



## HIV Continues to Rise Among Youth

By Savas Abadsidis



Leading up to World AIDS Day, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention revealed its latest report on newly diagnosed HIV infections in the United States.

The latest data, as shown in the HIV Surveillance Report, shows new diagnoses have decreased through the Black, Latino, and white communities, but have risen among young adults ages 25 to 29.

While HIV-positive live much longer, HIV prevalence has reached an all time high — over 950,000 people.

"Our nation's HIV surveillance systems have advanced a long way since the early days of the epidemic, both in terms of how data is collected and how it is analyzed and reported," Eugene McCray, director of CDC's Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention, said in a statement. "Today, most states report complete information on HIV cases to CDC - including the person's age, race/ethnicity, risk factors and even their HIV viral load at the time they are diagnosed. Removing duplicate cases takes much less time than it used to, and new technology means we can process large quantities of data much more quickly."

In 2015, men who have sex with men had the highest number of new diagnoses — 26,000 people in comparison to 3,000 people who acquired HIV through heterosexual sex. Additionally, the study found 1,400 new cases who acquired HIV through injected drug use.

## Could Republicans Undo Marriage Equality?

By Matt Baume, Seattle-based writer & storyteller



It's a three-step program that's already underway.

The National Organization for Marriage says that now Donald's president, they have a plan to undo marriage equality. But can they do that? Is marriage equality really at risk?

Yeah. Yeah it is. In fact, ever since the Supreme Court granted nationwide marriage equality, a handful of our old friends have been exploring ways that they could weaken or roll back those rights. And now that Republicans control the federal government, they can set those plans in motion. Here's how they could do it in just three steps.

Step 1 is simply to weaken the protections of marriage. They can't stop marriage altogether, not at first. But in a variety of states, there are subtler efforts already underway.

For example, the Arkansas Supreme Court just gave the state the green light to withhold certain rights from same-sex married couples. In that case, it was the right to have both parents named on their kid's birth certificate. The court said that straight couples can automatically be listed as parents, even if one isn't biologically related to the child. But gay couples can't.

*(Continued on page 3)*

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(Continued from page 1)

There isn't even a pretense here of separate but equal. It's explicitly separate and unequal.

And take a look at what's happening in Texas: there's a group of citizens suing to stop Houston from providing spousal benefits like health insurance to the same-sex spouses of city employees. This group says that even though the state has to issue a marriage license, it doesn't have to go further and treat the couple as though they're married. There's also a bill called SB89 that goes even further? it says that the Texas constitution, which prohibits same-sex marriage, trumps the US Constitution, so the state shouldn't issue any licenses to same-sex couples at all.

Rulings and laws like these are popping up all over the country, and it seems like they ought to be unconstitutional, right? Well, they probably are. But that's going to be up to the US Supreme Court to decide, and guess who's going to be nominating the next Supreme Court justices.

That gets us to step 2: Strategically appointing Republicans in key positions. Among Donald's picks to fill seats on the Supreme Court: Bill Pryor, a judge who has spoke in favor of letting states arrest gay people for having sex in the privacy of their own homes.

And this step isn't only about the Supreme Court. Donald's pick for the Department of Justice is Jeff Sessions, who a decade ago tried to amend the US Constitution to stop gays from marrying. If he becomes Attorney General, Jeff Sessions could ask the Supreme Court to overturn marriage equality on behalf of the US government? that carries a ton of weight. And we'd only need two justices like Bill Pryor for the court to say "okay."

But wait, Jeff Sessions can't show up at the Supreme Court whenever he feels like it. He'd need a lawsuit, some kind of legal conflict, in order to make an argument. Well, remember those weirdly unconstitutional laws and rulings happening at the state level? In a lot of

those cases, the only way to resolve them is to bring them to the US Supreme Court.

And that brings us to Step Three. The opponents of marriage equality have set up constitutional conflicts in the states. Nationally, they've installed allies in the courts and at the Department of Justice. And now, they'll have an excellent shot at using those conflicts and those officials to overturn marriage.

It would be very weird if the Supreme Court reversed the marriage decision after just a few years. But very weird things have been happening lately. And even if this strategy doesn't work, don't worry? they've got a backup plan. It's called the First Amendment Defense Act, and it wouldn't let the government undo your marriage? it would let random strangers undo your marriage.

It does that by granting all people? which, remember, includes corporations now? the right to decide that they will not honor your marriage license. So you can get married, but then your insurance could refuse to extend coverage to your spouse. If you need time off to care for your sick partner, your boss can say, "no, I don't think you're married." And if you think taxes are complicated now, wait until you have no idea whether some official at the IRS will insist that you're still single.

So even if the Supreme Court isn't ready to overturn marriage yet, the First Amendment Defense Act will serve as a little lawsuit-engine, generating constitutional conflicts for years to come? until the right case to overturn marriage comes along.

And until then, you'll still be able to get married. But marriage won't mean what it once did. Marriage once meant that you'd get a whole suite of rights and protections. But soon it could mean that you'll have no idea when those rights might just disappear. Marriage will constantly change depending on where you go, and who you're talking to.

In other words: the Republican plan is to redefine marriage.

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# Farewell Readers

It's been a good long run but the time has come to cease publication of "The GayZette". This is the final issue.

"The GayZette" started out in 1999 as a single sheet listing of local lgbt events, published by the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center. Soon, local businesses began to advertise in it and it grew to 2 pages. Then 8 pages. Eventually it grew up to 24 pages before settling back to the current 16 pages.

The Center and "The GayZette" were labors of love and the desire to inform and entertain people. The GayZette's income kept the Center's doors open with the help of many individuals who volunteered to staff the facility. No one was ever paid to perform any functions at the Center.

The Center closed in 2013 but "The GayZette" continued on in the hope the Center might once again open its doors. All the revenues were used to cover its own expenses and pay for the Center's continued expenses including storage of the Center's library. To this date, no one has personally profited from the GayZette, including me.

As the editor for the last 10 plus years plus I have tried to publish articles and commentaries that were interesting and informative as well as helpful to our readers' personal lives. Over the years a number of local people and businesses have contributed articles, advertisements and information about other local events and I want to thank them all for doing so.

As many print publications know all too well, the Internet has gradually taken over what for decades was the function of the print media. The GayZette has felt the impact of this trend. Over the past several years advertising has declined to the point that continued publishing has become impractical.

The internet has both good points and bad points. Unfortunately it has become all too easy for anyone to put anything on the Internet. Some may be accurate and responsible reporting, but all too often it can be exaggerated, biased, or blatantly false. It can be difficult to determine what is genuine and what is totally bogus. Some of these writers are very clever and, of course, they most often do this for a quick buck by serving up ads on their pages. They don't seem to understand or perhaps just don't care about what effects they can have on people, our communities and our government. Our recent political season reflects an enormous amount of that very thing. Just look who our next President is going to be ! !

