

HQ
75
543
SLIP

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
JAN 20 1992

SGN Seattle GAY NEWS Weekly

Weekly • Vol. 20, No. 4 • Friday, January 24, 1992 • 25¢ • 50¢ outside Seattle

Sandra Bernhard	She blows her top in San Francisco paper	pg. 11
Self-censorship	Learning to express what was suppressed	pg. 13
Ellen de Generes	Another funny gal has a serious talk	pg. 21
Telly Belly	Quantum Leap's Gay episode airs at last	pg. 25

The March on Washington that dare not speak it's name

by Tom Flint

The headline above is courtesy of Miriam Ben-Shalom, and succinctly sums up the enormous debate for a name for the National March on Washington.

The MOW planning meeting was held in Los Angeles the weekend of January 18-19. About 75 delegates from the various regions of the country decided on an official name and elected a steering committee.

Reminiscent of Seattle's own long Pride march moniker, the new name is the "1993 March on Washington for Lesbian/Gay/Bi Equal Rights and Liberation." The activists spent hours in contentious deliberations trying to settle upon a name. The main point of debate was over the question of whether to include the word "Bisexual" in the title.

Bisexuals came to the meeting very organized to advocate for the name change. They had received dozens of endorsements from major national leaders and organizations in support.

The delegates at the Los Angeles meeting were deeply divided over the issue. One reason for opposition to the change of the march name was that it would change the identity of the movement and the delegates weren't sure they had the right to do that.

Several people were opposed to the word "sexual," saying that it defined people too narrowly by their sexuality.

Others voiced objections saying the inclusion of "Bisexual" would be divisive and alienate Lesbians and Gays from Midwestern and Southern regions. Still others felt that for the sake of continuity with the 1987 March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, and to simplify publicity sound bites, the name should stay the same.

The Bisexual contingent fought aggressively for their position. Rebecca Hensler, a self-described "Bisexual dyke" from San Francisco, was a leading proponent of the name change. "In 1987 I marched in Washington. I engaged in civil disobedience at the Supreme Court," she said. "We're not talking about including Gay people here. This is not a question of whether Lesbians and Gays are going to accept Bisexuals into their movement! We are in the movement. This room is not full of just Lesbians and Gays."

Brenda Howard, a Bisexual New York activist, said, "We've heard all your argu-

National delegates clash over name, purpose, and structure



Gwen Hall and Perry Watkins from the North West Region in Los Angeles.



Scout (l.) and Chicago Caucus members compare notes.

Photos by Cookie Andrews-Hunt

ments before. I wasn't always Bisexual. I used to be a Lesbian. I remember when it was not the Lesbian and Gay movement. It was the Gay movement and we fought to add the word Lesbian. 'It will make the name too long. It will be divisive. It will confuse people. And besides the word Gay includes Lesbians,'" she said.

Several Seattle groups sent endorsements for the inclusion of Bisexuals in the title, including Lambert House, Queer Nation, Seattle Bisexual Men's Union, Lesbian Mothers National Defense Fund, People of Color Against AIDS Network, American Friends Service Committee, Beyond the Closet Bookstore, University of Washington Lesbian and Gay Commission, Seattle Municipal Elections Committee, Puget Sound Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Veterans of America, and Seattle Bisexual Women's Network.

To make all this debate even more interesting, the Seattle delegation led a discussion on the inclusion of transsexuals and transgender people in the title. Seattle has a large transgender community largely due to the presence of the Ingersol Institute. Two Seattle transgender activists were present at the Los Angeles meeting, Princess LaRouge and Kaz.

Seattle delegates felt if the name was going to be changed on the principle of 'inclusion,' transgender people should then be named as well.

Several people were opposed to the name including transgender on the grounds that it would play into the hands of opponents of the Gay and Lesbian community.

Several other discussions went on simultaneously. Queer Nationalists threw out the idea of a March on Washington for Queer Liberation. Most of the delegates recognized that "queer" was a word that many Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals, and transgendered people are not able to identify with.

Others tried to reach compromise names. One suggestion was "the Love March." A humorous suggestion from one Lesbian activist was, "Dyke Sluts from Hell March on Washington. Fags Can Come Too. Fuck Me Silly in the Nation's Capitol."

SEE **March** ON PAGE 10

ACT UP disrupts Goodloe meeting, meets with force

by Tom Flint

ACT UP Seattle Youth Caucus confronted former Washington State Supreme Court Justice William Goodloe at a meeting on January 17 at the Mountaineers Club.

Goodloe called the meeting in an attempt to organize a campaign to bar condom distribution to teenagers in high schools, and prohibit safer sex education in the schools. He has also called for a recall of Seattle School Board members who voted for the condom distribution.

Goodloe has an extensive record of reactionary politics. He was involved in

the failed campaign to repeal domestic partnership legislation in Seattle in 1990. He also has connections with the Unification Church of Sun Myung Moon, which is anti-Gay, among other things.

About 50 supporters of Goodloe attended the meeting, and about 50 ACT UP youth and supporters also arrived. Three ACT UP youth were arrested during the meeting: Joyce Stuart, Angela Sigal, and Wendy Reiman.

Eyewitnesses, many of whom are not members of ACT UP, told the SGN that police used excessive force during the arrests. Wendy Reiman was slapped

across the face by one officer who knocked a whistle out of her mouth, busting her lip in the process and causing it to bleed.

One witness, who asked not to be identified, said the police twisted the young women's arms as they screamed, "You're hurting me." The witness said a police officer pushed one woman's face into a police car.

The women were charged with multiple charges ranging from trespassing, resisting arrest, assaulting a police officer.

SEE **Goodloe meeting** ON PAGE 9



Photo by Tom Flint

Luke Montgomery