the Cross-Cultural Center

Please join us at the Cross and help us build a diverse graduate student community. Prof. David Pellow, Director of California Cultures in Comparative Perspective and Assoc. Professor of Ethnic Studies, will be the featured speaker.

Meet grad student organizations and get connected with our campus community centers. Free dinner, too! hosted by the Office of Graduate Studies. Please RSVP to [grad-community@ucsd.edu](mailto:grad-community@ucsd.edu) by October 22 as seats are limited.

### Gender Buffet at the Women's Center

Invite a friend and come by every Friday from 12 PM to 1:30 PM to the Women's Center for Gender Buffet. Everyone is welcome! We'll provide the space, the host, and the FREE FOOD. You just have to be interested in discussing gender and sexuality as they relate to everyday life on and off campus.

The Women's Center is located at the Student Center West, Building 290 (across from the Main Gym)

the first time.

### Q-Quote of the Week

"Every gay and lesbian person who has been lucky enough to survive the turmoil of growing up is a survivor. Survivors always have an obligation to those who will face the same challenges."  
-Bob Paris

### Weekly Statistics

#### Fall 2007 Week #2

Students	278
Staff	7
Faculty	2
Alumni	10
Guest	14
<b>Total visitors</b>	<b>311</b>

## Opportunities

### "queer." Journal Call for Submissions

Queer. is a publication of Campus Pride, the only national nonprofit organization for LGBT & Ally student leaders and campus groups working to create safer, more LGBT-Friendly colleges and universities.

The publication is currently looking for submissions by undergraduate students. For more information, check out: <http://www.campuspride.org/queerjournal.asp>

### Women of Color Caucus Scholarships

The Women of Color Caucus of the National Women's Studies Association (NWSA) is proud to announce the availability of the 2008 NWSA Women of Color Caucus Sponsored and Co-Sponsored Student Essay Awards.

For Questions about the Essay Awards contact Pat Washington at [PatWashingtonPhD@aol.com](mailto:PatWashingtonPhD@aol.com). Phone: (619) 582-5383.



### Check out "The Frogs", a play by Aristophanes

Translated by our own out LGBT faculty Member Professor Marianne McDonald, The Frogs will play from November 2nd to





November 17th at the Ark Theatre.

Celebrate the joy of one of the first comedies ever written and one of the funniest. Join the god of theatre Dionysus and his sidekick Xanthias on their journey to hell to find the perfect playwright. A wild cast of characters which includes legendary he-man Heracles, a chorus of singing "frog-divas", wise-cracking dead sinners, and the devil himself.

For more information visit <http://www.thetheatreinc.com/>

#### **LGB-Identified African American Persons Study**

Dawn M. Szymanski, a researcher at the University of Tennessee is currently looking for African American persons who identify as LGB to participate in her study regarding the attitudes and experiences of LGB-identified African Americans. For more information or if you wish to participate, to visit <http://d991.psychsurvey.com/>

#### **Student of Color Conference at UC Santa Cruz**

Nov. 10-12 @ UC Santa Cruz (Week 6)

Through educating and empowering students of color and their allies, the Student of Color Conference (SOCC) hopes to give students the tools to organize and mobilize their communities around the institutionalize oppressions that students of color face. In an effort to create community consciousness and unity between our cultures, the SOCC will provide a safe space where race, gender, class, sexuality, nationality and disability will be actively discussed. The conference is free! Be sure to register now!

To register, contact [SPACES@UCSD.EDU](mailto:SPACES@UCSD.EDU) as soon as you can. Spots are filling up fast!

#### **MatthewsPlace.com Launched by Matthew Shepard Foundation**

The Matthew Shepard Foundation recently launched a historic web resource for LGBTQ youth. The website features up-to-date national and LGBT news, advice columns from notable voices and an information hub for youth to access critical resources such as safe and inclusive direct-service providers, homeless shelters, and youth-serving organizations.

Be sure to visit [www.MatthewsPlace.com](http://www.MatthewsPlace.com) and tell a friend or two about it!

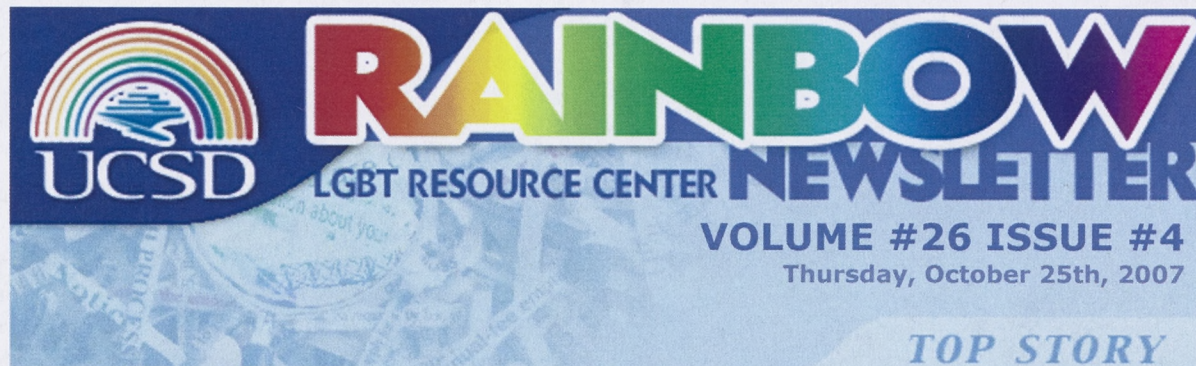
For more information on any of the above, please contact the **LGBT Resource Center** at (858) 822-3493 or [rainbow@ucsd.edu](mailto:rainbow@ucsd.edu). This is a regular compilation of news, tidbits, and information from the UCSD LGBT Resource Center to keep everyone in the know. It will be published weekly. If you have things to submit, please forward them by Friday at 5pm to [rainbow@ucsd.edu](mailto:rainbow@ucsd.edu) and type "Rainbow Newsletter" in the subject line. They should be UCSD & LGBT focused! Newsletters are archived at <http://lgbt.ucsd.edu/newsletter>. Problems with the listserv? Did you get this multiple times? Please let us know.

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## TOP STORY

### UC San Diego campus continues to be closed

UCSD's Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Resource Center will continue to be closed through Sunday. We will reopen Monday, October 29th at 8am, unless there is a change in the status of the campus. UCSD's main web page will have the most up-to-date information.

Our thoughts go out to all of those that are being affected, especially those whose homes are still threatened by the fires. Many of us have friends and family that are being significantly impacted by this. Stay connected, help where you can, and keep everyone in your heart.

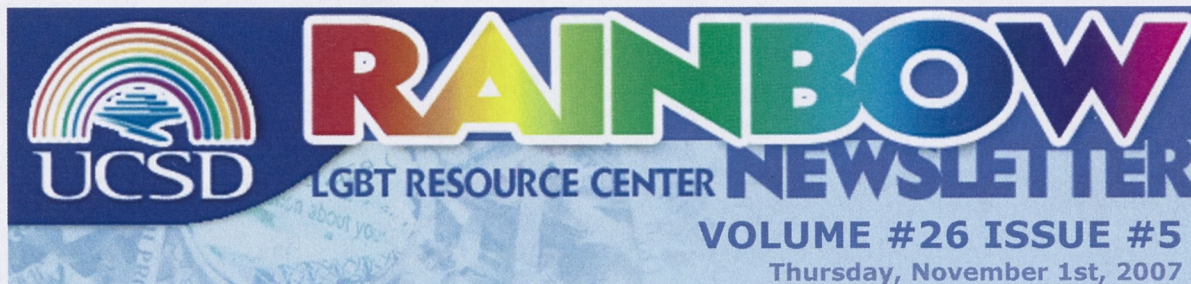
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## TOP STORY

### Coming Out Stories!

November 13, 2007 @ 5 pm in the LGBT Resource Center Conference Room

Come join me, Brianna Marquez, as I explore youth coming out stories as they are displayed through media and film. We will examine unique experiences of youth and their coming out process utilizing clips from popular media. We will then have the opportunity for discussion and a chance to share our coming out stories! Light refreshments will be served. If you have any questions, feel free to email me at [bmmarque@ucsd.edu](mailto:bmmarque@ucsd.edu). I hope to see you there! Thanks!

