PUBLIC FORUM MAKES ITS DEBUT

Welcome to the ARC March Forum on Homosexuality. You are witnessing the first major event of ARC's Community Education Program... an attempt to openly and accurately confront you with the subject of homosexuality.

Many of you have already received written information on the subject in a special 4-part series of mailings to a cross-section of the community. More forums are planned; more mailings are due.

Rick Stokes, chairman of the Association for Responsible Citizenship, began the special educational program to, as he says, "create a dialogue between the homosexual and heterosexual." It is our hope that you will respond. We're ready!

THE FIGURE BEHIND THE FORUM

ARC's March Forum didn't just happen. The splendid list of speakers were selected after many weeks of hard work, by ARC Chairman Rick Stokes. Back when the forum was only a suggestion for the ARC Community Education Program, it was Rick who picked up on it and gave it the impetus it needed. Where to hold it... what local authorities can comprise a panel... meetings and more meetings... a few setbacks... how to finance it... draw up a program... mail invitations... spread the word, and visit opinion leaders personally. Rick did all of this. And like the go-getter he is, once more his enthusiasm and energy brought to ARC members a reminder that he is the success story behind their organization.

Rick could easily devote his life to the growing homophile movement. His devotion pushes him to campaign almost every moment he is able, whether it be on a person-to-person basis or to a gathering. When an answer is needed, Rick responds like a champ. When a personal problem needs attention, Rick approaches it with genuine interest and concern. No

Journal Views

Glide Methodist

The March 13th issue of the Wall Street Journal carried a lengthy article describing the ministry of San Francisco's Glide Memorial Methodist Church.

What makes the church a subject for controversy is its extreme leaning to a secular profile in ministry. This movement away from strict religious codes has brought Glide into the role of 'big brother' in its dealings with social 'mis-fits'. As the Journal's staff reporter Howard Merry points out:

Finally, its pink Spanish-style building is strategically situated at the edge of San Francisco's Tenderloin district, a neighborhood notorious for prostitution, drunkenness, drug addiction, and violent misbehavior. The Tenderloin's 20-odd blocks, glutted with dowdy hotels and apartments, musty stores, "gay" bars, sailors' hangouts and cheap diners, offer an ample supply of human misery for Glide to deal with.

The Council on Reli-
Journal Views
Glode Methodist

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region and the homosexual is a product of Glide Methodist Church, and has proved its ability to bring the church into the spectrum of the homosexuals' needs and wants.

Glide's ministers are especially concerned about homosexuality. It is widespread in San Francisco. Police estimate that 100,000 persons are homosexuals. Glide permitted the Vangaurd, a group of young Negro homosexuals to meet in the church. Glide has also made other offers to the Vangaurd, but they have been rejected.

"We were the only ones who would respond to the needs of these people," says Mrs. Williams. "If you make yourself available to people, there's got to be a complete commitment. A commitment just to help those it's easy to help is hypocritical."

Most any Sunday service at Glide is held before a full house. Although many family members have long ceased to support the church for its 'omnotherosexual principles', it remains the people's church and caters mainly to esoteric individuals and outsiders visiting San Francisco.

Not everyone connected with Glide has been happy with the direction the church has taken. Mr. Williams figures that between 50% and 60% of the members it had three years ago, when it started its programs, have deserted. A former parishioner complains, "It has gotten into things the church has no business being involved with; it negates the religious experience you expect from your church."

On the other hand, a need for further emphasis on the Church's present direction is expressed...

The case of police brutality in Los Angeles and the court sessions which followed brought attention to Penal Code 647a.

Most of the defendants were charged under Penal Code 647(a) prohibiting lewd conduct. Some defendants were allegedly observed kissing one another at the stroke of midnight on New Year's Eve. Those arrested were naturally panicky and anxious to obtain an attorney. Rather than calling the National League for Social Justice (a Los Angeles homosexual organization) or one of the other responsible organizations in the area, an obscure tavern owner was consulted, resulting in the hiring of one Roy Smith, who proved to be very inadequate. The strong recommendations made by the ACLU to the victims resulted in the hiring of Herbert Selwyn, who is well known in California for his excellent legal work.

Mr. Smith unfortunately did not see six of the cases, which Mr. Selwyn is now appealing to the higher courts. It may well be that two males kissing on the side of the street in public will be declared NOT a lewd act. If the appeal is successful, it may force California's legislature to rewrite section 647a-7 over again to make it more exact and concise as to what a lewd act in contemporary society might be.

-NISU Newsletter

American Civil Liberties Union

A special thank you to all who donated towards the forum

Will Community Center in Yolo be the Only Answer for ARC?