Millennials are glued to their phones, tablets and computers and get all of their information there. It's the older baby boomer generation, like myself, who will miss a printed publication. Those folks seem to have become our primary readers and even their numbers are dwindling. They may not have a smart phone or other internet enabled device and some of those who do don't trust what they read there. Perhaps they are the wisest people of all.

So I leave you with this. Use your minds. Think about what you read, especially when from social media sources like Facebook among others. Many of these have become notorious for spreading false news stories. Be politically active. Vote in every election because your one vote does make a difference. Get to know who your political representatives are and hold them accountable for their actions because those actions affect us all.

However, be tolerant of those who believe differently than you. We can accomplish so much more by working together than we can by building up walls between us. And that is going to be more important now than ever before.

Live Well,  
George Broadway  
editor of "The GayZette"

# Why We Won't Go Back

BY JARED MILRAD

"Progress is precarious," wisely said Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The last decade was a time of historic progress for our country. Now, as 2016 comes to a close, we have come upon an uncertain crossroads: whether to return to a time of even greater discrimination and inequality, or to declare with one clear voice that We Won't Go Back.

Late in the night of November 8, as I stood beneath the Jacob Javits Center's towering glass ceiling in Manhattan alongside my husband, Nate, that crossroads came into clear view.

A few steps away, a little girl was sobbing on the floor. She had spent hours coloring a map of the United States, atop which large, colorful crayon print read, "Hillary for President."

By then, the map had more red than blue, and we realized that little girl's wishes — and more than half of the country's — were not to be.

As we exited the building amid fallen American flags and discarded "Clinton/Kaine" buttons, I unconsciously whispered, "It feels like we're in an alternate universe."

That sentiment was certainly shared by millions of my fellow citizens November 8. But for me, the outcome of the electoral vote soon felt both very personal and real — that somehow the collective decision of more than 62 million strangers was a recalibration of everything I thought true about my country.

Perhaps this was because, like many other young people, I had volunteered and worked for Barack Obama even before he decided to run for president — holding a "Draft Obama" sign on the frozen streets of Manchester, N.H., working for his campaign in 2008 and 2012, and later in the White House.

Then, on New Year's Eve in 2012, I had asked my fiancé to marry me inside the historic Stonewall Inn, the site of the origin story for the modern LGBTQ movement.

And just over a year before walking inside the Javits Center, I married my husband in front of our friends and family — equal in their eyes, but also equal in the eyes of the country I love.

Suddenly, on November 8, 2016, the progress that I felt in my own life seemed to be reversed by 46 percent of the electorate — and many of the reasons why are well documented.

Donald Trump is assembling one of the most anti-LGBTQ Administrations in modern American history. Jeff Sessions, Betsy



DeVos, Ben Carson, James Mattis, and many others filling his Cabinet (without even mentioning the abysmal record of Vice President-elect Mike Pence) have categorically opposed equality for years. And then there's the troubling rise of hate crimes since the election; the disconcerting spike of calls to suicide hotlines, many of them LGBTQ; and the elevation of a candidate who has personally promoted bigotry, misogyny, and division throughout his entire pursuit of elective office.

Surely, these developments were more than enough to keep millions of my peers and me curled up in a fetal position for a few days in early November.

Yet in the thick of my vow never to leave my house again, I was reminded of the words of the legendary LGBTQ activist Sylvia Rivera: "Hell hath no fury like a drag queen scorned."

Said differently: We Won't Go Back.

Surely, those four words must have motivated great Americans like Sylvia, when she rioted for justice in front of Stonewall; they must have inspired Harvey Milk when he confronted likely death to tell us that we must "never be silent"; and they surely gave James Baldwin solace when he said, bravely, "Love him and let him love you. Do you think anything else under heaven really matters?"

For me, We Won't Go Back not only summed up the LGBTQ struggle to come — but the African-American, Latino, immigrant, American, and human struggle as well.

As soon as I said those four words out loud at the end of that long week in November, I again found hope. So I created a campaign with the same name — to give Americans of all backgrounds the opportunity to fight for the highest ideals of the country they love.

We Won't Go Back is now a place to contact our elected officials; to support the causes we believe in; to organize, volunteer, and get registered to vote; and to build an inclusive, hopeful future.

Most importantly, I hope We Won't Go Back enables new voices to be heard and stories to be told. Using #WeWontGoBack, you can tweet, write, or record a video telling the world why you won't go back, what you're fighting for, and what's at stake for you, your family, and your community.

As one of our supporters said, "I won't go back because I've fought so long to be here."

Indeed, we all have — and we've come too far to turn back now.

Jared Milrad, JD, MS, is an award-winning actor, writer, lawyer, and entrepreneur and the founder of We Won't Go Back. Featured in Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign announcement, he is the co-author of the new book *So, You Want To Get (Gay) Married: Stuff You Need to Know Before Saying "I Do."* Jared lives in the Los Angeles area with his husband, Nate, and their adopted dog, Cooper.



## You Could be at Greater Risk of STI's if you Shave off your Pubic Hair

Two thirds of men trim, shave or wax their bits according to new research.

by Joe Morgan

Some people like to have pubic hair removed and completely smooth, but doctors are warning if you do that you could be at greater risk of STIs. Small tears in the skin from shaving or even trimming could make it easier for infections, according to new research.



The findings, from a survey of more than 7,500 men and women, also found public hair trimmers were more likely to engage in 'risky' sexual behavior.

Researchers from the University of California, San Francisco, found any type of grooming was linked to an increased risk of having a sexually transmitted infection. The more frequent and excessive the grooming, the greater the risk.

Those who completely shaved off their public hair were three to four times more likely to contract a STI, particularly herpes and HPV.

Doctors advised to let the skin heal before having sex if you remove your pubic hair, or to remove it less frequently.

Other pubic hair grooming facts:

Men were more likely to use an electric razor, while women used a manual razor.

One in five men and women used scissors.

Three quarters had groomed their pubic hair, with 84% of women and 66% of men saying they had trimmed, shaved or waxed in the past.

17% removed all hair at least once a month.

22% said they trimmed at a 'high frequency', trimming daily or weekly.

However, those who did trim or shave were far more likely to be protected against pubic lice. So that's something.

## Three Decades of Memories

My hat is off to George Broadway for nearly two decades of publishing Nebraska's longest running glbtq publication. From the early days of the Resource Center George has been a vital part of Nebraska and Western Iowa's glbtq life, providing information about events, current news, opinion pieces and editorials and a never-ending supply of jokes (some funny, some groaners).