## LGBTRC Announcements

### LGBT Speakers Bureau Fall 07 Panelist Training -Date has been changed!

November 14th, 2007 5-8pm @ the LGBT Resource Center Conference Room

Feel the need to speak about an important part of your life and want to find a good outlet? Want to be involved in the LGBT community in one of the easiest and most flexible ways? Ever wish you could have the opportunity to dispel stereotypes and myths about the LGBT community? Then Speakers Bureau is for you! Please RSVP to Ariel Smith at [LGBTspeakers@ucsd.edu](mailto:LGBTspeakers@ucsd.edu) if you'd like to attend the training. Food and Drinks will be provided!

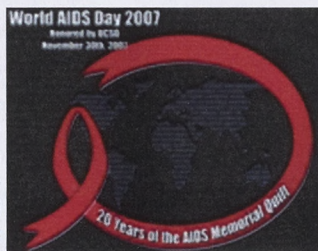


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Our World AIDS Day planning meetings of 2007 have been a great success. If you are interested in being a part of this broad-based,



## Our Eye On...



**Teresa Trout**

Hi everyone! My name is Teresa Trout and am the Resource and Events

Planning Intern this year at the LGBTRC. I am a super senior at Roosevelt college majoring in Visual Arts. My passions are varied and all over the board. I'm a dancing fool and love interacting and meeting new people. In my position at the LGBTRC, I am hoping to expand our volunteer database both within the UCSD LGBT Community and within the greater San Diego LGBT community. I am also working on bringing a greater knowledge of potential resources available to the LGBT Community on and off campus to the members/allies/friends of the



campus-wide planning group, please contact Shaun at [stravers@ucsd.edu](mailto:stravers@ucsd.edu)

### "Sexuality under the Spotlight"

Tuesday November 6, 3:30-5 p.m. HSS Bldg Gailbraith Room 4th floor

Visiting from the UK, Laura Doan, Professor of Cultural History and Sexuality Studies and Co-Director of the Centre for the Study of Sexuality and Culture at the University of Manchester will be giving a talk entitled "Sexuality under the Searchlight." The talk draws on her new research is on World War I and sexual surveillance in Britain.

### Volunteer Opportunities at the LGBTRC!

Want to volunteer for the LGBT community but not sure how? Stop by the Resource Center's volunteering table and sign up! A sign-up sheet and a list of upcoming volunteer opportunities as at the table next to the media center, (the cabinet with all the videos and DVDs)!

## Organizations

### Queer Pin@y Conference Postponed Until Further Notice

In light of last week's devastating fire emergency and the many ways it has affected the San Diego community, the Coordinating Staff of this year's QPC has decided to postpone the conference until further notice.

From the QPC Coordinating Staff:

"We feel that holding a conference or an event during a state of emergency is unnecessary when all the efforts should be put in aiding others."

## Campus Community Centers

### Gender Buffet at the Women's Center

Invite a friend and come by every Friday from 12 PM to 1:30 PM to the Women's Center for Gender Buffet. Everyone is welcome! We'll provide the space, the host, and the FREE FOOD. You just have to be interested in discussing gender and sexuality as they relate to everyday life on and off campus.

The Women's Center is located at the Student Center West, Building 290 (across from the Main Gym). Visit the Women's Center website at <http://women.ucsd.edu> !

### Student Activist Breather/Burnout Series with Larry Ward

Thurs., Nov. 8 from 3:30-5p

Join us at the Cross-Cultural Center for an insightful, awakening, and empowering workshop as Larry Ward, Zen Master, demonstrates ways to recognize and manage our energy in our day-to-day living and work in social justice.

### "In Your Shoes": Panel on Disability Issues

Thursday November 8th, 3:30-5 PM at the Cross-Cultural Center

Come interact with a panel of community members who

UCSD LGBT community. My personal mission this year is to build an even closer connection between the 3 Campus Community Centers and widen the spaces to those who might not normally access the facilities. Personally, I couldn't be happier. I love my job, my co-workers and the awesome people I am meeting on a day to day basis. I am growing, learning and expanding as an individual and I'm proud to say that the LGBTRC is having an enormous role in my growth!

## Friday Night Movie



### Pink Flamingo

John Waters' most notorious movie follows Divine, the filthiest woman alive, as she hides out in a trailer with her mother Edie, her son Crackers and traveling companion Cotton (played by Edith Massey, Danny Mills and Mary Vivian Pearce, respectively). Divine's whereabouts are uncovered by the insanely jealous Connie and Raymond Marble (Mink Stole and David Lochary). The Marbles, who kidnap women, get them pregnant with their butler Channing and sell the babies to lesbian couples, covet the title of filthiest people alive and launch an all-out war to out-filth Divine and her family.

## In Our Library



### GenderQueer: Voices from Beyond the Sexual Binary by Joan Nestle et al.

Gender Queer: Voices from Beyond the Sexual Binary by

Joan Nestle, et al

Perhaps more than any other issue, gender identity has galvanized the queer community



experienced a simulation of what it would be like to be in the shoes of someone with a visible and invisible disability. Panel members will discuss their experience and how it has affected their awareness of issues affecting members of our community who have disabilities, however visible invisible they may be.

## Opportunities

### Student of Color Conference at UC Santa Cruz

Nov. 10-12 @ UC Santa Cruz (Week 6)

You won't want to miss the 2007 UC Student of Color Conference, "In Solidarity and Struggle: The Fight for Our Rights"

Through educating and empowering students of color and their allies, the Student of Color Conference (SOCC) hopes to give students the tools to organize and mobilize their communities around the institutionalized oppressions that students of color face. In an effort to create community consciousness and unity between our cultures, the SOCC will provide a safe space where race, gender, class, sexuality, nationality and disability will be actively discussed. The conference is free! Be sure to register now!

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### LGB-Identified African American Persons Study

Dawn M. Szymanski, a researcher at the University of Tennessee is currently looking for African American persons who identify as LGB to participate in her study regarding the attitudes and experiences of LGB-identified African Americans. For more information or if you wish to participate,

in recent years. The questions go beyond the nature of male/female to a yet-to-be-traversed region that lies somewhere between and beyond biologically determined gender. In this groundbreaking anthology, three experts in gender studies and politics navigate around rigid, societally imposed concepts of two genders to discover and illuminate the limitless possibilities of identity. Thirty first-person accounts of gender construction, exploration, and questioning provide a groundwork for cultural discussion, political action, and even greater possibilities of autonomous gender choices. Noted scholar Joan Nestle is joined by internationally prominent gender warrior Riki Anne Wilchins and historian Clare Howell to provide a societal, cultural, and political exploration of gender identity.

