

tical promises, promises

**or five-month incumbent
an't lose in Demo attorney race**

We've come of age at the polls

**Will she be first upfront
Suddenly we have
vote crucial in assembly**

**Elect
Candidates ap**

**Who Now? Other candidates:
'yes' all the way**

**County Demos put
every campaign**

Gay vote could swing results

**Report From: INTEGRITY
A. congressional campaign
of Gays
COMMUNITY
SERVICE:**

VOTE JUNE 4th!

... helpful that the recent referendum by the membership of the American...
... on whether or not to remove "homosexuality" from its early...
... place the psychiatric profession in proper perspective...
... of twenty million Americans...
... of the New York...
... then acted...
... and public...
... editorial...
... support le...
... ASSOCIATION...
... east...
... a gay speak...
... local campus...
... M.A.C.H.O. One of the lead...
... SAN FRANCISCO—A sizable pro...
... of California's gay residents...
... presented in the state As...
... by the winner of...
... in San Fran...
... include...
... the more...
... March 29...
... and lob...
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... ay coffee house with...
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H A N D B O O K

For Use In Conjunction With

WORKSHOP

Dealing With Public Officials and

Political Involvement

Presented By

I N T E G R I T Y / H O U S T O N

at the

TEXAS GAY CONFERENCE

Sponsored By

Ft. Worth/Dallas Metroplex Gay Council

June 21 - 23, 1974

Ft. Worth, Texas

Dedicated to the spirit of human equality.

**BECAUSE WE CARE
Integrity/Houston**

An Open Letter to Gay America

The great majority of Americans are going to have to adjust to a combination of culture/future shock over the next few years. Almost every week a new group, organization, institution, civic body or religion publicly changes an attitude held for scores if not hundreds of years about homosexuality. The oppressive and damaging sin-crime-sickness syndrome is noticeably crumbling. But not quietly and with dignity! Much blood, sweat, tears, and toil, on every conceivable side, is going into these changes.

The most difficult part of the liberation job, it seems to us, is not necessarily heterosexual America. Attitudes, with time, will change, if not in the older generation at least in young people, as evidenced in the "Spirit of Boulder" story in this issue, and the younger generations will ultimately be the controlling older generation in a future America. No, the true problem area lies with millions of gay people themselves. So ingrained is our oppression, so permeating of society as a whole are the popular and age-old myths of homosexuality, that far too many gay people continue to shun support of gay causes. We do not speak of "coming out"—although that is of course a long-term goal—but simply support of the gay movement, from the closet if necessary. How many gay women and men do you know that tell you that they can't "relate" to gay liberation, that they "don't feel oppressed," and that it's just "not their cause"?

What's the answer? Each and every gay person who has reached a certain state of awareness has a duty to be an evangelist among friends and acquaintances. Be warned: you court mockery and, in some cases, abandonment. But it's the only thing that will ultimately do the job. Liberation on a one-to-one basis could have a geometrically progressive effect. Call it a face-to-face chain-letter of liberation, or call it anything you want, but do it! It's time.

reproduction of an editorial published in —

It's Time

Monthly Newsletter of the National Gay Task Force

May, 1974

Single Issue Price 25¢
©1974 National Gay Task Force

Volume 1, No. 1

A WORD OF ENCOURAGEMENT TO THE NEWCOMER

To the political ingenue, involvement in a local campaign initially seems like a monumental and bewildering task. And for the Gay, wishing to participate as a Gay, it is a brave giant step out of the security of anonymity. We know. We've been there. Our advice is to relax, take a deep breath, and step right out.

If the campaign believes you can deliver a sizable portion of the Gay vote in a closely contested election, it will treat you like a rare jewel. In a local race, a candidate may spend as much as \$3 for each vote he receives. If you can bring in as many as 1,000 votes, you may be worth more to him than his largest contributor!

Remember this: with very few exceptions, the candidate cannot solicit the Gay vote by himself. Unless he is willing to publicly announce his pro-Gay Rights stance, he is dependent upon you to get the word out. It's still an unfortunate fact that open pro-Gay stands often mean political suicide. A politician's first obligation is to hold office. You are in a position to put him there. He knows it. So do his campaign workers. You are wanted and needed.

