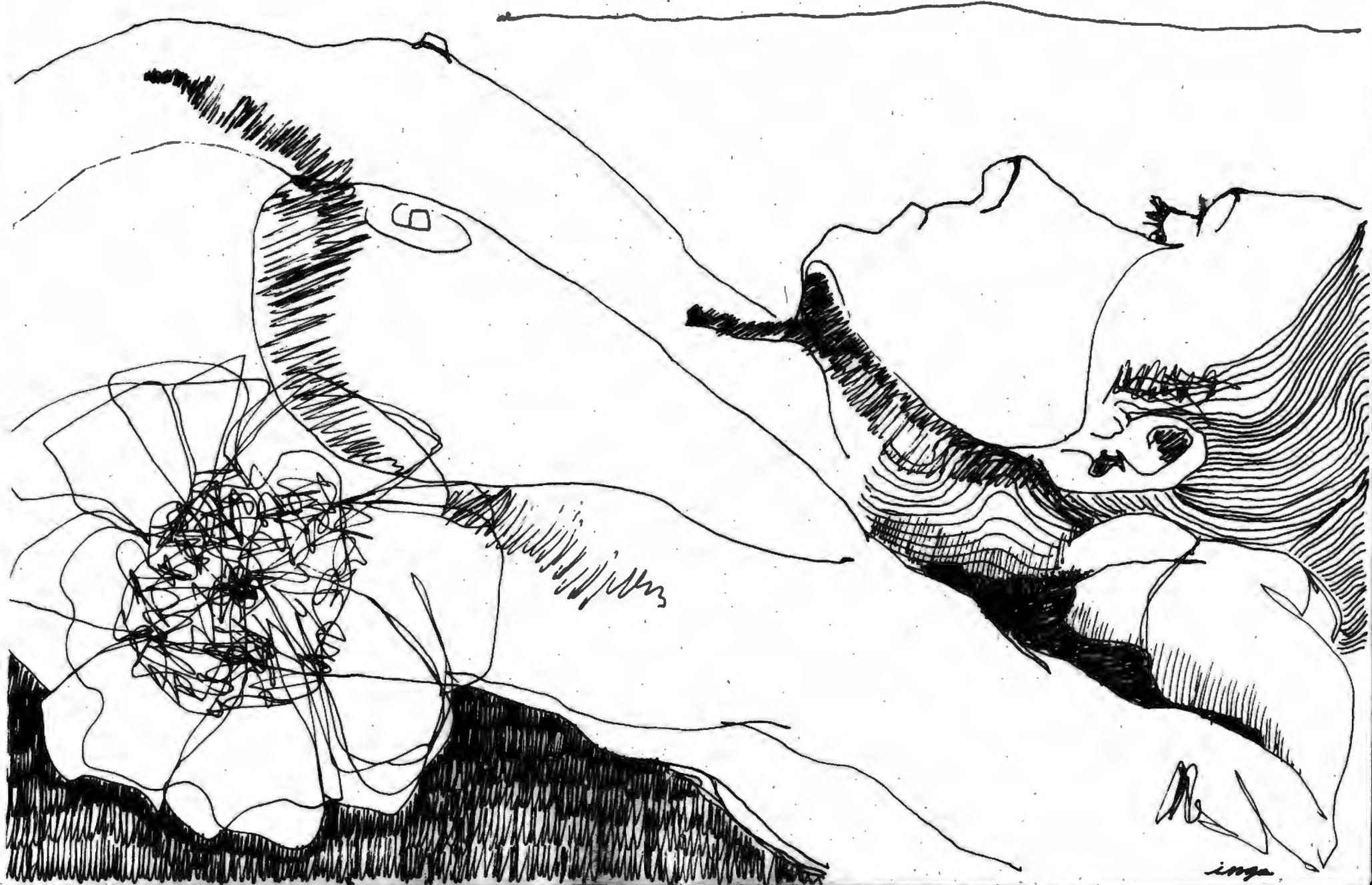


# SISTERS

MAY 1971

\$ .50



STATEMENT OF PURPOSE FOR  
THE SAN FRANCISCO CHAPTER OF THE  
DAUGHTERS OF BILITIS

a woman's organization for the purposes of aiding the lesbian to discover her place in society and of educating society to understand and accept her, without prejudice, and

