

HARVEY MILK

GAY DAY 1978

MY NAME IS HARVEY MILK--AND I WANT TO RECRUIT YOU. I WANT TO RECRUIT YOU FOR THE FIGHT TO PRESERVE YOUR DEMOCRACY FROM THE JOHN BRIGGS AND THE ANITA BRYANTS WHO ARE TRYING TO CONSTITUTIONALIZE BIGOTRY.

WE ARE NOT GOING TO ALLOW THAT TO HAPPEN. WE ARE NOT GOING TO SIT BACK IN SILENCE AS 300,000 OF OUR GAY BROTHERS AND SISTERS DID IN NAZI GERMANY. WE ARE NOT GOING TO ALLOW OUR RIGHTS TO BE TAKEN AWAY AND THEN MARCH WITH BOWED HEADS INTO THE GAS CHAMBERS. ON THIS ~~ANNIVERSARY~~ ANNIVERSARY OF STONEWALL I ASK MY GAY SISTERS AND BROTHERS TO MAKE THE COMMITMENT TO FIGHT. FOR THEMSELVES. FOR THEIR FREEDOM. FOR THEIR COUNTRY.

HERE, IN SAN FRANCISCO, WE RECENTLY HELD AN ELECTION FOR A JUDGESHIP. AN ANTI-GAY SMEAR CAMPAIGN WAS WAGED AGAINST A PRESIDING JUDGE BECAUSE SHE WAS SUPPORTED BY <sup>lesbian</sup> ~~GAY~~ <sup>men</sup> ~~PEOPLE~~. HERE, IN SO-CALLED LIBERAL SAN FRANCISCO, AN ANTI-GAY SMEAR CAMPAIGN WAS WAGED BY SO-CALLED LIBERALS.

AND HERE, IN SO-CALLED LIBERAL SAN FRANCISCO, WE HAVE A COLUMNIST FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER, A COLUMNIST NAMED KEVIN STARR, WHO HAS PRINTED A NUMBER OF COLUMNS CONTAINING DISTORTIONS AND LIES ABOUT GAYS. HE'S GETTING AWAY WITH IT.

THESE ANTI-GAY SMEAR CAMPAIGNS, THESE ANTI-GAY COLUMNS, ARE LAYING THE GROUNDWORK FOR THE BRIGGS INITIATIVE. WE HAD BETTER BE PREPARED FOR IT.

IN THE EXAMINER, KEVIN STARR DEFAMES AND LIBELS GAYS. ~~IN THE CHRONICLE,~~ <sup>S.F.</sup>



CHARLES McCABE WARNS US TO BE QUIET, THAT TALKING ABOUT GAY RIGHTS IS COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE. TO MR. McCABE I SAY THAT THE DAY HE STOPS TALKING ABOUT FREEDOM OF THE PRESS IS THE DAY HE NO LONGER HAS IT.

"Such parades are things of the past - 'counterproductive' -"

- maybe Carter  
- Paul & Jane  
- Solomon  
- [unclear]

THE BLACKS DID NOT WIN THEIR RIGHTS BY SITTING QUIETLY IN THE BACK OF THE BUS. THEY GOT OFF!

GAY PEOPLE <sup>we</sup> WILL NOT WIN THEIR RIGHTS BY STAYING <sup>Quietly</sup> IN ~~THEIR~~ CLOSETS... WE ARE COMING OUT! WE ARE COMING OUT TO FIGHT THE LIES, THE MYTHS, THE DISTORTIONS! WE ARE COMING OUT TO TELL THE TRUTH ABOUT GAYS!

<sup>for</sup> I'M TIRED OF THE CONSPIRACY OF SILENCE.

I'M TIRED OF LISTENING TO THE ANITA BRYANTS TWIST THE LANGUAGE AND THE MEANING OF THE BIBLE TO FIT THEIR OWN DISTORTED OUTLOOK. BUT I'M EVEN MORE TIRED OF THE SILENCE FROM THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS <sup>the</sup> OF THIS NATION WHO KNOW THAT SHE IS PLAYING FAST AND LOOSE WITH THE TRUE MEANING OF THE BIBLE. I'M TIRED OF THEIR SILENCE MORE THAN OF HER BIBLICAL GYMNASTICS!

AND I'M TIRED OF JOHN BRIGGS TALKING ABOUT FALSE ROLE MODELS. HE'S LYING IN HIS TEETH AND HE KNOWS IT. BUT I'M EVEN MORE TIRED OF <sup>the</sup> SILENCE FROM EDUCATORS AND PSYCHOLOGISTS WHO KNOW THAT BRIGGS IS LYING AND YET SAY NOTHING. I'M TIRED OF THEIR SILENCE MORE THAN OF BRIGGS' LIES!

