

ADVICE

Surrender, Dorothy

Just click your heels three times and say, "There's no place like homo!"

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

I don't believe in love between two men, nor do I believe it will happen to me again.

After so much pain and aggravation, and since I've been single for two years, I've come to believe gay relationships are fake. It's all about sex.

How can two men do this? Are we living a lie?

It's not good to be gay. What is good about it?

It's all about sex, dick size, shallowness and attitude. And what's the deal about people "barebacking" and swallowing "cum"?

There are times I wish I could change my desires—and not have any at all. I feel that love between two men is the *biggest lie* ever.

Maybe heterosexuals do know best. I don't have it in me anymore—and how can I?

There is no such thing as "love" between two men or women. Maybe we need straightening out.

—Disillusioned

DEAR DISILLUSIONED:

You're correct. You'd be much happier as a heterosexual.

Style no longer would be a concern; you could wear brown woven shoes with gray pants and beige socks. You never would have to worry about going bald, because lots of stores sell inexpensive toupees designed for heterosexuals. If you started to feel old and unattractive, you could buy a little red convertible sports car, which would make you irresistible to all women (especially gum-chewing blondes with long red fingernails), and at least twice a week you could give your scantily clad secretary some "dick-tation."

On weekends, the entertainment possibilities would be endless. You could sit around in an undershirt, scratching your nuts while your wife served you cheap beer and Doritos during the Super Bowl and other special occasions.

Burping and expelling gas would be allowed during all sporting events, and if your team lost, you could beat your wife. Of course, by the following weekend she would express her forgiveness in the form of your favorite manly meal of meatloaf and mashed potatoes.

But in certain private moments of fearing your life was empty and meaningless, you might wonder what it would've been like if only you'd been blessed with the grace to be a sweet, sensitive, design-oriented homosexual with a large loft.



Ms. Behavior

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

Four years ago, I met my first lover.

We hit it off really quickly. In three months, we were living together; I was excited and blindly in love.

Now I am 27, and I no longer feel the same way about this woman. A lot of things have contributed to my change of heart, from her

drug addiction and alcoholism to her lies and betrayals.

I don't trust her anymore. She took away things that had meaning in the relationship and even in me as a human being.

I always tried to speak to her about how her destructive lifestyle was destroying us and how it affected me. It caused me tremendous anguish and pain.

My ex-girlfriend now claims that we can work it out and that she has changed. I gave up on her a year ago and really want to move on with my life to try to heal the pain she caused me.

Am I wrong for wanting that? Don't I have the right to happiness elsewhere? Why should I believe she's recovering when I've heard it so many times before?

Another thing: She has an undetermined amount of time to live. Should that play a factor in my broken heart vs. giving her another chance? Letting go was very hard and still is.

—Trying to Mend My Broken Heart

DEAR TRYING TO MEND MY BROKEN HEART:

It's one thing to be compassionate. It's another to wreck your life trying to heal someone else.

Your ex needs treatment for her physical and emotional health provided by doctors, social workers and friends. Not you.

People usually know when they

can't go any further in a relationship. You say that after years of anguish and heartbreak, you really want to move on with your life. And why shouldn't you? Staying with

someone out of guilt, regardless of the circumstances, doesn't work. Ms. Behavior wishes each of you happiness, which you are more likely to find, it seems, by going your separate ways. ☐

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

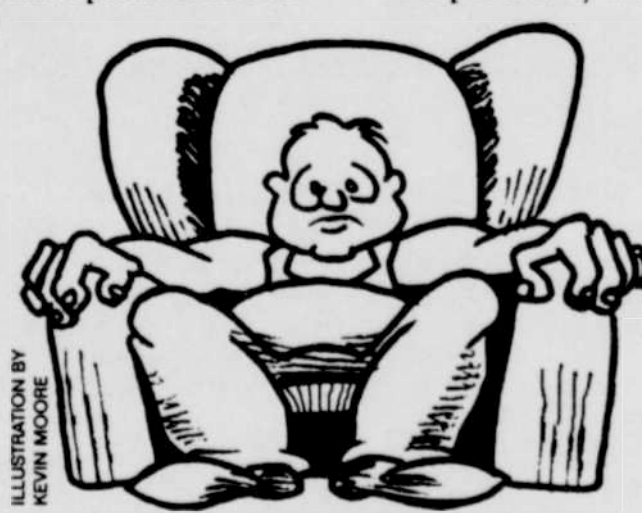


ILLUSTRATION BY KEVIN MOORE

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.)