1. To encourage and support the lesbian in her search for her social, economic, personal, inter-personal and vocational identity within society by maintaining a growing library on the themes of homosexuality and of women in general; by providing social functions where she can communicate with others and expand her social world outside the bar scene; by providing an organized structure through which she can work to change society's limitations upon her life-style; by providing a forum for the interchange of ideas and problems within her own group.

2. To educate the public to accept and understand the lesbian as an individual, eventually leading to the breakdown of taboos, prejudices and limitations upon her life-style by sponsoring public discussions; by providing individuals as speakers and participants in various forums designed to educate the public; by dissemination of educational and rational literature on the lesbian.

3. To encourage and support and participate in responsible research dealing with homosexuality.

4. To investigate the penal code as it pertains to the homosexual and to promote changes, providing equitable handling of cases involving homosexuals, through due process of law, without prejudice.

S I S T E R S

a magazine for all gay  
women by the  
San Francisco Chapter of  
The Daughters of Bilitis

Vol. 2 - 5

MAY 1971

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SISTERS is a monthly magazine for all gay women. Any and all contributions of whatever form are welcome. The editor is in her office five mornings a week for your contributions, or criticisms.

We began our discussion of the problems of aging women and particularly of aging Lesbians in the April issue of SISTERS. We suggested that the age of "aging", for the purposes of this discussion, be considered generally to be those years when a woman is in or through the menopause cycle, and on up into the most advanced years. That the Lesbian of any age has problems different from her heterosexual sister was discussed briefly and now, in this issue, we will discuss in more detail some of the significantly different problems aging Lesbians encounter.

Man, the species of, is generally conceded to be the most highly "developed" in the animal kingdom, at least as far as we know--though his violence and unprovoked cruelty to his own kind in unparalled in any lower animal. Man is by his very nature gregarious. His instinct is to live in groups, not alone. Most men feel better and function most efficiently in groups because they feel safer and more powerful. The hermit or "loner" is the unusual personality.

The male of the species has learned through evolutionary history the values of functioning in groups of men. The instinct to do so is now deeply implanted in his archaic unconscious. Men learned this pattern early, first from the necessity of hunting in groups for food, and then for physical security. A group of men could slay a large animal where one man could not. Later, groups of men could collect more of other food items than a single man could do. And, a group of men could better ward off danger in the form of attack, whereas one man could not.

These vitally necessary activities in which groups took part gave men a common bond--shared experience. From this grew the patterns of men grouping together for pleasure of all varieties, from the comforting reassurance of talking in tribal councils to the exhilarating challenge of sporting competitions.

The female of the species has had a different experience down through our evolutionary history. The instinct for grouping and cooperative effort did not get imbedded deeply into her archaic unconscious. Women were too busy nurturing human infancy and caring for the men

sufficiently to keep them at their work of providing food and shelter (which was her link to her survival chain) to learn the techniques of effective behavior in groups with other women. We see undeniable evidence of this instinctual lack in the non-effective attempts of women grouping today. Some day this lack will be reversed. One day, in some distant millennium, the female of the species will have learned effective behavior in groups, but as of now, modern woman is seriously disadvantaged with this basic handicap. Furthermore, throughout the world, the folkways and mores of every cultural and ethnic group are inherently committed to perpetuating this disability.

