

ADVICE

# Open up and say eew!

## Bi braves buttsex but bans blowjobs

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

I'm very much involved in a good gay relationship with a man who is 10 years older than me and quite experienced.

To my surprise, the relationship started well and grew into a loving one. After a period of time, we came to a mutual agreement that we were ready to have safer sex.

First, we have foreplay, then he performs oral sex on me, then I serve as his bottom man, and if I can reciprocate, I serve as his top. Then we have afterplay.

This all adds up to quite a fulfilling sexual experience, or so I thought. Here's the problem: He wants me to perform oral sex on him.

I'm a bisexual man and never have been too keen on placing genitals in my mouth. I never have done it, nor do I have the desire to.

I don't mind being versatile in other ways, but I do mind performing oral sex, even though he performs it on me. So any advice would be appreciated.

—Mr. Mouth

DEAR MR. MOUTH:

You haven't said why you're opposed to oral sex or whether you're willing to attempt to overcome your aversion.

Do you find penises too dirty and unsightly to put in your mouth? Do you think that you'll burn in hell for going down on your boyfriend (but that God will forgive a little butt-boffing)?

Or perhaps you're ambivalent about your sexuality. Maybe you think that only real homos suck dick and that you can continue to call yourself bisexual as long as you keep your jaw clamped shut.

(Ms. Behavior has met several allegedly bisexual women who resist acquiring the frightening label "dyke" by never crossing that delightful juicy frontier. Ms. Behavior cannot help but suspect internalized homophobia.)

What seems to be at stake at the moment, though, is your relationship with your current boyfriend. Part of it depends on how flexible you each are about your position.

You elaborately describe a "fulfilling" sex life. But if your boyfriend wants you to go down on him and you won't do it, he might feel less fulfilled than you think.

(Ms. Behavior can't help but mention you're in good company—at least among heterosexual women.

Charlotte from *Sex and the City* never wants to blow her boyfriends, and Ms. Behavior's friend Lulu swears her

boyfriend's nuts smell like mold.)

It's important to consider why you feel the way you do, perhaps with the help of a therapist. Then, if you're not miraculously cured of your aversion to oral sex, you at least will be able to discuss the issue more openly with your boyfriend.

If you're really lucky, though, maybe you'll have a conver-

sion experience. Perhaps in therapy you'll discover an irrational cause for your distaste, resulting in a dramatic transformation. You might find you want to crawl around on your knees every night after work, unzipping your boyfriend's trousers with your teeth.

But if nothing so dramatic happens, don't panic. There's probably a gay man somewhere who won't mind if you don't blow him or might even prefer that you keep your filthy mouth off his weenie.

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

My best friend, Karen, has moved in with me while she is between apartments. Although she doesn't want a relationship with me, she wants (and gets) all the perks of having a relationship.

She offers sex very occasionally and gets upset when I tell her I want more or I want to move on. What should I do?

I have been pushed away from the relationship dreams and now am ready to move on. She seems to not want that but won't admit it.

—S.B.

DEAR S.B.:

Moving on is a good idea. If Karen doesn't share your feelings, she probably never will.

Believe what she actually tells you rather than your own hopeful interpretation of her actions. Lesbians often find this hard to believe, but sometimes people are willing to have sex with you even if they don't want a relationship with you.

You sound resentful when you say Karen gets all the perks of having a relationship. But you're the one who is attaching strings you know she doesn't want.

Don't give more than you can give freely in a friendship context, and try to avoid having your heart squashed like a bug. This means really moving on emotionally, which probably only will happen once you date other people (or at least become obsessed with someone new). **J**

Write your confused and conflicted heart out to MS. BEHAVIOR at MsBehavior@aol.com.



