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Robin Tyler's luxury Thanksgiving cruise from San Diego Nov. 17-24th. The Mexican Riviera on the Bermuda Star. Quad rooms from \$695 PP with room mate matching if you need one or three. Doubles from \$ 1095. Workshops and special entertainers. HURRY! Space is limited.

NEW YORK NEW YORK!

Thanksgiving Nov. 21-25 in New York. Package includes, 4 nights Hilton hotel, tickets to Phantom of the Opera, Aspects of Love, Radio City Music Hall Christmas show, lunch at Windows of the World and a gala Thanksgiving day dinner on the World Yacht Cruise. \$714 PPDO plus air.

AND ... NEW YEARS

Dec. 29-Jan. 1. 3 nights at the new all suites RIHGA hotel, and all the above with a cruise dinner party new years eve ...\$765 PPDO

SPACE IS LIMITED DURING THESE HOLIDAYS ... SO BOOK SOON.

R.S.V.P. 1991 CRUISES ARE FILLING UP. HURRY IF YOU WANT TO BE ABOARD!



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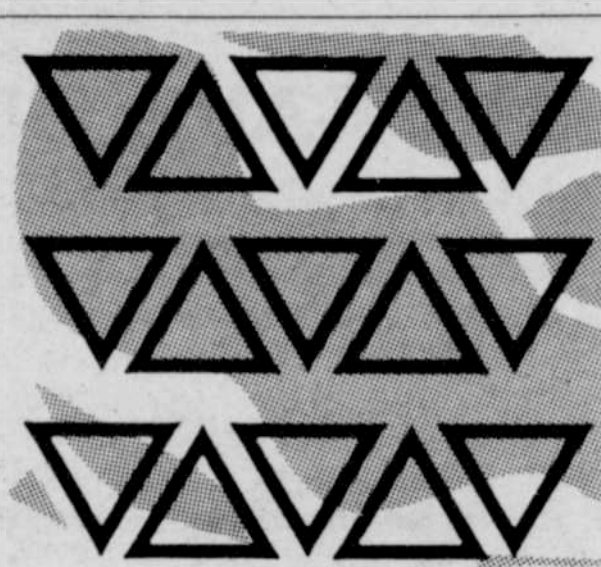
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Reactionary vs. proactive

"We must educate ourselves about our oppressors".

B Y C Y D A T H E N S

In becoming "aware," we cannot afford to let bias and prejudice keep us from making informed decisions. As the saying goes, "There's a little bit of good in the worst of us and a little bit of bad in the best of us." We must educate ourselves about our oppressors and those who claim to be friends.

The first two companies mentioned would like our business. They are in the b'ycott category. We need to make it our business to get to know them better.

For those of you new to this column, let me explain. A b'ycott is my way of asking for your input. I give you the information I have and you give me any information you may have (in care of Just Out) that will determine whether the company should be boycotted or "buycotted." A "buycott" is the purposeful purchasing of a company's product or services to show support for that company.

Earlier this year, Apple Computer gave a grant to the National Minority AIDS Council, (NMAC) and the National Association for People with AIDS (NAPWA) which enables these groups to give Macintosh computers and software to 46 community-based organizations providing AIDS services and education. While this is more than laudable, what is Apple's track record on other issues of concern?

Levi's wants to know "What are you doing in our jeans?" so badly that they've given us a toll-free number (1-800-24-LEVIS) so that we can call and tell them. We've certainly given them a LOT of our money. What have they done for us?

The business to "buycott" this month is the Tarheel Leather Club. These fine folks are selling T-shirts and tank tops with a "Beat Jesse" logo emblazoned on them. The shirts come in S, M, L, and XL sizes and cost \$10 each plus \$2 handling. Proceeds are being used to help defeat Jesse Helms. Make your check or money order payable to the Tarheel Leather Club and mail it to them at PO Box 16457, Greensboro, NC 27416-0457.

Now for boycott news you can use. First, an update on Philip Morris. The "little bit of good" here is that they also support the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, the NAACP, National Political Women's Caucus and they supplied food and water and emergency aid to victims of hurricane Hugo. And we are, of course, aware of their drive to help promote a "fundamentalist understanding" of the Bill of Rights. Recently Philip Morris used Lech Walesa's photo in one of their ads. You all know Lech—the Polish fella who would like to

"eliminate" the homosexuals.

On Sept. 25, there was a nationwide phone action against *New Dimensions* magazine. For those who couldn't get through in September and who want the publication to know exactly what you think of their conservative homophobia, *New Dimensions* can still be reached at 1-800-877-3227 or 1-800-866-9499.

On another front, Concerned Women for America are calling for a boycott of "any and all products by sponsors of the gay soap opera: *Secret Passions*—or any other similar perverted shows." Actually, the name of the program is *Forbidden Passions* and it was to debut in 16 major cities in late January or early February of this year. Beverly Lahaye of Concerned Women is hoping to generate more than 100,000 responses from "pro-moral Americans." They are asking their supporters to write to network executives to ask them not to allow this "primetime perversion" on their networks. Let's try to flood the same executives with our own message. The executives to send letters to are: William S. Paley, Chairman CBS-TV, 524 W 57th St., New York, NY 10019; Thomas S. Murphy, Chairman ABC-TV, 24 E 51st St., New York, NY 10022; and Robert Wright, president NBC-TV, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10112. If you want to let Concerned Women know what's on your mind write them at: Concerned Women for America, PO Box 65433, Washington, DC 20035-5453.

Too often we opt to be reactive as a first choice instead of the proactive. We must realize that different tactics have different effects. We need to understand that we can't always boycott effectively. Sometimes, perhaps many times, we need to buycott, which means going out of our way to purchase something to show our support for a company. Also, it is imperative that we rid ourselves of the notion that everyone of us will agree about which method will work.

We are a diverse community which cannot afford the sibling rivalry and infighting we sometimes seem to thrive on—separatists vs. drag queens vs. S/M vs. activists, ad nauseum. We have common enemies. In any war, a consolidated, proactive battle plan that makes use of all the troops has the best chance of winning. Our job is not to make ourselves palatable to mainstream society and thereby be assimilated. Rather, it is our responsibility to celebrate our differences and demand acceptance in such ways that it must be granted.

That's all for this month. I leave you with this quote from Francis Bacon: "Silence is the virtue of fools."

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