



## Alec Baldwin to Trump: "Release Your Tax Returns and I'll Stop"



**Trump is, once again, tweeting about his dislike of Alec Baldwin's impression of him.**

BY YEZMIN VILLARREAL

The president-elect is not happy about Alec Baldwin's impression of him. "Just tried watching Saturday Night Live - unwatchable! Totally biased, not funny and the Baldwin impersonation just can't get any worse. Sad," tweeted Trump.

Alec Baldwin, who plays Trump on Saturday Night Live, responded to Trump's tweet by saying, "Release your tax returns and I'll stop." In the sketch, Trump is resistant to take part in security briefings, instead opting to retweet random people. It's a reference to Trump's recent Twitter activity.

The president-elect was criticized for retweeting a 16-year-old, who claims Trump was the victim of voter fraud.

## Gay husbands featured in Hershey's new 'Say It With A Kiss' TV Ad



Expect imminent outrage from One Million Moms...

by David Hudson

Confectionary brand Hershey's features gay husbands in its latest 'Say It With A Kiss' advertising campaign advert.

The adorable advert features husbands Josh and Matt Noble, who live in New York City. The couple recently moved Josh's mother into their home so they could help support her.

'She and my father spent all of their lives making my brother Jason and me feel loved and accepted and supported,' Josh says. 'Now it's our chance to do that for her.'

The couple discuss their holiday traditions, which includes Hershey's Kisses (a best-selling confectionary from the brand) – which Josh's mom used to put in her sons' stockings when they were kids.

In an email statement to Huffington Post, Senior Brand

*(Continued on page 3)*

December 9th, 2016 - December 23rd, 2016

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Manager Yussef Kuri said, 'The Hershey Company and Hershey's Kisses chocolates bring people together and help to celebrate life's special moments.'

Commenting on the campaign, which began in May and culminates with this latest advert, Kuri said, 'Each and every one of these stories are the perfect example of the values and culture that is deeply embedded in our company.'

Hershey scored the top mark of 100 on the most recent Corporate Equality Index from HRC – a ranking of corporations according to their LGBT-friendly policies and procedures.



## Malta Passes Law to Jail any 'doctor' who Attempts to Prescribe Gay Conversion Therapy

by Joe Morgan

Malta has approved a ban on 'gay cure' therapy, a bill that will see any 'doctor' who attempts to prescribe the dangerous practice possibly jailed.

Parliament approved the Affirmation of Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Gender Expression Bill which will categorize the act of attempting to 'cure' a LGBTI person as 'deceptive and harmful'.

It is the first country in Europe to ban conversion therapy.

Amendments to the Gender Identity, Gender Expression and Sex Characteristics Acts were also approved, which will allow non-Maltese people to transition and lower the age to request to change your legal gender to 16.

The 'gay cure' ban, which was agreed to by every single parliamentary official, will see any person who attempts

to change, repress or eliminate or person's sexual orientation receive a fine ranging from €1,000 to €5,000 (\$1,080 to \$5,400) or a jail term of five months.

The Malta Chamber of Psychologists, the Maltese Association of Psychiatry, the Malta Association of Family Therapy and Systemic Practice, the Malta Association for the Counselling Profession all applauded the bill's passing.

'[We] openly disapprove of practices are which are harmful to people in our community,' they said in a statement. 'Not only does it reject a group of individuals on the basis of unfound prejudice and lack of tolerance for diversity, but also because it impinges on the international recognition of LGBTIQ rights.'

'As a body we promote respect and equality for all persons, and are determined to continue working towards ensuring our clients can enjoy as safe a therapeutic experience as they deserve.'

While same-sex marriage is still on the horizon, Malta is consistently ranked as being one of the best countries in LGBTI rights.

All the more remarkable as, in 2011, the small southern European island was one of three countries that still

*(Continued on page 4)*

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banned divorce never mind any protections for LGBTI people. In a few short years, it passed civil unions and has one of the most comprehensive laws protecting trans and intersex people in the world.

## Trump will Roll Back Obama's LGBTI Rights Protections, Senior Republican Confirms

Donald Trump has nominated half of his cabinet so far, and every single elected official is against LGBTI rights.

by Joe Morgan

Donald Trump has nominated half of his cabinet so far, and every single elected official is against LGBTI rights.

So it might not come as a surprise that a senior Republican has said the next administration will roll back President Barack Obama's executive orders to protect the LGBTI community.

Obama has signed executive orders outlawing discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, as well as one providing guidance to schools urging to not discriminate against trans students.

The Trump administration will be able to remove these executive orders to allow homophobic legislation to pass.

A senior Republican, Oklahoma Representative Steve Russell, is hoping to pass the Russell Amendment that would allow people to discriminate against LGBTI people based on religious beliefs.

And he told BuzzFeed he expected the administration to roll back LGBTI rights and allow the amendment to pass.

He said: 'These issues will be resolved, and we have gotten some very good assurances moving forward. I am certainly encouraged by the signs that I am getting from the administration that is inbound.'

While he said he has gotten 'very positive signals', he refused to be drawn on specifics.

Democratic Senator Richard Blumenthal, who opposed the Russell Amendment, has said this is just the beginning.

'Let us be clear: the fight against bigotry, intolerance, and discrimination does not end with the Russell Amendment,' he said. 'Our government should have no part in funding discrimination — not now, not tomorrow, and not next year.'

'In the aftermath of this presidential election, we must be even more vigilant in our efforts to protect the fundamental right of all Americans to equal protection under the law,' Blumenthal added.

Trump has not commented on Russell's claims.



## Landlord Caught Having Sex In Tenants' Bed

by Stefanie Gerdes

A Colorado landlord is facing a felony charge after a motion detection camera recorded him having sex with another man in a tenant's apartment, police report.

According to cops, Carlos Quijada illegally entered the Colorado Springs residence of Logan Pierce and Mikaela DiGiulio in late-November. While the married couple was not home, their four-camera Nest security system was guarding the condominium.



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After Quijada, 39, entered the residence, Pierce received a notification on his phone that the Nest system had detected noise in the apartment.



When Pierce subsequently checked the camera feeds, he saw Quijada and another man inside his bedroom (see above photo).

The video shows the men each removing their pants immediately upon entering the room and then climbing atop the bed. Following a six-minute round of oral and anal sex, Quijada's partner used one of DiGiulio's dresses--plucked from a laundry pile--to wipe his genitals. At one point, Quijada uses another garment to attack a lubricant stain left on the green bed sheet.

Pierce said that the blue dress used as a post-sex clean-up rag was worn by his wife at the couple's March wedding ceremony.

Pierce and DiGiulio--who rented the \$1100-a-month apartment after responding in July to a Craigslist ad--vacated the premises shortly after Quijada used their home as a hook-up spot. The couple is now living at a Super 8 hotel where DiGiulio is employed (and where Pierce works part-time).

After being provided with the security footage, the Colorado Springs Police Department issued an arrest warrant charging Quijada with criminal trespassing, a felony, and misdemeanor obscenity.

Quijada (right) and his partner are seen in the above screenshot from the security video.

## Here are the 20 biggest myths about HIV and AIDS busted

Think you know it all? Chances are you're wrong

by Tris Reid-Smith

The myths around HIV and AIDS pose a huge danger to our health – and they spread as fast as the virus itself. Chances are



you will find some surprises in what follows:

**Myth: I'm monogamous, so I'm not in danger.**

**Busted:** This may cause a row with your boyfriend. But some research suggests more gay men get HIV from their regular partner than from a hook-up.

**Myth: You can only protect yourself from getting HIV by wearing a condom.**

**Busted:** This was true until relatively recently. Back then, your options were abstinence or wearing a condom.

Now you may be able to get the alternative – PrEP. But, depending where you are in the world, PrEP may be free or expensive.

PrEP means 'pre-exposure prophylaxis' – that's doctor-talk for 'treatment taken before exposure to the virus'.

PrEP kills the virus before it can spread and take hold in your body, so you don't become HIV positive.

You can take PrEP regularly for on-going protection (that's best). Alternatively you can get one-off protection – you take two pills between two and 24 hours before sex, one 24 hours later and one 48 hours later. The main drug used is called Truvada.

PrEP is very effective. But it doesn't protect you from other sex infections, which can be painful, difficult to treat and force you to stop having sex for a while.

Condoms remain the most readily available and best option.

**Myth: By paying for PrEP, health officials would be taking money from other patients – like kids with cancer.**

**Busted:** This is a tabloid newspaper lie.

UK newspapers in particular spread this, using inflammatory homophobic language, when the National Health Service was asked to consider paying for PrEP.

If you get HIV, it will cost around \$125,000 to \$435,000 to treat you for the rest of your life.

If health officials give you PrEP, they not only protect you but the other people you have sex with. If you don't get the virus, you can't pass it on.

