

# LGLC NEWSLETTER



**PUBLISHED BY LIBERTARIANS FOR GAY AND LESBIAN CONCERNS**

Number 23

Spring 1991

## We Are Back!

by James L. Hudler

LGLC lives! After two years of dormancy, Libertarians for Gay and Lesbian Concerns is being reactivated. We have moved, too, from San Francisco to Ann Arbor, Michigan.

The reorganization started at the last National Libertarian Party convention in September of 1989 in Philadelphia. The LGLC met at that convention, and I was elected to serve as its new National Coordinator, replacing George Meyer. Also, those attending the meeting decided to reaffirm LGLC's past objectives:

- 1) to provide a network for gay libertarians;
- 2) to improve awareness of gay concerns within the libertarian movement;
- 3) and to provide libertarian outreach to gays and lesbians throughout the world.

In order to implement these objectives, I plan on using three forms of activism:

- 1) regularly publishing a newsletter;
- 2) running ads in libertarian, gay, and other sympathetic publications;
- 3) participating in and staffing booths at gay pride events, marches, or fairs.

This is the first newsletter since the reorganization. For the near future we plan on publishing quarterly. Copy is needed of an appropriate nature. Please send any articles and letters to the Chelsea P.O. box.

Publicizing the reorganization and our very existence is essential to recruiting new members, regaining previous members and rebuilding the mailing list. This month we will be running ads in the National Libertarian Party Newsletter, *The Michigan Libertarian*, *Caliber*, *Reason*, and *Liberty*. As funds permit, we plan on advertising in other publications. Below this article is a sample of the ad that we are placing in libertarian publications.

Providing a physical presence at libertarian and public gay events will go a long way toward accomplishing our three objectives. To this end we need literature and the information of upcoming events at which we can participate. Assistance with writing outreach literature is much needed! Our first public event since reorganization will be an international meeting and cocktail party at the Chicago Downtown Marriott during the National Libertarian Party Presidential Nominating convention starting August 30, 1991.

All of these activities require your input both spiritually and financially. So help us to rebuild LGLC to its former glory as the only gay organization speaking out for liberty.

*James Hudler is National Coordinator of Libertarians for Gay and Lesbian Concerns.*

### ARTICLES

The LGLC newsletter needs articles and letters to the editor. Please send all copy to the Chelsea P.O. box.

### LGLC CONTACTS:

**MICHIGAN:** James L. Hudler, P.O. Box 447, Chelsea, Mi. 48118.

**CALIFORNIA:** George Meyer, c/o Free Forum Books, 1800 Market St. #210, San Francisco, CA. 94102.

### LGLC MEETINGS:

The LGLC will hold an international meeting and cocktail party during the National Libertarian Presidential nominating convention in Chicago between Friday, August 30 and Sunday, September 1, 1991.

# The Homocaust: the Politics Of AIDS

by Raymond Warner

We are marking the tenth anniversary of the beginning of the AIDS plague. This is the date chosen by the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, but the gay grapevine saw the deaths in New York as early as 1979. Since the heterosexual commentaries are as shallow and as ill-informed as ever, perhaps it is time for a sexual outlaw to speak on these things.

AIDS is the best thing that's happened to the queer nation since Sodom was burned. "Out of the closets and into the streets" was the slogan of the 60's, but AIDS got a lot more people out of the closet even if they were corpses. All across the nation it was off the dance floors and into battle groups. Gay organizations increased in size, numbers, depth, money, commitment and publicity. Alas, the major media did have a problem for a while completing a sentence with the word homosexual without including AIDS at the same time. ACT-UP, Queer Nation, Lambda Legal, and GLAAD, and the Human Rights Campaign Fund are all national formations coming out of this decade—all of this driven by our HIV positives, our death commandos, without whose nothing-left-to-lose philosophy the gay liberation movement would have remained as obscure as the Libertarian Party.

This has been war. Germ war for some of us. It matters little if you believe the stories of how the virus was cooked in the labs of Fort Dietrich and then injected in the gaymen's community through a bogus hepatitis study. The enemy planned well, the gaymen of that time were closer than family, we were of one blood, and the powers knew the way in which we crossed over to the other elements of society whether it was race, class, nation, or IV culture. We were the perfect carriers.

The *New York Native* must be commended for its outstanding radical analysis of the events of this period. Without their reportage we would not have learned of the clique of Mormon doctors that control the CDC to advance their genocidal plans against their Church's traditional enemies: blacks, queers, and druggies. There is no doubt about it that the summer Rock died we all came pretty close to being marched off to the death camps. The only thing that saved us was the fact that Reagan was brain-dead and Nancy, who we now know was running things, was a major fruitfly.

Though we come through this most deadly era making some legal advances, the times ahead grow more grim and the gay movement is being distracted. When AIDS deaths reach a hundred thousand a year, when the Christian Right is whipped into a millennialist frenzy, when the bankrupt economy of a dying empire collapses, then the fight for liberty will be street to street, and house to house. And how stand the forces of free minds, free markets, and free sex? Freedom fighters have always been a ragtag lot.

The title of this rant suggested some parallels between the queer nation and the Jewish peoples. Our numbers, wealth, education, and ancient heritage all would draw comparisons, as well as the enduring Jewish prominence in commerce when contrasted to the gay dominance in culture.

But it was the death struggle against Naziism and the holocaust that defined modern Jewish culture and gave birth to their nation. So too the HOMocaust will forever define gay identity and perhaps give birth to the queer nation.

But if you look at the gay liberation movement today, you will find the aforementioned organizations in a state of distraction. ACT-UP is on the verge of an ultra-leftist take-over. GLAAD is most concerned with presenting vanilla images in the media. Lambda Legal doesn't have the guts to defend NAMBLA. The Human Rights Campaign Fund is a trough for the Democrats. And Queer Nation is doing kiss-ins at the malls (totally radical, shoppers).

Instead of promoting national health insurance we need to call for the abolition of the FDA and the CDC. Instead of promoting domestic partners we need to abolish state control of families. Instead of including gays in the military we need to abolish the greatest threat to liberty: the standing army.

Safer sex education and the buddy system to care for HIV positives are the two greatest innovations of the gay community in saving the living and caring for the dying—all done without state help. We may lose a generation before we can re-eroticize the next, but we certainly cannot expect a cure from those who do God's will. Check out the Christian Reconstructionists (Marilyn Quayle is one): these folks are theocrats with genocide on their minds.

Free minds means the unrestricted private publication of gay positive materials. Free Markets means unrestricted medical technology and drugs. And free sex means seroprivacy, there is no moral imperative to reveal one's status.

We survived Sodom; We'll survive AIDS.

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## ADVERTISING INFORMATION

**DISPLAY ADS:** THE LGLC NEWSLETTER will accept display ads at \$4.00/column inch. THE LGLC NEWSLETTER reserves the right to refuse any ad.

**PERSONAL ADS:** With any subscription to THE LGLC NEWSLETTER, if desired, you will be given a free personal ad the newsletter up to 30 words. So subscribe TODAY.

**PUBLISHING INFORMATION:** THE LGLC NEWSLETTER is published quarterly by Libertarians for Gay and Lesbian Concerns. Our new worldwide headquarters are in Ann Arbor, Michigan, mailing address: LGLC, PO Box 447, Chelsea, MI 48118.

All copy should be sent to the above address in care of James Hudler, editor. All signed articles are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the position of the L.G.L.C. newsletter.

# A NEW CIVIL RIGHTS AGENDA

By Clint Bolick

During the past twenty-five years the civil rights establishment has steadily transformed the meaning of civil rights from those fundamental rights we all share equally as Americans into special burdens for some and benefits for others. Forsaking the free enterprise system and the vital liberties it embodies, the civil rights establishment has sought to apply the coercive apparatus of the state to redistribute wealth and opportunities in way more to its liking. In the process, the quest for civil rights has been abandoned, its future course uncharted, and its moral leadership unclaimed.

The reasons for the degeneration of a noble quest into a crude political struggle are complex. I explore them in my book, *Changing Course: Civil Rights at the Crossroads*. For now, it is sufficient to note the consequences of the revised agenda that has dominated our nation's civil rights policy during the past twenty-five years, particularly in terms of its purported beneficiaries.

