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Donating 10% of fees to anti-OCA pro-gay causes when you mention this ad.

**Hey, have you heard?
20% off all hair care
products at Gary Luckey.**



Gary Luckey, Portland's first non-tipping salon.

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letters

Trust your instincts!

To the Editor:

I am writing to share with your readers something that happened to me as a result of responding to the following house-share ad in the April 16-22 *Willamette Week*:

"Seeking Roommate, GM, SE duplex, Hawthorne area. No smoke/drugs, responsible, \$275/month. 235-2146."

I went to the man's place, Friday, April 24, to look at the room for rent. Instead, on my way out, the man grabbed me around the neck and forced a kiss on my mouth. I pushed him away. He then grabbed me again, "hugged" me and said he was sorry, at which point I pushed him away again and ran for the door, which he had locked. Fortunately for me, he unlocked the door and I ran out.

I believe this man is potentially dangerous. I hope that this will not happen to other unsuspecting gay men looking for a place to live. The man's name is Jonathan. He is roughly 35-40 years old, 5'11"-6' tall, 170-180 lbs., with thinning light brown hair, blue eyes, scruffy mustache and beard. During the course of our conversation, in which I unfortunately told him quite a bit about myself, he mentioned he was unemployed, had worked with computers, and had been raised in Newport, Ore.

I had had an uncomfortable feeling when I talked with Jonathan on the phone a few days before our "visit." However, since I could not place, at the time, what it was that made me uncomfortable, and since I have been looking for a new place to live for almost two months, I thought, "Well, you really should check out all the options."

I would like to address the entire gay and lesbian community, and particularly those who are home-searching, when I say that I now realize the best thing I could have done for myself was to allow myself to be aware of, and honor, what I was initially feeling—before getting into a very dangerous situation. I urge all of you to please be careful answering ads such as these. Probably, many are legit; obviously, some are not. I learned the hard way, from experience—a very frightening one I hope no one has to go through.

David Rutiezer
Portland

Just goodbye

To the Editor:

Oh, Linda, say it isn't so.

I just read the May issue. I think I really will suicide myself now. No more "Just Dish?" How can this be? LINDA, HEAR ME SPEAK: fuck 'em if they can't take a joke. Make trouble, Girlfriend. Readers who complain about your column are similar to lesbians who attend erotica shows that offend them terribly but stay to see every last performance. Don't care for Linda's extremely sarcastic, irreverent wit? Then by golly don't read her wonderful column.

Linda Shirley is one of the most dynamic, intelligent, political lesbians I know. She has done and continues to do more for this community than any one person I can think of at the moment. I think it sucks when this community that yearns so much for acceptance dumps on one of our own for writing the kind of thought-provoking journalism that can "stir up things" and "inspire you to action."

I love you Linda. I want the column to go on.

But nobody can say it like you did. If you gotta move on I certainly can't blame ya. I know I'm not the only reader who will feel the loss.

Susan Gregg
Portland

Editor's note: It was Linda Shirley's choice to discontinue the column.

Amnesty responds

To the Editor:

In the "World news" section of the May issue of *Just Out*, the lead article described how Amnesty International canceled an invitation to Dr. Monika Reinfelder to speak, on the grounds that lesbian sexuality was too controversial a subject. This article also noted that guidelines for Amnesty's new work on behalf of gays and lesbians persecuted for their sexual orientation have not been drawn up.

Although formal guidelines for Amnesty's work on behalf of lesbians and gays have not yet been drawn up, Amnesty has already begun research and work on lesbian and gay cases. At the April meeting of the Portland chapter of Amnesty International, we discussed the case of Vladimir Mironov, who was charged under Article 121 part 1 of the Russian Federation Criminal Code, which forbids consenting sexual acts between adult males. Local Amnesty members sent letters to three different officials in Russia calling for further information about Mr. Mironov and urging that legislative amendments be passed to ensure that persons are not liable to imprisonment for consensual homosexual activity between adults in private. Vladimir Mironov was recently released from prison.

Amnesty International is not a homogenous organization, and decisions are sometimes made at the international level which do not reflect the views of the United States section. We regret that Dr. Reinfelder's invitation to speak was canceled. Amnesty International Members for Lesbian and Gay Concerns (AIMLGC, PO Box 8293, Santa Cruz, CA 95061) is actively working to ensure that human rights of lesbian and gay people all over the world will be respected.

Tena K. Hoke
Coordinator, Portland Chapter
Amnesty International USA

Holy dish

To the Editor:

First off, hurrah that *Just Out* carries a religion column even if it is a compilation of news from other sources.

Why not ask Reverend Nelson to compose each month a thoughtful column dealing with gay male and lesbian issues?

With so many social and political problems and challenges surrounding us today, perhaps a thoughtful column dealing with these issues from a moral, ethical and theological position would be helpful.

Sometimes the column as is gives the wider audience a glimpse at church doings, but often those interested have read the material in other publications.

Art Buck, Pastor
Milwaukie

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