

ADVICE

# Diesel dyke disparity

Is to transform to conform?



Ms. Behavior  
by Meryl Cohn

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

I was delighted to read your advice to Eliza, the diesel dyke who was seeking training in being more socially presentable as a female.

Butches wants to be femmes now? Great news! What with Republicans and right-wingers in control of the government, it's time queers relearn conformity and remember how

to adopt the behavior and thinking of mainstream heterosexuals.

Just as before pride, "gay culture" should remain innocuous and homo identity should mimic that of straight people to every possible extent. And there's no stopping this trend once it catches on again.

For girl-challenged lesbians, I hope Ms. Behavior will offer pointers on how to blow a straight man, insert a diaphragm, throw like a girl and serve a nice casserole. Anything to enable unacceptably boyish dykes to act, look and ultimately feel feminine.

Similarly, faggots would benefit from help in mimicking traditional man-type behaviors like betting on hockey, grabbing the asses of female co-workers, operating a forklift and fucking interns with Macanudo cigars.

So long to gender-bending individualism for members of sexual minority groups. The gay revolution has come a long way!

—My Fair Lezzie

DEAR MY FAIR LEZZIE:

There is no need to get your Joe Boxers in a twist, Missy.

Not all dykes are so insecure about their butchness that they can't peel off the battered old leather jackets, spike bracelets and boots they wore at 20 and slip into something new (and perhaps even dainty). But, clearly, this notion leaves you aghast. Perhaps it is because you think gay pride is about being a poster child for counterculture, rather than being yourself.

Queers, who have long appreciated the joys of dressing up and dressing down, are hardly in danger of extinguishing themselves by trying on a new costume. Do you think a lesbian who wears a silky skirt will suddenly lose her ability to change a tire or toss a football or shout "Yo!" when an SUV full of her friends drives by?

However, if the idea of Ms. Behavior channeling Henrietta Higgins for a bit of girl talk about changing clothes or style leaves you trembling in your Timberlands, you are hereby excused from the dressing room.

And, by the way, speaking for

proud gay male forklift operators everywhere, as well as cooking-savvy lesbians who can bake a killer casserole—all of whom will probably inundate Ms. Behavior with barrels of complaining e-mail—your tired old stereotyping of homosexuals is also excused.

P.S. If you'd really like pointers on blow

jobs or inserting a diaphragm, Ms. Behavior will have to charge extra.

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

Can a lesbian and a bisexual woman be friends after having a passionate relationship?

I've decided to be friends with this bisexual woman until she can figure out what she wants. She has children, and I feel she is stuck in the fantasy of her children having a father figure, even if her own needs are not fully being met. So to play it safe with my own heart, being friends with her and just loving her at a distance are all I can do for now.

Yes, I am hoping she will re-discover her true feelings for me, but until then I've decided on no intimacy. What do you think? Am I wasting away as my heart is frozen in time?

—Wasting Away

DEAR WASTING AWAY:

Your signature suggests you've answered your own question: It doesn't sound like you have enough distance from your bisexual "friend" to protect your heart.

Get out of your friend's head. Don't worry about what fantasy she's stuck in, and don't wait for her to figure out what she wants. That might take a long time, particularly if you're hanging out in the background, hoping she'll rediscover her feelings for you.

Your physical presence won't make her more likely to realize she wants you. And just resisting the temptation to have sex with one another is probably not enough of a change to create the distance you both need now.

Besides, if your heart is "frozen in time" it won't necessarily be available for the big thaw if a wonderful woman happens to show up, ready for a relationship with you. ☐

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comes all lesbian, bi and trans women for monthly activities, including potlucks, dances and drumming circles. Might start a cancer support group. (541-317-8457.)

Social group for **gay and bi men** in Central Oregon. Monthly dinners, annual barbecue and holiday parties. (541-312-8881.) (7/03)

## Willamette Valley:

### Physical Recreation

**The Outdoor Group** is a friendly, inclusive bunch of Eugene people who go biking, hiking, skating, mushroom hunting, skiing, hot springing and just about any other activity you can dream up. Occasional weekend camping. (Kim 541-484-2147. [kims@efn.org](mailto:kims@efn.org). [www.outdoorgroup.org](http://www.outdoorgroup.org).) (7/03)

**Frontrunner and Walkers** go out every Saturday morning in Eugene. (9 am. 15th and Agate. Hank 541-484-6259 or Sadie 541-485-3282.) (7/03)

The **Eugene GLBT Tennis Group** gets together weekends to play for fun and exercise. Open to all ages and skill levels. ([kfranken8@yahoo.com](mailto:kfranken8@yahoo.com).) (7/03)