The Beginning of an Approach

WHERE DO I FIT INTO THE CAMPAIGN?

At first you may sense a barrier between you and the straight campaign workers. They are operating on stereotypes. Don't let this bother you. It will dissipate. Their stereotype is not that of some hideous humped-back creature; but it may be one right out of The Boys In The Band. As they get to know you, the prejudices will vanish with the realization that you're all in this together, and it's a big job ahead for everyone.

There is a surfeit of menial tasks for the inexperienced volunteer to do: block walking; envelope addressing; telephoning; sign making; mailbox stuffing; etc, etc, etc. You will probably be spared much involvement in this.

Where your talents should be directed is toward projects such as these: voter registration in Gay bars; bumper stickers in Gay establishments, and on vehicles in front of Gay establishments, (not without the consent of the owner of the vehicle, of course); addresses to and endorsements from Gay organizations; publicity in and support from underground Gay publication; leafletting in Gay bars and baths; soliciting the active support of bar owners, bar managers, and bartenders; dispelling false rumors in the Gay community; getting out the Gay vote on election day. Your imagination and ingenuity will guide you down other profitable avenues.

Until you've worked a winning campaign, you can't conceive how valuable an asset you are. INTEGRITY/HOUSTON has worked two campaigns: one candidate won with 50.4% of the vote; the other with 53%. In both cases, the winner sought us out at the victory celebration and said "We couldn't have done it without you."

It feels great! And that's only the first dividend.

TARGETTING

WHO? - WHERE?

1. A lavender district. If your city is blessed with an identifiable Gay community, you've got clout. to an office seeker what food is to a starving person.
2. Offices without incumbents. If through death, resignation, or creation of a new office, there exists an incumbent, you can expect a half-dozen persons votes.

In this case, it often happens that a margin of 2 who gets into a run-off, or wins. Candidates in have very limited resources. You can make your

3. Familiar face, new race. If an incumbent with power is seeking a new office (eg, State Representative Senator), he needs your help. Especially if he is incumbent.
4. Poll the candidates. Letterhead stationery, a professional signature work wonders. A signature is very important. You can't reasonably expect a candidate to respond to you. If you feel that you can't risk using your own name, use an assumed name at the County Clerk's Office for
5. Get advice. Ask for advice from one or more of the following sources: County Democrat Party; County Republican Party; American Civil Liberties Union Chapter; National Organization of Women's Chapter or other group supporting the Equal Rights Amendment; a Gay active in local politics; a pro-Gay office holder, even if across the state; a pro-Gay campaign worker such as Campaign Manager or Precinct
6. Run your own. Encourage someone you know to run

TARGETTING

WHO? - WHERE?

1. A lavender district. If your city is blessed with a section with an identifiable Gay community, you've got clout. Bloc votes are to an office seeker what food is to a starving person.
2. Offices without incumbents. If through death, retirement, resignation, or creation of a new office, there exists a race without an incumbent, you can expect a half-dozen persons to compete for votes.

In this case, it often happens that a margin of 2% or less decides who gets into a run-off, or wins. Candidates in such races often have very limited resources. You can make your presence felt strongly

3. Familiar face, new race. If an incumbent with pro-Gay Rights views is seeking a new office (eg, State Representative running for State Senator), he needs your help. Especially if he is opposing another incumbent.
4. Poll the candidates. Letterhead stationery, a post office box and a signature work wonders. A signature is very important since you can't reasonably expect a candidate to respond to an unsigned letter. If you feel that you can't risk using your own name, you can register an assumed name at the County Clerk's Office for \$3.
5. Get advice. Ask for advice from one or more of the following sources: County Democrat Party; County Republican Party; American Civil Liberties Union Chapter; National Organization of Women's Chapter or other group supporting the Equal Rights Amendment; a Gay active in local politics; a pro-Gay Rights office holder, even if across the state; a pro-Gay Rights campaign worker such as Campaign Manager or Precinct Chairperson.
6. Run your own. Encourage someone you know to run for office.