Several months ago ARC'ers became very enthusiastic over the idea of having a Community Center in one of which activities might be held. The church doesn't now new, the near 'sister' organization. She has 814 members, holds nightly events in their downtown San Francisco community center. And, if SIR's success is due to the fact that the center is in a home.

It was decided to call off plans for an ARC community center, and to present Chief Rooney, unfamiliar with the homosexual causes, said emphatically, "we'll take all of you to jail should we find the slightest violation." An ARC center within the city limits would mean an attack on the harassmess from police, thereby insuring the failure of such a venture. Rooney, who feels that trouble emerges whenever the police intervene at a bar, does not wish to give an official sanction to the officers. If homosexuality is against the law.

ARC has since come to the conclusion that it may be necessary for us to accept defeat and join forces with the existing police situation existing in nearby Yolo County. It is the only way that we can go on to our own. ARC remains impatiently taught in a decision.

By Ministers

Three prominent Sacramento ministers paid a visit to Police Chief Joseph Rooney in behalf of ARC. Their visit was primarily to extend a personal invitation to ARC March Forum on Homosexuality. The cordial reception met with a successful result when Rooney, unable to accept due to a previous commitment, re-designated one of his staff to stand in his behalf.
RELIGION: An Unused Efficacy

At a recent meeting of some concerned Sacramento ministers, the following questions were raised:

1. What does the homosexual community expect the clergy to do?
2. If a minister goes out on a limb with his congregation to support the homosexual movement, who will be behind him?... the same few who have been back and the entire program... or is the homosexual community ready to back people who are standing up for them?

The following indicates the degree of involvement of the homosexual community

ARC used the Oak Park Methodist Church facilities for a year. The minister in that congregation took a great deal of heat for the use of the building by ARC. In that year, not one additional homosexual came to a church service or any other church function. Is the homosexual so totally devoid of responsibility, and is he so self-centered that he sees no world but his own with himself and sex in that world?... His decision must have been affected by the seeming orthodoxy on the part of the homosexual. Some of the members of the church have attended ARC meetings (when invited) and otherwise endorsed the program. The church has been influenced by lack of interest of the homosexual. Four or five homosexuals attending this church even infrequently have been enough to bring some of the congregation out in half.

A continued dialogue between clergy and homosexual is sorely needed if the clergy is to know enough about homosexuals and their differences to be understanding and able to take a decisive role in changing community attitudes.

The excuses for not getting involved flow readily: "I have a sensitive job." (Do you really think that there is anyone who has a job and is not sensitive at this point, at least in his own eyes?)... "I wouldn't dare go to an ARC meeting; it's not safe." (Are there still people who have not experienced trouble, and don't expect any?)... Your job is such that you can take no active role, that is easily understood... but your unwillingness to contribute from your beer fund or clothes fund can only be attributed to selfishness and an unwillingness to extend a helping hand even to those who labor in your behalf.

One of Sacramento's former beer guzzlers is now Guy Straight's little pet copy 'boy. He tells us that Straits upcoming "Maverick" won't be out for several years. Seen, or rather heard at the Topper... Makes practicing bird calls from an instruction manual left behind by a sailor. Anyone for lessons?

Well it's an open secret--this area will have its second liquor spot if all goes well. The biggest social event in some time was down in Berkeley on the 25th with Mel Hosstoning. Jacqueline's to enlarge its facilities in another month to an adjoining building.

Special to Carolyn: Forget the mail-run and take an express to San Francisco. We gave you up looking for the action ages ago, mainly 'cause their ain't none. How sum department--The most obvious queen in town (of which there are dozens) always pulls the same tired routine off. "Oh, dear, it simply couldn't jeopardize my life to join ARC!!" It never fails.

CBS Reports, in its March 7th study on homosexuality, gave to the American television audience a well-rounded reel of realism which may be the biggest social event in some time. The biggest social event in some time was down in Berkeley on the 25th with Mel Hosstoning. Jacqueline's to enlarge its facilities in another month to an adjoining building. The biggest social event in some time was down in Berkeley on the 25th with Mel Hosstoning. Jacqueline's to enlarge its facilities in another month to an adjoining building.

One important factor was brought to the surface: Opuson Research concluded that the general public carries a high social view of homosexuality, at a level slightly higher than one held by an individual from W. Virginia interviewed during a protest demonstration by Mattachine Society of Washington, D.C. He felt that homosexuals "should be locked up." Should this be an accurate sampling of the public's opinion, it may well be that the program could have been somewhat sympathetic to the homosexual. As such, it may be fair to surmise that had it meant any more out of line with public attitudes, it may never have been given clearance for airing.