I'M TIRED OF <sup>the</sup> SILENCE. SO I'M GOING TO TALK ABOUT IT. AND I WANT YOU TO TALK ABOUT IT.



<sup>we</sup>  
GAY PEOPLE ARE PAINTED AS CHILD MOLESTERS. I WANT TO TALK ABOUT THAT.  
I WANT TO TALK ABOUT THE MYTH OF CHILD MOLESTATIONS BY GAYS.† I WANT  
TO TALK ABOUT THE FACT THAT IN THIS STATE SOME 95% OF CHILD MOLESTATIONS  
ARE HETEROSEXUAL AND USUALLY THE PARENT...

† I WANT TO TALK ABOUT THE FACT THAT ALL CHILD ABANDONMENTS ARE HETEROSEXUAL.

† I WANT TO TALK ABOUT THE FACT THAT ALL ABUSE OF CHILDREN IS BY THEIR  
HETEROSEXUAL PARENTS.

† I WANT TO TALK ABOUT THE FACT THAT SOME 98% OF THE 6 MILLION RAPES  
COMMITTED ANNUALLY ARE HETEROSEXUAL.

† I WANT TO TALK ABOUT THE FACT THAT 1 OUT OF EVERY 3 WOMEN WHO WILL BE  
MURDERED IN THIS STATE THIS YEAR WILL BE MURDERED BY THEIR HUSBANDS.

† I WANT TO TALK ABOUT THE FACT THAT SOME 30% OF ALL MARRIAGES CONTAIN  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

AND FINALLY, I WANT TO TELL THE JOHN BRIGGS AND THE ANITA BRYANTS THAT  
YOU TALK ABOUT THE MYTHS OF GAYS, ~~MYTHS~~ BUT TODAY I'M TALKING ABOUT THE  
FACTS OF HETEROSEXUAL VIOLENCE AND WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU GOING TO DO  
ABOUT THAT?????

CLEAN UP YOUR OWN HOUSE BEFORE YOU START TELLING LIES ABOUT GAYS' ~~MYTHS~~  
DON'T DISTORT THE BIBLE TO HIDE YOUR OWN SINS, DON'T CHANGE FACTS TO  
LIES, DON'T LOOK FOR CHEAP POLITICAL ADVANTAGE IN PLAYING UPON PEOPLES'



*Youth*

FEARS! JUDGING BY THE LATEST POLLS, EVEN THE ~~MOVIE~~ CAN TELL YOU'RE LYING!

(calmer) ANITA BRYANT, JOHN BRIGGS: YOUR UNWILLINGNESS TO TALK ABOUT YOUR OWN HOUSE, YOUR DELIBERATE LIES AND DISTORTIONS, YOUR UNWILLINGNESS TO FACE THE TRUTH, CHILLS MY BLOOD--IT REEKS OF MADNESS!

AND LIKE THE REST OF YOU, I'M TIRED OF OUR SO-CALLED "FRIENDS" WHO TELL US THAT WE MUST SET STANDARDS.

WHAT STANDARDS?

THE STANDARDS OF THE RAPISTS? THE WIFE BEATERS? THE CHILD ABUSERS? THE PEOPLE WHO ORDERED THE BOMB TO BE BUILT? <sup>*The people*</sup> WHO ORDERED IT TO BE DROPPED? <sup>*The people*</sup> WHO PULLED THE TRIGGER? THE PEOPLE WHO GAVE US VIET NAM? THE PEOPLE WHO BUILT THE GAS CHAMBERS? THE PEOPLE WHO BUILT THE CONCENTRATION CAMPS-----RIGHT HERE, IN CALIFORNIA, AND THEN HERDED ALL THE JAPANESE-AMERICANS INTO THEM DURING WORLD WAR II...THE JEW BAITERS? THE NIGGER KNOCKERS? THE CORPORATE THIEFS? THE NIXONS? THE HITLER

WHAT STANDARDS DO YOU WANT US TO SET? CLEAN UP YOUR ACT, CLEAN UP YOUR VIOLENCE BEFORE YOU CRITICIZE <sup>*Lesbian & gay men*</sup> ~~gay men~~ BECAUSE OF THEIR SEXUALITY... IT IS MADNESS TO GLORIFY KILLING AND VIOLENCE ON ONE HAND AND BE ASHAMED OF THE SEXUAL ACT, THE ACT THAT CONCEIVE YOU, ON THE OTHER...