## Q-Quote of the Week

"Every gay and lesbian person who has been lucky enough to survive the turmoil of growing up is a survivor. Survivors always have an obligation to those who will face the same challenges."  
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## Weekly Statistics

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Students	232
Staff	28
Faculty	1
Alumni	9
Guest	2
<b>Total visitors</b>	<b>272</b>



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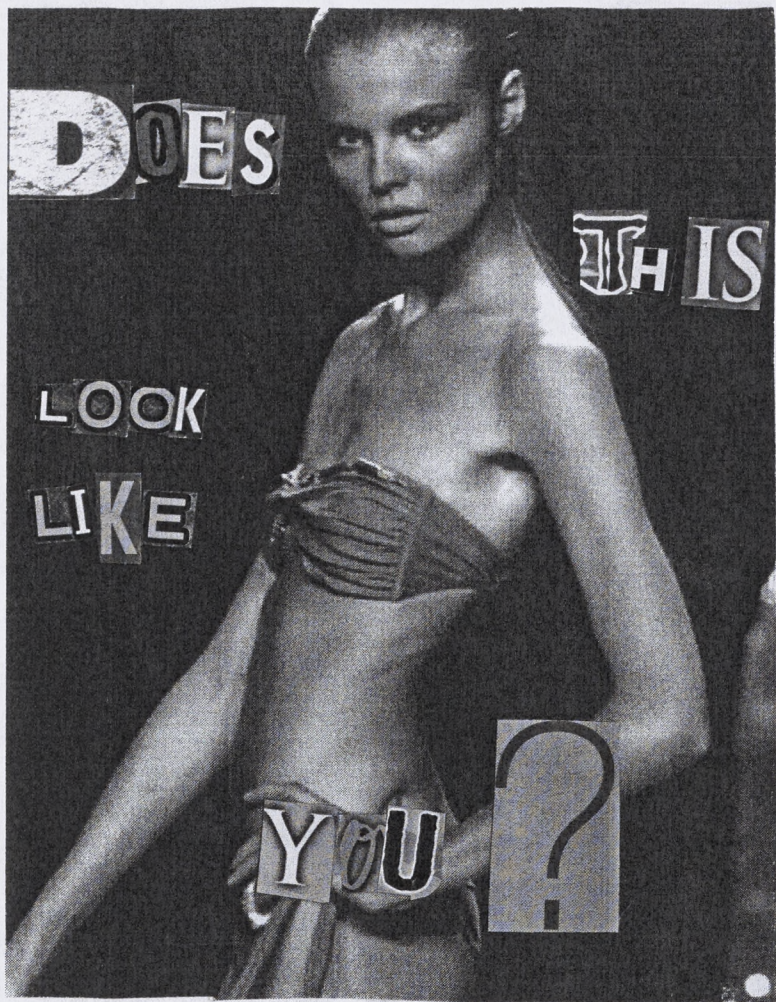
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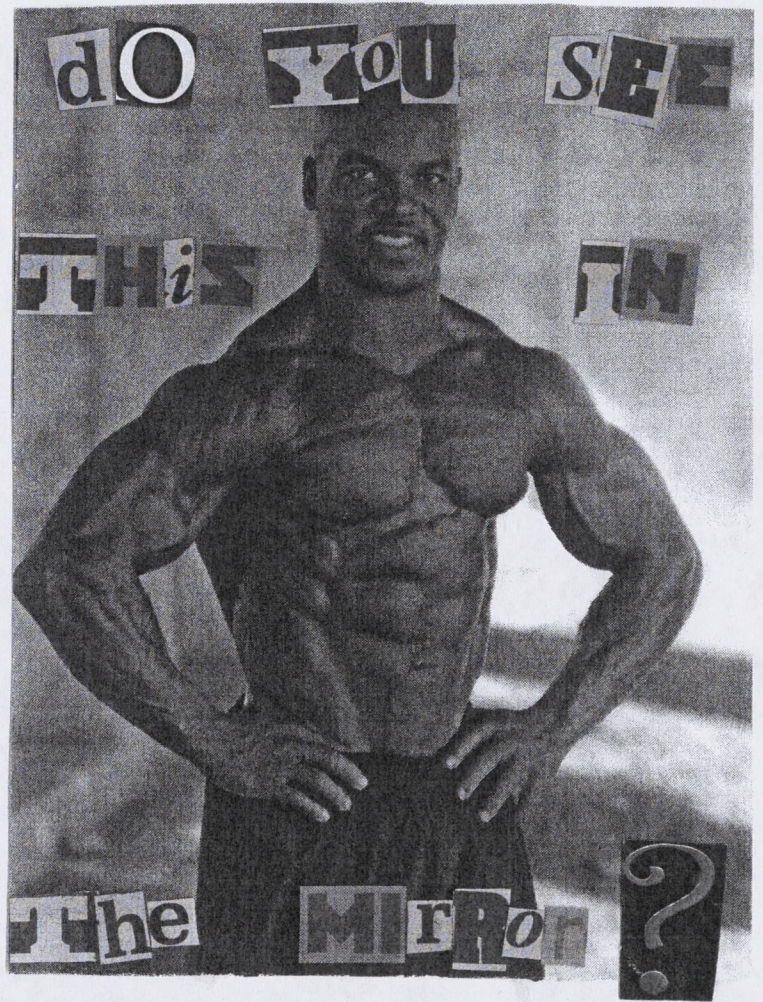
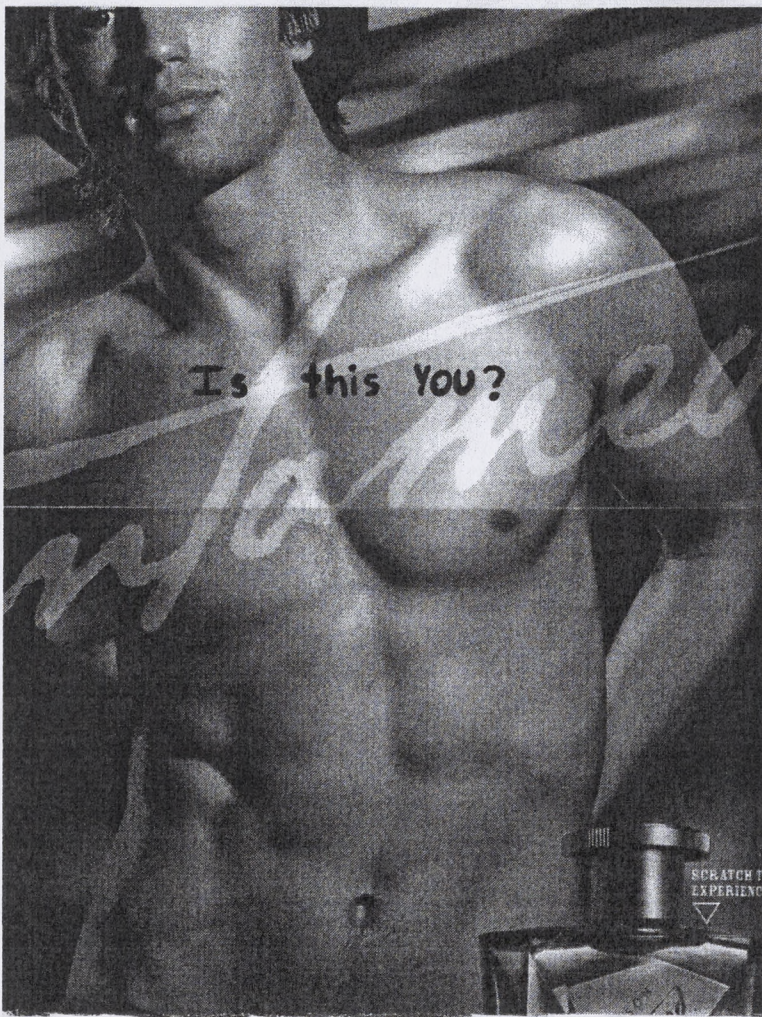
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Is this YOU?