DO'S AND DON'TS OF LEAFLETTING

1. Do - always ask permission of the bar owner or manager before distributing literature. Give him a sample to examine.
2. Don't - assume the air of a crusader. The bar is doing you a favor, sometimes in violation of the general policy. Be solicitous, even if it gags you.
3. Don't - mail the literature to the bar and expect it to be posted. Do it yourself.
4. Do - abide by the bar's rules for distribution. They may vary greatly from bar to bar.
5. Don't - hassle with an uncooperative owner. It's his business to run the business as he sees fit. Next year he may cooperate.
6. Don't - hassle with customers. You are bound to run into a few argumentative or antagonistic patrons. Don't allow yourself to be drawn into a conflict.
7. Don't - ever place leaflets on the windshields of cars parked outside a bar. Respect the right to privacy of the car's owner.
8. Do - post leaflets in a lighted area. Restroom mirrors are a good place.
9. Do - include your organization's name and mailing address on the leaflet. This will lend credibility and dispell the notion that it is ad hoc propaganda.
10. Do - have a short eye-catching headline on the top of the leaflet. "URGENT" or "HELP" is good.
11. Do - keep it short. Be succinct. Avoid rambling discourses.
12. Do - time your leafletting so that the opposition can't mount a backlash. Thursday night for a Saturday election, Friday night for a Tuesday election.

13. Don't - distribute leaflets en masse. More than three people may resemble a squad of storm troopers.
14. Don't - distribute literature which has not been approved by the candidate's campaign staff.
15. Do - explore the possibility of having the candidate's campaign do the printing. If they can't do it free, they can probably get you reduced prices.
16. Do - make the leaflet small enough to be easily folded and placed in a pocket. The morning after may be the best time for it to be read.
17. Don't - limit your efforts to your select group of favorite bars. Word of mouth is very important so you want wide exposure.
18. Don't - compromise your candidate's sterling character by leafletting in hotbeds of crime. Avoid the opium dens and public passion pits.
19. Do - produce the neatest leaflet you can. Prefer offset printing to mimeograph. Use press-on letters for bold-faced effect. The extra cost and effort are worth it.
20. Do - start early. Try to catch the happy hour crowd.
21. Don't leave a big stack of leaflets in one location. It only takes one person to remove them all. Employ several smaller piles.
22. Do - avoid the temptation to personally confront the opposition. At campaign's end, tensions are high and tempers short.
23. Do - present the leaflet as the product of your organization rather than the candidate's campaign. This will sidestep the charge of partisan politics.
24. Do - be prepared to respond quickly to an opponent's last-minute smear attempt. An opponent's anti-Gay remark can become a forceful tool in generating a Gay backlash.
25. Do - be truthful at all costs. Avoid exaggeration. An issue as incendiary as Gay Rights hardly needs it anyway.



INTEGRITY/Houston

3512 Travis

528-0423

P. O. Box 16041
Houston, Texas 77022

May 7, 1973

Dear Legislator:

The enclosed questionnaire is intended to explore your attitude toward the right of privacy and freedom of conscience for adults. We write in the belief that human law is meant to protect life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness--that it is not the property or the benefactor of the rich, the few or an instrument for the religious or moral convictions of one segment of society as against those of another. We hold that, while actions involving injury to person or property must be regulated for the protection of all, morality is a private matter and not the legitimate province of the State.

Nine States: Illinois, Colorado, Oregon, Connecticut, Florida, Hawaii, District of Columbia, Delaware and Ohio have officially recognized this principle and have abandoned the illegitimate, pointless and profitless regulation of private sexual behavior among consenting adults, and as a result, their crime rate is lower, not higher. Such laws against victimless acts are, at best, unenforceable and, at worst, subject to the most arbitrary application. They undermine respect for the law in general because they make felons or miscreants of people whose only offense is their participation of alternative in their enjoyment of conjugal relations or a harmless difference in their choice of partners.