I had the privilege of editing *The New Voice of Nebraska*, a slick covered news and opinion magazine, for 10 years from 1988 to 1998. These magazines chronicled a large part of the emergence of Nebraska's glbt community, providing a record of Nebraska's coming out process and the establishment and growth of strong organizations including the Imperial Court of Nebraska, Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha, the River City Mixed Chorus, and the many faces of Pride in Nebraska.

I became involved in the publication of *The New Voice* because I was a woman in the right place at the right time. *The New Voice* had been published in Lincoln for three years but was about to disband when a group accepted the responsibility of publishing the magazine and moved it to Omaha. Our late friend Pat Phalen and his partner Terry Sweeney were instrumental in this move along with the late Jerry Peck who was to take over the editing of the magazine. Jerry was an early activist but well-known for his negative attitude toward women and the organizing group wanted to be sure the women's voice was heard. So, while rehearsing for a show at the MAX, Terry Sweeney asked if I would be interested in being a "co-editor." I agreed and took part in some stormy meetings before the first issue was published. However, by the time we were looking at the second issue, Jerry had been diagnosed with AIDS and resigned his position (remember, this was 1988 before there was any effective treatment). I assumed the lead position and we went to press with issue number two published in Omaha.

In those days, the magazine was typed out in hard copy and articles were cut to fit a three column format and stuck down to a master page with hot wax. All this was done in the dark and dingy basement of the store front church occupied in MCC-Omaha. If you check the archives of *The New Voice* you'll see those early issues with articles katy-wampus on the page and with varying type styles. Then we moved painfully into the computer age and learned to do desktop publishing on an early model of a MacIntosh computer. Through the years Bob Ewing with the Printing Plus business he had for years published the hard copy which was distributed by hand to the church, the bars and anyplace else that would let us put it out. One copy always went to the Omaha Public Library where they were displayed and then archived.

The years of published *The New Voice* passed quickly, marked by ups and downs: one year the treasurer ab-

scolded with all of the money we had (all \$3000 of it), in the middle of the night one night I received a phone call from an irate reader because of a typo in an ad (at about 2am), another time I put in a cutely worded ad looking for a male Siamese cat to provide stud service for our female cat (at least 3 men called our number offering to provide stud service and were very offended to learn it was a 4 legged cat that needed a mate), people came and went from our steering committee but Pat Phalen, Terry Sweeney, Dick Brown, Carla Petersen, and I were there for all ten years. Most of those years we were joined by Kevin Westhues who provided a calm, even-tempered presence that helped keep the rest of us on an even keel.

I will forever cherish those memories as I know George will cherish the memories of his years with the Gazette. Best wishes, George. May life bring the best to you in the years to come.

Sharon Van Butsel

## New Campaign Wants to End Harmful Conversion Therapy

BY ORIE GIVENS

Five states currently ban "ex-gay" therapy, sometimes called "conversion" or "reparative" therapy, designed to turn LGBT people straight or cisgender, but one campaign hopes to get that number closer to fifty.

The 50 Bills 50 States campaign launched this month with a fundraiser that more than doubled its initial goal of \$5,000. The aim of the group is to introduce legislation banning so-called "conversion therapy" in every state in the nation.

"Conversion therapy is a scam. It starts with the idea that being lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgender or queer is a mental illness. That's wrong," says Samuel Brinton, campaign co-founder and survivor of conversion therapy said in a press release. "Our sexualities and gender identities are gifts that should be celebrated. Instead, these snake oil salesmen abuse children, attempting to change who they were born to be. They are born perfect and any therapist that says otherwise shouldn't be allowed anywhere near kids."

The 50 Bills 50 States campaign is building a grassroots movement to help move initiatives in every state, engaging with local communities to build statewide support for legislation. The campaign says it is aware that it might not get a bill passed in all 50 states, but it hopes to drive conversations and help assist more states to consider banning "ex-gay" therapy.

"I'm overjoyed that we have way more people wanting to



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be involved in this than any of us thought would happen," Josh Chretien, Director of Outreach for 50 Bills 50 States, tells *The Advocate*. "And it's happening very quickly."

The concerns that more LGBT youth will be subjected to these inhumane practices come from the overt and covert support for conversion therapy and other anti-LGBT policies, found in the Republican platform. Though Republican National Committee Chair and President-elect Donald J. Trump's Chief of Staff Reince Priebus denies the claim that the platform condones the controversial and harmful practice. There's been increase in anti-LGBT violence since the election, one that has been particularly present in schools.

Vice President-elect Mike Pence is no friend to the LGBT community. While governor of Indiana, Pence passed the Religious Freedom Restoration Act that allowed businesses and individuals the right to discriminate against LGBT people based on religious grounds. The law was later "fixed" so that it would not allow discrimination against LGBT people. On the campaign website for Pence's election in 2000, many have described a statement on the site as "dog-whistle" language that supports conversion therapy. Pence's staff denied the allegation to the *The New York Times*, but given his history, many LGBT advocates are skeptical.

A politician in Pennsylvania creatively introduced a new law in the state seeking to ban the practice, known as the "Prevention of Emotion Neglect and Child Endangerment" aka P.E.N.C.E. The city of Pittsburgh is also pushing legislation to ban the practice for minors in the city.

According to the National Council for Lesbian Rights website, California, New Jersey, Illinois, Oregon and Vermont currently ban "ex-gay" therapy statewide for minors, in addition to Washington D.C. and other municipalities.

*(Continued on page 8)*

“We need to start that conversation at the base level of every state,” says Chretien, who admits the hard work and potential fight the campaign will face, especially considering Trump has appointed several anti-LGBT people into his cabinet.

“Pulling people together to forge that from the ground up now, is the best way of going about doing that,” Chretien says.

But the organizers hope that through engaging local communities, they’ll change minds, and laws.

## Has our Desire for Sex Clouded the Judgement of our own Safety?

By Anthony Gilet

In light of the Stephen Port serial Grindr rape and murder case, we question whether our judgement is clouded by the urge for quick sex?

You’ll constantly hear gay men bitch about the pitfalls of dating – specifically gay dating – in the 21st century. But that won’t change the fact that two minutes later you’ll probably see them scrolling down their feed of guys on Grindr, or Hornet, or Scruff, or Planet Romeo, or sometimes: all of the above. Why? Well, if you can’t beat them, join them. And it’s a sad truth that if you don’t board the app-wagon, then you get left behind in a trail of dust.

So we sign-up and browse, ’cause they’re convenient, everybody else is doing it, and messages/swipes give our validation a little daily boost. The trouble with conversing with 2-

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Can you find all of the words?