Ms. Behavior

men and lesbians in the Portland/Vancouver area. Newsletter available by mail or e-mail. (360-735-1901, Socialites@aol.com.) (11/00)

**The Thorny Roses** is a social group for lesbians, primarily older than 45, who live in the Vancouver/Clark County area. (Judy 360-906-1763, Judy342@cs.com.) (11/00)

### Willamette Valley: Social

**GALA (Gay and Lesbian Alliance)** meets at Lane Community College, Eugene. (541-741-4501, ext. 2336.) (11/00)

**Gay Men's Discussion Group** meets Mondays from 7:30 to 9 pm at the Koinonia Center, 1414 Kincaid, Eugene. (Hank 541-484-6259 or Trent at tseager@hivalliance.org.) (11/00)

**Lane County Men's Health Network** offers social events, retreats, workshops and training for bi, gay and trans men. Community calendars and mailings. Training and networking men to build community from a grassroots perspective. (1966 Garden Ave., Eugene. 541-342-5088, ext. 23. tseager@hivalliance.org.) (11/00)

**Marionberry Salon**, formerly the Coalition to End Bigotry Book Group, meets monthly in Salem for potlucks and discussions of books touching on lesbian, gay or bisexual experience. (Cary 503-363-6036, caryandken@aol.com.) (11/00)

**The Lesbian Connection (TLC) Lunch Bunch** meets at 11 am every Sunday at the French Horn and on the second Friday of the month from 5 to 8 pm at the Fifth Street Market food court in Eugene. All women welcome. (Bonnie 541-683-2793.) (11/00)

## SPIRITUALITY

### Metro: Spirituality

**Ainsworth United Church of Christ** is a multicultural, open and affirming church. Sunday worship is at 10 am, and church school for children runs concurrently. (2941 NE Ainsworth St. 503-284-8767. aucc@teleport.com.)

**The Anawim Community**. Gay men meet weekly for Christian meditation and prayer. (7:30 pm Thursdays. 503-281-0722.) (11/00)

**Bridgeport Community Church (U.C.C.)** is a growing community of progressive, political people exploring and celebrating the Christian faith. We are multicultural, lesbian, gay, bi and straight, and our children are valued members. (10:30 am Sundays, 621 NE 78th Ave. 503-258-0992.) (11/00)

**Community of St. Andrew** invites all to join a diverse Catholic faith community for prayer and fellowship. (9:30 am Sunday Mass, 806 NE Alberta St. 503-281-4429.) (11/00)

**Dignity Portland** meets for Mass Sundays at 4 pm at St. Stephens Episcopal Church followed by a social. (Southwest 13th Avenue at Clay Street. e-mail: dignitypdx@aol.com.) (11/00)

**Directions NorthWest (ECWR)** helps gay and lesbian Christians integrate faith and sexuality through Bible study and fellowship. (PO Box 88083, Portland, OR 97286-0383. 503-727-3387.) (11/00)

**Eastrose Fellowship Unitarian Universalist**, a welcoming congregation, offers Sunday service at 10:30 am. (1133 NE 181st Ave., Gresham. 503-665-2628. eastrose@teleport.com.) (5/01)

**Estacada United Methodist Church Reconciling Congregation**, where we really mean everyone is welcome. Sunday worship at 10:30 am. (204 SE Main St., Estacada.) (11/00)

**First Congregational United Church of Christ** is an open and affirming congregation in the liberal Christian tradition. Sunday worship is at 10:30 am, and church school for children runs concurrently. (1126 SW Park Ave., 503-228-7219)

**Full Circle Temple** is a place of worship for women of all ages offering workshops, song, and drum circles, meditation rooms and altars of celebration, incorporating what you bring to share. (10 am-10 pm Tuesday-Sunday. 3125 E Burnside St. 503-238-0675.) (11/00)

**The God Connection Center for Worship, Growth and Leadership** invites you to celebrate spirituality with the Revs. Berdell Moffett and Nancy Chaney. Liberal, practical; all are welcome. (10 am service every Sunday, 4828 NE 33rd Ave. 503-481-7581.) (11/00)

**Grace Space**, a newly formed multid denominational spiritual center led by the Rev. Stephanie Torres, holds daily evening celebrations. (5 pm at Unity Church, 5 SE Stark St. 503-287-3216.) (11/00)

**Grigity**, the gay and lesbian ministry of the Episcopal Church, meets on the second Friday of each month in Morrison Room at Trinity Cathedral. Eucharist is celebrated at 6:45 pm followed by a potluck and fellowship. (NW 19th Ave., 503-289-1687.)