The overwhelming majority of citizens affected by these laws are in all respects responsible and productive members of their community. Those who pursue a different life-style often do so more because of the persecutory laws and social prejudices than because they are inherently promiscuous or "degenerate." The argument that these laws protect society is baseless. How can an act performed in private by consenting adults harm society?

The current law makes oral or anal intercourse a felony whether performed by persons of the same or different sexes, whether the couple is married or not. Clearly absurd. The proposed revision makes homosexual conduct a Class C misdemeanor punishable by fine of \$200.00. It is less severe, but no less absurd. It still turns the State into a peeping Tom, exhibiting a perverse prurient interest in the private conduct of its citizens. It reflects a self-righteous moral bigotry unworthy of the respect for person required of a free society.

We urge you to vote for deletion of the section on homosexual activity in the revised penal code and to vote for repeal of the current sodomy statute. We are not asking for a favor or a privilege; we are asking for our civil rights and we are prepared to pursue the same course as other minorities to obtain them should it become necessary.

May we ask your assistance in completing the attached brief questionnaire, which information and compilation will be held in strict confidence and will be disseminated only in working with other State Legislators to achieve our ends. No public statement will be made regarding the specific replies from individual legislators. For your convenience, we have enclosed a stamped, addressed envelope for your reply.

Thank you for your cooperation.



Viewpoints

This is a situation which goes far beyond the issue of homosexual rights. It should be the concern of every thinking citizen in this state. For these men to totally and contemptuously ignore our legitimate questions is a situation beyond belief. It is their right and duty to vote

The enclosed questionnaire is intended to explore your attitude toward the right of privacy and freedom of conscience for adults. We write in the belief that human law is meant to protect life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness--that it is not the property or the benefactor of the rich, the few or an instrument for the religious or moral convictions of one segment of society as against those of another. We hold that, while actions involving injury to person or property must be regulated for the protection of all, morality is a private matter and not the legitimate province of the State.

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Thank you for your cooperation.

Monday, June 18, 1973

HOUSTON CHRONICLE

★★

Section 1, Page 11 INTEGRITY/HOUSTON



Most Legislators Didn't Answer

From R. Francis Thompson, 3957 Kirby Dr.

Results of a survey conducted by Integrity/Houston, in which the legislators of the State of Texas were asked their opinion on civil rights in general and homosexual rights in particular, pointed out the attitude of our representatives far beyond the questions asked. These people, elected by the voters of the State of Texas, did not even bother, for the most part, to answer the questionnaire. Indeed, the vast majority didn't bother to return it, even though a stamped, return envelope was enclosed.

This is a situation which goes far beyond the issue of homosexual rights. It should be the concern of every thinking citizen in this state. For these men to totally and contemptuously ignore our legitimate questions is a situation beyond belief. It is their right and duty to vote in the legislature as their conscience directs, if they have one, which at this point I believe we have good reason to question. It was also their right to answer the questionnaire either in the affirmative or the negative.

But to not answer at all or to totally ignore it was a gross breach of the trust the people have placed in them.

THE RIGHT TO PRIVACY

QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Do you consider regulation of consensual sexual behavior among adults in private a violation of the 9th Amendment of the U. S. Constitution and civil rights practices?
 Yes ⁸ 62% No ⁵ 38% Comment _____
2. Do you favor repeal of Texas sodomy law (Article 524, TPC) as they apply to consenting adults acting in private?
 Yes ⁹ 69% No ⁴ 31% Comment _____
3. Do you favor deletion from the proposed Penal Code revision of Section 21.06 relating to homosexual conduct?
 Yes ⁹ 69% No ⁴ 31% Comment _____
4. Do you favor the imposition of religious beliefs or moral convictions on one group by another?
 Yes ² 15% No ¹¹ 85% Comment _____
5. Do you favor laws guaranteeing the right of employment for everyone, regardless of private sexual orientation? Would you be willing to support passage of a bill that would end discrimination in housing and employment because of a person's sexual orientation?
 Yes ⁷ 52% No ⁴ 31% Comment "Very important." "???" "No, No." "Further study needed"
6. Do you believe that the present or proposed laws governing sexual behavior among consenting adults in private are enforceable?
 Yes ⁴ 31% No ⁹ 69% Comment "On a selective basis."
7. Do you favor the abolishment of current laws regarding victimless crimes?
 Yes ⁹ 69% No ⁴ 31% Comment "Abolish laws relating to drugs, prostitution, gambling, homosexuality, etc."
8. Do you believe a law against homosexuality will:
- (a) Reduce crime? Yes ³ 23% No ⁹ 69% Comment _____
 - (b) Save the State of Texas money? Yes ³ 23% No ⁹ 69% Comment _____
 - (c) Serve any useful purpose? Yes ⁵ 38% No ⁸ 62% Comment see below