So in as little as a year, PrEP is expected to start saving money for public health systems. And that's not to mention the reduction in human misery and the overall improvement in the nation's health.

**Myth: There's a 'morning-after pill' for HIV.**

*(Continued on page 6)*





**Busted:** This is another drug option – Post Exposure Prophylaxis or PEP. It’s a drug regimen started immediately after risky sex.

But it’s not as simple as a ‘morning after pill’.

Firstly, you have to get PEP very quickly after having risky sex. The sooner you start treatment, the more likely it is to work.

After 72 hours, it’s too late.

You then need a month worth of treatment. Luckily, the side-effects are smaller than they used to be.

If you need PEP, don’t wait 24 hours like most people do while you think about it. Search online for your nearest emergency clinic and ask for help immediately.

**Myth: Bareback sex is hotter.**

**Busted:** This one is a judgment call. Ask yourself what matters more – who you are with and what you are doing, or the fact you are wearing a condom.

**Myth: Lesbians can’t give each other HIV.**

**Busted:** Women can give transmit HIV to each other. However the risk level is very low.

Risk factors include exposure to vaginal or other body fluids, blood from menstruation, or blood from damage sustained during rougher sex. Read about one of the rare examples here.

**Myth: As long as I only top, I’ll be ok.**

**Busted:** ‘Bottoms’ are seven-times more likely to get HIV than ‘tops’ in gay sex. But any unprotected anal sex carries a risk of HIV transmission and being a top is not ‘safe’. Both tops and bottoms can get HIV from each other.

**Myth: Having gay bareback sex with an HIV positive guy is the most dangerous thing you can do.**

**Busted:** You should obviously use protection with a positive partner.

If someone is HIV positive but doesn’t know their viral load and is not on treatment, they are high-risk for passing the virus on.

But if they are taking HIV drugs, they may be ‘undetectable’. That means the virus is still in their body but can’t be detected by tests. At that level it is highly unlikely they can pass the vi-

rus on.

**Myth: If I don’t test for HIV, the only person I’m hurting is myself.**

**Busted:** You are most likely to pass on HIV if you have the virus but don’t know it yet.

You may think you are negative. But if you’ve just got the virus, you are at your most infectious.

If everyone tested regularly and got on treatment if they were positive, the infection rate would plummet.

Testing is important for you too. The sooner you start treatment the better your long-term health will be.

But by not testing, you risk hurting your sexual partners – people you presumably like at least, if not actually love.

Psyching yourself up for a test may be hard, particularly if you are nervous because you’ve had unsafe sex. But it’s a quick prick on the finger and then you’re done.

Best case, you’re negative. Worst case, you get help and can live as long and as fully as anyone else. Testing is a win-win.

**Myth: There is no HIV risk from pre-cum.**

**Busted:** There is a small amount of HIV in a man’s pre-cum, though less than in semen.

Getting pre-cum getting in your mouth during oral sex is not something to worry about. It is harder to transmit HIV through oral sex anyway.

But you can transmit HIV through your pre-cum during vaginal or anal sex. Some people have got HIV just because their partner delayed putting on a condom during anal sex.

**Myth: More straight people than gay men get HIV, so they are at more risk.**

**Busted:** Globally, more straights contract HIV each year.

But there are fewer gays than straights. And a higher proportion of our community already have HIV. So gay and bi men are simply a higher-risk group.

In Australia, 85% of new HIV infections are among men who have sex with men. In California, about three quarters of the HIV cases a year are among gay men. And in London, one in eight gay men is now HIV positive.

**Myth: You can get HIV from a pool of blood you find in the street.**

**Busted:** HIV is an extremely fragile virus and only lasts a matter of seconds outside the body.

But here’s one important exception: Injection drug users who share needles tend to pass them between each other quickly and that is high risk.

**Myth: If you get HIV you will eventually get AIDS.**

**Busted:** If you are diagnosed in good time and start medication when you need to, it is extremely unlikely you will develop AIDS.

Even if you do get AIDS, you can often get treatment to go back to just having HIV. HIV positive people on treatment now enjoy normal or near-normal life expectancy.

**Myth: HIV positive parents can’t have babies safely.**

**Busted:** If you are HIV positive and want to have a baby, ask your doctor.

Scientists have found ways for an HIV positive person to have an HIV negative baby. In the UK, they’ve reduced the chance of a positive mom passing on the virus to 0.5%.

**Myth: I bareback with a guy and am still negative, so**





**he's safe.**

**Busted:** You could contract HIV the first time you have unprotected sex or the 100th time. You never know. Plus if he's barebacking you, he may be having unsafe sex with other people too, so he could become positive at any time. If he does, he may well pass it on to you as the newly infected are the most likely to transmit HIV to their partners.

**Myth: I think I'm immune.**

**Busted:** Immunity is incredibly rare. For example, one in a thousand Caucasians at most may be immune – or it may be far less.

Some have speculated that historic European plagues provided this bit of genetic code and other races show even less immunity.

Some of the prostitutes who apparently had 'immunity' – sparking this idea – have now 'lost' it.

**Myth: HIV and AIDS are the same thing.**

**Busted:** A study of HIV positive people in the UK revealed this is the most common myth of all.

HIV is Human Immunodeficiency Virus. You can have HIV for a long time and not realize.

Untreated, the virus will cause AIDS, Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome. This is when your immune system is destroyed, allowing other infections and cancers to kill you.

**Myth: He looks healthy so he can't be positive.**

**Busted:** The virus itself doesn't make you look any different. HIV drugs can sometimes cause side-effects like lipodystrophy – loss of fat in some areas, like sunken cheeks, and excess fat elsewhere, sometimes causing 'buffalo humps' on the neck. These side-effects are less common now.

Even experts can't tell if someone is HIV positive by simply looking at them. So what chance do you have?

**Myth: There's no down side to being HIV positive.**

**Busted:** Sadly that's not the case. You may well face stigma and discrimination.

One in three people living with HIV in the UK have encountered discrimination because of it.

In the US stigma and shame are the biggest barriers to people starting treatment after being diagnosed as HIV positive.

Plus, being HIV positive can increase your risk of getting other,

life-threatening, health problems like Hepatitis C.

**Myth: Scientists will have cured AIDS by the time it can hurt me.**

**Busted:** We wish. But nobody knows.

Scientists have done some amazing work. But testing a drug and making it publicly available takes years and even the most promising potentials often come to nothing.

HIV is a tricky virus and scientists have failed to 'cure' cancer, mumps or the common cold. There is no guarantee they will cure AIDS in your lifetime.

Researchers love to place stories in the media, promising a cure is near. They boost their academic reputation and get the research grants rolling in. That's fine – without reputation building and cash, they'll never find a cure. But we shouldn't fall for it.

## Lady Gaga pledges to continue speaking out for LGBTI rights under Trump / Pence

'We need to stay in a kind place and we need to bond during this time and be as harmonious as possible'



by David Hudson

Lady Gaga has been speaking to the BBC about the threat facing LGBTI people with the election of Donald Trump as President.

The 'Perfect Illusion' singer was in London night to play at an exclusive gig at the Westfield shopping mall in West London – to which a lucky few fans could attend via a ticket lottery.

Interviewed before the show, she said, 'What is very important to me is that the LGBT community in America knows that myself as well as members that love the LGBTQ commu-

*(Continued on page 8)*



nity are going to do everything we can to protect the social progress we made over the last eight years.

'The truth is that political progress cannot happen unless there is social progress.

'We need to stay in a kind place and we need to bond during this time and be as harmonious as possible, and intelligent in the way we approach this.

'I've done a lot in my career and I'm sure there's many people that would say "Lady Gaga's no role model. Did you see this performance? Did you see that performance?"

'But the truth is that when I was younger, I didn't quite understand the amount of attention that I had, the amount of people that would listen to me.

'I'm older now and I am aware of my voice in the world and I want to be as much of a role model as I can be through my music as well as my performance, and on Joanne [her recent album release], I wanted to create music that, when you hear it, it feels like a warm hug... from your sister, your friend. Somebody who is a human being who really loves you.'

Lady Gaga was a vocal supporter of Hillary Clinton's campaign to be President, and took part in protest rallies in New York when it became apparent Donald Trump had won the election.

She has spoken out previously of her support for LGBTI rights globally, and spent last week's Black Friday visiting and performing at the Ali Forney Center in Brooklyn: an organization that works with LGBTQ homeless teenagers.

## Pat McCrory finally concedes North Carolina Governor's Race

by Greg Hernandez

Nearly a month after election day, North Carolina Governor Pat McCrory has finally conceded defeat in his bid for re-election.

'I personally believe that the majority of our citizens have spoken, and we now should do everything we can to support the 75th governor of North Carolina, Roy Cooper,' McCrory says in a concession video.