Answer key on Page 15



Dimensional profiles is that you often can't get a sense for what kind of person they are. Text messages are often misconstrued because it can be how the reader interprets what is said. But when using these apps where casual sex is the norm, we should already have our guard up. Imagine if a guy walked up to you in a bar, and said "U hung?" or "Bareback?" – it goes without saying that you'd be like what the fuck? Before making a swift exit. But somehow because they're hiding behind a screen, it's acceptable?



That's a red flag straight away, girl. SWERVE. Not only are they probably at the base of the totem pole in the social caste system, but they're probably still crawling with sperm from their last encounter.

But once you're involved in the app-world, it's very easy to get caught up in a cycle of meaningless sex and a damaged self-esteem. Quite simply, because most of these men aren't looking to date. And so even the ones who would prefer to go for drinks, and see if anything develops, can wind-up surrounded by men that only want one thing. And we are red-blooded men after all, so when there's sex on a plate, there's often no qualms about saying no – especially if you're horny and find the guy is attractive. But are we letting the convenience of casual sex, and the temptation of our animal urges override our judgement of our own safety?

You can speak to anybody who's used a hook-up/dating app and ask them to tell you about one of their misdemeanors; I'm fairly certain they'll have several. Because it happens all the time. You rock up to someone's house and they don't look like they're pictures, or say weird shit like, "my mum helped me decorate." Yeah, I'm sure she helped you hide the bodies too, but I'm not available for your Norman Bates shit. And the fact that these apps are just crawling with vermin like Stephen Port, makes it even sadder that it's taken something like this to happen for Grindr to issue warnings.

Grindr can encourage you to be safe, but only you can put it into action. When you're chatting with a link, ask yourself a few questions, "do they sound normal?", "do they look normal?", and as a general rule, meet him in public (for an ice-breaker, as discussed in Attitude), have a drink and then go back and bang, if you're convinced he's not a basket case. The thing is, unstable people like this, have the ability to masquerade as everyday people, which is why anything that doesn't sit right, is a direct warning from your gut.

When our friends go off to get their willy wet, we'd frequently say "be careful", which they'd interpret as "wear a condom bitch!" but that's obviously not the biggest danger anymore. Because the apps are so instantaneous, it's easy to get carried away – but just remember that if you're not 100% sure, you're urge to shoot your wad could cost you your life.

## More and More Straight Guys are Giving Up "Bro Jobs" and Engaging in "Dude Sex"

What is dude sex? And how is it different from gay sex? Let's find out...



Tony Silva is a researcher at University of Oregon who recently did a study on the growing phenomenon and just published a paper called Bud-Sex: Constructing Normative Masculinity among Rural Straight Men That Have Sex With Men about it.

According to Silva, dude sex (or "bud-sex") is when two guys, usually from a rural area and who identify as straight, hook up together in a discreet, NSA sort of way. They have wives. They have kids. They consider themselves to be heterosexual. But they're also able to compartmentalize sex in a way that allows them to occasionally bump uglies with other guys without complicating anything.

Silva interviewed 19 white, rural, straight-identifying men who say they've had dude sex. He found most of them on the pages of Craigslist's M4M casual encounter ads. All of the guys came from socially conservative and predominant white populations in Missouri, Illinois, Oregon, Washington, or Idaho, and most of them identified as either "exclusively" or "mostly straight," with a few identifying as "straight but bi, but more straight."

Silva spoke with them for about an hour and a half each, and what he learned was pretty interesting.

Many of the guys said they engaged in dude sex as a way of "helpin' a buddy out," relieving "urges," or simply experimenting and/or satisfying curiosities without experiencing any sexual attraction for the person with whom they were experimenting.

Silva also found that dude sex guides their "thoughts, tastes, and practices. It provides them with their fundamental sense of self; it structures how they understand the world around them;

*(Continued on page 10)*

and it influences how they codify sameness and difference.”

In other words: it helps them scratch a certain curiosity itch while simultaneously reaffirming their heterosexuality because, now that they’ve tried it, they realize that man-on-man sex isn’t for them... Or maybe it is... It’s all about learning and growing as individuals.

One thing Silva noticed was that most of the men were seeking other men like them—straight-identifying, married, etc., etc.

“This is a key element of bud-sex,” he writes in his study. “Partnering with other men similarly privileged on several intersecting axes—gender, race, and sexual identity—allowed the participants to normalize and authenticate their sexual experiences as normatively masculine.”

By hooking up with guys similar to them, Silva noted, many of the men didn’t feel their heterosexual identities were threatened. But having sex with a gay man somehow made them feel more gay. In fact, a handful of subjects said they were turned off by “effeminate faggot type[s]” or “flamin’ queers” who were “too flamboyant.”

“If I wanted someone that acts girlish, I got a wife at home,” one subject said.

“A guy that I would consider more like me, that gets blowjobs from guys every once in a while, doesn’t do it every day,” another subject said. “They’re manly guys, and doing manly stuff, and just happen to have oral sex with men every once in a while. So, that’s why I kinda prefer those types of guys.”

Other reasons the men said they preferred to have dude sex as opposed to gay sex was because it happened quicker and didn’t involve lengthy email exchanges, or they felt there wasn’t the threat of the other man becoming emotionally attached to them.

“I think I identify with them more because that’s kinda, like [how] I feel myself. And bi guys, the same way. We can talk about women, there [have] been times where we’ve watched hetero porn, before we got started or whatever, so I kinda prefer that.”

Other men reported that they enjoyed the friendship part most, and that the sex was just sort of a naturally-occurring after-thought.

“We talk for an hour or so, over coffee,” one guy said. “Then we’ll go get a blowjob and then part our ways.”

“I go on road trips, drink beer, go down to the city [to] look at chicks, go out and eat, shoot pool, I got one friend I hike with,” another guy explained. “It normally leads to sex, but we go out and do activities other than we meet and suck.”

“If my wife’s gone for a weekend,” a third guy said, “I’ll go to his place and spend a night or two with him ... We obviously do things other than sex, so, yeah, we go to dinner, go out and go shopping, stuff like that.”

You know? Stuff like that.

## George Takei: "Welcome to the Resistance"

BY GEORGE TAKEI

The Resistance is where the next heroes of our movement will emerge. Be ready, be strong, and be vigilant, says George Takei.



In the wake of Donald Trump's election victory, many have written to me asking how to move forward. It is understandably difficult for our community to accept this setback, from the risk of our hard-won rights being eroded to the fear that dark forces of hatred and intolerance are now emboldened and have begun to strike. Our concerns are not diminished by the president-elect's reassurances over marriage equality, particularly as he continues to name some of the most outspoken bigots to important posts within his cabinet and inner circle — and as we consider the record of his vice president, Mike Pence, while governor of Indiana, or Jeff Sessions, an enemy of equality he has nominated to head the Justice Department.