The program served its purpose by getting the issue on the table for examination. It did not provide the viewer with sufficient information to make the viewer think about the homosexual's existence and existing attitudes, but it did provide the viewer with sufficient information to make the viewer think about the homosexual's existence and existing attitudes.

Whether or not the general public, or for that matter the homosexual can swallow such a large and concentrated dose of film, remains as a challenge and goal.
EPITAPH FOR A QUEEN

Here lies Mary Beth Grace; May she roast in that hot place; Her contributions to life were few; In the local bar, she found her pew.

As, yes, we knew her very well, With her cutting tongue and shallow mind. Each day to some poor listener would she In great detail of last night’s find.

Poor Mary, she’s gone and no one mourned; She might as well have not been born; For all the effect she made on the world Was that of flag meeting moth still unfolded.

But Mary had a sensitive job. Not one of the rank and file mob Was she; No, Mary was a real queen or so she said. And it’s true she was well fed.

Though not very well read. Play? Oh, like the movies, but just here for a day. I don’t think so, she would say. Books? Sure, Tomorrow’s Man and all those good looks.

Twas always fate that gave her a raw deal. She stuck to that story till the bell’s last peal; Twas never any failure of her own, no doubt. Of her; not lust, not gluttony, not fault, not greed.

If you don’t want to end up like Mary, reach out to the people who tarry there in life as you pass by. Be a person to another on some level other than sex. Don’t say your life is full of closed doors... for if it is, you closed them and you can open them. Just for one week, take the “I” out of your talk and replace it with “you.” Worry about someone else and see how quickly others will look out for you. No matter what your problem, there is always someone who will find it less than his; “...I want because I had no shoes, until I met the man who had no feet.”

This very minute is YOUR life passing by; don’t wait for a rerun; there isn’t any, not even an encore.

SIR

The Society for Individual Rights, otherwise known as SIR, is San Francisco’s big homophile organization. In fact, by membership alone SIR will become the largest club in the country with over 600 members. Less than three years old, SIR possesses all the requirements necessary for a dynamic and positive future, and has demonstrated its abilities to grow and to stay.

But SIR isn’t simply an organization... it’s a body. The moment one enters the SIR Community Center, the lifeblood of this body is apparent with all the hustle of people engaged in various duties and responsibilities. The Center, now a year old, covers all 8,500 sq. ft. It can accommodate up to 500 people.

Within the center are business offices, a library, a lounge-Tea area, an auditorium and ballroom with stage, a kitchen, and a conference room. The thousands of persons have witnessed the many plays and events held here which includes the yearly Sirlebrity Capades.

SIR members can take their pick of activities which range from skiing to square dancing. On the serious side, a community services board provides referrals for employment, housing, legal counsel, and other needs. SIR co-operates and encourages participation with the People’s Alert (manuscript complaints of unjust police actions), the ACLU, and Tavern Guild, and it publishes a monthly magazine known simply as Vector, which in itself is a journey’s masterpiece. The first issue of Vector appeared in December of 1964 as a 4-page sheet. The most recent issues cover pages of interesting news, and tasteful advertising.

SIR is proving its effectiveness with the homophile cause, and has brought into existence a unique relationship with the Police Community Relations Unit where Officer Elliot Blackstone is their primary liaison. Recently elected as SIR President is Dorr Jones, who succeeded William Beardolph, now heading Vector.

And so goes SIR, continuing in a moving course to greater things. Truly a workable and democratic body of which recognition and praise.

You’re Invited to the “Be-in”

ARC holds its regular open monthly business meetings every second Tuesday of the month. The April get-together falls on the 11th, and will be held at Barry’s house.

NEWS CHANGE

This issue of ARC News is not the usual 5 column width. It is also made to exact scale instead of being reduced down from the standard 1x1x4 size.

This issue of ARC News was made to accommodate an unforeseen shortage of publication time. You may therefore, find a larger than usual type-face and wider columns with, unfortunately, less line-age. The next issue is to be produced exactly the same, as the regional conference will cut into prime publication time.

WATER COOLER FOR SALE

A good chance and time to buy that water cooler you need. It’s in good condition and was demonstrated to you by one of our members. It’s yours for only $85.00
THE SACRAMENTO COUNTY HEALTH CLINIC IS TRAINED TO OFFER PROFESSIONAL AND COMPLETE TREATMENT OF V.D. IN THE STRICTEST OF CONFIDENCE