# PROBABLY NOT! PROBABLY NOT!

## WHAT:

*A movie, presentation, and discussion about the LGBT community and body image. Free food!*

## WHERE:

*LGBT RC Conference Room*

## WHEN:

*Thursday, November 15  
4-6pm*

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LGBT RESOURCE CENTER NEWSLETTER

VOLUME #26 ISSUE #6  
Thursday, November 8th, 2007

## TOP STORY

### "Probably not!"

Thursday, November 15th 4-6pm  
At the LGBT RC Conference Room

Is it me or does everyone on television and in magazines NOT look like me? Do you look like the people on your favorite TV show? Probably not! Come join me, Maureen, for a healthy discussion after we watch the documentary "Do I look fat?". We will be discussing body image of the queer community as well as create a healthy community body image. Light snacks provided! See you there!



## LGBTRC Announcements

### "Coming Out Stories!"

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Feel the need to speak about an important part of your life and want to find a good outlet? Want to be involved in the LGBT community in one of the easiest and most flexible ways? Ever wish you could have the opportunity to dispel stereotypes and myths about the LGBT community? Then Speakers Bureau is for you! Please RSVP to Ariel Smith at [LGBTspeakers@ucsd.edu](mailto:LGBTspeakers@ucsd.edu) if you'd like to attend the training. Food and Drinks will be provided!



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## Our Eye On...



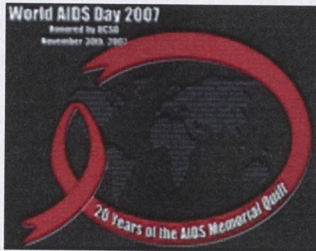
**Cat Thompson**  
Cathy A. Thompson (CAT) is a licensed psychologist at PCS and part time lecturer in the

Women's Studies Department at San Diego State University. She received her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the California School of Professional Psychology, where she completed doctoral research on the racial identity development of biracial Black/White adults. She has worked in a number of clinical settings, including the Children's Hospital Center for Child Protection, Halcyon Crisis Center, and San Diego State University's Counseling & Psychological Service Center. She also spent four years in the United States Navy as a military



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### Volunteer Opportunities at the LGBTRC!

Want to volunteer for the LGBT community but not sure how? Stop by the Resource Center's volunteering table and sign up! A sign-up sheet and a list of upcoming volunteer opportunities as at the table next to the media center, (the cabinet with all the videos and DVDs)!

## Organizations

### QPOC and S.P.A.C.E.S present Open Mic Nite : "Across the Rainbow"

Thursday, November 15, 2007 at 7pm.

This open mic is being held at the LGBT Resource Center. Come speak openly about what matters most to you! Readings, performances, musical or otherwise are encouraged. The LGBT Resource Center is a safe space for self-expression of sexual, cultural and gender identity. Let's continue to make movements on this campus!

### Women's Group

Starting Tuesday, November 13  
7:00pm at the LGBT Resource Center

If you are interested in attending Women's Group, meetings will begin Tuesday, November 13. Please join us!

Women's Group is an opportunity to discuss issues, problems, and life in an informal and comfortable atmosphere. We meet in a respected space, so all information and identities are kept confidential. If you identify as lesbian or bisexual, or are questioning your sexual orientation, stop by Women's Group to meet other like minded women and gain support from your peers.

For questions, please contact Jan Estrellado ([jeestrellado@ucsd.edu](mailto:jeestrellado@ucsd.edu)).

## Campus Community Centers

### "In Your Shoes": Panel on Disability Issues

Today! Thursday November 8th, 3:30-5 PM at the Cross-Cultural Center

psychologist. She is on the governing board of the Association for Women in Psychology as the Women of Color Coordinator and is a member of the divisions on psychology of women and the psychological study of ethnic minority issues of the American Psychological Association, as well as the San Diego Psychological Association.

Here at UCSD, she facilitates "Outside the Box," an open forum for biracial/multiracial students, faculty, and staff. Her interests include multicultural and women's issues, racial identity development (especially among biracial/multiracial/ethnic/cultural individuals), sexual and gender identity development, adjustment and transition issues, and building healthy relationships through assertive communication and positive self-esteem. She also has expertise in working with eating disorders and adults molested as children (AMAC). Her theoretical orientation is integrative and incorporates humanistic, dynamic, cognitive-behavioral, and multicultural feminist approaches to therapy that encourage positive coping and resilience.

## Friday Night Movie



### The Color Purple, 5pm at the LGBT RC

Based on the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel by Alice Walker, *The Color Purple* depicts the

story of an African American woman named Celie (Whoppi Goldberg) who suffers years of abuse at the hands of two men, including her father. Heart-wrenching and universally loved, *The Color Purple* isn't really about the color purple. It's about the



Come interact with a panel of community members who experienced a simulation of what it would be like to be in the shoes of someone with a visible and invisible disability. Panel members will discuss their experience and how it has affected their awareness of issues affecting members of our community who have disabilities, however visible invisible they may be.

### Graduate Diversity Dinner!

Thursday, November 15 at 5:00PM

UCSD Cross-Cultural Center (<http://ccc.ucsd.edu>)

Featuring a roundtable discussion with San Diego community activists, UCSD professors and engaged graduate students on "The Impact of the Wildfires on San Diego's Immigrant and Native American Communities... and how YOU can help."

In the spirit of the event, please bring one (or more!) canned food donations, which will be donated to San Diegans in need.

Seating is limited; RSVP to [grad-community@ucsd.edu](mailto:grad-community@ucsd.edu) by Tuesday, November 13 to reserve your place.

### Community Centers' Town Hall Meeting

Today! Thursday Nov. 8th. 6-8PM at the Cross Cultural Center

It has been two weeks since the fires and the effects are on-going. Has everyone had time to process their thoughts and emotions? Have we dealt with this as a community? Are our issues being swept under the rug?

As a community, we the Women's Center, Cross Cultural Center and LGBT Resource Center, would like to provide a space for your thoughts, feelings and ideas for action.

## Opportunities

### Women of Color Caucus Scholarships

The Women of Color Caucus of the National Women's Studies Association (NWSA) is proud to announce the availability of the 2008 NWSA Women of Color Caucus Sponsored and Co-Sponsored Student Essay Awards.

For Questions about the Essay Awards contact Pat Washington at

[PatWashingtonPhD@aol.com](mailto:PatWashingtonPhD@aol.com). Phone: (619) 582-5383.



### Check out "The Frogs", a play by Aristophanes

Translated by our own out LGBT faculty Member Professor Marianne McDonald, The Frogs will play from November 2nd to November 17th at the Ark Theatre.



Celebrate the joy of one of the first comedies ever written and one of the funniest. Join the god of theatre Dionysus and his sidekick Xanthias on their journey to hell to find the perfect playwright. A wild cast of characters which includes legendary he-man Heracles, a chorus of singing "frog-divas", wise-cracking dead sinners, and the devil himself.

trials and tribulations of black women in the turn-of-the-century south, and how they conquered over all the abuse, the poverty, and the lack of anything resembling a life.