**PUZZLE  
20**

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**SPANISH**

**GERMAN**

**SWAHILI**

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**ITALIAN**

**YIDDISH**

**Can you find all of the words?**

**Answer key on Page 15**

W U E N G L I S H S Z  
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W B G M N G D H G X A  
B B W C M A D U T C H  
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R Q J Y E V C E H K R  
G E S E N I H C U Z E  
G E R M A N C H A N A  
J X S P A N I S H W N



'The McCrory administration team will assist in every way to help the new administration make a smooth transition.

'It's time to celebrate our democratic process and respect what I see to be the ultimate outcome of the closest North Carolina governor's race in modern history.'

McCrory is the state's first governor to lose a re-election bid after being defeated by Attorney General Roy Moore who is an LGBTI ally. The race was close and McCrory had lodged voter protests in more than half of the state's 100 counties.

The State Board of Elections ordered last week that all 52 of those protests be dismissed and Moore's margin of victory reached more than 10,000 votes.

'I want to thank Gov. McCrory and our First Lady Ann McCrory for their service to our state,' Cooper wrote in a statement after McCrory's concession.

'Kristin and I look forward to working with them and their staff in what I expect will be a smooth transition. I'm proud to have received the support from so many who believe that we can come together to make a North Carolina that works for everyone. ... While this was a divisive election season, I know still that there is more that unites us than divides us.'

McCrory suffered politically for his staunch support and defense of HB2, a so-called bathroom bill aimed at transgender people.

The law forces transgender people to use a bathroom matching their gender at birth.

HB2 has cost North Carolina on multiple fronts.

The NBA is among the sports leagues to move events out of the state and big name musical acts such as Bruce Springsteen canceled concerts.

'McCrory's stubborn and reckless support of HB2 cost him this election, and his defeat sends a powerful warning to lawmakers across the country that targeting #LGBTQ people will not be tolerated,' the Human Rights Campaign said in a statement today.



## A Survivor Of Gay Conversion Therapy Shares His Chilling Story

by JamesMichael Nichols, Queer Voices Deputy Editor, The Huffington Post

With two months between us and a Trump administration, it's time we consider Trump and Vice President-elect Mike Pence's relationship with the many different issues affecting LGBTQ people ? including conversion therapy.

Conversion therapy is not only promoted in the Republican party's 2016 platform, the most anti-LGBTQ platform in the party's history, but something Vice President-elect Mike Pence has actively supported while a member of congress. He is also arguably one of the most anti-LGBTQ state elected officials in the country.



So, what exactly is conversion therapy? Why is it so bad?

Conversion therapy is a set of practices that intend to change a person's sexuality or gender identity to fit heterosexual or cis-gender standards and expectations ? and it is usually religiously motivated.

Therapy practices can include methods such as talk therapy, electroshock therapy, treating LGBTQ identity as an addiction issue like drugs or alcohol, and more. While certain therapies, like talk therapy, are also legitimate forms of care for people who experience mental health problems, being gay is, of course, not a mental health disorder.

TC, a 19-year-old gay man who spoke to The Huffington Post anonymously for this article in order to protect his safety, is a survivor of conversion therapy practices.

TC was subjected to conversion therapy in 2012 when he was 15 years old after his parents discovered he was gay. The conversion therapy practices took place in the basement of a church after school hours, and were explained to TC and his parents as having two separate components. He told The Huffington Post:

The first step ? which usually lasted six months ? [is] where they "deconstruct us as a person." Their tactics still haunt me. Aversion therapy, shock therapy, harassment and occasional physical abuse. Their goal was to get us to hate ourselves for being LGBTQ (most of us were gay, but the entire spectrum was represented), and they knew what they were doing.... The second step of the program, they "rebuilt us in their image." They removed us of everything that made us a unique person,



and instead made us a walking, talking, robot for Jesus. They retaught us everything we knew. How to eat, talk, walk, dress, believe, even breathe. We were no longer people at the end of the program.

TC said that the conversion therapy sessions would take place every weekday, with shock therapy treatments lasting approximately an hour, and aversion therapy lasting three.

According to Dr. Jack Drescher, a leading specialist and critic of conversion therapy practices, there is not just one set of practices understood to be used in conversion therapy. "People have tried all kinds of things because none of them really work," he told *The Huffington Post*.

Drescher also said that the majority of research surrounding conversion therapy has taken place on adults who've undergone the process, and there is very little research surrounding LGBTQ youth who have been through conversion therapy practices. "But of course you have anecdotal stories," he said. "Some children have reported running away from home, there have been cases in the news of young people of when their family found out about them or they came out and the family insisted they go to conversion therapy, some of these kids have killed themselves. These are anecdotal reports, but they are troubling reports, of course."

Their goal was to get us to hate ourselves for being LGBTQ. TC said multiple minors involved in his program ultimately took their own lives.

"They were able to turn us against ourselves," he said. "This is what drew so many people to suicide. We all shared a sense of loathing towards who we were and who we loved. It wasn't just your regular 'I hate myself.' It was a disgust with the person you were and you wanted to do anything you could to change... Watching people disappear just became a fact of life after a while. You got used to it."

While data around queer youth suicide and conversion therapy is lacking, research does show that suicide is an epidemic within the LGBTQ community, with rates of suicide four times greater for queer youth and nearly half of trans people having considered suicide at some point in their lives.

Reflecting on the history of conversion therapy practices, Drescher said there was a time when people didn't believe that there was any harm in trying to change their sexuality. In fact, until the 1990s when many conversion therapists began openly marketing their services, most professional organizations did not comment on the practice.

Today, there are no mainstream psychiatric organizations that accept conversion therapies as a reputable practice. "The people who offer these kind of treatments often are not licensed," Drescher explained. "They're not bound by any state regulatory bodies for the kind of work they do."

The National Center for Lesbian Rights is one such organization that adamantly advocates against conversion therapy.

"Conversion therapy causes serious harms," NCLR Legal Director Shannon Minter told *The Huffington Post*. "In the short-term, queer youth who go through conversion therapy are being cheated of the opportunity to gain self-confidence and self-

esteem, to get support from family members and other adults, and to have normal adolescent developmental experiences around friendship, dating, and other social experiences. In the long-term, the negative health consequences of being subjected to conversion therapy are extremely serious and can include substance abuse, dropping out of school, HIV infection, depression, and suicide attempts."

Additionally, experts do not believe a person can actually be "converted" or "cured" of gayness or queerness. Dr. Robert Spitzer, one of the most prominent people who advocated for gay cures, actually apologized for his actions and the damage they inflicted in 2012.

Currently, only five states and the District of Columbia have laws protecting LGBTQ youth from being forced into conversion therapy practices. There is a movement to ban it at the federal level, and President Obama has previously spoken out about the dangers of the practice.

TC escaped conversion therapy by feigning complete rehabilitation after returning to his hometown from a previously planned religious mission trip. Today, he attends a religious university and still identifies as gay privately, a secret from his family who thinks the conversion therapy "worked."

"I want people to know that conversion therapy is literal torture," TC continued. "[But] the experience also lit a fire underneath me to prove everyone wrong. I am gay, but I am not worthless. Life will continue no matter what, and the quality of my future depends on the work I put in now, and to prove them all wrong, I need to work my ass off."

When asked if he had a message for pro-conversion therapy Vice President-elect Mike Pence, TC simply said: "I am a human. Treat me like one."

Seeking more information about the lived ramifications of conversion therapy practices or ways you can help? Check out the NCLR's #BornPerfect campaign.

If you or someone you know needs help, call 1-800-273-8255 for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. Outside of the U.S., please visit the International Association for Suicide Prevention for a database of resources.

## **Lawmaker Introduces Bill Banning Conversion Therapy in Mike Pence's Name**

The Prevention of Emotional Neglect and Childhood Endangerment — or PENCE — would block the harmful practice of trying to "change" the sexual orientation or gender identity of LGBT minors in New York's Erie County.

BY NICO LANG

Erie County, N.Y., legislator Patrick Burke is trolling the vice president-elect by introducing a law banning conversion therapy under his name. Known as the Prevention of Emotional Neglect and Childhood Endangerment — or PENCE for short — the



legislation, if passed, would make the New York county just one of a few municipalities to block the practice. Currently, five states, D.C., and several cities prohibit the use of conversion therapy on minors.

The name is a direct jab at Mike Pence's 2000 congressional campaign website, which openly supported the harmful practice of attempting to "change" the sexual orientation or gender identity of LGBT minors.



On that website, Pence advocated that federal funding earmarked for "organizations that celebrate and encourage the types of behaviors that facilitate the spreading of the HIV virus" be instead redirected toward "those institutions which provide assistance to those seeking to change their sexual behavior." The program he wanted to defund, the Ryan White Care Act, provides life-saving resources for people living with HIV.

