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Deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month.

Out About Town is a courtesy to our readers. Items must be received by the 15th of each month.

Display advertising will be accepted up to five days before publication date, if camera ready, if not, then seven days prior.

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EDITORIAL

Where there is no choice, there is no freedom

by Jay Brown

The discovery of a packaged bomb delivered by the Postal Service to the Portland Feminist Women's Health Center and the later discovery of similar bombs addressed to three other Portland-area abortion and family planning providers adds a terrifying new dimension to the struggle for reproductive rights. It was the first time that devices meant to maim or kill have been sent to clinics, exposing any number of innocent people to extreme danger.

And that the bombs were sent by persons purporting to advocate for life only compounds

the hypocrisy of the terrorist act. These persons are terrorists who seem capable of using any means to force their rules on all of us. They have demonstrated that they will stop at nothing to achieve their ends.

At issue here is the right to self determination, a concept seeming anathema to a volatile minority. These people must be actively opposed if we are to preserve that right; because if even one person's choices are revoked, everyone loses.

We at **Just Out** are joining the Portland Feminist Women's Health Center and other pro-choice groups in calling for a moratorium on picketing of abortion and family planning facilities. We ask that anti-choice groups join us on the side of reason.

Persons wishing to demonstrate their solidarity with the pro-choice movement should attend a rally for reproductive rights at PSU on Saturday, January 18. The rally commemorates the anniversary of the Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion.

"Christian" Shadburne continues hate campaign

Multnomah County Commissioner Gordon Shadburne, a bitter opponent of civil rights for lesbians and gays, shocked the community recently by mailing a letter to 50 Portland area fundamentalist ministers in which he called the lesbian and gay community recently by mailing a letter to 50 Portland area fundamentalist ministers in which he called the lesbian and gay community a "stronghold of Satan."

The main thrust of Shadburne's letter is an appeal to the "Christian" community to join in the establishment of a "local chapter of Homosexuals Anonymous."

Dear Christian Leader:

From time to time, I believe it is important for my office to give you information which affects our community, and the Christian community in particular.

Enclosed is such information.

The Metropolitan Human Relations
Commission is jointly funded by city and county dollars for the specific purpose of helping reduce racial and minority tension.
I believe this particular newsletter contains important information as to how the gay community sees themselves and lays out from their leadership, the plan of action for the future. You will note that the authorship of these articles is written by

them. Keeston Lowery was a key contact for Commissioner Kafoury's office with regard to denying the "right to vote" on the sex orientation ordinance of Multnomah Couty.

This raises the question of Christian ministry in this area. Most recently, I talked to a local pastor, Rev. Mays, and his wife, who have assisted in facilitating a local chapter of Homosexuals Anonymous, a support group that has some Christian base. As you recall, I had a meeting in my office over a year ago, suggesting that the Christian community realize the need to take the offensive, in love, to reach out from the people within our church to members of the gay community and with the love of Christ, challenge this stronghold of Satan. I said at that time that I feared for our community because of the present apathy of the church.

I would like to encourage you to do what you can as a church leader in this great home-mission field. If you are interested in this type of ministry or if I can be of assistance to you, please feel free to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Gordon E. Shadburne Multnomah County Commissioner

Shadburne, the only commissioner to vote against the sexual orientation ordinance last December, has allegedly joined with other gay rights opponents in circulating an initiative petition to eliminate Gretchen Kafoury's

seat on the commission. Kafoury has for many years been one of the most vocal advoctes for civil rights for lesbians and gays; she has always been in the forefront of our struggle and needs our support now more than ever.

Make no mistake, Shadburne's opposition to the rights of gays and lesbians, makes mockery of his "Christian" outreach; his letter is nothing but another example of traditional "Christian" hypocrisy and bigotry; he, like all hypocrites and bigots, will stop at nothing to spread intolerance and hate in his unreasonable campaign against us.

If Gordon Shadburne were a true Christian he would extend his hand in friendship to lesbian and gays and work with, instead of against, us in our struggle for our right to self-determination, because the Christian ethos is based on love, not hate.

Commission approves gay rights

"We affirm the rights of individuals in the Gay/Lesbian community to be a protected class in order to ensure that they have all the rights, privileges and immunities of any other citizen."

Metropolitan Human Relations Commission December 17, 1986. Citing the recent letter by Gordon Shadburne to a group of fundamentalist ministers as hostile to the lesbian and gay community, the Metropolitan Human Relations Commission approved a position statement asserting that gays and lesbians must have equal rights.

The commission also called on all public officials "to refrain from using inflammatory language that incites and perpetuates discord in the community."

The MHRC statement concluded: "It is the responsibility of public officials to break down barriers of fear and ignorance in the community."