## In Our Library



### The Elusive Embrace

A provocative, profoundly moving literary debut--part personal history, part cultural commentary--that announces a writer of dazzling originality. In an emotionally charged narrative that weaves together past and present, the personal and the scholarly, a young critic and classicist takes us on a search for the meaning of identity--while showing, through remarkably fresh and accessible readings of such classical Greek and Roman writers as Catullus and Sappho, Ovid and Sophocles, how ancient stories continue to hold truths for us today.....The landscapes through which Daniel Mendelsohn takes us: the deceptively quiet streets of the suburb where he grew up, torn between his mathematician father, who sought after scientific truth, and his Orthodox Jewish grandfather, who told "beautiful lies"; the Southern university, steeped in history and secret traditions, where he first experienced seductions both sexual and intellectual; Internet chat rooms and the streets of Chelsea, Manhattan's newest gay ghetto, where "desire for love" competes with "love of desire"; the quiet, moonlit house where a close friend's small son teaches him the meaning of fatherhood.....And, in a narrative tour de force that



# Fatch



*Putting a new perspective on  
social justice....*



# Welcome!

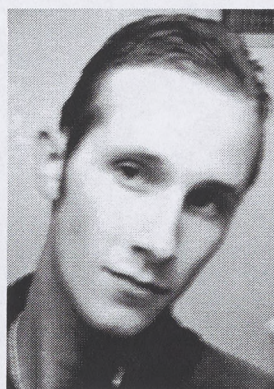
This newsletter is a collaboration of the ideas and passions of four members of the Chancellor's Undergraduate Diversity Leadership Institute. It was created in hopes of bringing awareness to gender and LGBT issues to students on campus.

We would like to thank all those who contributed to the content of this newsletter—Cynthia Centeno, Laura Louie, Kira Luna, Virginia Tice and Sarah Wheeler—and the community here at UCSD. Enjoy!

**Christopher-** Since I was never able to be who I really was around my parents, I have found college to be an exciting new start at establishing my sexual identity. I look forward in the years to come to take what I have learned from CUDLI this year and apply it directly to my life to make an impact on others. This newsletter is a social change action project created in hopes of changing and challenging views on gender roles in society today. I hope all who read it enjoy it as much as I did creating it.

**Bryce-** Since coming out as a senior in high school, I have been committed to LGBTQI social justice and activism. I hope this newsletter can serve as a forum for student dialogue about the issues of gender inequality and discrimination that still pervade our society. Initiating dialogue is the first step to raising awareness and ultimately achieving tolerance and acceptance.

**Tina-** We are protected from many societal injustices within the bounds of the university. However the moment we step into the 'real world,' many harsh barriers make themselves known. Gender equality has been an age-old fight, and though there has been much improvement over the years, we must continue to push forward, and not fall into the trap of indifference. Through this newsletter, we hope to explore gender issues, and ideally, achieve some sort of understanding along the way. So join us for the ride...

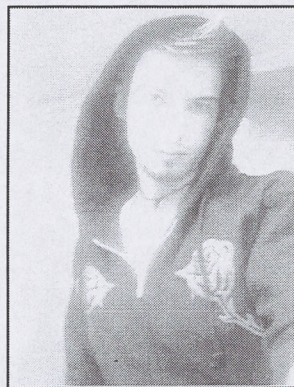


**Bryce Woolley**

**Tina Tae**



**Nishma-** Gender inequality was the first social issue that I noticed and it catapulted me into an awareness of socialization and justice. This newsletter brings awareness of these issues to our campus and allows students, staff, and faculty to be involved in a forum of discussion. I believe this newsletter will connect our community and our campus.



**Nishma Doshi**

**Christopher  
Anderson**



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**“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.”**

**-Margaret Mead**



# Women and the Head of State

*We see them all over the world. But why not in the United States?*

By: Bryce Woolley

Recent events around the world have brought an interesting question to the forefront of the US public consciousness: why have we not yet elected a female president? Much less, why has not a woman even run for the presidency in the United States? Why is this, especially when other countries not known for their progressive politics have done so?

In January this year, the African nation of Liberia swore in Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf as president. Sirleaf is a Harvard educated economist that has worked for the World Bank and the United Nations. The South American nation of Chile swore in Michelle Bachelet as the nation's first female president. Bachelet's father was killed by the former Chilean military leader General Augusto Pinochet, who was supported by the Nixon administration to help overthrow the democratically elected Marxist president Salvador Allende.

So why is it that the United States, the paragon of modern liberal democracy and equality of opportunity, has not been the first to make such a resonating statement on women's equality, much less failed to at least follow suit?

Female heads of state are nothing new (to the rest of the world, at least) – there have been 67 women that have served as president or prime minister in various countries over the past 50 years,

even in countries more suppressive than liberal, like Turkey, Nicaragua, and Sri Lanka. The countries of Bermuda, Ireland, and the Philippines have each had two female presidents or prime ministers. Currently, Liberia has Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, Chile has Michelle Bachelet, and Germany even has a new female Chancellor, Angela Merkel, who succeeded Gerhard Schroeder. Yet the United States has only to witness a female president in the fictional arena of television.



**Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf**

The recent ABC television show, "Commander in Chief", distinguishes itself from other presidency TV shows like the "West Wing" by putting a female actor (Geena Davis) in the role of president. Critics and viewers found this



to be bold and new, but why should it be so shocking? And even in the context of the show, Davis' character (MacKenzie Allen) did not get elected to be president, per se (she was originally the vice president), but inherited the position after the elected President (Teddy Bridges) died while in office. Such a succession made the show more believable, yet it is still "shocking". Why is the idea of a female US president so difficult to fathom?

Granted, television is not real life, but it certainly is reflective of the current American consciousness on this issue. So why have we not had a female president yet? Just think about it.



**Michelle Bachelet**

Sources: "Why can't we elect a female president?" by Charita M. Goshay, Copley News Service, <http://www.mackenziewatch.com/>, <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0429455/>

Photo Sources: [www.womenwagingpeace.net/.../liberia.asp](http://www.womenwagingpeace.net/.../liberia.asp), [www.el-mundo.es/albumes/](http://www.el-mundo.es/albumes/) 2006/01/16/bachelet

### **Numbers Don't Lie...**

*Women do hold elected office in the US government, but not yet the presidency...*

- **8** women serve as governors (**2** Republicans and **6** Democrats out of 50)
- **11** women are running for governor
- **14** women are US Senators (**5** Republicans and **9** Democrats out of 100)
- **14** women want to become their party's nominee for the Senate
- **67** women serve in the House of Representatives (**24** Republicans and **43** Democrats out of 435)
- **117** women are seeking a House nomination



## Queer Advertising: Inclusion or Exploitation?

*Advertisements by tobacco companies featuring queer people are not a sign of inclusive progress, but rather of Big Tobacco finding another demographic to target and exploit for profit.*

By Kira Luna

In 1994 tobacco giant Phillip Morris became the first tobacco company in the United States to advertise in the queer media. While it may seem like a good thing that LGBT identified individuals are finally being recognized in advertising, in actuality, the advertising

practices of the tobacco industry are detrimental to this community. Since that first advertisement, the tobacco industry has continually targeted the LGBT community in order to boost their sales. Along with communities of color and women, the LGBT community is targeted by Big Tobacco through the industry's use of specific advertising and marketing tactics.

Even though it appears that the tobacco industry is making their advertising more all-encompassing, this industry is really just targeting the queer community. The truth is that LGBT related images and themes are only used in the queer media and not in more mainstream publications. The aim of the tobacco companies is not to acknowledge diverse lifestyles, because if this were the case, these advertisements would appear in all forms of media. Furthermore, the use of queer images and themes shows how the tobacco companies appeal to peoples' emotions in order to get them interested in a product. For example, the tobacco company Parliament ran an advertisement featuring two males clad in swim trunks facing each other on a white balcony with a woman standing behind one of them. The body language of the men is supposed to indicate their interest in each other, and this somewhat subtle attraction is meant to invoke feelings of being in the closet or hiding ones' sexuality. At the same time, the woman's presence diverts the attention away from the two men, which

further the traditional thinking that homosexuality is not considered acceptable in the public sphere of our society. This advertisement shows that the tobacco companies use very real emotions, such as fear, shame, and confusion, in order to get the LGBT community to buy their products, but at the same time, the companies do not support the homosexual lifestyle in and of itself. The tobacco companies only pay attention to the queer identity of an individual in order to get them to buy tobacco products.