**Interfaith Spiritual Center**. Gay men's spirituality groups form every other month. Spiritual directors from various world religious traditions are available for guid-

ance, classes and retreats. (3910 SE 11th Ave., second floor. 503-233-2026, ext. 3. www.hometown.aol.com/djrho5/webpage.html.) (11/00)

**Lesbian and gay meditation group**. "Compassionate Heart Sangha," meets for meditation in the Buddhist Vipassana tradition. Donation requested. (7:30-9 pm Wednesdays at Flanders House, 2926 NE Flanders St. Jon 503-239-5539.) (11/00)

**Metanoia Peace Community** (United Methodist) is a "house church," bringing gay and straight together. (Daily prayer 7:20 am, Sunday gathering 6 pm at 2116 NE 18th Ave. 503-281-3697.) (11/00)

**Metropolitan Community Church of Portland** holds ecumenical Sunday morning worship services at 9 and 11 am. Sunday school for children is held during the 11 am worship service. (2400 NE Broadway. 503-281-8868. mcccpx@aol.com.) (11/00)

**Potter's House Ministries Life Center**. Evangelical and charismatic Christian. (3830 SE 62nd Ave. 503-775-5024.) (11/00)

**Radical Fairies** Fae Dirt info line: 503-235-0826 (11/00)

**SisterSpirit** offers women's spirituality celebrations, discussion groups, a drumming circle, workshops and classes. Schedule of events available. All women are welcome. (Office hours: 3-6 pm Tuesday-Friday at 3430 SE Belmont St., #102. Mailing address: PO Box 9246, Portland, OR 97207. sistersp@teleport.com. 503-736-3297.) (11/00)

**Southminster Presbyterian Church** is a challenging, supportive community that welcomes all people. It is the first More Light Presbyterian Church in Oregon. (Sundays at 10 am summer, 9:30 and 11 am winter. 12250 SW Denney Road, Beaverton. 503-644-2073.) (11/00)

**St. Philip Neri** gay and lesbian outreach. A gay/lesbian-positive community for Catholics and their friends. Mass at 7:30 pm on Fridays followed by a social. (Paulist Center, 2408 SE 16th Ave. 503-231-4955.) (11/00)

**St. Stephen's Episcopal Church**, the new home of the Portland Gay Men's Chorus, has been welcoming all people since 1863. (Wednesday service 12:10 pm; Sunday services 7:45 am and 10 am. Sunday school and child care at 10 am. Southwest 13th Avenue at Clay Street. 503-223-6424.) (11/00)

**University Park United Methodist Church** is a member of the network of Reconciling Congregations and meets for worship each Sunday at 10 am. (4775 N Lombard St. 503-289-7843.) (11/00)

**Zion United Church of Christ**, an open and affirming congregation, is open to gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and heterosexual people who wish to worship in a Christ-centered, warm, caring, multiage/race/cultural faith community. (Service: 11 am Sundays. 2025 NE 23rd Ave., Gresham. 503-665-8741.) (11/00)



Pam and Maggie sing for their supper Nov. 11 at Touchstone Coffee House

PHOTO BY MALLIE KLEIN

### Washington: Spirituality

**East Vancouver United Methodist Church**. Reconciling, welcoming. (10 am Sundays. 5701 MacArthur Blvd., Vancouver. 360-693-4761. ourclarkcounty.columbian.com/273.) (11/00)

**First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ**. Two Sunday services, traditional and "less traditional" in an open and affirming congregation. (1220 NE 68th St. Vancouver. 360-693-1476.) (11/00)

**Metropolitan Community Church of the Gentle Shepherd**. (10 am Sundays. 913 W. 13th St., Vancouver. 360-695-1480.) (11/00)

**Michael Servetus Unitarian Universalist Fellowship**. (10 am Sundays. 4505 E. 18th St. 360-695-1891.) (11/00)

### Willamette Valley: Spirituality

**First Congregational Church**, United Church of Christ, is an open and affirming congregation offering worship and church school. Child care provided. Wheelchair accessible. (10 am Sundays. 700 Marion St. NE, Salem. 503-363-3660.) (11/00)