Burke told WBFO, Buffalo's NPR affiliate, that given Pence's impending role in the White House, raising awareness about his antigay history is important.

"Mike Pence is probably going to have the most power of any vice president in the history of our country and he has openly advocated for conversion therapy," he said. "I want that to sink into people. I want them to realize it's a serious issue of abuse of children flatly, whether they are gay or not, it's abuse, then you have a man who is going to have enormous power over all of us, who advocates for it."

"This practice has no business in our society and really the idea of trying to sexually desensitize children is disgusting and distributing," Burke added.

The Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network, a national LGBT youth organization, has been advocating to ban conversion therapy for the past 15 years and applauded the proposed bill in an interview with NBC OUT.

"GLSEN commends Legislator Burke for introducing legislation to ban conversion therapy in Buffalo," said executive director Eliza Byard. "It is a harmful and discredited practice that uses rejection, shame, and psychological abuse aimed at changing one's sexual orientation or gender identity/expression."

Renowned organizations like the American Psychological Association, American Psychiatric Association, American School Counselor Association, American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, and the American Medical Association have all come out against conversion therapy. The national GOP, however, continues to stand by it.

The Republican Party's 2016 platform included what many believed to be a veiled reference to the practice. "We support

the right of parents to determine the proper medical treatment and therapy for their minor children," a plank in the platform read.

Reince Priebus, the head of the Republican National Committee and Trump's appointed White House chief of staff, has claimed that was not the intention of the plank. But far-right leader Tony Perkins, head of the anti-LGBT Family Research Council, pushed for the inclusion of conversion therapy in the platform.

"There's states that are trying to restrict what parents can do for loving their children," he told CNN. "Parents have a better idea I think than legislators or government bureaucrats."

Republicans in Erie County, however, are taking a different approach. While they recognize that the practice is outdated, abusive, and harmful, they simply don't believe that conversion therapy is happening in their area. It's someone else's problem.

"There has been no use of this technique anywhere in Erie County," Republican lawmaker Joseph Lorigo told WBFO. "I am 100 percent opposed to this brand of 'therapy,' but I am also opposed to attempting to legislate every single issue we can think of, especially a law banning something that has never actually happened in Erie County."

Last year, New York State lawmakers introduced a bill that would block conversion therapy, but it stalled in the Senate, which is controlled by the GOP. Burke's bill will be debated next year.

## Why do so many gay men put themselves at risk when it comes to sex?

Edinburgh-based Jordan Phillips is shocked by some of the behavior he's encountered as a newly-single gay man back out on the scene

by Jordan Phillips

Having sex with relative strangers is a common aspect of single gay life.

You may know the person you're about to have sex with quite well, been on several dates, discussed their intolerable extended family, their life-long dreams, and their deepest personal anxieties... or, you may be meeting them for the first time that night.



*(Continued on page 17)*



# Life Beyond Therapy

By Michael Kimmel

Visit Michael's website:  
[www.lifebeyonddtherapy.com](http://www.lifebeyonddtherapy.com)



## All I want for Christmas is the Perfect Relationship

As Christmas nears, many of my single clients want Santa to bring them the perfect relationship and leave it under the tree (nicely-wrapped, of course). As a psychotherapist, I am happy to play cupid, but I insist on being a cupid based in reality. In this column, I'll include questions you can ask yourself to increase the likelihood of finding that perfect woman/man under your Christmas tree!

I believe that there are many potential "perfect" partners for all of us, and that we could be happy with any number of people. So, if there is not only one "perfect" partner, what about finding a wonderful partner? Someone we can give to and receive love from, someone who's got our back, who puts up with us when we're cranky and when we're fabulous. Let's talk about that kind of partner. How can we find someone like that?

To me, finding your perfect partner is a balancing act between being active and passive.

What have you done to look for a perfect partner?

How successful was your "hunt"?

The active aspect of finding your perfect partner is about putting yourself in places where you're likely to meet the kinds of people who are compatible. Yes, folks, you need to get off your butts and get out there into the world and be around people, meet them, talk to them, and see how you both feel about each other.

How active have you been in your search for a perfect partner?

How did that work – or not work – for you?

The passive phase requires that once you put yourself out there, that you relax and let things unfold. It's not about forcing something or manipulating someone into thinking you're someone other than who you are.

How good are you at letting people come to you?

Can you relax and let things unfold when you're dating someone?

See the balance? Both phases are crucial: blow either one and your perfect partner(s) will never get to meet you, or, if they do, you'll be so anxious and intense that they'll run screaming into the night.

Just how high should you aim for a perfect partner? Does this person need to be much more perfect than you are? Better looking? More successful? If this is how you're setting it up, good luck. Your perfect partner is probably about as well adjusted and/or messed up as you are. In fact, research shows that happy partnerships are forged more on similarities than differences.

What are your standards for your perfect partner?

Are they the same or different than your standards for yourself?

Your perfect partner may be different from you in many ways, but you'll hit it off good from the get-go if you have similar values, e.g., honesty, integrity, kindness, generosity. Study after study shows that similar values are the most important traits that happy couples share.

How similar have you been to past (or your present) partner(s)?

How have you been different?

To avoid repeating old dysfunctional dating patterns, it's important to identify the obstacles in your path towards meeting your perfect person. What has historically stood in your way from meeting great people and dating them?

What patterns do you see in your past relationships?

What do you see as your biggest obstacles in meeting your perfect partner?

Fear is a big obstacle for many of us. We're afraid of getting hurt, falling in love with someone who doesn't love us back, or having our heart broken. Honestly, we've all had our hearts broken and we will continue to have them broken and heal and broken and heal again-and-again.

Luckily, you don't need to be perfect to attract the perfect partner. Start by considering the above ideas, and begin to tell yourself, "Some amazing man/woman is going to be lucky enough to have me as their partner". And be willing to be surprised: the perfect partner for you may be on their way to you right now, but you might not recognize them. Let go of your old ideas and see what wonderful people you'll attract...and enjoy the process!



**I'll Bet That's The Last Time Those  
Jehova's Witnesses Ring Our Doorbell!**



# GAYZETTE EVENTS

## WEEKLY EVENTS

### Every Sunday

#### **WORSHIP SERVICES:**

**AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN CHURCH**, ELCA, 3647 Lafayette Ave., Omaha GLBT friendly, [www.augustanalutheran.com](http://www.augustanalutheran.com)

**DIETZ METHODIST** 1423 S.10, Coffee-house casual downstairs at 9am, Traditional Worship at 11am

**EPISCOPAL GLBT FELLOWSHIP**, St. Andrews Church, 84th & Pacific, 6-7PM, email: [EpiscopalGLBT@yahoo.com](mailto:EpiscopalGLBT@yahoo.com)

**FIRST CENTRAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST**, info at: [www.firstcentral.org](http://www.firstcentral.org)

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST** 7020 Cass, 8:30 & 10:45am services

**FIRST UNITARIAN** 3114 Harney, 9:30 a.m. "eclectic service" and 11:15 a.m. "traditional service"

**GAY MEN'S ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS** 4pm, Augustana Lutheran Church 3647 Lafayette Ave., Info call Mark 639-3055 **HASTINGS COLLEGE GSA** 8PM FFI: Judy Sandeen (402) 461-7372

**METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA** 819 S. 22nd St., 345-2563 Sunday Worship 9:30am and 11:15am

**ONE PROMISE GROUP**, Narcotics Anonymous, every Sunday at 6PM, MCC-Omaha, 819 South 22nd St., for info contact Tamara B. at 714-8552

**RIVER CITY MIXED BOWLING LEAGUE**, 3pm, Maplewood Lanes, 402-572-9393—3030 N. 101st St, Omaha NE 68134—call Joe Reed at 319-461-9335 for more info

**SECOND UNITARIAN**, Sunday morning services, 3012 S 119th St., Omaha, [info@2uomaha.org](mailto:info@2uomaha.org), 402-334-0537

**UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA**, 3424 N. 90, Omaha, 10:30am service and Wednesday meditation service at 7pm

**WIMMIN'S SHOW**, KZUM 89.3 12:30pm

### Every Monday

**NA RAINBOW GROUP**, Narcotics Anonymous, meets Fridays thru Mondays at 10pm, MCC-Omaha Church, 819 South 22nd St

**RIVER CITY MIXED CHORUS REHEARSALS**, 6:45PM—9:15PM, First United Methodist Church, 7020 Cass St.

### Every Tuesday

**GLBT Bowling League**, Every Tuesday 7pm, West Lanes, 151 N 72nd St. Omaha NE 402-991-

6991. Contact Scott Adams 402-215-5961 or [scott@greatplainsuniforms.com](mailto:scott@greatplainsuniforms.com) -Always taking new single bowlers or teams.