As both an Asian-American and an LGBT American, I have borne witness to some of the most egregious injustices and tragedies of our national history, where both the public and the politicians turned against us to devastating effect. Many know that I grew up in internment camps where we were held without trial or even charge for years, simply because we happened to look like the people who bombed Pearl Harbor. Fewer remember that, as a young man, it was illegal for me in many states to marry a Caucasian person due to antimiscegenation laws. And as a gay man, I stayed deeply in the closet out of fear that I would not find work as an “out” actor. That same fear rendered me silent even as the scourge of the AIDS epidemic in the '80s and '90s took so many of our community, while the government turned a blind, callous eye.

But know this: I do not look upon all those difficult years solely as blights in my life. To the contrary, they helped forge who I am today. As both an ethnic and sexual mi-

nority, an “outsider” in nearly every sense, I was forced to learn the rules of society very early on. Unlike my straight white male counterparts, out of pure necessity I grew keenly aware of the way our society was ordered. I had to take note of the system so that I did not run afoul of it. That meant that, without realizing it, I became highly self-aware as well as a careful observer of others, far more so than those simply living out their lives, who blissfully had nothing to hide, nothing to fear. With that came a certain social adeptness; I learned how to model and shape my world as a result.

And I grew tough, my own self-critiques far outpacing anything society could level at me.

In today’s political environment, we find ourselves again outsiders, forming a core of those opposed to the powers in Washington and in many of our state capitals. But this is not unfamiliar territory. It is, in fact, where movements were born. The greatest moments in civil rights, from Selma to Stonewall, Seneca Falls to Standing Rock, sprang forward not from eras of harmony, but out of bitter conflict.

It is axiomatic that little worth fighting for has ever come without a fight. New veterans of our struggle will emerge from the coming clashes. And while we all wish that future generations would not have to face the terror, isolation, and even deadly effects of hatred and bigotry, we are reminded today, more than ever, that the struggle may truly never be over. Enemies of progress, equality, and justice often slip away unnoticed for years, regroup and change their names and strategies, then re-emerge to challenge what we have gained.

This does not mean, however, that we are starting again from ground zero. When they came for my family and my community back in 1942, very few others stood up for us. The Japanese-American community felt alone. Similarly, when drag queens rioted at Stonewall in 1969, the LGBT community also had few allies. But today, when the incoming administration threatened Muslim registries and racial profiling, the progressive response was collective and swift to say we would register as well. When Native Americans camped out in the freezing cold to oppose the Dakota Access Pipeline, veterans came to stand with them. And when Trump began to name a cabinet of homophobic and hateful bigots, communities of all colors and creeds decried it. We truly have grown stronger together, and with each new assault upon our dignity and humanity, we will grow stronger still.

So welcome to the resistance. It’s where the next heroes of our movement will emerge. Be ready. Be vigilant. Be strong.

GEORGE TAKEI is an actor, entrepreneur, activist, and social media supernova and the recipient of the 2014 StartOut Leadership Award.

## Congressional Right-Wingers Urge Trump to Repeal Key LGBT Protections

BY TRUDY RING

The ultraconservative House Freedom Caucus has released a list of more than 200 federal regulations it wants Donald Trump to repeal as soon as he is sworn in as president — including key protections against anti-LGBT discrimination.

Republican Congressman Mark Meadows of Utah (pictured at right), the incoming chairman of the caucus, released the list this week after presenting them to Trump. The Washington Post reports. It enumerates rules, regulations, and executive orders, mostly put in place during President Obama’s tenure, that a new president could repeal without a vote in Congress.



The primary LGBT protections listed involve education and health care. The Freedom Caucus wants the Department of Education to revoke the guidelines it issued in May on the treatment of transgender students in public K-12 schools and any other schools, colleges, or universities that receive federal funding. The guidelines call on schools to recognize students’ gender identity and treat them accordingly, which includes using their preferred names and pronoun and allowing them to use the restrooms, locker rooms, and other single-sex facilities that comport with their gender identity.

The guidelines are nonbinding but are intended to help schools comply with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which prohibits sex discrimination in schools that get federal funds. The Education and Justice departments have held that sex discrimination includes discrimination based on gender identity. Even though the guidelines are nonbinding, several states have sued the federal government in an effort to revoke them.

The Freedom Caucus also wants Trump to repeal the Department of Health and Human Services regulation that implemented the nondiscrimination provision of the Affordable Care Act, the law informally known as Obamacare. It prohibits discrimination in health care based on gender or sex stereotyping, something that affects many LGBT people, and says federally funded health care providers cannot deny services related to gender transition.

JoDee Winterhof, senior vice president for policy and political affairs at the Human Rights Campaign, denounced the caucus’s efforts. “In a ridiculous hit list of policies they want revoked, the House Freedom Caucus is shamefully demanding a rollback of protections from discrimination for LGBTQ people — protections the majority of Americans support,” she said in a press release. “These guidelines ensure Americans aren’t

*(Continued on page 17)*

# Life Beyond Therapy

By Michael Kimmel

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



## A Numb New Year?

Why do we numb ourselves? What is it we don't want to feel? Is it so bad to "take the edge off"? Of course not, but how do you get there? Do you need something external (drugs, alcohol, sex, shopping) to make you feel better, or is there a way to get there on your own?

As 2017 nears, there is plenty of stuff to worry about: homophobia, racism, Donald Trump, sexism, ageism, global warming, Donald Trump. But, does numbing ourselves really help the situation? In the short run, sure, have an occasional drink, do a little shopping or have sex to feel better...but, don't make a habit of it. This is Avoidance with a capital "A" and avoidance isn't going to help us deal with any of the challenges coming our way in 2017.

Instead, you could try being more aware: aware of what you're thinking, aware of what you're feeling. Awareness is the antidote to numbness. It's also a good antidote to fear, boredom and a whole host of negative emotions. I recently read a book – "Turning Toward Enlightenment" by Encinitas author Gary Crowley – that had a particularly unusual exercise to increase awareness:

Imagine that your head has been removed. In its place imagine only awareness.

Keep your eyes open as you do this.

Notice there is only the awareness of a body and all that surrounds it.

Having no head leaves "I am aware" as the only thing that sits on your shoulders.