People who see advertisements that appear queer friendly may support such advertising, but instead, they should realize the detrimental outcomes that such targeted advertising may bring about, such as the furthered oppression of the LGBT community. Some people feel that the tobacco companies target the LGBT community just as any manufacturer targets specific communities for

“...tobacco companies use very real emotions, such as fear, shame, and confusion, in order to get the LGBT community to buy their products, but at the same time, the companies do not support the homosexual lifestyle in and of itself.”

their products. However, most products are not nearly as addictive and therefore as dangerous as cigarettes and other tobacco products. A 1999 study done by UC San Francisco found that 48% of queer identified

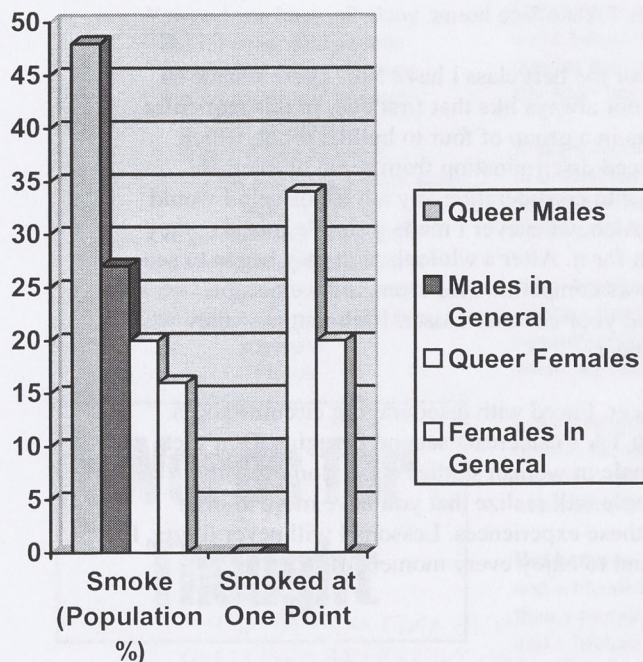
males smoke compared to the national average of 27 % for males in general. About 20 % of queer identified females smoke compared to 16% of females overall, and 34% of queer identified females have smoked at some point versus only 20% of women overall in the United States. Along with the alcohol industry, the tobacco industry was the first to market to the queer community. This is because tobacco is considered to be a sin product by many, which meant that the tobacco industry was less concerned about there being boycotts from religious conservatives. This outlook not only marginalizes people of faith within the community, but it further shows how the tobacco industry diminishes the value of its LGBT customers in order to make a profit.

One of the most oppressive actions taken by the tobacco industry has been Project Subculture Urban Marketing, otherwise known as Project SCUM, which was developed by R. J. Reynolds in the early 1990s. The project's aim was to increase smoking within the queer and homeless communities in San Francisco. The



derogatory acronym speaks for itself and shows how the tobacco industry uses queer identities against the individuals in the community. The strategic advertising and marketing tactics of the tobacco industry make it easy to understand why smoking is so prevalent in the queer community.

In recent years, the tobacco companies have started to sponsor LGBT community events, which gives them a prime opportunity to advertise within this community. In fact, in 1997 the tobacco company Benson and Hedges sponsored the San Diego LGBT pride festival. The support that the tobacco companies give to the LGBT communities is mostly economically driven. In recent years, people from within the LGBT community have started to recognize that the practices of tobacco industry are harmful. Many activists have been successful in getting queer publications to ban tobacco advertising, and they have also encouraged LGBT organizations and events to deny sponsorship from the tobacco companies. The tobacco companies do have a strong presence within the LGBT community, but with time, people are realizing that Big Tobacco is an oppressive industry that is only hindering the progress of the LGBT community.



## Excerpt from "Commercial Closet"

**BOB GARFIELD:** All right. Now tell me about "gay vague" advertising. You identify on your web site and have in your writing talked about ads that to one audience may seem perfectly innocuous yet to a gay audience have some sort of--hidden message.

**MICHAEL WILKIE:** Well-- there are different motivations that can happen in the "gay vague" category. Sometimes it's actually an effort on the part of the advertiser, I believe, and other times I think it's more accidental. Now a perfect example of perhaps an accidental one is Volkswagen's Dah Dah Dah commercial has two guys driving around aimlessly in a car on a Sunday afternoon. That commercial debuted on the coming out episode of the Ellen program where she told everyone she was lesbian, and so it had a very big gay and gay-friendly audience watching at the time. When it came on, everyone sort of looked at each other and thought -- are these two guys supposed to be boyfriends? And even though there were no lines in the commercial, there seemed to be a little "je ne sais quoi" about it that seemed to imply that. Now Volkswagen said we didn't intend for them to come off as gay, but it's okay if you want to think so.

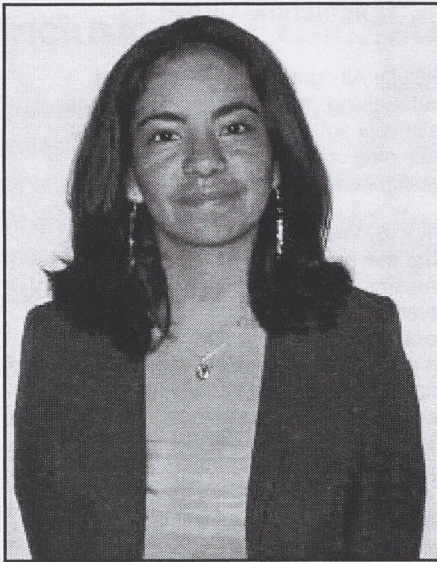
**BOB GARFIELD:** There's this old joke about the guy in the psychiatrist's office, and the psychiatrist is showing him Rorschach inkblots, and the guy describes as he looks at these blocks one in a long, you know in a succession of, you know, erotic images. And finally the psychiatrist says to him well, you know, Mr. Jones, it looks to me like you have some sort of obsession with sex, and the patient replies well you're the one with all the dirty pictures. Michael, are there really gay vague ads or are you just-- are you just seeing dirty pictures in inkblots.

**MICHAEL WILKIE:** No! Because there are some also that are more intentional in my opinion. In fact when I was at Ad Age I wrote about Parliament cigarettes ads. They have this campaign that's of course a long-running campaign in the mainstream media which has a man and a woman in exotic sort of seaside locale, and in gay magazines what they've done is they've added another man into the picture, and one time they actually took that extra step and made it just two men and their dog. After I wrote about it, though, they ended up pulling back. Someone later came up to me who had worked with Parliament -- basically said to me that, that the company was upset after I wrote about it! That, that I had revealed what they were doing to, to the mainstream audience out there. "

See more at:

[http://www.onthemediamedia.org/transcripts/transcripts\\_011202\\_closet.html](http://www.onthemediamedia.org/transcripts/transcripts_011202_closet.html)





## Hello Mr., I Mean *Miss* Engineer

*22% of the 2,000+ engineering undergraduates are female. \* Being one of them is an experience to remember. This is my story of why I struggle to become a female engineer.*

By: Cynthia Centeno

**M**y passion is engineering, mechanical engineering to be exact. I still remember the very first day of my engineering classes. I walked into a big lecture hall, one built for lectures of more than 200 people. From my view in the back I scanned the crowd, searching for fellow females or familiar faces, but to my surprise, I couldn't see any! So there I sat feeling stranded in this "sea" of men. After a few days I was fortunate to discover that other "strandeers" like me, floated together in the front of this male-dominated class. There I met

my friend, Susana, among the 15 or so women in a class of over 200.