## Willamette Valley: Social

**Confluence: The Willamette Valley Mixed GALA Chorus** rehearses 4-6:30 pm Sundays at Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem, 5090 Center St. NE. (541-754-4144. [confluence@aol.com](mailto:confluence@aol.com). [www.confluencechorus.org](http://www.confluencechorus.org).) (7/03)

The **Eugene Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual 20s/30s Social Club** enjoys a weekly game night and brunch every Sunday at Brail's. (Brian 541-485-3437.) (7/03)

**The Lesbian Connection (TLC)** meets once a month for potlucks and other various fun activities in Eugene. All women welcome. (Bonnie 541-683-2793.) (7/03)

**Marionberry Salon** meets monthly in Salem for potlucks and discussion of books touching on the lesbian, gay, bi experience. (Cary 503-363-6036. [marionberrysalon@aol.com](mailto:marionberrysalon@aol.com).) (7/03)

## SPIRITUALITY

### Metro: Spirituality

**Ainsworth United Church of Christ** is a multicultural, multicultural, open and affirming church. Sunday worship is at 10 am; church school for children runs concurrently. (2941 NE Ainsworth St. 503-284-8767. [auc@teleport.com](mailto:auc@teleport.com).) (7/03)

**Anawim Community** of gay men meets weekly for Christian meditation and prayer. (7:30 pm Thursday. 503-281-0722.) (7/03)

**Atkinson Memorial Church** is a Unitarian Universalist welcoming congregation in Oregon City. (710 Sixth St. 503-656-7296. [www.atkinsonchurch.com](http://www.atkinsonchurch.com).) (7/03)

**Compassionate Heart Sangha** plays host to weekly sittings in the Vipassana Meditation Tradition at Flanders House. (7:30-9 pm Wednesday. 2926 NE Flanders St. Jon 503-239-5539.) (7/03)

**Congregation Neveh Shalom**, an open and progressive Conservative Jewish synagogue, extends a warm welcome to all sexual minorities. Shabbat services 8:15 pm Friday and 9 am Saturday. (2900 SW Peaceful Lane. 503-246-8831.) (7/03)

**Congregation P'nai Or** (Faces of Light) is a vibrant, egalitarian, Jewish Renewal congregation in Portland. Meets several times a month in various locations. (PO Box 42187, Portland, OR 97242-0187. 503-248-4500. [www.pnaicorpdx.org](http://www.pnaicorpdx.org).) (7/03)

**Dignity Portland** meets for Mass on Sundays. (503-262-6947.) (7/03)

**Eastrose Fellowship Unitarian Universalist**, a welcoming congregation, offers Sunday service and children's religious education. (10:30 am. 1133 NE 181st Ave., Gresham. 503-665-2628. [eastrose@teleport.com](mailto:eastrose@teleport.com).) (7/03)

**Faith United Methodist Church** is a welcoming community of Christians in Troutdale that values and encourages all people in finding a place of belonging in the family of God. Sunday worship at 10:15 am; Adult Education at 9 am; children and youth at 10:30 am. Wednesday Prayers 6-6:30 pm. (27400 SE Stark St. 503-661-4520.) (7/03)

**First Unitarian Church** of Portland is an open and affirming liberal religious community offering a wide range of programs to nurture spiritual growth, community and social justice. Sunday service 10 am. (1011 SW 12th Ave. 503-228-6389. [www.firstunitarianportland.org](http://www.firstunitarianportland.org).) (7/03)

**First United Methodist Church** of Portland, a welcoming and reconciling congregation, believes no one is left out in God's family. Sexual minority potlucks held monthly. (10:30 am Sunday. 1838 SW Jefferson St. 503-228-3195. [www.fumcpx.org](http://www.fumcpx.org).) (7/03)

**Grace Space** is a New Thought spiritual center dedicated to offering ways to experience Spirit. Sunday evening celebrations with Rev. Stephanie Torres. Conscious Breathing experiences, Chanting, Healing Services, Meditation classes and a miracles study group. (5 pm. Bridgeport Community Church, 621 NE 76th Ave. 503-287-3216.) (7/03)

**Integrity** is a group of sexual minority Episcopalians and friends. Various locations throughout Oregon.

(Bruce Mason 503-286-9111. [brucepdxor@attbi.com](mailto:brucepdxor@attbi.com). [www.integrityusa.org](http://www.integrityusa.org).) (7/03)

**Interfaith Spiritual Center** houses spiritual directors from various world religious traditions, who are available for guidance, classes and retreats. (Second Floor, 3910 SE 11th Ave. 503-233-2026, ext. 3. [www.interfaithspiritualcenter.com](http://www.interfaithspiritualcenter.com).) (7/03)

**Keshet Portland** is a group for Jewish members of the sexual minorities community and their partners, spouses and supporters. Monthly social, religious and cultural events. (David or Laney 503-226-7079, ext. 14.) (7/03)