**HASTINGS COLLEGE ALLIANCE**, meet Tuesdays at 7PM (when college is in session). Please contact Dr Antje Anderson at [aanderson@hastings.edu](mailto:aanderson@hastings.edu) or Judy Sandeen at [jsandeen@hastings.edu](mailto:jsandeen@hastings.edu) for further information.

**METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA** 819 S. 22nd St., 345-2563—Bible Study at 7pm

**UNL LESBIAN/BI/QUESTIONING SUPPORT GROUP**, 7-8:30PM, Women's Center, Nebraska Union, Lincoln, 472-5644

### Every Wednesday

**AA FOURTH DIMENSION**, 7pm, Open to men and women, 219 North 48th Street

**FRONTRUNNERS RUN/WALK** 6:30pm, Elmwood Park Parking Lot by softball field, Omaha [barbqbill@aol.com](mailto:barbqbill@aol.com)

**LGBT A A** 7:30pm, Alcohol Ctrl., 2116 W. Faidley, Grand Island. Peggy (308) 226-8286, Center (308) 398-5427

**Metro Omaha Prime Timers**, 4:00-6:00pm Coffee with the Boys at No More Empty Cups, 1502 So. 10th St., In the Community Room. Meet up for coffee and conversation. Many of the guys go out for dinner afterwards. Everyone welcome to attend.

**UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA**, 7pm

### Every Friday

**LIVE & LET LIVE AA Meeting**, 8:15pm to 9:15pm, Open to men and women, at Underwood Hills Presbyterian Church, 851 North 74th Street

**LIVE & LET LIVE AL-ANON**, a group focused on support and recovery for the friends and relatives of alcoholics, 7pm to 8pm at the Underwood Hills Presbyterian Church, 851 North 74th Street

### OUT & ABOUT SOCIAL CLUB

Open to everyone 21 and over, every Friday 6:30pm (time may vary), for more info email [outandaboutsocialclub@gmail.com](mailto:outandaboutsocialclub@gmail.com)

### Every Saturday

**AA SATURDAY AFTERNOON**, 1:30pm, Open to men and women, 219 North 48th Street, call 402-558-0733 for more info

**Metro Omaha Prime Timers**, 9am—11am Coffee with the Boys at Paradise Café, Regency Court. Meet up for coffee and conversation. Good food and good coffee too. Everyone welcome to attend.

### PROUD HORIZON YOUTH GROUP

4-6pm, First United Methodist Church, 291-6781 [proudhorizons@yahoo.com](mailto:proudhorizons@yahoo.com)

## MONTHLY EVENTS

### 1st Thursday

**GoGLBT PROFESSIONALS**, no longer meeting

### 1<sup>st</sup> Friday

**FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE HOUSE** 8pm, Musicians, poets, open mic, First Unitarian Church, 3114 Harney, Omaha

### 1st Sunday

**Soka Gakkai International (SGI-USA)**, Lay Buddhist organization based on Nichiren Buddhism, World Peace Prayer the First Sunday of each month, 10am-11:30am, LGBTQIA Friendly, 1021 N 46th Street, Omaha, NE 68132, call 402-558-6148

### SPIRITUAL FRIENDS OF LINCOLN

12-1pm Fellowship and 1p-2p worship Meets Lincoln at Bennett Martin Library [info@inclusivelife.org](mailto:info@inclusivelife.org) and on Facebook

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday

**HEARTLAND PRIDE**, Board Meeting- at D Dale Clark Library, 215 S. 15th St. 6:30pm-8pm, Email: [info@heartlandpride.org](mailto:info@heartlandpride.org), or find us on Facebook

**PFLAG- OMAHA**, 6:30pm to 9pm, Countryside Community Church, 8787 Pacific Street Omaha, Nebraska

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday

**Metro Omaha Prime Timers**, Monthly Meeting, Abrahams Library, 5111 North 90th St. Stop by our monthly get-together to hear about the great upcoming events, and spend time with good friends. 3pm to 4:30pm. Snacks and beverages provided. Everyone Welcome !!

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday

**IMPERIAL COURT OF NE**, Board of Governors meeting, 6:30pm, meeting at the MCC-Omaha, [www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org](http://www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org)

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday

**CBCA MEETING** 5 PM until about 6:30 PM is our monthly meeting with potluck. We meet at St Paul's Episcopal Church in Council Bluffs- see website for more information at [www.councilbluffscommunityalliance.org](http://www.councilbluffscommunityalliance.org)

### 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday

**PFLAG-CORNHUSKER** Unitarian Church, 6300 & A, Lincoln, 7 p.m.

**YOUTH HIV TEST** Lighthouse, 2530 N, Lincoln, ages 13 to 18, FFI: 475-3220. 3-5:30 pm



## HIV Testing Info

NAP is located at 250 S. 77th St

The Omaha NAP office offers the following hours for HIV and STI testing:

Monday: 9:30-11:30; 1:00-3:30 appointment testing - 5:00-8:00-walk-in testing

Tuesday: 9:30-11:30; 1:00-3:30 appointment testing - 5:00-8:00-walk-in testing

Wednesday: 1:00-3:30 appointment testing - 5:00-8:00-walk-in testing

Thursday: 9:30-11:30; 1:00-3:30 appointment testing

Lincoln NAP offers HIV and STI testing by appointment. To schedule call (402) 476-7000. Also the new Lincoln address is 1120 K. St.

For more information call:  
Dara Pagano, PLCSW (She/Her/Hers)  
Prevention & Support Services Manager  
Nebraska AIDS Project  
(402) 552-9260 ext. 105

Or see [www.NAP.org](http://www.NAP.org) for information.

## Weight Loss Program

A guy calls a company and orders their 5-day, 10 lb. weight loss program. The next day, there's a knock on the door and there stands before him a voluptuous, athletic, 19 year old babe dressed in nothing but a pair of Nike running shoes and a sign around her neck. She introduces herself as a representative of the weight loss company.

The sign reads, "If you can catch me, you can have me."

Without a second thought, he takes off after her. A few miles later huffing and puffing, he finally gives up.

The same girl shows up for the next four days and the same thing happens. On the fifth day, he weighs himself and is delighted to find he has lost 10 lbs. as promised.

He calls the company and orders their 5-day/20 pound program.

The next day there's a knock at the door and there stands the most stunning, beautiful, sexy woman he has ever seen in his life. She is wearing nothing but Reebok running shoes and a sign around her neck that reads, "If you catch

me you can have me".

Well, he's out the door after her like a shot. This girl is in excellent shape and he does his best, but no such luck. So for the next four days, the same routine happens with him gradually getting in better and better shape.

Much to his delight on the fifth day when he weighs himself, he discovers that he has lost another 20 lbs. as promised. He decides to go for broke and calls the company to order the 7-day/50 pound program.

"Are you sure?" asks the representative on the phone. "This is our most rigorous program."

"Absolutely," he replies, "I haven't felt this good in years."

The next day there's a knock at the door; and when he opens it he finds a huge muscular guy standing there wearing nothing but pink running shoes and a sign around his neck that reads, "If I catch you, your ass is mine."

He lost 63 pounds that week.

## Gambling

A little old lady goes into the Chase Manhattan Bank, and says she wants to open a savings account. The accounts person asks her how much she would like to deposit to open the account and the little old lady says, "Three million dollars."

The accounts person is startled, and says, "In what form?" and the little old lady says, "Cash. I've got it here in this bag..." and the accounts person looks and, sure enough, the lady has a big grocery bag just chock full of green stuff with big denominations.

This is a highly unusual event, and the accounts person excuses herself to get the president of the bank to handle this one. He arrives, and escorts the little old lady to his office to handle it personally.

Once in his office, he asks the little old lady where she got so much money.

She says, "Gambling."

"Gambling?", he says. "What sort of gambling?"

"Oh, I make bets with people on all sorts of things, and I usually win. For example, I've got \$100,000 right here that says that by noon tomorrow your balls will be square, and I'll even give you 4:1 odds. You got \$25,000 you'd be willing to wager on that?"

The bank president is shocked at this sort of thing coming from a sweet little old lady, but he didn't get to be the president of the Chase Manhattan Bank without knowing something about money. "I suppose I could come up

with enough to cover that sort of wager, but I wouldn't feel right taking it from you...there's no way you can win a bet like that!"

The little old lady just shook the bag, and said, "I know what I'm doing...and I can afford to lose, though I'm not going to. Is it a bet?"

"Ok, have it your way", said the president, and they shook hands on it.

"See you at 11:55 tomorrow morning", said the little old lady, and with that she left.

Next morning at 11:55 the little old lady arrives with a younger man in a three-piece suit, and is escorted to the bank president's office. The president is a nervous wreck, though a happy one. He'd gotten almost no sleep the night before, waking every few minutes to feel his balls to check for impending squareness, but nothing happened all night. He had checked hundreds of times that morning, but still nothing: perfectly normal.