We accept, then, that women begin their human existence cycle with a devastating generic handicap. That they survive at all is due to their remarkable adaptability, resilience, and ingenuity. Or, as Dr. Al Montague has so correctly affirmed, to their "natural superiority". Women can adapt, compromise, and endure; their "staying power" is phenomenal! Heterosexual women survive with bits and pieces of "reward" from the support of families, mates and children--woven into a fabric of a kind of ego strength that makes existence tolerable. From these sources the heterosexual woman receives abundant opportunity for close, intimate interpersonal contact that provides her with companionship, assistance in many practical ways, and, perhaps most important of all--her group (society's) okay because she appears to be saluting the flag and following the party-line of acceptable behavior patterns as stipulated by her group codes.

One of the most comforting "rewards" the heterosexual woman receives is society's treatment of her when she begins to age. If at this time, she becomes widowed, divorced, or is for other reasons "alone" she still has her group's approval for she has obviously Done Right and will be accorded the respect and attention she deserves and the comforting reassurances due her will continue. She still has easy access to companionship, assistance, and consideration from her family, if any be left, and friends.

The homosexual woman, and especially the aging Lesbian, has few if any of the expectancies that are the support and defenses of her heterosexual sister. The Lesbian has experienced, usually, rupture of basic familial ties, often early in her life cycle and thus is without that initial

source of strength. She usually has not married nor born children or if she has, her access to easy, readily available personal and intimate contacts are damaged. Sheer comfortable companionship or practical assistance is often totally impossible for the aging Lesbian. She faces her advancing years with not only the universal female handicaps previously described, but without the bits and pieces of "reward" that provide the acceptable compromise available to the aging heterosexual woman. It is this woman who knows and lives with aloneness, as well as with the loneliness that often devastates the heterosexual woman as well, but with compounded stress and constriction.

The aging and aged of both sexes are victims of the most unique and devastating psychological prejudice, which we often do not realize. There is an appalling prejudice against the aged simply for being old. They are the reminders to others of every man's mortality. Women fare worse than men as recipients to this prejudice--they live longer than men and in doing so are hated for outliving men and for being around longer to emphasize the future condition awaiting the young.

We have taken this time and space to describe, in over-brief admittedly, the debits and credits with which the homosexual woman is equipped to manage her life cycle. Any discussion of particulars or "spelling it out" like it is today cannot be undertaken without this frame of reference fully understood.

In the next issue we shall consider the very specific, immediate reality problems that the Lesbian of any age should be aware of and begin to do something about. No one, however handicapped or not, can effectively help (love) another until she has first constructively helped (loved) herself.

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Dr. McGuire specializes in the older woman. Individual or group services are available.

To make an appointment, call 626-2420 or 921-8131 between the hours of 10:00 AM and 5:00 PM, any day of the week.

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DOB would like to take this space to offer to Dr. McGuire our continuing thanks for her warm and open willingness to conduct discussion groups on problems of gay relationships, being honest, getting older. April 25th's discussion was

indeed valuable. And thanks again to those who brought food.

## GRAPHOLOGY? WHAT'S THAT?

by Marley

What is this preoccupation that people have today with discovering themselves, their "true identity," their inner self, their purpose in life? There are many explanations for this, but whatever the reason, I have been swept along in the tide. I can remember using the word psychology when I was 8 years old, inferiority complex when I was 9, and I knew what it meant. Ever since I can remember I have been searching for MY "true identity" and the answers, reasons, causes for behavior in myself and others. Along about 15 years of age, I discovered graphology and have been into it ever since.

What is graphology? It is the analysis of one's handwriting to determine intelligence, imagination, emotional stability, social adjustment, drives and creative potential.

There is also a study in medical graphology in which illness the writer may have or is prone to get can be detected. For example, one medical graphologist in New York has been able to determine cancer in individuals five years before it shows up on a medical examination.

Mental disorders, too, can be detected. Suicide, nervous breakdown, criminal tendencies - people who have these signs in their writing should always be treated immediately. Graphology in these cases, is a tool, a measuring device with quick answers to doctors, psychiatrists and psychologists.