**The Gay-Straight Alliance of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation** of Salem meets on the third Sunday of each month for a potluck. (6 pm, 5090 Center St. NE. 503-363-8716.) (11/00)

**Interfaith Spiritual Community** meets every Sunday at the Heart Center for inspirational messages, children's celebrations and joy. We honor and celebrate all sacred paths, recognizing each person's divine gifts and supporting spiritual growth, healing and enlightenment. (6-7:30 pm. 1578 Commercial St. SE, Salem. 503-763-6030.) (11/00)

**Morningside United Methodist Church** is a reconciling congregation where everyone is welcome to participate in the full life of the congregation. (8:30 and 11 am Sundays. 3674 12th St. SE, Salem. 503-364-5013.) (11/00)

**Sweet Spirit Metropolitan Community Church (MCC)** holds worship at 11 am Sundays followed by coffee and fellowship as well as potluck lunches every second Sunday. (Services held at American Legion Hall, 4774 Lilac Lane NE, Salem. Mailing address: Pastor Ken Kerr, PO Box 12753, Salem, OR 97309. 503-315-7923.) (11/00)

## YOUTH

### Metro: Youth

**Outside In** operates a clinic for anyone who can't qualify for the Oregon Health Plan as well as a needle exchange service. It also has some transitional housing for youth 20 and younger as well as for youth who are HIV+ and younger than 23. It also plays host to **VOICES** (Voices of Individual and Community Empowerment from the Streets), a self-support group for queer youth. (10 am-6 pm Monday-Friday. 1236 SW Salmon St. 503-223-4121.) (11/00)

**Pride Project** brings together Washington County lesbian, gay, bi, trans and questioning youth to plan and attend monthly social events. Also information, referral, support and advocacy services for Washington County. (Molly 503-260-5792.) (11/00)

**Rainbow** is a multicultural peer support and activity group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, trans and questioning youth. (4:30 pm Mondays at Metropolitan Community Church of Portland, 2400 NE Broadway. 503-281-8868.) (11/00)

**Sexual Minority Youth Recreation Center (SMYRC)** offers drop-in computer access, pool tables and an informal place to hang out. Also plays host to weekly youth support groups including

Windfire, Trans Youth Group and Personal Deity Proxy (a creative group). (4-8 pm Wednesday, 4 pm-midnight Friday and Saturday. 424 E Burnside St. 503-872-9664, www.smyrc.org.) (11/00)

**Youth HIV/STD Prevention Project** provides fun and educational programs along with counseling and testing to queer youth in a friendly, relaxed environment. (503-872-9664.) (11/00)

**YouthNet**, a program of Love Makes a Family, offers tutoring and mentoring for lesbian, gay, bi and trans youth as well as for children of LGBT parents. (503-227-1981.) (11/00)

### Southern Oregon: Youth

The **Sexual Minority Youth Recreation Group of Klamath Falls** provides support for gay, lesbian, bi, trans and questioning youth and their allies. (For more information, e-mail boytoy22@hotmail.com.) (11/00)

**Southern Oregon Youth Outreach (SOYO)**, a group for gay, lesbian, and bi youth aged 14-20 meets on the first and Thursdays of the month in Ashland. (541-488-6990.) (11/00)

### Washington: Youth

**Triple Point Youth Program** is a social/support group for gays, lesbian, bi and trans youth between 13 and 22 in Vancouver, Wash. Meets 6-8 pm Tuesdays and 3:30-5:30 pm Thursdays at 1104 Main St. Suite M-100. (Amanda 360-693-1188.) (11/00)

### Willamette Valley: Youth

**Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered and Questioning Youth Group for ages 13-18** offers support, information and fun. Free, confidential, drop-in. (4-6 pm Fridays at Amazon Community Center, 2700 Hilyard St., Eugene. 541-684-3466.) (11/00)

**Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender youth group for ages 25 and younger** meets every Monday. (5 pm Mondays at Koinonia Center, 1414 Kincaid St., Eugene. 541-346-1134.) (11/00)