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**E D I T O R I A L**



"That's a great button!"  
 "Where did you get that button?"  
 And my favorite, "Reagan for ex-president."

These are just some of the reactions I've had to this button I've been wearing for the past several months. The comments have come from all age groups, from teenagers to senior citizens, and not one person has been negative.

But getting the Reagan gang out of Washington takes more than talk. It takes involvement in the electoral process and working for candidates who believe in social change.

The first step in the process is registering to vote. The next step is familiarizing oneself with candidates and their views. Then getting involved and voting is, of course, the most important step.

Ronald Reagan was elected in 1980 by approximately 25% of the eligible voters and he called that a mandate. I believe all that dismal turnout proved was that the majority of voters in this country believed themselves to be disenfranchised. And Reagan confirmed it.

So, if you are worse off now than you were three years ago, it's time to do something about it. Register, get involved, and vote!

*Jay Brown, Editor*

**LETTERS**

**Woman's Place just that**

Dear **Just Out**,

It saddened me to read over the "Women's Center" controversy in the last issue of **Just Out**. In Holly Hart's response to the accusation that *Old Wives' Tales* is not a Women's Center, she proceeded to defend herself by affirming that maybe two very reputable women's organizations, A Woman's Place Bookstore and Portland Women's Health Clinic should not be called as such because of their inadequacy to fully meet *all* women's needs. Specifically, referring to A Woman's Place as "A Lesbian Place," not a Women's Bookstore. LET'S STOP ALL THIS MUD-SLINGING!

A Woman's Place Bookstore carries the largest selection of lesbian literature in Port-

land! I'm so glad we can be so supportive to the Lesbian and Gay community! Fifty percent of the clientele are lesbian or gay and fifty percent of our volunteer workers are lesbian. Does this then mean we do not support all women? Our Science Fiction section is as large as our lesbian section, and sells just as well, yet no one, as of yet, has claimed we are catering to "science fictionists." All too much emphasis has been put on sexual preference. It's not THAT important!

What is important, is the time and energy wasted squabbling amongst ourselves! BRAVA! To the dedicated women and men on both sides of this issue, for putting time and energy into Women's issues, in the first place, but, social concerns, especially in this day and age are such that, without a consolidated effort on all our parts we may lose (very soon) everything to the New Right and Reaganomics, we worked so hard to get. Let's stop in-fighting and support one another's efforts, before we destroy ourselves and the small dent we've been able to accomplish. I know

we can do it! Good People — we are all on the same side, remember?

*In support,*  
 Sarah Koehl  
 A Woman's Place Bookstore

**Just Out:**

Regarding the "investigation" of the controversy about *Old Wives Tales* in your Feb. 17 issue. My roommate, Naomi, and I were fired from our jobs there late last year. After some misunderstandings and legal hassles about getting our unemployment benefits, we both found other jobs and moved on in our lives. Rosanne King, a reporter for *Just Out*, called and asked Naomi if she wanted to talk to her about *Old Wives' Tales*. Naomi declined, saying that she didn't want to deal with it anymore. Rosanne said something to the effect of — Holly said such and such about you — and baited Naomi into giving her side of the story. At the end of the conver-

sation, Rosanne asked Naomi if she could use her name in the story. Naomi said *no*, not unless she saw the article first. Rosanne went ahead and published the story, although neither Naomi or I gave permission to have information about us published in *Just Out*.

We feel like we have already worked hard to get over the negative experiences we had with OWT, and that we didn't want to be dragged around in this tiring controversy anymore. There is no use in debating Holly's side versus our side in print. We feel that it was very unprofessional for Rosanne to use information that Naomi did not want to share in the first place. We really don't care what happens at OWT now, and we feel psychically exhausted and wounded by the whole thing.

— Maggie Cloud