On the lighter side, the use of graphology can help us direct our course in life, determine job potential, advise on mate compatibility, and so on.

You can also have a lot of fun with it at parties. I once told a man at a party that he was very "careful" with his money and that he had a violent temper. His color rose instantly and he belligerently stamped his foot down, adamantly DENYING that he was any of those AWFUL things I mentioned, then did a military turnabout and stomped out of the room. . . . I guess I should have been more tactful.

When I was in college this girl asked me to analyze her handwriting. One of the things I told her was that she had reversed her sexual direction (I was straight then). She snickered, but two months later she brought me out. (Hey Julie, remember me?)

One of the grooviest things about graphology is that I can react to people after I've analyzed their handwriting even though I haven't met them. Such as "Oh, wow, this person has really got her head together," or "Wow, she's really a nice person," or "What a snob," etc.

For your personal analysis to appear in this column, please send me at least 10 lines of writing (remember, the more you write the more I can tell you), state age, sex and whether right or left handed. Also, include a stamped, self-addressed envelope and \$1 to cover costs to Daughters of Bilitis, 1005 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94103.

Graphologically yours

*Mauley*

To reappear - Horoscopes -  
JUNE : Gemini

For once, SFDOB has several presidential candidates. There is a choice! So, come out of the closets, you DOB members we never see, and BE COUNTED. CAST YOUR VOTE FOR ONE OF THREE WOMEN, and use your member power to help DOB. IT IS YOUR ORGANIZATION.

ROBIN is 26 years old, originally from Philly. She has been one of the women most consistently helping to put SISTERS out to you each month. She is organizing DOB's softball team to challenge the bars' teams. Her policy statement is simple and to the point: "DOB's president should not just be a figure-head leader. There are too many so-called "leaders". DOB's president should be a "doer".

BEV is one of our older members, and has all kinds of leadership energies. She feels DOB should be more open to all kinds of gay women, not just the young kids. She hopes to activate the older women whose experience will help DOB into a more active and meaningful organization for all women.

\*\* TRACY is the secretary to the editor of the LADDER. A policy statement from her is not yet available. She has done the work of three women getting the LADDER edited and typed each issue.

IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO  
COME OUT!!!

For further information on the candidates, call Karen in the morning at the office - 861-8689 - and rap with her about them.

\*\* Due to time commitments, Tracy has declined the nomination for president. She doesn't feel she has the time to do the job justice.

# MAY 1978 - EVENTS

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
2	3 OFFICE OPEN 9-11 am	4 OFFICE OPEN 7-9 pm	5 RAP: 7-9 pm	6	7 OFFICE OPEN 9-11 am	8 Dance - 9pm - Free Food! BYOB
9 Baseball game 2 pm Margaret Hayward	10 9-11 am	11 7-9 pm	12 RAP: DOB - What is it? 7-9 pm	13	14 8 pm Board Mtg. All welcome	15 BUS. Mtg. 8 pm DOB OFFICE
16 Baseball game 2 pm Rolph field	17	18	19 Rap: 7-9 pm	20 Deadline FOR SISTERS CONTRIBUTIONS	21	22 Mental Health Ass. fair 12-6 pm 1st Un. Church
23 2pm - Poetry !!	24	25	26 RAP - SISTERS - Ideas !!!	27	28	29
30 Baseball 2 pm Julius Kahn Pk.						

May 8 - Dance and free food - all kinds of music, good vibes: Place: 375 Crescent Ave., S.F., off Mission near St. Mary's Park. Call 282-2756 if lost.  
Time: 9 PM until ??? BYOB \$1.00 to non-members, \$.50 members.