THERE IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MORALITY AND MURDER. THE FACT IS THAT MORE PEOPLE HAVE BEEN SLAUGHTERED IN THE NAME OF RELIGION THAN FOR ANY OTHER SINGLE REASON. THAT, THAT, MY FRIENDS, THAT IS TRUE PERVERSION!



FOR THE STANDARDS THAT WE SHOULD SET, ~~MAYBE~~ <sup>we</sup> SHOULD ~~SUGGEST~~ READ ~~IN~~  
*your* NEXT WEEK'S HEADLINES?....

WELL, I'M TIRED OF THE LIES OF THE ANITA BRYANTS AND THE JOHN BRIGGS.  
I'M TIRED OF THEIR MYTHS.  
I'M TIRED OF THEIR DISTORTIONS.  
I'M SPEAKING OUT ABOUT IT.

GAY BROTHERS AND SISTERS, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?  
YOU MUST COME OUT.

COME OUT...TO YOUR PARENTS... I KNOW THAT IT IS HARD AND WILL HURT THEM  
BUT THINK ABOUT HOW THEY WILL HURT YOU IN THE VOTING BOOTH!

COME OUT...TO YOUR RELATIVES. I KNOW THAT IS HARD AND WILL UPSET THEM  
BUT THINK OF HOW THEY WILL UPSET YOU IN THE VOTING BOOTH.

COME OUT TO YOUR FRIENDS...IF THEY INDEED <sup>THEY ARE</sup> YOUR FRIENDS.

COME OUT TO YOUR NEIGHBORS...TO YOUR FELLOW WORKERS...TO THE PEOPLE WHO  
WORK WHERE YOU EAT AND SHOP...

COME OUT ONLY TO THE PEOPLE YOU KNOW, AND WHO KNOW YOU. NOT TO ANYONE ELSE.  
BUT ONCE AND FOR ALL, BREAK DOWN THE MYTHS, DESTROY THE LIES AND DISTORTIONS  
FOR YOUR SAKE

FOR THEIR SAKE

FOR THE SAKE OF THE YOUNGSTERS WHO ARE BECOMING SCARED BY THE VOTES <sup>from</sup> ~~IN~~  
<sup>to</sup> DADE ~~AND~~ EUGENE.

IF BRIGGS WINS HE WILL NOT STOP. THEY NEVER DO. LIKE ALL MAD PEOPLE,  
THEY ARE FORCED TO GO ON, TO PROVE THEY WERE RIGHT!



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THERE WILL BE NO SAFE "CLOSET" FOR ANY GAY PERSON.

SO BREAK OUT OF YOURS TODAY--TEAR THE DAMN THING DOWN ONCE AND FOR ALL!

AND FINALLY

MOST OF ALL

I'M TIRED OF THE SILENCE FROM THE WHITE HOUSE

JIMMY CARTER: YOU ~~T~~TALKED ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS A LOT...IN FACT, YOU WANT TO BE THE WORLD'S LEADER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS.

WELL, DAMN IT, LEAD!!!

THERE ARE SOME 15-20 MILLION GAY ~~PEOPLE~~ <sup>lesbians & men</sup> IN THIS NATION LISTENING AND LISTENING VERY CAREFULLY.

JIMMY CARTER: WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO TALK ABOUT THEIR RIGHTS?

YOU TALK A LOT ABOUT THE BIBLE...BUT WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO TALK ABOUT THAT MOST IMPORTANT PART: "LOVE THY NEIGHBOR"? AFTER ALL, SHE MAY BE GAY.

JIMMY CARTER: THE TIME HAS COME FOR ~~GAY PEOPLE~~ <sup>lesbians & gay men</sup> TO COME OUT--AND THEY ARE. NOW THE TIME HAS COME FOR YOU TO SPEAK OUT. WHEN ARE YOU?

UNTIL YOU SPEAK OUT AGAINST HATRED, BIGOTRY, MADNESS, YOU ARE JUST JIMMY CARTER. WHEN YOU DO, THEN AND ONLY THEN, WILL SOME 20 MILLION GAY ~~PEOPLE~~ <sup>lesbians & men</sup> BE ABLE TO SAY JIMMY CARTER IS OUR PRESIDENT, TOO!

JIMMY CARTER, YOU HAVE THE CHOICE:

HOW MANY MORE YEARS?



HOW MUCH MORE DAMAGE?

HOW MUCH MORE VIOLENCE?

HOW MANY MORE LIVES?

HIS TORY SAYS THAT, LIKE ALL GROUPS SEEKING THEIR RIGHTS, SOONER OR LATER  
WE WILL WIN.