When the little old lady arrived he started to relax, knowing he had won.

"Come in, please have a seat! Who might this gentleman be?" said the president.

"He's my lawyer. For a bet of this size I want to have a witness. Any objections?"

"No, perfectly understandable", said the president. "Well, it's now noon, and I'm still unchanged, so I guess I win!" he said happily.

"Not so fast!" said the little old lady. "For a hundred grand I want to verify things personally! Please drop your pants."

The bank president is a bit flustered, but agrees that in her position he'd want proof as well, so he drops his pants. The little old lady goes over to him and reaches out to feel the organs in question.

"Ok, you win, here's your \$100,000," says the little old lady, handing over a bag of bills. As she does so, her lawyer starts banging his head against the wall and moaning.

"What's wrong with him?" asks the bank president.

"Oh, he's just upset. Poor loser, if you ask me.

You see, I had a bet for \$1,000,000 with him that I would have the President of the Chase Manhattan Bank by the balls by noon today."



# GLBT RESOURCE LIST

## OMAHA BASED

**Beth El Synagogue**, 14506 California St. A GLBT inclusive synagogue, same-sex marriages performed by their rabbis, provided both persons are Jewish. Call 402-292-8550 for more info.

**BiMenNebraska**, Social Support for Bi and BiCurious Men <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BiMenNebraska> and <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Bi-MEN-MIDWEST>

**Camp Kindle**, Nebraska based summer camp for kids affected by HIV/AIDS, 877.800.CAMP, [www.CampKindle.org](http://www.CampKindle.org)

**Citizens for Equal Protection** 1105 Howard St. Suite 2, Omaha NE 68102, 398-3027 [www.cfep-ne.org](http://www.cfep-ne.org), email to: [Michael@cfep-ne.org](mailto:Michael@cfep-ne.org)

**Family Foundations** Therapy for individuals, couples or families, for info call 558-3856

**First Central Congregational Church UCC**, 421 South 36th St., 402-345-1533, [www.firstcentral.org](http://www.firstcentral.org), GLBT-affirming

**First Lutheran Church**, 542 So. 31st St., 402-345-7506, GLBT Friendly [www.firstlutheranomaha.org](http://www.firstlutheranomaha.org)

**First Unitarian Church**, 3114 Harney Street, 402-345-3039, [www.firstuomaha.org](http://www.firstuomaha.org), GLBT Welcoming Congregation

**First United Methodist Church**, 7020 Cass St., 402-556-6262, [www.fumcomaha.org](http://www.fumcomaha.org), GLBT-affirming

**Flat Water Bears**, (group disbanded)

**Front Runners/Walkers**, Wednesdays at 6:30pm, Elmwood Park Parking Lot by softball field, Omaha [barbqbill@aol.com](mailto:barbqbill@aol.com)

**Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network - Omaha**, Box 641676, Omaha 68164, 712-325-0117 <http://www.glsenomaha.org>

**GayLibrary.com**, World Wide Resources

**GOglbt Professionals**, meeting at 5:30PM. See [www.GOglbt.org](http://www.GOglbt.org) for info

**DCDP LGBT Democrats**, <https://www.facebook.com/DCDPLGBTDemocrats>, Contact Ken - 531-205-3193

**Heartland Pride** [www.heartlandpride.org](http://www.heartlandpride.org), email: [info@heartlandpride.org](mailto:info@heartlandpride.org); meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month from 6:30pm to 8pm. @ D. Dale Clark Library

**Ice Bowl Invitational Bowling Tournament** PO Box 31376, Omaha NE 68131. Contact James Fuller 402-968-7360 for info

**Imperial Court of Nebraska**, Box 3772, Omaha 68103, [www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org](http://www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org)

**Inclusive Life** 402-575-7006 [www.inclusivelife.org](http://www.inclusivelife.org)  
Offering religious and non-religious care and services to all without exception. Weddings, Funerals, Coaching and Pastoral Care.

**Metro Omaha Prime Timers**, provides a welcoming and supportive environment to mature gay and bi men and their fans to

encourage participation in fun, cultural, educational or social activities. Email [PrimeTimersEvents@gmail.com](mailto:PrimeTimersEvents@gmail.com) for more information & schedule. Also on Facebook as Metro Omaha Prime Timers Also see the Events list on page 10

**Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha**, 819 S. 22 St., Omaha 68108 345-2563, [mccomaha@mccomaha.org](mailto:mccomaha@mccomaha.org) Website: [www.mccomaha.org](http://www.mccomaha.org) Sunday Worship 9:30am and 11:15am

**NAMI** - Community Mental Health Support for the LGBTIQ community 415 South 25th Ave, Omaha, NE 402-345-8101 or 877-463-6264

**NA Rainbow Group**, Narcotics Anonymous, meets Friday thru Monday at 10pm, MCC-Omaha Church, 819 South 22nd St

**Nebraska AIDS Project**, 250 So. 77th St., HIV testing and counseling

**NebraskaEquality.org**, Find out everything about Nebraska and the GLBT Community [www.NebraskaPrideIDOL.com](http://www.NebraskaPrideIDOL.com)

**Nebraska Zen Center**, Soto Zen Buddhist, 3625 Lafayette Ave., 402-551-9035, [www.prairiewindzen.org](http://www.prairiewindzen.org) GLBT inclusive

**North Side Christian Church** 5555 Larimore Ave., Sunday service at 9:30am, see [www.NorthSideOmaha.org](http://www.NorthSideOmaha.org)

**The 'Ohana Group**, (GLBT / Non-traditional Family group), email to: [Theohanagroup@msn.com](mailto:Theohanagroup@msn.com)

**Omaha Metro GLBT Sports League**, See [www.oglbtsports.com](http://www.oglbtsports.com) for more information

**Onyx Images**, Box 31026, 68131-0026 Social/Support Organization for African American Males age 21 and over

**Out and About in Nebraska**, website: [www.travel.to/outabout](http://www.travel.to/outabout) Email: [NeOutAbout@yahoo.com](mailto:NeOutAbout@yahoo.com)

**OUUT (Omaha Unitarian Universalists for Tolerance)** First Unitarian Church, 3114 Harney, 68131, 345-3039, [www.ouut.org](http://www.ouut.org)

**PFLAG Omaha Chapter**, For confidential information or support, call: 402-291-6781, meeting at Countryside Community Church, 8787 Pacific Street *Omaha, Nebraska*

**Proud Horizons Youth Group**, Sat Afternoon 4pm to 6pm, for info: email [proudhorizons@yahoo.com](mailto:proudhorizons@yahoo.com)

**River City Gender Alliance**, PO Box 284, Boys Town, NE 68010, email [president@rcga.co](mailto:president@rcga.co) or call 402-541-5792, web site [www.rcga.co](http://www.rcga.co)

**River City Mixed Bowling** Sundays, Maplewood Lanes Omaha, at 3PM call 402-572-9393 for details

**River City Mixed Chorus**, Box 3267, Omaha, NE 68103, 402-341-SING Website: [www.rcmc.org](http://www.rcmc.org)

**Second Unitarian Church**, 3012 S 119th St., Omaha, [www.2uomaha.org](http://www.2uomaha.org), 402-334-0537, LGBTQ Welcoming Congrega-

tion

**SNAP Productions**, Box 8464, Omaha, NE 68108 [www.snapproductions.com](http://www.snapproductions.com)

**Temple Israel Synagogue**, 13111 Sterling Ridge Drive., 402-556-6536, member of the Union for Reform Judaism, GLBT inclusive

**Unity Church of Omaha** 3424 N. 90, Omaha, Sunday worship: 10:30am Wednesday meditation service 7pm; 571-1344; [www.unityomaha.org](http://www.unityomaha.org)

**Youth Emergency Services, Inc. (Y.E.S.) and Y.E.S. Drop-in Center**  
Offices: 2679 Farnam Street, Suite. 205 Omaha, NE 68131, 402-345-5187, see [www.yesomaha.org](http://www.yesomaha.org) for information

## LINCOLN BASED

**GLBT and Allies coffee house**, 3rd Fridays, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, 7:30 to 10:30pm

**LGBTQ and Ally Programs and Services Resource Center**, Pat Tetreault, LGBTQ Resource Center Director, <http://involved.unl.edu/lgbtqa> - 402.472.1752 or 402-472-1652 <http://www.unl.edu/health/sexuality>

**Lincoln Women's Center**, Lincoln 402/472-2597.

**Nebraska AIDS Project**, 1120 K Street Suite 100, Lincoln, NE 68508. (402) 476-7000, Wednesdays 4pm to 7pm. Walk-in ok.