May 9 & 16 - Baseball games: donations will be accepted for us to buy equipment. Since we and 30 - don't have any, bring your own!!!  
Places: 9th - Margaret Hayward Field, Turk & Gough, field #2, 2 PM.  
16th - Rolph Field, Army & Potrero, 2 PM. 30th - See below\*\*\*\*\*

May 15 - BUSINESS MEETING, DOB office, 1005 Market St., Rm. 208, 8:00 PM. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS. Come vote.....or forever keep your peace!

May 22 - Mental Health Assn. of S.F. is holding a Fair at the First Unitarian Church, Franklin and Geary Streets, from noon to 6PM. DOB will have a booth and a rap session: "Life-style of the Lesbian," at 1:30 PM in the Fireside Room. FREE

May 23 - POETRY READING AND ARTISTS' RAP SESSION: How do you get published? What makes a poem good? Share your words with others, bring ideas and look at the view from Terry and Irene's living room. 60LA Corbett, S.F. Call 826-5513 if you get lost.  
Coffee and tea provided, bring small change for us panhandlers.

May 30th - Baseball game at Julius Kahn Park, one block north of Jackson near Spruce, in the Presidio, 2 PM. BE SURE TO BRING EQUIPMENT OR \$\$\$ FOR US TO BUY SOME WITH.

NOW AVAILABLE:

Various Recipes for Absolute  
Flotation

Terry RYAN — \$1.00

Moods of Eros

Elsa Gidlow — \$2.00

SAPPHO '71 (Poems + drawings)

Harriet Frances — \$2.50

XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX

**the Ladder** —

Sets — \$25.00

Singles — \$1.00

The Lesbian In Literature

Gene Damon — \$2.00

"What is DoB?" - pamphlet  
4.15 ea. , \$1.00 for 10

XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX

Support women poets / Order  
your books NOW from DOB —  
you won't regret it!

(Willie Brown's Assembly Bill legalizing sexual acts between consenting adults has created a furor in the gay community. Nick Benton of the Gay Seminarians in Berkeley has come out strongly against the bill. Janet Wilson here rebuts his argument. Further comments from our readers are welcome.)

#### BROWN'S BILL IS PROGRESS

Brown's bill is an important step in homosexual legal reform, and it needs support from the entire gay population. Now this bill is meeting apathy from the gay ghetto, disorganization from the gay 'community' and outright opposition from some members of the GLF. Nick Benton, who wrote an article 'Brown's Bill as a Pig Bill', seems to have four major objections to the bill which will be dealt with here.

Assembly Bill #437 would essentially make private sexual acts between consenting adults unpunishable by law. Under the present laws certain sexual acts are illegal and can be punished by either one year to life imprisonment (anal intercourse or up to 15 years for oral copulation. If Brown's bill is made law, private acts between consenting adults would be legal, but penalties would remain for forced activity, sexual activity with minors, public sex and solicitation.

Nick Benton objects to AB 437 for these reasons in his article:

1. The bill offers gay people no freedoms which are not already their rights, while
2. It would impose more restrictions on sex with minors.
3. It reinforces sexual repression, and
4. The only way to escape the guilt and fear of sexual repression is by not allowing any society to impose any limitations on consenting sexual behavior.

Certainly, Brown's bill would not give us the natural right to do as we please--this is an inherent right of man, regardless of social order. But the fact remains that in California, we have no legal rights in this area, and Brown's bill would give us these. Unfortunately, in this country, the best way to have rights is to safeguard them by law.

Nick Benton claims that Brown's bill would impose more penalties for activities with minors. First of all, this is not completely true. Sex with minors is divided into 4 different areas: with anyone under 18, 1) anal intercourse and 2) oral copulation, and, with anyone under 14, who is more than 10 year

younger than his partner, 3) anal intercourse and 4) oral copulation. In 3 of these 4 areas penalties would either be liberalized or unchanged under AB 437. In the one case where penalties would increase (anal intercourse with the under 14) the greater penalty is not likely to have much effect, because in this age group this is not a common activity, according to Kinsey's Institute studies. Nick's objection to this area of the bill is not completely true or of consequence.

