

ADVICE

# Rebound and gagged

## Desperate dyke deserves devotion

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

I am a 31-year-old lesbian. During the past two months, I pursued someone in whom I was interested only to discover she seriously is rebounding from a past relationship.

I wanted to continue a friendship if at all possible, and it seemed this was happening. However, during the past few weeks, she suddenly stopped returning my phone calls and contacting me. I feel rejected and don't really know how to deal with it.

Am I just sabotaging myself by hanging on to hope she'll come around? Hint: It seems this situation is becoming a pattern in my life....

—Hanging On

DEAR HANGING ON:

Envision Ms. Behavior yawning. Not in a rude way. Just in a "Come on, now. You know better, don't you?" way. If you continually find yourself pursuing women who aren't over their previous relationships, then you don't really want what you think you want.

Let's go over this. Your prospective love is 1) On the rebound and 2) Not returning your calls.

If you had any perspective on this, you'd feel sad, but you'd let go. You wouldn't worry that she wasn't calling; you'd worry that your desire to have her call was pathetic.

You'd recognize that hanging around to be "friends" with someone in whom you're interested usually leads to heartbreak. It's true that it can be hard to tolerate love, but you won't really be happy until you learn to endure basking in the glow of another lesbian's adoration.

You need an assignment. Stand in front of your mirror (fully dressed, please) and say this: "I am not the balm for everyone's wounds. I want and need love."

Once you can do it without gagging, perhaps you will be able to tolerate love. Also, you can make thousands of dollars offering weekend workshops to similarly desperate lesbians.

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

I am a 30-year-old man who badly wants to have a baby. I have spoken with many people about the idea. I have someone who has agreed to be the egg donor, but I'm having trouble finding a person to carry the child.

I know this is big step for anyone to take, but I am running out of ideas. I am looking for a woman who might

want to help with my situation.

I am at my wit's end with this. I also have found only one place nearby to perform the medical portion of this, and to that end there is a \$20,000 cost.

Is this normal? Are there other doctors who can do this?

At worst I am OK with the cost, but the person who will carry the child is now my

hardest task. I really do need advice.

—Male in Need

DEAR MALE IN NEED:

Ms. Behavior feels compelled to say the obvious: Adoption is easier and cheaper. That having been said, if you're looking to buy the services of a woman who's willing to get stretch marks without keeping a baby, you need to look her up under "surrogate."

Using the search engine Google and the phrases "surrogacy" and "gay surrogacy," Ms. Behavior found 2,180 matching sites. (The psychologically minded or those who suffered lousy childhoods might guess that half of the entries would be about monkeys and wire mothers, but 36 pages into the search, the links were still relevant to human babies.)

Surrogacy agencies prescreen women who want to rent their

wombs. In addition to the medical services you mention, they provide legal representation for both parties.

Ms. Behavior's quick browse of the material suggests you'd spend between \$30,000 and \$70,000 using an

agency. This includes the woman's fee, medical care, transportation expenses and maternity clothes. Using the surrogate's own egg probably would cost less than bringing your own.

You also can try placing your own ads to find a surrogate, but you clearly would need help with a lot of issues. (Ms. Behavior's haircutter hired a surrogate through a friend of a friend; once the baby was born, the surrogate, who'd been paid \$20,000, ran off with him. That represented a lot of tip money for the hairdresser, who ended up adopting a year later.)

If you choose to do it on your own, seek advice from others who are experienced. Either way, make sure you have a good lawyer so you don't end up in the headlines as "Nellie Beth Whitehead." jn

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



Ms. Behavior

### YOUTH

#### Metro: Youth

**Expression** is a free art/expression support group for GLBT youth 13-18 who live in the Gresham area. Learn, grow and have fun! Sponsored by Roots and Branches. Meets Fridays from 5-7 pm in Gresham. (Call Jonathan to reserve your spot, 503-238-0780 ext. 244.) (6/01)

**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-positive 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.) (6/01)

**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.) (6/01)

**Rainbow** is a multicultural peer support and activity group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, trans and questioning youth. (4:30 pm Monday, Metropolitan Community Church of Portland, 2400 NE Broadway. 503-281-8868.) (6/01)

**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.) (6/01)

**S.M.I.L.E.** is a free education/support group for GLBT youth 13-18. Learn, grow and have fun! Meets from 5 to 6:30 pm Thursday beginning Jan. 11. Sponsored by Roots and Branches. (Jonathan 503-238-0780, ext. 244.) (6/01)

**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.) (6/01)

**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.) (6/01)

#### 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. (boytoy22@hotmail.com.) (6/01)

**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.) (6/01)

#### 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 3-5:30 pm Thursdays at 1104 Main St. Suite M-100. (Amanda 360-693-1188.) (6/01)

#### 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 Friday, Amazon Community Center, 2700 Hilyard St., Eugene. 541-684-3466.) (6/01)

**Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender youth group for ages 25 and younger** meets every Monday. (5 pm Monday, Koinonia Center, 1414 Kincaid St., Eugene. 541-346-1134.) (6/01)

9 and 11 am. Sunday school for children is held during the 11 am worship service. (2400 NE Broadway. 503-281-8868. mccpdx@aol.com.) (6/01)

**Potter's House Ministries Life Center.** Evangelical and charismatic Christian. (3830 SE 62nd Ave. 503-775-5024.) (6/01)