**Nebraska Trans\* Community**  
This group is for individuals that identify with a nontraditional masculine or feminine sense of self (MtF, FtM and anywhere in between) and their Partners. Contact info can be found at : [NebraskaTransCommunity.com](http://NebraskaTransCommunity.com)

**OUTInc**, a nonprofit organization that engages in and fosters the well-being and advancement of the LGBT\* community, [www.outinc.org](http://www.outinc.org), Lincoln NE

**PFLAG Cornhusker Chapter**, Box 30128, Lincoln 68508, Meet 4<sup>th</sup> Tues, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, email to Barbara Kimberly, [jbkiber@hotmail.com](mailto:jbkiber@hotmail.com). Website: <http://pflagcornhusker.org/>

**Queer Student Alliance, UNL**, contact [unlqsa@yahoo.com](mailto:unlqsa@yahoo.com) for info

**Spiritual Friends of Lincoln**. Offering fellowship and worship for those seeking radical hospitality, openness, and inclusiveness. Meets the 1st and 3rd Sunday in Lincoln [info@inclusivelife.org](mailto:info@inclusivelife.org) and on Facebook

**Straight Spouse Support Grp** 402-429-6094

**TriCity GLBT**, serving Central Nebraska, web site at <http://www.tri-city-glb.com/>

**UNL Committee on GLBT Concerns**, Contact Pat Tetreault, (402) 472-1752 or email: [ptetreault1@unl.edu](mailto:ptetreault1@unl.edu) / [www.unl.edu/cglbtc](http://www.unl.edu/cglbtc)

**Women In Trades/YWCA**, 1432 N St., Lincoln 68508; 434-3494,

**Youth Support Group**, (402) 434-9880

## Iowa Based



**Council Bluffs Health Department/Free STD Clinic**  
 209 Pearl Street, Council Bluffs, Iowa 51503, 712-328-4666 – ask for Rachel, Monday – Friday by appointment, call to inquire about extended hours, **FREE testing for HIV, Syphilis, Gonorrhea and Chlamydia**  
**Council Bluffs Community Alliance**

[www.councilbluffscommunityalliance.org](http://www.councilbluffscommunityalliance.org)

**Council Bluffs Pride, [www.councilbluffspride.org](http://www.councilbluffspride.org)**

**First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ.** GLBT friendly. 611 First Avenue, Council Bluffs, IA 51501, 712-322-5324 - <http://www.cbfirstcongregational.org/>

**Iowa Equality**, GLBT –allied against change to the state and federal Constitutions, <http://www.IowaEquality.org>

**Sioux City, Iowa Resource Web Site:** [www.siouxlandpride.net](http://www.siouxlandpride.net)

## Nationally Based

**Trevor-24-hour National Suicide Hotline for GLBT and Questioning Youth** 1-800-850-8078 or see web site at <http://www.thetrevorproject.org/helpline.html>

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# The Hungry Homo

## Classic Country Fried Steak

### Ingredients

- 1 1/2 lb. sirloin steaks, use a mallet to tenderize
- 1/2 cup flour
- Salt
- Fresh pepper, ground
- 2 tbsp. bacon grease or lard
- 2 tbsp. flour
- 2 cups half-and-half
- 4 tbsp. unsalted butter

### Steps

Trim visible fat from meat and cut into 4 equal serving pieces. Mix flour, salt and pepper in a shallow, wide bowl and dredge each piece of meat in it, coating well on both sides. Heat grease or oil until hot but not smoking in a heavy, wide skillet with a lid. Brown the meat pieces on both sides, turn heat down a bit, cover and let steak fry like chicken for 15 to 20 minutes, until done. Remove cover and let steak crisp for about 5 minutes. Take steak from the pan and drain. Leave about 2 tbsp. of drippings and all the browned flecks of crust in the pan. Turn the heat a bit lower, sprinkle flour into the drippings and stir to keep from lumping while it browns. Slowly add half and half, stirring. Let it cook until thick, about 3 to 5 minutes. Add seasoning and return the steaks to the gravy and cook an additional 5 minutes.

Makes 4 servings



## Where Can You Find The Gayzette?

### Omaha:

- Dixie Quick's Restaurant, 157 West Broadway 712-256-4140
- First Unitarian Church, 3114 Harney
- Flixx , 1015 South 10th Street Omaha 402-408-1020
- The Max, 1417 Jackson St. 402-346-4110
- Metropolitan Community Church, 819 South 22nd Street
- Omaha Mining Co., 1715 Leavenworth 402-449-8703
- Rodeo Saloon & BBQ 164 W Broadway 712-256-0510

**Would you like to have the Gayzette at your Place of business? Email your request to: [Gayzette@cox.net](mailto:Gayzette@cox.net)**

## Chewy Brownies

### Ingredients

- 1/2 cup butter, melted
- 1/2 cup unsweetened cocoa
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 eggs
- 2 tsp. vanilla
- 1/2 cup flour
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 2 cups of chocolate chips, semisweet

### Steps

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease an 8-inch square pan or line with foil. In a medium bowl combine melted butter and cocoa and stir until cocoa is dissolved. Add sugar and mix well.

Add eggs one at a time and stir until well combined. Stir in vanilla, flour and salt until smooth. Pour mixture into pan; spread in pan and bake for approximately 25 minutes. Cool completely before cutting into squares.

Makes 16 servings





The fact is, unless you're serious about your 20-date-rule, you're still opening yourself up in the most intimate way possible to someone you don't know from Adam (yet).

Sex is a natural and, if practiced safely and respectfully, incredibly fun part of life.

Sex is one of the few things the vast majority of us have in common, irrespective of sexual preference or identity.

The ingredients might be different but the desired outcome is the same: two (or more) people sharing a primal, intimate experience through which they can either grow closer and develop something more meaningful, or simply have fun and never speak again.

Within the LGBTQ community, however, I've noticed a startling problem which I can no longer remain silent about.

I'm recently single, having been with my partner for almost three years. After the relationship ended, I did what any recent single, young queer man would do in this situation. I attempted to numb the pain by going out and re-integrating myself into the LGBTQ+ scene here in Edinburgh.

I'd been with guys before my first-and-only long-term partner, but usually friends or people I'd known for a while.

I was always an avid frequenter of the bars and clubs here, enjoying the music and the drag shows more than the opportunities available for single patrons – namely, 'casual' sex.

I won't lie: it was nice to receive male attention again. That was sadly one of the many things my ex and I had neglected: boosting one another's egos. So, here I was: having fun and generally enjoying my life as a 23-year-old out on the scene with no commitments to anyone else.

However, I was aghast to learn that many of the guys who I would end up hooking up with didn't have, and didn't regularly use, condoms with their sexual partners.

Is this a new trend? Is it 1983 all over again? Surely these guys know the dangers of unprotected sex... or do they?

I had gone from a monogamous, three-year relationship with someone who I loved and trusted implicitly, to strangers asking to bareback me. And what's worse, some of them had literally no earthly idea how STDs and blood-borne pathogens operate. Trust me, you don't need to be a scientist or a doctor to know this stuff!

One guy believed that he was unable to catch anything if he was the giving – rather than receiving – partner. Yes, that's right folks... he thought he could avoid Hepatitis, HIV and other STDs just by being the top!

Another guy asked me to tie him up and bareback him. Me, a stranger, who he'd just met in a club a few hours earlier.

Do these people not read the news? There have been several recent stories here in the UK about gay men being murdered after meeting on dating apps.

To be clear: I am in no way shaming anyone or stigmatizing

anyone who has ever had or is living with any kind of disease or infection. But I do think it's incredibly dangerous and irresponsible to have unprotected sex with people you don't know.

You may believe yourself to be 'clean' (an offensive word as it makes others sound 'unclean'), but when was the last time you were tested?

You could have caught something since your last test. Or the person you're with might just be lying to you. The police are currently on the hunt for an Edinburgh-born man who has allegedly been knowingly infecting his sexual partners with HIV. It's far more common than you'd think.

Our community has faced so much hardship and hurdles over the years: there's no need for us to generate more from within our own ranks. Is a few moments of pleasure worth it the life-long consequences? I don't think so.

I know it's easy to get caught up in the heat of the moment but, please, know who you're sleeping with, respect them, respect yourself, and be safe.

## We've given up on AIDS because it no longer kills people who look like us

Are Brexit Britain and Trump's US turning their back on AIDS?

by Andy Legon

Like global hunger, HIV and AIDS has become an issue we're content to ignore for 364 days of the year.

You need only look at internet search data to see how uninterested we've become. In the UK, USA and other developed countries, the search numbers continue to decline. The lonely spikes in interest you see each year are on December 1st, World AIDS Day.

Even today many of us will content ourselves with popping a red ribbon on our chest and chucking some money in a donation bucket. No eye contact of course; conversation would be a commitment too far.