First United Methodist Church of Portland, a welcoming and reconciling congregation, believes no one is left out in God's family. GLBT potlucks are held monthly. (10:30 am Sunday. 1838 SW Jefferson St. 503-228-3195. www.fumcpdx.org.) (5/01)

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.) (5/01)

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.) (5/01)

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

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. 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.) (5/01)

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.) (5/01)

Lilith's Daughters, a westside lesbian spiritual group facilitated by the Rev. Grace Young, meets in Beaverton. (7 pm second and fourth Friday. 503-643-3209.) (5/01)

Lincoln Street United Methodist Church is an open and accepting congregation of progressive Christians. (9 am Sunday. 5145 SE Lincoln St. 503-231-1930.) (11/01)

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.) (5/01)

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.) (5/01)

Potter's House Ministries Life Center. Evangelical and charismatic Christian. (3830 SE 62nd Ave. 503-775-5024.) (5/01)

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.) (5/01)

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.) (5/01)

St. James Lutheran Church, a reconciled in Christ congregation, welcomes all people for traditional liturgical worship. (9 and 11 am Sunday. 1315 SW Park Ave. 503-227-2439.) (5/01)

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.) (5/01)

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.) (5/01)

Unity Church of Portland is an all-inclusive community following Christ's teachings and celebrating diversity and truth without trappings for 75 years. Sunday school and child care available. Potluck first Sundays. (10 am Sunday. 4525 SE Stark St. 503-234-7441. Unityprtd@wwdb.org.) (11/01)

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.) (5/01)

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.) (5/01)

Washington: Spirituality

East Vancouver United Methodist Church. Reconciling, welcoming. (10 am Sunday. 5701 MacArthur Blvd., Vancouver. 360-693-4761. ourclarkcounty.columbian.com/273.) (5/01)

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.) (5/01)

Metropolitan Community Church of the Gentle Shepherd. (10 am Sunday. 913 W. 13th St., Vancouver. 360-695-1480.) (5/01)

Michael Servetus Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. (10 am Sunday. 4505 E. 18th St., Vancouver. 360-695-1891.) (5/01)

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.) (5/01)

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.) (5/01)

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.) (5/01)

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.) (5/01)

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. (American Legion Hall, 4774 Lilac Lane NE, Salem. Mailing address: Pastor Ken Kerr, PO Box 12753, Salem, OR 97309. 503-315-7923.) (5/01)

YOUTH

Metro: Youth

Expression is a free art/expression support group for GLBT youth between 13 and 18 years old who live in the Gresham area. Learn, grow and have fun! Sponsored by Roots and Branches. (5-7 pm Friday. Jonathan 503-238-0780, ext. 244.) (5/01)

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.) (5/01)

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.) (5/01)

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.) (5/01)

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 Monday and Wednesday, 4 pm-midnight Friday and Saturday. 2100 SE Belmont St. 503-872-9664. www.smyrc.org.) (5/01)

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

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.) (5/01)

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.) (5/01)

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. (lboytoy22@hotmail.com.) (5/01)

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.) (5/01)

Washington: Youth

Teen to Teen Sexual Minority Youth Program offers education, support and advocacy to gay, lesbian, bi and trans and questioning youth in Vancouver, Wash. Meets 6-8 pm Tuesdays and 3:30-5:30 pm Thursdays at Cascade AIDS Project, 1104 Main St. Suite M-100. (Amanda 360-693-1188.) (5/01)

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.) (5/01)

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.) (5/01)

Rainbow Youth is a support group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and questioning youth and their friends between 13 and 17 years old in the Salem-Keizer area. (503-581-5535.) (11/01)



The Portland Actors Conservatory presents *The Memory of Water*, a witty and wicked play about three British sisters, April 11 to 29 at Firehouse Theatre