Benton further objects that the bill reinforces sexual repression by perpetuating the idea that "sex should be legal only if it is set within definite limitations". A careful reading of the law would show that the bill does just the opposite. Rather than limiting when sex would be legal, the bill would specifically limit when sex would be illegal. It would take punishments and limits out of the penal code; it would only restrict activities with those under 18.

Benton's final objection, that legal reform is not the way to free ourselves from sexual repression, is very interesting though rather impractical. He would have us simply "refuse to accept the idea that any society has the right to impose a morality about sexuality that would limit its expression among consenting parties in any way". The fact remains that no matter what I personally refuse to accept, unless I act to take away the state's power in this area, I may find myself refusing to "accept ideas" in prison for a long, long time.

The bill is certainly a part-way measure--I cannot pretend to be satisfied with the 18-year consent age--but all the same, it is a measure, a beginning. To complain, as Benton does, that the bill would give us nothing and is sexually repressive is to completely ignore what the bill would do: namely, grant legal rights and remove criminal sanctions in many cases. We must start somewhere, and after we get this bill through, we can work for more legal reform: lowering the age of consent, legalizing gay marriages, etc.

AB 437 is responsible legislation and desperately needs support if it is to pass the Assembly. At least write your congressman, especially if he is Republican, and remember that writing does not label you as gay--the bill affects heterosexuals too. Urge authorities in medicine, law, social work, clergy to write or at least come out with a public statement. Our time has come and we are so, so immobilized!

(Apparently, our Memphis sisters have been a little put out by Mary's letter in SISTERS last month. Here's more fuel, you beautiful Southern belles.....)

OPEN LETTER TO MEMPHIS

by Mary Stuber, Denver DOB

I have heard a great deal of angry response to the letter (April SISTERS) I sent SFDQB upon my return from Memphis in February. Because of that, I wish to write again, making open apologies where they are due and trying to explain any misunderstandings. First may I say that the letter was written for people in San Francisco, not for Memphis. We had been discussing plans for a chapter there, and wondered what problems inherent to a Southern culture would face such an effort. Evidently, there are many.

The problems of prejudice are a threat to ANY group of people who find themselves in a minority. Prejudice stems from misunderstanding. It is a learned thing, perpetuated always by myth and folly, and passed from parents to their children, from friend to friend, and so on. It must be overcome before any significant moves can be made toward freedom for an oppressed group.

Perhaps prejudice is easiest to see in the South because of its self-chosen isolation from progressivism and liberality. One could hardly say that a vast number of new people and ideas are gathering there, since that would be something on the order of trying to grow jonquils in Little America. The climate is simply not the most suitable. And I have seen repeatedly, in my years of growing and living in Memphis, New Orleans and Mississippi, that when anyone dares to criticize the present status, she lays herself open for a barrage of anything but the proverbial hospitality we hear about.

Homosexuals are a minority group. Within that number Lesbians are an even smaller minority. The world seems more ready to accept gayness in men than in women, due to the role into which we, as females, are expected to fall. And so the string of insults which we are subject to seem more vile in a way than off-handed remarks about a swish or a lisp. As victims of a more extreme prejudice, we should learn from it then, rather than carry it on.

As gay people we ask for only one thing -- for toleration. We do not require that the world condone what we do, or approve of it. We only ask that we be tolerated -- allowed to exist in the open. A straight man would feel highly affronted if he were not allowed to kiss his wife goodbye at the airport. As homosexuals then, so are we. But we dare not because of public prejudice -- misunderstanding. Everything from our jobs to our self-respect is at stake, and we are black-mailed by fear into submission and repression.

There is only one way to overcome the vicious circle in which we are trapped. We must take a lesson from recent history, from other minority groups such as the blacks, and employ the method of "togetherness" in order to achieve our goal, which is only the right to live in spite of the fact that we are different. We must form ourselves into groups of concerned citizens of a gay community, a national community of people with this common bond, so that we have strength. We must talk and work together to overcome our own peculiar psychological problems which a life of covertness has forced upon us. We must have organization through groups like Gay Lib and DOB, to act as central receiving areas for funds, ideas, activities, centers for gay cultural exchanges -- all of these things and more. We must bind ourselves into a unity, a oneness and be proud of the fact that WE ARE QUEER, so that in this coming together we have strength enough to change laws, to challenge public opinion, to

~ LETTERS ~

WORD FROM OUR ATLANTA DOB SISTERS: (Take Heed, Memphis!)

Dear SF,

help one another put down the discrimination we have known as a set of isolated and silent individuals. There is POWER IN SISTERHOOD. Power for political and social change. We cannot bring it about as long as we are scattered. The world must know that we exist, that we are teachers, doctors, lawyers or factory workers. Until they see us as a group, we will remain so much dust under the rug.

Prejudice is our problem. And it CAN destroy us. We should, therefore, work to overcome it whenever it raises its head. Toleration means first an effort at understanding. Understanding means educating the public with the facts to replace the myths. And understanding means LOVE -- human love for one another. A desire to try to understand something foreign to us. As long as we hate any person for being different, be he black, or Chicano, or even straight, how can we expect toleration for ourselves? And how could we really deserve it? Our driving force should, and must, be love for all people, regardless of what they might be.

The South, then, and all of those who make up the Southern portion of this national oneness, has this very real problem to deal with before it can attain freedom for the Lesbian. If my article offended any of you on this account, then you are staring the predicament right in the face. You are looking at the very thing in yourself that is defeating you. If I am a thorn to prick you into awareness that a problem does in fact exist, to tell you that you may not remain in your complacency, then I accept all hostility with joy. First you must know there is a problem. Only then can you begin to deal with it. If I offended your sense of aesthetics with remarks about music or taste, that is simply a matter of personal opinion, and I apologize to each of you for my egotism. I know I offended the owner of the Fox with my remarks on her condition, and for that I am truly sorry. Miss --- has never been anything but good to me. I never meant to have my observations of her personal life cast before anyone who knows her. The arp axis, however, should be placed upon her self-sacrifice and love for gay women in Memphis. What she has done for them cannot be calculated. My sincerest apologies to her, really.

And to all the rest, the night of the first talent show was a tribute to YOU ARE. You did have something very real to be proud of, and still do. You are gay and you are together in that. Now, if you have the guts to show me and everyone else who reads SISTERS that I am wrong, and that you CAN overcome hatred with love, then DO IT by forming and working for a MEMPHIS CHAPTER OF DOB. Otherwise, I am right and you have no gripe. Now, put up or .....

P.S. Atlanta DOB, most recently formed, was begun by a 24 year old Black chick named Ann. I applaud her! Now that's the kind of guts it's going to take, Memphis.

MARY NELL STUBER, Denver DOB

(SFDOR apologizes to Miss --- of the Fox for any unfortunate comments we may have included in SISTERS. Believe me, after having lived in Arkansas, I can fully see that Miss --- has done nothing short of a miracle in keeping that bar open. Miss ---, you have our warmest thanks and love. Really. Ed.)

Atlanta DOB hopes to establish itself as a true arm of the "gay" movement here in the south. Of all the places in the world to tackle the problem of the gay woman, the south certainly has to be one of the worst. For years the south has tried to hide under a cover the growing number of gay people who live here. It is our hope that we will be able to raise this cover.

It has been hard for straight people to accept the gay woman because all too often we have not fully explained ourselves. Here in Atlanta, as well as in other parts of the south, gay women are secretive and closed off from the rest of society. In my duties as president of Atlanta DOB, I seek to counsel gay women to accept themselves as a part of society and not as outcasts from society. Atlanta DOB is interested in all facets and problems of the lesbian, but we must first help and understand ourselves before we can deal with the public. Once this is done, we can really DO something.