Our interest will disappear the moment those red ribbons no longer appear on celebrities on TV.

But it's time we snapped out of this complacency. We should

*(Continued on page 19)*





# Editorial

## The American Blood Lust

(Editor's Note..... I first wrote and published this in the May 28th 2004 issue of The Gayzette. I have not changed a single word of it and it pretty much rings true to this very day. In fact, with the election of Donald Trump it rings true even more than in 2004)

Yee Hawwww pardners! Boy do I feel energized and exhilarated! We finally got a President who has the guts to strap on his six shooters, toss on his cowboy boots and 10 gallon hat and attack those slimy terrorists in Iraq. It makes me feel proud to be a gun carrying American member of the NRA. I'll bet you do too! Come on, admit it now.

I can hardly wait until this little skirmish in Iraq is finished so we can move on to the next country in the Middle East and clean their clocks too. It's so exciting I could wet my drawers. Too bad it took something like 9/11 to get our government to finally act and attack these freaks in Iraq.

Why, I am so inspired that I'm going to send a big check to the Republican National Party today in support of our government and its policies. We gotta keep Bush and friends in office for at least another 4 years. So what if the President and his folks had planned the attack on Iraq before he even took office and so what if he stretched the truth about why we had to attack them. Weapons of Mass Destruction my ass. Ha! Who cares? We needed a good war for this country. After all, that's why we keep such a big and modern military force for, isn't it? To go kick butt somewhere in the world. To right a wrong no matter how much it hurts anybody here or in the invaded country. And of course everyone knows that war is good for the economy. Someone has to make those planes, bombs, guns and those big ole Hummer trucks they drive. Boy, I'll bet I could really bag the big ones on the next hunting trip if I had one of those Hummer trucks!

So what if we tortured some of those Iraqi soldiers to get information. Stripped em naked and piled them up like a game of Twister gone bad. Good for those GI's running that prison in Iraq. It serves them Iraqi towelheads right. Don't mess with the US or you old boys will get your butts burned by the good ole boy from Texas!.....

I'm making myself sick just writing this tripe above. What's really sad is that I have spoken with so many people who actually believe all of this crap. It's scary as hell. Why is it that so many Americans support making war on a small country on the other side of the planet that has not been any threat to our own shores? Sure, Saddaam was a bad man and deserved to be thrown out of power, but should we have attacked them just because our government felt it was ok to do so? Feeding page after page of phony reasons and documents to the American public on national TV so soon after 9/11 when everyone's emotions were running so high, that most Americans felt the administrations blood lust and supported it totally. The countries that supported Desert Storm in the early 90's wouldn't bite on this one. Now they are glad they didn't and I can't blame them. America's credibility has been dragged through the mud as a result of the Iraq war and Bush's barbaric stance and we have become the "bad guys" in the eyes of most of the world.

Oh but we're doing away with terrorism..... NOT! We have definitely stirred up a hornet's nest that will take decades to subside. This country will now have to watch it's every move and watch everyone in it. Big brother will be watching all of us much more closely. And what if we do go after another country after Iraq? Who will it be? Syria, Jordan, Palestine or maybe North Korea. Well maybe not North Korea. They have the H bomb and I think it's safe to assume they would use it on us or on our troops invading their country.

So, what if Iraq has an H bomb or 20 stashed in those "forbidden to attack" mosques? The perfect hiding place. After all we as much as told them we wouldn't blow those up. Suppose as a last resort they detonate them. Good bye Baghdad and several other Iraqi cities. Along with most of our coalition forces there. If you think this blood lust costing more than 700 American soldiers so far is bad enough, well how about close to a hundred thousand or even more who would be killed by an H bomb or twenty. Not to mention all of the millions of innocent Iraqi citizens that would die. When will our leaders ever learn not to butt into the business of the rest of the world?

My point is that this country cannot continue being the world's police force and certainly not the aggressor as we are in Iraq. Some day one of them will detonate one of those missing Russian nukes and the cost will be unimaginable, both to us and to the world. As a kid in school we learned about wars that America has fought. Someone attacked us and we fought back. Someone attacked an ally country and we helped them fight back. Why did we break the rules and "start" this war? It's not the American way. Why do so many Americans have this blood lust? I just hope in the end that those who support the war in Iraq (and wherever else we attack next) see the flag draped coffins coming home on the planes. That's part of war too. It could be one of their friends or a relative.

George Broadway  
Gayzette Editor



(Continued from page 17)

be proud that 17 million people worldwide are now receiving treatment. Thirty years ago that sort of progress was just a dream. But millions are still living the nightmare.

Today we'll likely be told that HIV is no longer a death sentence. True – it doesn't have to be. But try telling that to families all around the world when it's now the biggest killer of women of reproductive age.

### There is still a global AIDS crisis

Globally AIDS is also the second biggest killer of young people. It wasn't even in the top 10 in 2000.

We might be told the condition is just as manageable as diabetes. It can be – with the right treatment. But that is little comfort to children living with HIV in low and middle-income countries. Half of those kids won't get to celebrate their second birthday.

We might pick up a newspaper and read that some people with the condition now have higher life expectancies than the average in the UK, USA and Western Europe. But one of the speakers on a recent Youth Stop AIDS tour said: 'If I was born in Uganda, I'd have to choose between adverse mental health effects and kidney damage. I am only alive because of the country I was born in.'

The good news stories across the developed world should absolutely be celebrated. But globally there is a real danger progress could unravel. The number of new adults getting infected with HIV hasn't declined since 2000. In other groups, the number is already rising.

We've allowed this situation to develop. We took our eyes off the ball. In the back of our minds, we thought job (almost) done. Well, at least for those that look and live like us. For people in developing countries, well, it's just another unfortunate fact of life isn't it?

Why else would we ignore the 3,300 people with AIDS who die every day because they can't afford the drugs they need.

In countries across the developed world there was barely a peep about this tragedy. That is until Michael Shkreli hiked the price of a crucial AIDS drug by 5000% and it started to affect people closer to home. Overnight he became the unacceptable – smirking – face of the problem. Apparently some lives matter more than others.

Yes, of course, this is how our minds and media work. 2016 hasn't been the quietest of years. And we tend to focus on those closest to us. The rest is often just background static.

### Are the US and UK giving up on AIDS?

But our lack of interest is far from benign. Historically the USA and UK in particular have played leading roles in tackling this global health crisis. Both are now in danger of abdicating that role.

In the UK, the government allowed their strategy on HIV and AIDS to expire two years ago. They have no plans to renew it. They haven't even turned up to international meetings on the topic.

In the US, it's still too early to tell what impact Donald Trump will have on international HIV/AIDS programs during his presidency. But all the signs point to the drawbridge being raised.

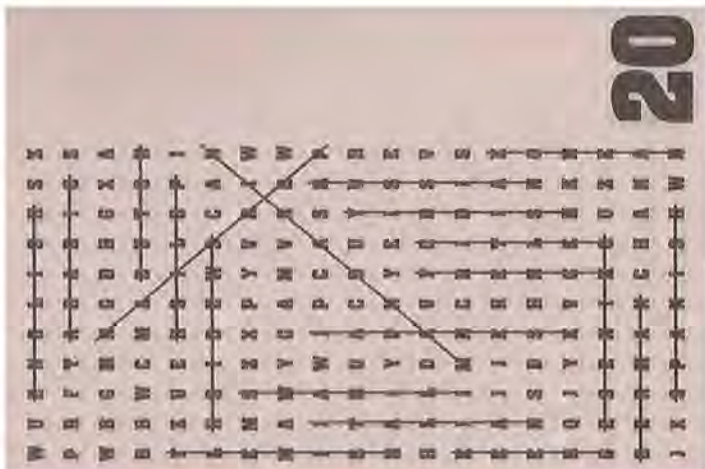
World leaders have made pledges to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. But UNAIDS says we still face a shortfall in HIV funding of \$7billion (€6.6billion) worldwide.

Last year the world made a promise. 193 countries signed the Global Goals, which commit each nation to end the AIDS epidemic by 2030. Ambitious, but achievable. We already have the tools and the knowledge to beat it. But the window of opportunity is closing.

We need to start paying attention to the virus wherever it hides, not just when it hits home. If it carries a passport, we need to fight it beyond our borders.

Back in 2000 Kofi Annan made a powerful call to action: 'In the face of the grave threat posed by HIV/AIDS, we have to rise above our differences and combine our efforts to save our people. History will judge us harshly if we fail to do so now, and right now.'

His words apply now more than ever on this World AIDS Day.



**NEBRASKA AIDS PROJECT**

**250 South 77th Street, Suite A**  
**Omaha, NE 68114**  
(Located behind McDonald's at 77th & Dodge Street)

[www.nap.org](http://www.nap.org)  
402-552-9260

**Get Smart, Get Tested**



# Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox

