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E D I T O R I A L

Topic A this past two weeks has been the controversy surrounding the television movie *The Day After*, shown on November 20. Some of the controversy was initiated by government spokesmen encouraging parents to limit viewing to their children 12 years old and older.

Well, I saw *The Day After* and there was almost nothing in the movie which hasn't been daily fare to every TV-watching kid in America.

What hasn't been depicted previously, of course, is identifiable, next-door type, English speaking, blue-eyed white Americans as victims of a nuclear exchange. A week before watching *The Day After*, I watched an episode of the PBS series on the war in Viet Nam. I found

that appalling. And it is the same people who ran the war in Viet Nam who are against *The Day After*.

The military-industrial establishment is committed to the war machine. Their spokesmen can talk deterrents until hell freezes over but as long as the profits keep piling up, there will be no end to the so-called cold war. They talk in terms of "us" and "them," which is barely disguised paranoia.

There is only *us* — all living things on this planet.

Jay Brown

LETTERS

Spiritual Healing one-sided.

To the Editor:

I was drawn to your cover offering "spiritual healing" as a feature of your current publication. The article was, however, more than a disappointment. What I found was not any positive ideas coming from gay and Lesbian spiritual leaders but the old internalized homophobia dragged out again. I recognize the author suggested this was a chance for us to "love" this person and thus, I suppose, to show our true spirituality.

But, I think that this sort of article only offers despair to many gays and Lesbians who are still struggling with their own and society's homophobia and offers nothing to those of us who are seeking real "spiritual healing" which encompasses our sexuality. I can see this article as an expression of one side. But, I feel it is a real disservice not to offer, in addition, an article presenting the other side from people who have integrated their sexuality with their spirituality — be it Christian, Jewish, Goddess-oriented, Buddhism, or whatever.

I think it grossly unfair to our community for you to offer such an important topic and give us nothing positive! What a let-down! We deserve to expect *Just Out* to be clearly gay-

positive. I hope you will rectify the situation by follow-up articles by or about spiritual gays or Lesbians who are happy with themselves as well as their spirituality.

Sincerely,
Peggy Hackenbruck

P.S. If you need the names of people to contact I could suggest some.

Not another side at all

To The Editor:

I do not understand why Dennis Peterson called his article a chance to "hear from the other side for a change."

Gary Brockett states that homosexuality is "against God's will," that Scripture passages say "homosexuality is wrong," and that "if one really turns their [sic] life over to the Lord, ... [homosexual activity] won't happen ..."

And that is *not* another side at all. It is the same old side I have been hearing for the last five years — from my parents, from my relatives, from the church that threw me out — ever since I came out at the age of thirty-eight.

Perhaps what we need is a chance to hear

from the *real* "other" side. That's the side which says that God loves me just as much now that I've come out. My faith is just as deep as ever — maybe deeper. My delight in Jesus Christ is just as great — maybe greater.

Since I am a freelance writer with over one hundred articles and short stories in national periodicals to my credit, will you allow me to submit an article in which this might be done successfully: 1) as a feature article on one or more outstanding Christian personalities from the gay community — Rev. Delores Berry of MCC in Portland, for example; or 2) as an autobiographical sketch stating my personal experiencing in reconciling my faith in God and my sexuality.

In either case, I can also provide photographs for illustrations.

If the community needed to hear what Dennis Peterson and Gary Brockett had to say, then I submit to you that it also needs to hear what I have to say.

How about it?

I enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for your reply.

Sincerley,
Jeri Lee-Hostetler
Portland, Oregon

We have asked Jeri to submit an article.

Correction

In the last issue of *Just Out* our story on Phoenix Rising contained some erroneous information concerning the workshop and group schedule. The following is the correct information:

The Battered Partners workshop will be held on January 28, 1984, rather than December 3, 1983.

The workshops on **Couples** and **Fair Fighting** will be led by Cherry Hartman who will be assisted by Liz Webb.

Assertiveness Training will be March 3, 1984, rather than January 28, 1984.

Being Single and Lesbian will be facilitated by A. J. Block and Susan Bryer.

Jan Lucas will be facilitating **Letting Go** with Reese House and Liz Webb.