The results are in, and they are devastating. They have been documented by Charles Murray and Thomas Sowell, and more recently by William Julius Wilson. The tragic reality is that after more than two decades of quotas, set-asides, and forced busing, many minorities and others outside the economic mainstream are more isolated from basic opportunities, more deeply enmeshed in the miasma of dependency and despair, than ever before.

Many serious civil rights problems exist that are not even being talked about by the current civil rights leadership. The critical element missing from today's civil rights debate is the recognition that until recently the movement has always been about securing for individuals the right to control their own destinies. This understanding animates any viable alternatives to the program of numbers-oriented social engineering pursued by a growing civil rights bureaucracy.

The great architects of the American civil rights vision—from Tom Paine to

Frederick Douglas to William Lloyd Garrison to Booker T. Washington to Martin Luther King—all understood civil rights as natural rights enshrined in civil law. These rights—the rights of life, liberty, and property—were deemed fundamental and equal in all individuals, and the purpose of government was to protect them.

Of course, that has not always been the case. Our history is replete with instances of systematic deprivations of civil rights visited upon individuals by government—the institution of slavery, the Jim Crow laws, and the Japanese internment, to name but a few. Traditionally, the civil rights movement responded with a steadfast commitment to natural rights, producing such triumphs as the abolition of slavery, the passage of the Fourteenth Amendment, and the eradication of “separate but equal.”

We must make a new commitment to fulfilling America's promise of civil rights. That commitment begins with the recognition that despite enormous gains spanning the abolition of slavery to *Brown v. Board of Education* and the Civil Rights Act of 1964, many in our society are still artificially separated from the most basic opportunities. Laws today are no longer drawn explicitly on racial lines, but they often visit their harshest burdens upon those outside the economic mainstream, predominantly minorities and the poor.

A new civil rights agenda should be based on the eradication of barriers to individual autonomy in four areas.

**First, we must stand for the forgotten civil right, economic liberty.** For countless generations, the free enterprise system provided opportunities for immigrants and minorities to earn their share of the American Dream. But many individuals today who seek to pursue that dream find their paths blocked by a stifling array of artificial barriers to economic opportunities, many of which serve no purpose other than to insulate some people from competition with others.

As economist Walter Williams ex-

plains in *The State Against Blacks*, “the economic game is not being played fairly. It is rigged...in a way particularly devastating to blacks.” Barriers to economic opportunities take many forms, but the most pervasive and degrading are occupational licensing laws and business monopolies imposed by state and local governments throughout the nation. Both types are modernized relics of the Jim Crow era, and both wreak havoc on the power of individuals to control their own destinies.

To be continued.

*Clint Bolick is the executive director of the Center for Civil Rights and served until November, 1987 as special assistant to Assistant Attorney General Wm. Bradford Reynolds at the U.S. Justice Department, Civil Rights Division. This talk is adapted from a talk given at a White House briefing on civil rights, sponsored by the Landmark Legal Foundation, December 2, 1987.*

## Editor's Note:

In 1987, Jim Peron took over the editorship of the *LGLC* newsletter. He changed its name to the *Civil Libertarian*. The above article is from the unpublished Jan/Feb 1988 issue.

We will be publishing other parts of that issue in future *LGLC* newsletters.

## LGLC

L.G.L.C. Lives!

Libertarians for Gay & Lesbian Concerns:

- Is a network for gay libertarians;
- Works to improve awareness of gay concerns within the libertarian movement;
- Provides libertarian outreach to gays & lesbians.

LG.L.C. has a new coordinator and has established its world-wide headquarters in Ann Arbor, Michigan. All interested persons, including present and former members, should write for free information.

LG.L.C., P.O. Box 447, Chelsea, MI 48118

# Join us!

- I'd like to be part of LGLC. Here's \$15 for a year's membership (includes *LGLC Newsletter*).
- I'd like to do more. Here's my  \$30  \$50 for a Sustaining Membership.
- I don't want to join right now but please send me *LGLC Newsletter*. Here's \$15 to cover a year's subscription.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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