I know DOB is one of the finest organizations for the gay woman in the world. It is my hope that Atlanta DOB will become a true and resourceful arm of the already great existing DOB chapters. We need your faith and your prayers to accomplish this. Peace to you all,

ANN ASHEY, Pres. Atlanta DOB.

For all our southern sisters, Atlanta DOB's address:  
1620 Hollywood Rd. N.W., Apt. 3A, Atlanta Georgia.  
Phone: (404) 792-0915

SISTERS in DENVER: Contact Mary Stuber, 758 Sherman, Denver, Colo. 80203. This is our newest chapter and they need a typewriter, a mimeograph machine, typing help, ideas for a newsletter, postage, money and LOTS OF LOVE AND SUPPORT.

IN SAN DIEGO: Are you interested in helping to form a new DOB chapter?????? Contact Diane and Pat Love, 3591 Madison Avenue, San Diego 92116. Or call 280-1473. There is a great need for another DOB chapter. The El Cajon group dissolved and we need to revive those women. WHERE IS SAN DIEGO'S Gay Women's Movement??? Let's help these two women get a DOB Chapter started again.

If you live in or near any large city, you can form a DOB group. How about CHICAGO? St. LOUIS? CLEVELAND??? NEW ORLEANS?? If they can form a DOB in Atlanta and make a go of it, then YOU can too, wherever you are. Write S.F. DOB for further information.

\*\*\*\*\*  
ADS

Needed: a place for me, my cat, my sculptural equipment, my mattress. I can pay up to \$80/mo. Scorpio, quiet, responsible job. Call Karen at DOB office mornings.

NEWS FROM THE FRONT LINES -----

Honolulu -- Hawaii has pening in legislature a free-wheeling sex law change, as complete as possible, allowing any and all activities between consenting adults in bed. Prostitution is still illegal. The law has every chance of passing. (What's wrong with Calif????)

S.F. Chronicle -- The Ladder has seen fit to write a letter to Dear Ann Landers congratulating her on her open and concerned attitude about homosexuals. Perhaps someone could write a letter to Miss Landers' erstwhile sister Abby and help her out, and not necessarily in congratulatory fashion.....

L.A. Times --- Biochemical studies of straight and gay males have yielded some interesting results: results so far (tentative) indicate there is a biochemical difference between strongly motivated homosexuals and heterosexuals....Their study suggests that male homosexuals can be distinguished from normal heterosexuals by an analysis of two of the breakdown products of the male sex hormone, testosterone. In the homosexual, the amount of one of these hormones is much greater than in the heterosexual, at least in the 75 subjects so far examined. The article concludes: "According to the researchers, there is at present no effective treatment of homosexuality. Their work, if it proves valid, may lead to a deeper understanding of homosexuality, as well as normal sexuality, and perhaps to new forms of treatment and prevention." (I wonder just how much "understanding" of the homosexual can result with their preconceived attitudes about cure and prevention? Same old stuff--study it to discover ways to prevent it...)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gay rap group starting in San Mateo, Calif. Call Marcia - 347-8402.

Gay women's rap in SACRAMENTO -- call (916) 482-7892.

A Women's Songbook is out, 23 songs, drawings, chord chart. Order from Judy Busch, Oral Herstory Library, 2325 Oak St., Berkeley 94708. \$1.00.

MORE NEWS

DOB New York pickets St. Patrick's Cathedral, in support of Women's Lib leader Ti-Grace Atkinson who delivered a scalding criticism of the church's attitude toward women at Catholic University in Washington. Ruth Simpson, DOB President, said the picketing was intended "to make the statement that the Catholic church has been one of the major oppressors of homosexuals" and has fought all efforts by homosexuals to obtain social and legal acceptance.....



**Community  
of**

**St. John the Beloved** A Catholic Ministry  
*Within the Homophile Community*

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