At first, this exercise seemed bizarre, but I gave it a shot and – surprisingly – it brought me a lot of peace, "spaciousness" and a nice, relaxing "emptiness". I felt my worries temporarily go away and I was able to think more calmly and clearly. Crowley's book has a bunch of interesting exercises like this to help us "turn towards enlightenment". I highly recommend it

Let's talk more about emotional numbness. Why do we want to go there? From a psychological point-of-view, it can look appealing when we feel emotionally disconnected from a situation – for example, the USA elects a person like Donald Trump to be our next president and it's such a shock that we feel disconnected from reality ("How could this happen?") and hopeless ("OMG, his whole cabinet looks like the Alt-Right.")

Perhaps Mr. Trump's election has been great news for alcohol, marijuana and sex-focused businesses, but, I have seen in my psychotherapy practice that the incoming Trump administration more typically invokes PTSD-like reactions: (1) emotional numbing and/or (2) emotional arousal.

Emotional arousal typically appears as being easily startled, upset or pissed off. All your senses are heightened and you frequently feel on the edge of losing it.

In the emotional numbing stage, you try to avoid thinking about the

traumatic event (e.g., four or eight years of a Trump administration). You may want to not feel much of anything, so you drink, smoke weed or find some other way to keep numbing yourself out. You may even experience problems with concentrating and remembering things. I know that the day after Trump won, I couldn't focus on anything and my memory was shot: I was emotionally numb.

For most of my clients, alcohol is their numbing agent of choice, with marijuana and sex tied for second. I read in the New York Times that many women have dramatically changed their haircut and color in the weeks following Trump's election. This too is a way of coping with feeling numb: we try to "shock" ourselves into a better place by changing our hair, which can be a very symbolic way to tell the world: "Hey, it's time for a big change. I don't like how things are going, so I'll start with my hair."

I know I've done this. I once went platinum when I was feeling particularly numb. I felt dead, and after all that bleach, so did my hair! (I don't recommend this a constructive coping device).

What about you? How do you numb yourself and escape things you don't want to feel or face? Would you be willing to try and just be aware of what's going on – internally and externally – without habitually reacting or avoiding it?

You can have a numb new year or an aware one; the choice is yours. (I hope it's the latter!)



# 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

## Sloshed !!

A French policeman stops the Englishman's car and asks if he has been drinking.

With great difficulty, the Englishman admits that he has been drinking all day, that his daughter got married that morning, and that he drank champagne and a few bottles of wine at the reception, and many single malts scotches thereafter.

Quite upset, the policeman proceeds to do a breathalyzer test on the Englishman and verifies that he is indeed totally sloshed.

He asks the Englishman if he knows why, under French Law, he is going to be arrested?

The Englishman answers with a bit of humor, "No sir, I do not! But while we're asking questions, do you realize that this is a British car.

And that my wife is driving . . . . on the other side?"

## Bad Attitude

A big muscle guy marries a beautiful girl, and after the honeymoon they go home. In the bedroom, the guy takes off his pants and tosses them to her, telling her to put them on. A bit puzzled, she does so, and finds that his pants are too big around the waist and too long and wide in the legs.

"What's this all about?" she asks.

The muscle guy answers arrogantly, "This is just to show you who wears the pants in this house."

"Oh," says the wife, "in that case," and she takes off her panties and tosses them to him, saying "You put those on."

Puzzled himself, the big lug complies, and finds he can't get the panties even up to his knees.

"DAMN, baby," he exclaims, "I can't get into your panties!"

"That's right," she replies, "and you're not going to, until you change your attitude!"

## The Crocodile

A guy walks into a bar with a crocodile on a leash and puts it up on the bar.

He turns to the amazed drinkers, "Here's the deal. I'll open this crocodile's mouth and place my genitals inside. Then the croc will close his mouth for one minute. He'll then open his mouth and I'll remove my wedding tackle unscathed. In return for witnessing this spectacle, each of you will buy me a drink." After a few moments' silence the crowd murmurs approval.

The man stands up on the bar, drops his trousers, and places his privates in the crocodile's mouth.

The croc closes his mouth as the crowd gasps. After a minute, the man grabs a beer bottle and raps the crocodile on the top of his head.

The croc opens his mouth and the man removes his genitals - unscathed as promised.

The crowd cheers and the first of his free drinks is delivered.

The man calls for silence and makes another offer. "I'll pay anyone \$1,000 who's willing to give it a try". A hush falls over the crowd. After a while, a hand goes up at the back. It's a blonde.

"I'll give it a try, she says. "But only if you promise not to hit me on the head with the beer bottle..."

## A Second Opinion

While in China, a man is very sexually promiscuous and does not use a condom all the time. A week after arriving back home in the States, he wakes one morning to find his penis covered with bright green and purple spots.

Horried, he immediately goes to see a doctor. The doctor, never having seen anything like this before, orders some tests and tells the man to return in two days for the results.

The man returns a couple of days later and the doctor says: "I've got bad news for you - you've contracted Mongolian VD. It's very rare and almost unheard of here. We know very little about it."

The man looks a little perplexed and says: "Well, give me a shot or something and fix me up, Doc."

The doctor answers: "I'm sorry, there's no known cure. We're going to have to amputate your penis."

The man screams in horror, "Absolutely not! I want a second opinion."

The doctor replies: "Well, it's your choice. Go ahead if you want but surgery is your only choice."

The next day, the man seeks out a Chinese doctor, figuring that he'll know more about the disease. The Chinese doctor examines his penis and proclaims: "Ah, yes, Mongolian VD. Vely rare disease."

The guy says to the doctor: "Yeah, yeah, I already know that, but what can we do? My American doctor wants to operate and amputate my penis!"

The Chinese doctor shakes his head and laughs: "Stupid American doctor, always want to operate. Make more money that way. No need to operate!"

"Oh, Thank God!" the man replies.

"Yes," says the Chinese doctor, "You no worry! Wait two weeks. Faw off by itself!"

## MORNING SEX

She was in the kitchen preparing to boil eggs for breakfast.

He walked in; She turned and said, "You've got to make love to me this very moment.

His eyes lit up and he thought, "This is my lucky day."

Not wanting to lose the moment, he embraced her and then gave it his all right there on the kitchen table.

Afterwards she said, "Thanks," and returned to the stove.

More than a little puzzled, he asked, "What was that all about?"

She explained, "The egg timer's broken."

## 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.

# 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

## Corn and Chicken Chowder

### Ingredients

- 6 slices bacon, crumbled
- 1 Tablespoon butter
- 1/2 cup celery, finely chopped
- 2 cups potatoes, cubed
- 1 cup onion, finely chopped
- 1/2 cup carrot, finely chopped
- 3 tbsp. flour
- 2 1/2 cups chicken broth
- 1 tsp. Creole seasoning or seasoned salt
- 1 cup corn kernels
- 1 1/2 cups half-and-half
- 1 1/2 to 2 cups diced cooked chicken
- 1 can (14.5 oz.) diced tomatoes
- salt and pepper, to taste

### Steps

1. Fry bacon in a large saucepan or Dutch oven. Remove bacon from pot. Add butter to bacon drippings. Add celery, potatoes, onion, and carrot. Sauté, stirring constantly, until onion and celery are tender.

2. Stir in flour. Add chicken broth and seasoning or seasoned salt, stirring constantly. Cook until thickened. Cover and simmer for 12 minutes.

3. Add the diced chicken and corn. Simmer for 7 minutes longer until vegetables are tender. Add half-and-half and tomatoes. Heat through. Add salt and pepper as needed.

Makes 4 to 6 Servings



## Where Can You Find The Gayzette?

### Omaha:

- Dixie Quick's Restaurant, 157 West Broadway 712-256-4140
- First Unitarian Church, 3114 Harney
- Flix , 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)**

## Fruit Pie

### Ingredients

- 1 (9 inch) pie shell, baked
- 1 (15.25 oz.) can fruit cocktail, drained
- 1 (4.6 oz.) package non-instant vanilla pudding mix
- 2 cups milk
- 1 pint heavy cream

### Steps

Drain fruit cocktail. In a saucepan, prepare pudding according to package directions, using 2 cups milk. Remove from heat and stir in the drained fruit cocktail. Pour into baked piecrust and let set at room temperature until cooled. Then place in refrigerator until serving time. Place glass bowl and mixing beaters in freezer. Just before serving, whip up the heavy cream in the frozen bowl. Do not add sugar, and do not over whip. Spoon on top of pie and serve.

Ready in 4 hours 20 min

Makes One 9 inch pie





*(Continued from page 11)*

denied health care simply because of who they are or whom they love and ensure transgender students have the same opportunities as their peers to thrive in a classroom. They are crucially important protections that absolutely must remain in place. Lives depend on them. Congressman Mark Meadows' and the House Freedom Caucus' efforts must be stopped. It's time for folks to stand up, speak out, and demand lawmakers keep these fundamental protections for LGBTQ people in place."

As evidence of public support for such protections, the HRC pointed to poll results it released earlier this month in which Greenberg Quinlan Rosner Research found that 69 percent of respondents supported the Equality Act, a proposed federal law that would provide a far more comprehensive ban on anti-LGBT discrimination than the regulations targeted by the Freedom Caucus. Even 55 percent of Trump supporters supported the Equality Act.

The regulations the Freedom Caucus wants repealed also include many dealing with the environment, labor, reproductive rights, food and nutrition, enforcement of immigration laws, banking, and for-profit colleges. Vox has an extensive analysis [here](#).

## **I'm Glad You're on PrEP... but I still Want to Wear Condoms**

by GSN Contributor

I'm having sex with a hot guy. A super hot guy. I'm on a trip abroad and we hooked up via an app.

I'm lying back on his bed thinking that he might actually be the most muscle-pumped guy I've ever jumped into the sack with. All is going great. And from the way he's twerking around on top of me, he's making it clear that he wants to get fucked.

'Do you want me to put a condom on?' I ask, expecting him to immediately say 'yes.'

'I hate condoms,' he says firmly. 'I'm on PrEP.'

There's a pause. He awaits my response.

'Oh. Well, I only use condoms,' I say.

'Are you negative?' he asks.

'Yes. But I still only wear condoms. Sorry.'

He sighs and there's the very slightest eye roll. Yes, an actual eye roll.

He doesn't get up to get a condom and doesn't ask me to get one (I have some in my bag). So, we end up not fucking.

The remainder of the sex is still great and – for me – satisfying, but afterwards, I still can't get the eye-roll out of my head.

I can't help feeling like I've been made to feel like I'm being... Prissy? Overly cautious? A spoilsport?



As a gay man, I've found myself in situations before where condoms haven't been used. It was nearly always in the heat of the moment and always when large quantities of alcohol had been consumed. It was always, inevitably, followed by feelings of regret and fear.

I haven't been in that situation since I stopped drinking a few years ago. But this is different.

I'm a big supporter of PrEP and wish it were available widely in the UK. Our health service currently does not fund it.

In the US, Canada and other countries, it's now common for gay men to be taking the medication, which – should you not be aware – vastly reduces your chances of becoming infected with HIV.

Sexual health advocates advise PrEP to be used in conjunction with other forms of infection prevention.

Because I live in the UK, I've not actually had sex with many guys on PrEP. I don't know if PrEP is commonly used in conjunction with condoms. From this one experience, I'm guessing perhaps not.

I'm glad guys are taking PrEP and are educating themselves and protecting themselves. I respect their decision to take the drugs and to request the sex they want to have. But by the same token, I'd ask for the same respect in return.

Condoms can help reduce the risk other sexually-transmitted infections. Sometimes, and let's be frank, when sticking your dick into another person's butt, there are cleanliness issues to consider.

*(Continued on page 18)*

Some of us still carry around the conditioning of years upon years of safer sex messages.

Another recent scenario: I'm again talking to another guy on an app. We've both made it clear that we want to hook up. It's a Sunday afternoon and he lives fairly local to me in London and I'm happy to go to his place.

His profile says he's a bottom and he's HIV+. I was going to take my condoms anyway, and I know that most guys these days are on medication, so this doesn't bother me.

'I don't like condoms,' he messages me. 'I'm undetectable. I can't infect you.'

Again, it's great he's on medication and undetectable, and I know the chances of him infecting me are almost non-existent. But I still prefer to wear a condom. And I politely tell him so.

'Sorry – let's call the whole thing off then,' he replies.

Once more, we're not talking about uninformed decision-making here. This guy seemed intelligent and knew exactly what he was talking about.

A recent study of 40,000 condom-less sexual encounters between sero-discordant couples (where one has HIV and the other doesn't) found not one single incidence of HIV transmission when the positive person had an undetectable viral load.

That still doesn't mean I want to bareback with a guy I've just met on an app who I know to be HIV positive: When was he last tested for other STIs? How good is he at religiously taking his medication?

Recent studies have found ignorance continues to persist around HIV transmission – including among gay and bisexual men.

I wish every gay guy I come across was as knowledgeable about HIV infection as these two men. But I also wish their confidence didn't extend to making those who still want to use condoms feel like party poopers.

Footnote: The hot muscle guy still asked to see me a second time for a repeat session, and the local guy messaged me again a few weeks later to invite me over – with condoms. I'm glad I stuck to my guns.

## The Desire to Self-Segregate After the Election

BY NEAL BROVERMAN

"Safe space" is a funny term to many Trump supporters, but they don't realize it's necessary when your country turns its back on you.