Comments on C: "Restore the rights to the individual"
 "Absolutely not."
 "No means official sanction."

The Advocate - Issue 116

Texas law reform signed

AUSTIN, Tex.—Gov. Dolph Briscoe signed into law June 14 a new criminal code which replaces the state's old sodomy law with a much milder "homosexual conduct" offense.

The new code takes effect next Jan. 1.

Instead of a maximum of 15 years in prison under the old law for homosexual acts, the new code...

183 mailed

15 returned

-10-

-11-

adults acting in private?

9 4
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7 4
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4 9
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The new code takes effect next Jan. 1.

Instead of a maximum of 15 years in prison under the old law for homosexual acts, the new code sets a maximum penalty of a \$200 fine for homosexual conduct *per se*, and up to one year in jail and/or a \$2000 fine for "public lewdness."

Private heterosexual activities of a "deviate" nature are not penalized under the new code.

Briscoe also signed, on June 16, a measure providing full majority rights for 18-year-olds, but specifying that only those of opposite sex are eligible for a marriage license—an obvious reaction to gay marriage agitation around the nation. This legislation also becomes effective Jan. 1.

183 mailed
Only 8.19%
replied!

15 returned
2 blank
13 completed

URGENT!

Integrity/Houston, a homophile organization, invited the three leading Mayoral candidates to separately address the group on any topic that any candidate felt was relevant. The responses were, as follows:

BUD HADFIELD: No response whatsoever.

DICK GOTTLIEB: An aide telephoned to say that they did not feel qualified to speak on that topic.

FRED HOFHEINZ: PERSONALLY APPEARED before Integrity for an hour and twenty minutes and ENDORSED GAY RIGHTS. Fred pledged equal opportunity in hiring and promotions under Civil Service and an end to police harrassment of Gays. He is receptive to establishing a liaison between the police and the gay community in order to eliminate some of the harmful misconceptions which now exist. He believes the Police Academy should include instruction on improving community relations with minority groups, including Gays, in addition to a continuing program of sensitivity training.

There is only one candidate in the runoff who believes that the status quo for Houston's Gays requires improvement. Think about that seriously before you vote on December 4, because it will profit you little to do so afterwards if your personal rights are violated.

VOTING FOR THE CANDIDATE OF YOUR CHOICE IS YOUR RIGHT -

VOTING IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY!

IF YOU ARE NOT PART OF THE SOLUTION, THEN YOU ARE PART OF THE
PROBLEM!

PLEASE PASS THIS ON TO A GAY BROTHER OR SISTER

Inquiry:
Integrity/Houston
P. O. Box 16041
Houston, Texas 77022

Meetings:
Each Sunday at 12 noon
3512 Travis - Houston

COPY



I/H

Leaflet

used

in

the

Mayors

Race

urgent!

On April 29, the Assad campaign distributed different versions of a political "newspaper" in the Heights and Montrose areas. The Heights version attacked RON WATERS for his support of Gay Rights, leaving the clear impression that Gays do not deserve representation with "decent folks." The Montrose version carefully avoided any mention of the issue.

In view of the Corll impact on the Heights, this constitutes inflammatory pandering at its worst. The fact that Mr. Assad withholds his views from the Montrose community is shameful duplicity.

An excerpt from the Assad propaganda is reproduced below.

Mr. Assad poses the question: "Does this (Ron Waters) represent you?" Our reply is an emphatic YES.

Mr. Assad clearly cannot.

Do You Support the Homosexual Cause?

Waters said, "If I'm elected, I'll represent ALL the people."

Waters also said, "There are lots of gays who are conservative, who voted for me, who worked for me. Because I'm committed to the gay cause, I can be open and public about it—to say in an official capacity that there's nothing wrong with gay love. To admit that I have gay friends, gay people on my staff, and to introduce them as such, should have a radicalizing influence."

DOES THIS REPRESENT YOU?

The above quote was made by Ron Waters and was published in the Texas Monthly, April, 1973, Volume 1, Issue 3.

PLEASE TELL A FRIEND!

Inquiries:

INTEGRITY / HOUSTON

P. O. Box 16041
Houston, Texas 77022

Copy



I/H

Leaflet

used

in

Dist.

79

State

Rep.

Race

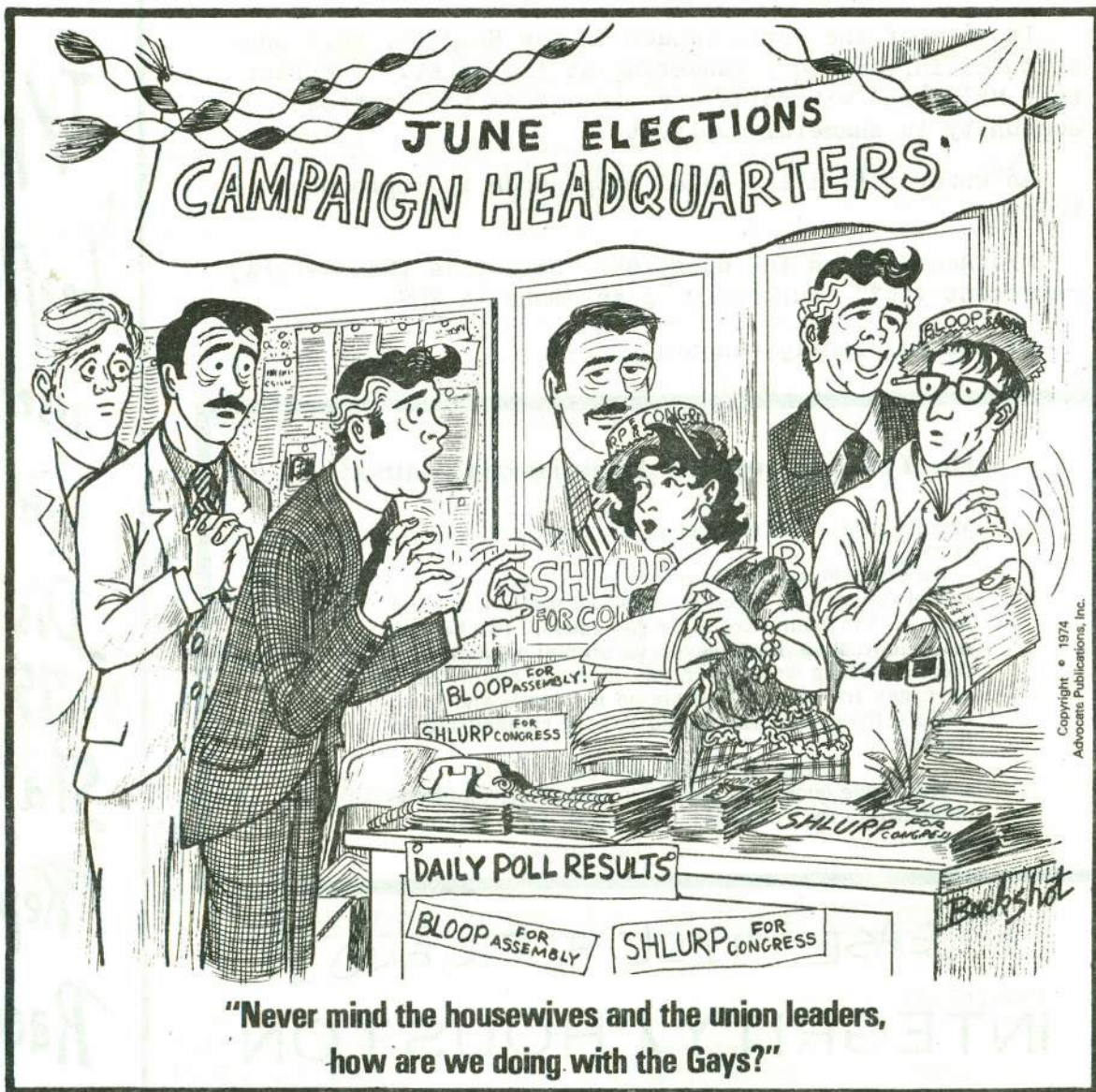


ADVOCATE

Editorials

Issue 139

June 5, 1974



PUBLIC OFFICIALS

How public are officials? Very, or they should be! One very important consideration to remember is that public officials are in their positions as a matter of choice. They are there to serve the public, not the other way around.

Even the most hostile public figure will respond if the approach is civil and your conduct is above question. Should this not be the case and he insists on rejecting your requests, continue to extend to him the common courtesies as you would anyone and leave the bad conduct to him. Once he discovers you behave in a well-bred manner and he has lost his cool, this may infuriate him all the more and the disgrace will be his in the eyes of his fellows. His bad behavior can only reflect on him. The idea is to be polite, but firm and determined.

If the official holds an elected office, you will not have to remind him of possible alternatives--they are very aware of the polls.

You are a productive, valued citizen of the community with a legitimate grievance worthy of attention and respect--settle for no less. Explore every avenue such as chain of command. Someone always holds a higher office.

Think out every possible alternative before you embark on your project; avoid rash judgments and anger should the meeting not go as planned. Keep your cool, be patient, logical and to the point and, most of all, be thankful should you succeed. Never fail to express your gratitude on the spot and follow it up with a letter expressing your gratitude. It isn't always easy for them any more than it is for us. Make them happy to help, because you are so deserving--which you are.

There are thousands upon thousands of Brothers and Sisters over the world standing behind you--you are not alone.

Good luck!

A C K N O W L E D G E M E N T S

Integrity/Houston gratefully acknowledges the generosity of the following establishment and individuals who, by their contributions, made this booklet possible:

A Friend

A Friend

Mid-Town Office Supply Company,
5122 Richmond Ave., Houston

Mr. Jerry Robbins

Mr. Scott Tillinghast

Integrity/Houston is deeply grateful to the many persons who have enabled us to continue to be of service since our founding two and a half years ago. We are looking forward to the next two and a half years with enthusiasm and devotion--

BECAUSE WE CARE.

June 16, 1974

Houston, Texas

Political promises, promises

Vote for five-month incumbent

SAN FRANCISCO—There is both race and a special election for the San Francisco-Marine...

Gays can't lose in Demo attorney race

San Francisco Mayor and Republican Thomas Cav...

We've come of age at the polls

Will she be first upfront lesbian law...
Gays—not even considering the range of interest that gay people have in every aspect of social conduct...

Because this year polls are increasingly coming to the gay community, hat in hand, asking...

Elect

lesbian law

VOTE JUNE 4 On the national ballot

ong and Sillas compete for gay endorsement

Only two of the 14 certified candidates for secretary of state returned questionnaires to the ADVOCATE, March Fong, Walter Karabian, and Cathy O'Neill...

Gay vote crucial in assembly

County Demos put...
SAN FRANCISCO—A sizable proportion of California's gay residents presented in the state Assembly by the winner of the San Francisco local campus... M.A.C.H.O. One of the leaders...

Report From: INT...
bias against Gays has against women for the constitution Colorado there. There were gay...
COMMUNITY SERVICE: INTEGRITY / HO...