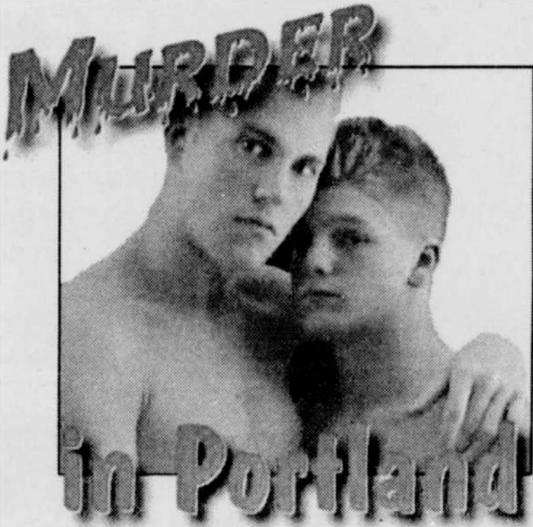
**SisterSpirit** offers women's spirituality celebrations, discussion groups, a drumming circle, workshops and classes. Schedule of events available. All women are welcome. (3-6 pm Tuesday-Friday, Suite 102, 3430 SE Belmont St. Mailing address: PO Box 9246, Portland, OR 97207. 503-736-3297. sistersp@teleport.com.) (6/01)

**Southminster Presbyterian Church** is a challenging, supportive community that welcomes all people. It is the first More Light Presbyterian Church in Oregon. (10 am Sunday summer, 9:30 and 11 am Sunday winter, 12250 SW Denney Road, Beaverton. 503-644-2073.) (6/01)

**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.) (6/01)

**St. Stephen's Episcopal Church.** the new home of the Portland Gay Men's Chorus, has been welcoming all people since 1863. (12:10 pm Wednesday and 7:45 and 10 am Sunday. Sunday school and child care at 10 am. Southwest 13th Avenue at Clay Street. 503-223-6424.) (6/01)

**University Park United Methodist Church** is a member of the network of Reconciling Congregations



So you want to be in pictures? Strut your stuff during an audition for Murder in Portland Jan. 6 at the Z Club

and meets for worship each Sunday at 10 am. (4775 N Lombard St. 503-289-7843.) (6/01)

**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. (11 am Sunday, 2025 NE 23rd Ave., Gresham. 503-665-8741.) (6/01)

#### Washington: Spirituality

**East Vancouver United Methodist Church.** Reconciling, welcoming. (10 am Sunday, 5701 MacArthur Blvd., Vancouver. 360-693-4761. ourclarkcounty.columbian.com/273/) (6/01)

**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.) (6/01)

**Metropolitan Community Church of the Gentle Shepherd.** (10 am Sunday, 913 W. 13th St., Vancouver. 350-695-1480.) (6/01)

**Michael Servetus Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.** (10 am Sunday, 4505 E. 18th St., Vancouver. 360-695-1891.) (6/01)

#### 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 Sunday, 700 Marion St. NE, Salem. 503-363-3660.) (6/01)

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.) (6/01)

**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.) (6/01)

**Gay Men's Discussion Group** meets Mondays from 7:30 to 9 pm at the Koinonia Center, 1414 Kincaid, Eugene. (Hank 541-484-6259. Trent tseager@hivalliance.org.) (6/01)

**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.) (6/01)

**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.) (6/01)

**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.) (6/01)

### SPIRITUALITY

#### Metro: Spirituality

**Ainsworth United Church of Christ** is a multiracial, 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** of gay men meets weekly for Christian meditation and prayer. (7:30 pm Thursday, 503-281-0722.) (6/01)

**Bridgeport Community Church (UCC)** 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 Sunday, 621 NE 76th Ave. 503-258-0992.) (6/01)

**Community of St. Andrew** invites all to join a diverse Catholic faith community for prayer and fellowship. (9:30 am Sunday, 806 NE Alberta St. 503-281-4429.) (6/01)

**Dignity Portland** meets for Mass Sundays at 4 pm at St. Stephens Episcopal Church followed by a social. (Southwest 13th Avenue at Clay Street. dignitypdx@aol.com.) (6/01)

**Directions NorthWest (ECWR)** helps gay and lesbian Christians integrate faith and sexuality through Bible study and fellowship. (PO Box 86383, Portland, OR 97286-0383. 503-727-3387.) (6/01)

**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.) (6/01)

**Estacada United Methodist Church Reconciling Congregation,** where we really mean everyone is welcome. Sunday worship at 10:30 am. (204 SE Main St., Estacada.) (6/01)

**First Congregational United Church of Christ** is an open and affirming congregation in the liberal Christian tradition. Sunday worship is at 10:25 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.) (6/01)

The **God Connection Center for Worship, Growth and Leadership** invites you to celebrate your spirituality with the Revs. Berdell Moffett and Casey Chaney. Liberal, practical; all are welcome. (10 am Sunday, 4828 NE 33rd Ave. 503-481-7591.) (6/01)

**Grace Space,** a newly formed multidominational spiritual center led by the Rev. Stephanie Torres, holds Sunday evening celebrations. (5 pm, Unity Church, 4525 SE Stark St. 503-287-3216.) (6/01)

**Integrity,** the gay and lesbian ministry of the Episcopal Church, meets on the second Friday of each month in the Morrison Room at Trinity Cathedral. Eucharist is celebrated at 6:45 pm followed by a potluck and fellowship. (147 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 guidance, classes and retreats. (Second Floor, 3910 SE 11th Ave. 503-233-2026, ext. 3. www.hometown.aol.com/djrho5/webpage.html.) (6/01)

**Lesbian and gay meditation group.** "Compassionate Heart Sangha," meets for meditation in the Buddhist Vipassana tradition. (7:30-9 pm Wednesday, Flanders House, 2926 NE Flanders St. Jon 503-239-5539.) (6/01)

**Metanoia Peace Community** (United Methodist) is a "house church," bringing gay and straight together. (Daily prayer 7:20 am, Sunday gathering 6 pm, 2116 NE 18th Ave. 503-281-3697.) (6/01)

**Metropolitan Community Church of Portland** holds ecumenical Sunday morning worship services at