THE QUESTION IS: WHEN?

JIMMY CARTER, YOU HAVE TO MAKE THE CHOICE--IT'S IN YOUR HANDS: EITHER YEARS  
OF VIOLENCE...OR YOU CAN HELP TURN THE PAGES OF HISTORY THAT MUCH FASTER.

IT IS UP TO YOU. AND NOW, BEFORE IT BECOMES TOO LATE, COME TO CALIFORNIA  
AND SPEAK OUT AGAINST BRIGGS...

IF YOU DON'T--THEN WE WILL COME TO YOU!!!

IF YOU DO NOT SPEAK OUT, IF YOU REMAIN SILENT, IF YOU DO NOT LIFT YOUR  
VOICE AGAINST BRIGGS, THEN I CALL UPON <sup>lesbian &</sup> GAY ~~PEOPLE~~ <sup>man</sup> FROM ALL OVER THE NATION  
...YOUR NATION...TO GATHER IN WASHINGTON...ONE YEAR FROM NOW...ON THAT  
NATIONAL DAY OF FREEDOM, THE FOURTH OF JULY...THE FOURTH OF JULY, 1979...  
TO GATHER IN WASHINGTON ON THAT VERY SAME SPOT WHERE OVER A DECADE AGO  
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING SPOKE TO A NATION OF HIS DREAMS...DREAMS THAT ARE  
FAST FADING, DREAMS THAT TO MANY MILLIONS IN THIS NATION HAVE BECOME  
NIGHTMARES RATHER THAN DREAMS...

I CALL UPON ALL MINORITIES AND ESPECIALLY THE MILLIONS OF GAY <sup>lesbian &</sup> ~~PEOPLE~~ <sup>man</sup> TO  
WAKE UP FROM THEIR DREAMS...TO GAHTER ON WASHINGTON AND TELL JIMMY CARTER



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AND THEIR NATION: "WAKE UP...WAKE UP, AMERICA...NO MORE RACISM, NO MORE SEXISM, NO MORE AGEISM, NO MORE HATRED...NO MORE!"

IT'S UP TO YOU, JIMMY CARTER...DO YOU WANT TO GO DOWN IN HISTORY AS A PERSON WHO WOULD NOT LISTEN...OR DO YOU WANT TO GO DOWN IN HISTORY AS A LEADER, AS A PRESIDENT?

JIMMY CARTER: LISTEN TO US TODAY...OR YOU WILL HAVE TO LISTEN TO *Lebanon*  
*f you mean* PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER THIS NATION AS THEY GATHER IN WASHINGTON NEXT YEAR...

FOR WE WILL GATHER THERE AND WE WILL TELL YOU ABOUT AMERICA AND WHAT IT REALLY STANDS FOR...

AND TO THE BIGOTS...TO THE JOHN BRIGGS...TO THE ANITA BRYANTS...TO THE KEVIN STARRS AND ALL THEIR ILK....LET ME REMIND YOU WHAT AMERICA IS... LISTEN CAREFULLY:

ON THE STATUE OF LIBERTY IT SAYS: "GIVE ME YOUR TIRED, YOUR POOR, YOUR HUDDLED MASSES YEARNING TO BE FREE..."

IN THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE IT IS WRITTEN: "ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL AND THEY ARE ENDOWED WITH CERTAIN INALIENABLE RIGHTS..." ~~IT DIDN'T~~  
~~SAY JUST SOME MEN AND IT DIDN'T SAY MAYBE THEY'VE GOT SOME RIGHTS AND~~  
~~MAYBE THEY DON'T, IT ALL DEPENDS~~

AND IN OUR NATIONAL ANTHEM IT SAYS: "OH, SAY DOES THAT STAR-SPANGLED BANNER YET WAVE O'ER THE LAND OF THE FREE"

FOR MR. BRIGGS AND MRS. BRYANT AND MR. STARR AND ALL THE BIGOTS OUT THERE:



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THAT'S WHAT AMERICA IS. NO MATTER HOW HARD YOU TRY, YOU CANNOT ERASE  
THOSE WORDS FROM THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE. NO MATTER HOW HARD  
YOU TRY, YOU CANNOT CHIP THOSE WORDS FROM OFF THE BASE OF THE STATUE  
OF LIBERTY. <sup>✓ No matter how hard you</sup> ~~NOR~~ CAN ~~YOU~~ <sup>NOT</sup> SING THE "STAR SPANGLED BANNER" WITHOUT ~~SAID~~  
THOSE WORDS.

THAT'S WHAT AMERICA IS.

LOVE IT OR LEAVE IT.