The professor was great and the class was interesting. However I wouldn't consider engineering one of the more easy majors. When it came to talking to TAs about homework, it was very intimidating. One challenge Susana and I faced was the inability of the males to recognize us as fellow engineers instead of *intruding* females. Susana and I had trouble understanding a concept on a homework assignment one time. Talking with a TA is supposed to be helpful but we found that isn't always true. The TA was very unresponsive to our questions, simply brushing us off to the side to dedicate his efforts more towards the male students present. Finally when it was just us two his shift was over and he no longer could take the time to help us. This incident caused me to never attend that TA's office hours.

Later on another engineering class I took I would consider the best class I have had. There I made so many friends and learned that experiences with the TA are not always like that first one. In this particular class I had to work with machinery alongside my male peers in a group of four to build a robot, which would be presented to the professor. Unfortunately I still faced discrimination from some of my male peers, whether intentional or not. They were unable to take into consideration any advice or help I would give them during lab with machine or design program use. Also, whenever I made a simple mistake, they would continuously bring it up in my face and put me down for it. After a while though they began to see through my grades and progress that I, although a female, was competition for them and we became friends. It's like that old saying; keep your friends close and your enemies closer. I felt that now they considered me more than a pretty face, but as a fellow engineer.

It is difficult to be an engineer, especially a female engineer. Faced with discouraging circumstances such as unacceptance by male peers, or bad experiences with TA's can create second thoughts. Don't let this get to you, if you are a female engineering major, or a male in woman studies class, don't let others opinions influence who you want to become. Eventually people will realize that you have more to offer than they expect. I have learned many lessons already from these experiences. Lessons I will never forget. I will continue on, no matter what, to becoming an engineer and to enjoy every moment of it.

"I SHALL BE TELLING THIS WITH A SIGH/SOMEWHERE AGES AND AGES HENCE  
TWO ROADS DIVERGED IN A WOOD, AND I—/I TOOK THE ONE LESS TRAVELLED BY..."  
{Robert Frost}

\*Information gathered from Engineers Student Services



### Broken Dolls

By: Sarah Wheeler

We're all broken dolls  
Pieces  
Are we too late for stitches  
Have we served our purpose  
Your playthings  
Fragments of our former selves  
Pieces

And all of these girls playing catch  
With razor blades  
We fallen angels are all the same  
And I don't know how to make  
myself happy anymore  
I don't how to feel

You better watch what you write  
down, girl  
You don't know who is reading  
You better watch what you say  
outloud, girl  
You don't know who is listening

And all this time  
All I wanted was somebody to  
inspire me to care again  
And is it wrong to feel like I  
shouldn't feel like this  
And is it wrong to fear feeling  
anything at all

You said you knew all along  
But I, I never told anyone  
You said you knew all along  
But I, I never told anyone  
Hey beautiful  
What's it like to know  
You're just the test zone for his atom  
bombs?  
I've got the mind of a victim  
And sometimes I feel so weak  
How am I supposed to live with me?  
I just don't know about anything  
anymore  
Pieces

## Words for Thought

### My Love

By: Bryce Woolley

I think of my future and feel  
a warm embrace from my groom  
I hear the wedding bells peal  
throughout the gleaming white room.

I envision love and marriage  
a happy life with my soul mate  
there will be no baby carriage  
but posterity can wait.

Our love is as human and real  
as any witness can see  
we pledge to care, keep, and heal  
each other for eternity.

But the laws do not favor us,  
in fact they do deny  
any official, legal truss  
to our faithful unity.

So we wait for our special day,  
as peaceful as the dove,  
knowing we are equal and gay  
so why can't I marry my love?

### Bleeding Heart

By: Bryce Woolley

I proudly wear a rainbow flag  
a symbol of my pride  
despite the hateful shouts of "fag"  
my heart has not yet died.

It beats and bleeds with my resolve  
to defend my way of life:  
resolution that shall not dissolve  
in the solvent of my strife.

It has become my own religion  
fighting for a just cause  
equality comes to fruition  
when we finally change the laws.

I am consumed by this ideal  
despite the stigmatic danger  
I know that the threat is real  
even from an imperfect stranger.

But better to have a bleeding heart  
and a bleeding body blind  
than a bloodless life, torn apart  
and a lifeless heart and mind

### Ladies in Waiting

By: Sarah Wheeler

There are sluts in my kitchen  
Eating our chips  
Momma's red-eyed and saying that  
I've got to  
Put up with them  
And they're doing doughnuts in the  
front yard in his cars  
And I don't want to be here

And all of our ladies in waiting  
Are ready for us to cry, and  
You know, it's not what I'd hoped for  
But then again it rarely is

And all of the ex's are calling  
Wondering if they broke me too soon  
And I say, "Hey, it's okay.  
Now I can honestly say that I've been  
through worse."  
They sit around me in a semicircle  
But don't worry my friends  
You won't have to heal me today  
'Cause I've pushed it all away

And all of our ladies in waiting  
Are ready for us to cry, and  
You know, it's not what I'd hoped for  
But then again, none of this is

They say that God's with me  
But She doesn't know me  
So you can keep your blessings  
My birthday cake is still on the table  
My candles aren't cold yet  
Yet, and you are  
Yet you are

No more tears, my dear  
No more tears, my dear  
No more tears my dear, my dear  
Be strong for your brother and your  
sister  
Take care of your mother  
You have to be the strong one now  
Don't cry  
'Cause they can't see you cry now

And all of our ladies in waiting  
Say it's time for them to go  
And I tell them, "Hey, it's okay."  
I'd rather be alone to talk to your  
ghost



## "I'm not a feminist!"

By: Virginia Tice

Two months into college, I received an angry phone call from a friend from home, in Oakland, CA. She was taking a history seminar on Feminism and that day's class had been a disaster. At the beginning of class, the teacher posed to them this question: "Your generation has a reputation for being fairly conservative," he said, "so I was wondering, what are your thoughts on feminism?" The students began to mutter, and a few shook their heads. "Well?" He pressed, and, addressing the girls he asked, "Would you consider yourselves feminists?"

One girl raised her hand and said the following, which shocked my friend Liza into silence: "I would never call myself a feminist because feminists are lesbians in Berkeley who don't shave their legs and are really angry." The girl appeared to notice the bigotry in her own statement, because she muttered apologetically, "I know it sounds kind of mean but..." and she trailed off.

Only a few decades previously, in a classroom in the San Francisco Bay Area, a woman expressing this perspective might have been jeered at, or at least challenged by a classmate. But not a single member of the class stood up against her, and a number of the girls were nodding sympathetically. What happened to the vigorous pursuit of equality? What was the rest of the country like, Liza thought, if in this highly intellectual community which considered itself supremely open-minded and egalitarian, there were no voices supporting the female cause?

Throughout that class and the next one, Liza gleaned a clearer picture of what seemed to have gone wrong to cause this resistance to the concept of feminism. The first was that this group of highly privileged girls had not yet entered the workforce or had much interaction with life outside of academia, which is noticeably less equal than

the classroom. Also, these girls seemed to think that the fight for equality was over, that all the rights had been won, and those who were still championing women's rights were simply causing trouble. This is an opinion which is likely to be shattered once they enter the harsher daily realities of life outside of school. And it is sadly true that some of those girls might not have such an eye-opening experience because with enough money, a great deal of inequality can be forced out of sight. But the belief that those who advocated for increased women's rights were either man-haters or lesbians, and not actually affecting change, is startling and dark.

