

Can we really STOP AIDS in Portland?

Sexual Risk-Taking Among Gay & Bisexual Men

featuring

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Gay and Bi Men's Community Forum Thursday, February 9th, from 7:30pm—9:00 pm Friends Meeting House, 4312 SE Stark, Portland



Forum for HIV Health Care **Providers and Educators**

Friday, February 10th, from 9:30am—11:30am Cascade AIDS Project, 620 SW Fifth, 5th Floor

Come discuss with Dr. Stall what is happening sexually in Portland's gay & bisexual men's community in 1995.

Speak To Your Brothers is a project of the Men's HIV Prevention Program at Cascade AIDS Project

world briefs

BRITAIN

The British Broadcasting Corporation has banned members of the lesbian and gay group OutRage from speaking live on radio or TV after its membership voted to endorse outing of closeted public figures whose actions or inactions harm sexual minorities.

The decision was made by the BBC's Editorial Policy Unit, spokeswoman Kathryn Kelly told the London newspaper Capital Gay.

OutRage denounced the move as "outrageous censorship which effectively silences a whole section of lesbian and gay opinion."

ICELAND

A commission on lesbian and gay issues created by the Icelandic parliament, the Alltinget, recommended this month that Iceland legalize gay and lesbian marriage, criminalize discrimination against gay men and lesbians, and substantially increase education about lesbians and gay men in schools.

The government is discussing the report and has forwarded it to all concerned departments for consideration, said the Swedish newspaper Kom

Sweden, Denmark and Norway let gay men and lesbians marry, but married gay and lesbian couples are not granted access to adoption, artificial insemination, in vitro fertilization, or church weddings. In all three nations, one partner must be a citizen living is his or her home country.

NORWAY

A member of Norway's parliament came out of the closet last recently.

Labor Party MP Anders Hornslien told a TV talk show he was gay in order to keep the Oslo gay newspaper Blikk from outing him, he said.

He denied further requests for interviews, saying he does not want to be known as "the gay MP," but he did mention to the daily newspaper Dagbladet that he's been with his lover for six

Norway's parliament, the Stortinget, has one other open gay member, John-Arne Balto, according to Blikk.

ONTARIO

Ontario Attorney General Marion Boyd is standing behind a Toronto lesbian who is suing her former lover for spousal support, reported the newspaper Capital Xtra!

Boyd's lawyers told a court the Ontario Family Law Act is unconstitutional because it ignores same-sex unions and said gay pairings should be considered common-law relationships.

The complainant, known only as "H," claims the Family Law Act violates the national Charter of Rights and Freedoms by barring her from obtaining financial support based on her sexual-

SCOTLAND

Famed Shakespearean actor and gay activist Sir Ian McKellen shocked Scottish religious leaders in early December when he ripped an anti-gay passage out of a Bible during his one-man stage show in Edinburgh, reported Capital Gay.

McKellen tore out the section of Leviticus that calls gay sex an "abomination," provoking a spokesman for the Scottish Roman Catholic Church to insist, "Tearing pages out of the Bible does not change the word of God!"

"Maybe his conscience is a bit troubled, but tearing pages out won't change the message of the Bible," echoed a spokesman for the Church of Scotland.

McKellen has performed the show without incident in England, New York and South Africa.

SPAIN

AIDS activists and members of an anti-abortior group clashed on World AIDS Day, Dec. 1, in Madrid, according to a Reuters report.

Pro-lifers confronted anti-AIDS marchers with a banner reading "Promiscuity causes AIDS," and the AIDS activists responded by squirting the anti-abortionists with red paint from syringes.

Two-thirds of Spain's 27,000 AIDS cases are traced to drug use. An additional 125,000 people are HIV positive, the government says.

TURKEY

Serkan Altan, the Turkish man who recently became the second gay man to be granted asylum in the United States due to persecution abroad, has a famous mother, singer Nihal Arda, who is a household name in Turkey, reported The Washington Blade.

And she is not amused.

Following a Turkish media orgy on Altan's case, Arda called a press conference where she denounced him, denied that he is gay, and said he lied about his sexuality to stay in the United States.

"My brother told me the family cannot go outside because the news media is waiting for them," Altan said. "[He said] all the family honor is gone."

Compiled by Rex Wockner

REPORT HOMOPHOBIC VIOLENCE 796-1703