The Friday after Donald Trump won the Electoral College (I will not say election, sorry), my boyfriend and I had a date night planned.

"Can we go to West Hollywood?" I asked, surprised for a mo-

ment by my own words.

We don't often go to the gay hub of Southern California; it's crowded and expensive and difficult to get to. But I had a desire, or rather a requirement, to be around people who didn't vote for Trump.



Chugging margaritas and pounding tortilla chips, we could faintly hear the sounds of disbelief and exasperation from the other tables. I empathized with their terror and anguish, but was grateful for their response; it was preferable to the gloating of the selfish and ignorant.

In the month that's followed, I've grown deeply appreciative that I get to work at The Advocate, with people who understand the gravity of our current situation. At the office, I commiserate with brilliant women, people of color, and LGBTs; we gnash our teeth and make jokes at the absurdity of it all. The injustice and stupidity running rampant in our country is not always on our tongues, but it rarely leaves our heads. We get up every day and face the ugliness and uncertainty, even though many of us would rather bury our heads in the sand (me included).

A few weeks ago, my boyfriend and I invited a small group of friends to our new apartment (we thought moving on November 15 would be a nonevent since the election would be over and everything would be back to normal; a higher power laughed at us). I kept it queer. I wanted us to talk, but not of inane subjects. I wanted us all to laugh, but not too loud.

We had Trivial Pursuit set up and a friend brought the AbFab boxed set. But we just wailed and screamed until 2 in the morning. Since our favorite gay bar recently closed — the dearly departed Roosterfish in Venice — this was as close as we could get to that experience. As our queer spaces disappear, we have to maintain our own, I guess. That night was cathartic. I loved it; I needed it.

When I take the train every day to work, I feel far away from New York and Washington, two cities I grew up with that now feel tainted with Trump's evil, orange smear. I often dream of going to Hawaii; putting as much distance between myself and that man and his horrifying cabinet.

On the commute, I see the brown faces that Trump vilified, the Muslims he targeted, the trans women he discounted, the black people he condescended to. We glide over lovely neighborhoods that our future president would call hellholes. On the ride, I don't see #MAGA hats, I don't hear anyone saying "libtard" or "snowflake." I thank the higher power for that sweet reprieve; it's more than most queer Americans can say.

Some foolish people say we lost the election over "identity politics." My life is identity politics — not out of choice, but reality. I imagine I'll grow more comfortable spending time around those who don't have to be bothered with identity politics, but I'm not there yet. I know we need allies, but right now I want my people.

# North Carolina's Anti-LGBT Governor Reportedly Joining Trump White House

BY NICO LANG

Pat McCrory might get his Carolina comeback after all.

President-elect Trump's transition team, who met with the embattled North Carolina governor last Wednesday, has reportedly pledged to take McCrory under its wing, saying he "definitely" has a place in the Trump administration. An anonymous source familiar with the transition effort told The Charlotte Observer that it's a done deal.

"They're definitely going to take care of him," the source said.

Last week's meeting at the Trump Tower was just one of two encounters between the two men following the 2016 election, in which McCrory was the only governor to lose his bid for reelection. McCrory, who the president-elect called a "loyal



Trump supporter from day one," appeared at a stop on Trump's victory tour in Fayetteville the day prior to their sitdown.

Trump is perhaps being effusive in his statement about McCrory's support, as the two men have had a rocky relationship.

The businessman, then running for the Republican nomination, criticized House Bill 2 after the legislation was passed in March. The law, which forces transgender people to use bathrooms in government buildings that do not correspond with their gender identity, also keeps municipalities from enacting or enforcing LGBT-inclusive antidiscrimination laws.

Trump initially opposed HB 2, saying that the bill was unnecessary. "There have been very few complaints the way it is," he said during an April town hall forum on Today. "People go. They use the bathroom that they feel is appropriate. There has been so little trouble. And the problem with what happened in North Carolina is the strife and the economic — I mean, the economic punishment that they're taking."

Trump was referring to the business and tourism the state is losing. It stands to lose \$5 billion every year HB 2 remains law, estimates the Williams Institute, a pro-LGBT think tank at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Trump, however, backed off his criticism of HB 2, later stating that he believes bathroom policies should be left up to states and localities to decide.

Following the flip-flop, McCrory would appear at a Trump rally in July, even sharing a prolonged hug with the billionaire's running mate, Mike Pence. Following the leak of tapes recorded during a 2005 appearance on Access Hollywood, in which Trump said it's OK to sexually assault women if you're a celebrity, McCrory defended the businessman, calling him a "role model."

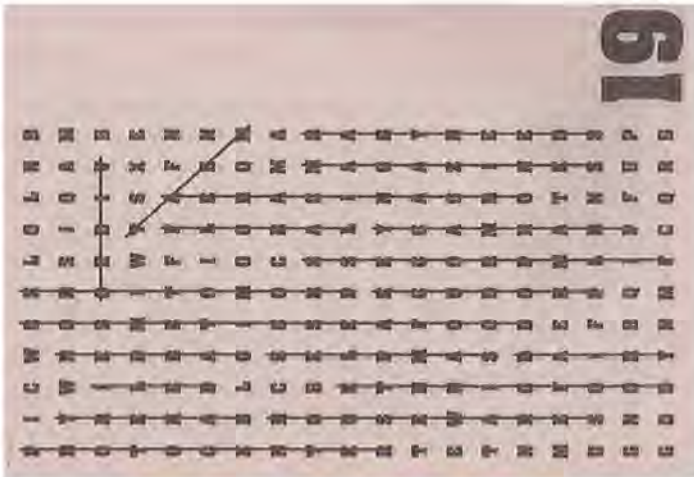
"He does stand strong on certain issues that need to be said, especially from outside Washington, D.C.," the governor said, pointing to Trump's promise to force Muslims to enroll in a national registry if elected president.

Although the source didn't say which posts the Trump transition team is considering McCrory for, the Observer notes a number of possibilities. The president-elect has already made his Cabinet picks for the Departments of Commerce, Energy, and Transportation, but McCrory could land a lower role in the offices. The governor could also find himself with a key role in the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

If McCrory does indeed join Trump's White House, it may be a bit of destiny for the soon-to-be-unemployed governor.

Prior to the passage of HB 2, conservative pundit Ann Coulter floated the North Carolina politician as a possible vice-presidential pick for Donald Trump, then in the early months of his campaign. In December 2015, Coulter tweeted a Huffington Post article in which McCrory mocked gender studies programs at state universities.

Neither McCrory nor Trump has commented publicly commented on their meetings.





**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