One of the most interesting aspects of Liza's story was how the men behaved: they stared at their hands, or out the window, and not one spoke a single word. Liza asked one man later why he hadn't spoken. "I just don't feel qualified," he replied with a sheepish grin. It truly becomes an uphill battle when those in a position of power and prestige step out for fear of stepping into a delicate and awkward conversation.

Many of the girls spoke of standing up for their gender as "identifying as a feminist," which struck Liza as warped and worrisome: to her, being a feminist is fundamentally about believing in the strength of women and their due equality with men; but to these girls, it meant taking on a creed, personality, or set of standard behaviors which they cruelly

caricatured. Feminists of all generations have always come from all backgrounds, educations and lifestyles. They have been united by the common goal of wanting their gender to be universally

recognized for its power and beauty. Although, as Liza said, "I don't think all the feminists we studied were necessarily saints," nearly all clung to a deep confidence in their gender, and for that reason, their struggle should be admired and expanded upon, not mocked.

**"I would never call myself a feminist because feminists are lesbians in Berkeley who don't shave their legs and are really angry."**



You decide it's time to relax so you flip on the TV and the first show that comes on is MTV's "Date My Mom". As you watch, you observe a young man receiving the chance to select a girl he would like to date from three candidates. The catch is he does not get to see or meet these girls. You watch as he goes on dates with their mothers, instead, and then from those dates decides which girl he wants to date. What you just witnessed is an example of one of the many popular TV shows that negatively characterizes women's roles in relationships. The young male possesses the dominant role in choosing which girl, from a variety, he wants to date. The female plays a submissive role and must demonstrate her best attributes to a male. He even has control over a female adult, the young girl's mother, as she submits to his demands in order for her and her daughter to win. The mother must comply with the activities the young male has in store whether it be building birdhouses, climbing rocks or waiting tables. The term "win" is misleading and just doesn't seem appropriate when you have no say in what you are competing for. The young male doesn't even get to meet the girls he could date, which removes the personal level from his decision. He can only base his judgment on the mother's appearance and description of her daughter. The girl can quickly become an object that the male sees factory to human being, iently left out process.

***MTV's "Date My Mom":  
Damaging Female Authority***

By: Laura Louie

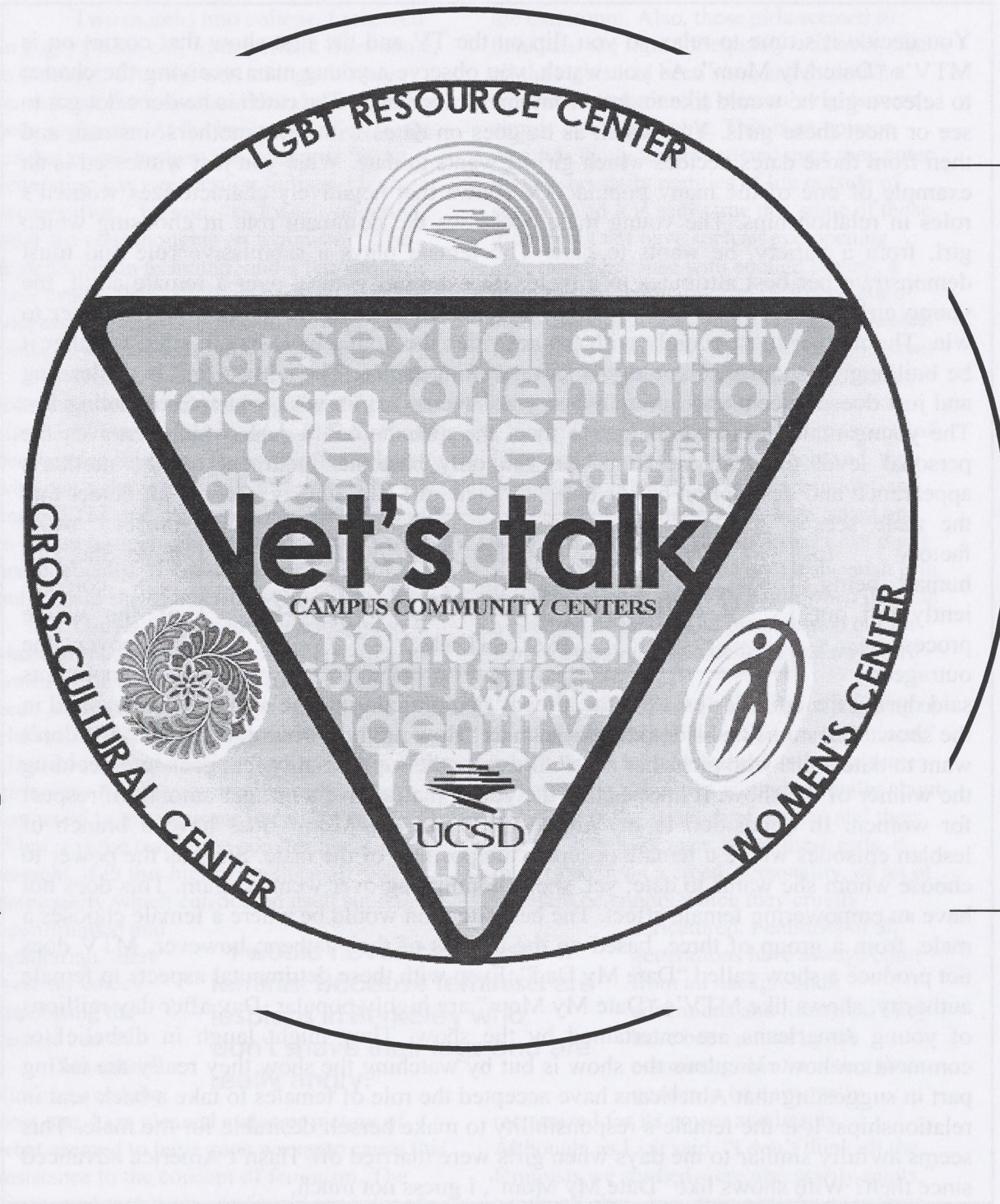
most satis-  
have. She, as a  
is conven-  
of the whole  
Moreover, the  
comments

outrageous  
said during the episodes escalate the already demoralizing image of females presented in the show. Questions and side remarks such as "How pretty is your daughter?" or "I don't want to date a girl who picks her nose", illustrate the superficiality that goes into deciding the winner of the show. It implies that the young males have a meager amount of respect for women. In opposition to my argument, "Date My Mom" does have a branch of lesbian episodes where a female occupies the position of the male. She has the power to choose whom she wants to date; yet, she is dominating over women again. This does not have an empowering female effect. The best situation would be where a female chooses a male, from a group of three, based on the actions of their fathers; however, MTV does not produce a show called "Date My Dad". Even with these detrimental aspects to female authority, shows like MTV's "Date My Mom" are highly popular. Day after day millions of young Americans are entertained by the show. They might laugh in disbelief or comment on how ridiculous the show is but by watching the show they really are taking part in suggesting that Americans have accepted the role of females to take a back seat in relationships. It is the female's responsibility to make herself desirable for the male. This seems awfully similar to the days when girls were married off. Hasn't America advanced since then? With shows like "Date My Mom", I guess not much.



# "I'm not a feminist"

By Frances Lee



Friends Engaging Together to Create Harmony