**Metanoia Peace Community United Methodist Church** is a "house church," bringing gay and straight together. (Daily prayer 7:20 am. Sunday gathering 5 pm. 2116 NE 18th Ave. 503-281-3697. [www.tearsoup.com/metanoia](http://www.tearsoup.com/metanoia).) (7/03)

**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. [info@mccportland.com](mailto:info@mccportland.com).) (7/03)

**Portland Center for Spiritual Growth** is a New Thought Center offering an uplifting, warm and refreshing service with the Revs. Casey and Berdell Moffett-Chaney. (10 am Sunday. Call for location. 503-777-0727.) (7/03)

**Portland Church of Religious Science** is a liberal, open, progressive New Thought community welcoming everyone to discover the spirit within. Change your thinking, change your life! (10 am Sunday meditation, 10:30 am service and junior church, 6:30 pm Wednesday prayer circle. 3983 NE 112th Ave. 503-261-0677.) (7/03)

**Portland Radical Faeries** meet twice a month with potlucks and circles at the full moon and the new moon. Open to all men seeking alternative spiritual growth and community. Coffee hours start 9:30 am Saturdays at 3 Friends Coffeehouse, 201 SE 12th Ave. (503-235-0826. [otter@pcez.com](mailto:otter@pcez.com).) (7/03)

**SisterSpirit** offers women's spirituality celebrations, discussion groups, a drumming circle, workshops and classes. Schedule of events available. All women are welcome. (Suite 102, 3430 SE Belmont St. Mailing address: PO Box 9246, Portland, OR 97207. 503-736-3297. [sistersp@teleport.com](mailto:sistersp@teleport.com).) (7/03)

**Spirit Circle** is for lesbian, bi or trans women seeking a welcoming community in the Catholic church. Meets every third Thursday in the St. Andrew Nativity School. (7 pm. 806 NE Alberta St. [lbspiritcircle@yahoo.com](mailto:lbspiritcircle@yahoo.com).) (7/03)

**Southminster Presbyterian Church** is a challenging, supportive community that welcomes all people. It is the first More Light Presbyterian Church in Oregon. Sunday school and nursery care. (10 am Sunday. 12250 SW Denney Road, Beaverton. 503-644-2073. [staff@southmin.com](mailto:staff@southmin.com).) (7/03)

**St. Andrew Catholic Church** invites all to join a diverse faith community for prayer and fellowship. (9:30 am Sunday. 806 NE Alberta St. 503-281-4429.) (7/03)

**St. James Lutheran Church**, a Reconciled in Christ congregation, welcomes all people for traditional, liturgical worship where we experience God's reconciling love that sets all people free. (9 and 11 am Sunday. 1315 SW Park Ave. 503-227-2439.) (7/03)

**Gay and Lesbian Outreach (GALO)** of St. Philip Neri Catholic Church celebrates an affirming Mass followed by a social. (7:30 pm Friday. Paulist Center, 2408 SE 16th Ave. 503-231-4955.) (7/03)

**St. Stephen's Episcopal Church** 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.) (7/03)

**Waverly Heights Church (UCC)** is open and affirming with worship, children's school and child care. (10 am Sunday. 3300 SE Woodward St. 503-238-1337. [www.waverlyucc.org](http://www.waverlyucc.org).) (7/03)

**Wyeast Unitarian Universalist Congregation** is an open and liberal religious community offering inter-generational services and religious education for children. It welcomes gay, lesbian, bi and trans members. Nurtures spiritual growth and promotes living by Unitarian Universalist principles. (4 pm Sunday. 3915 SE Steele St. 503-777-3704. [www.wyeast.pnwd.uaa.org](http://www.wyeast.pnwd.uaa.org).) (7/03)

**Zion United Church of Christ**, an open and affirming congregation, is open to gay, lesbian, bi, trans 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.) (7/03)

## Washington: Spirituality

**Abundant Life Center** is a New Thought Community for spiritual awakening and transforming lives through love. A safe place where children learn to embody spiritual principles. (10 am Sunday. 10006 NE Ninth Ave., Vancouver. 360-573-2626.) (7/03)

**East Vancouver United Methodist Church** is reconciling and welcoming. (10 am Sunday. 5701 MacArthur Blvd. 360-693-4761. [ourclarkcounty.columbian.com/273/](mailto:ourclarkcounty.columbian.com/273/).) (7/03)

**First Congregational Church**, United Church of Christ, holds 20 Sunday services, traditional and "less traditional" in an open and affirming congregation. (1220 NE 68th St., Vancouver. 360-693-1476. [vanucc@aol.com](mailto:vanucc@aol.com).) (7/03)

**God's Holy Territory** offers a spirit-filled worship experience, seeking God for holiness and wholeness. For gay, lesbian, bi, trans and straight. Everyone welcome! (11 am Sunday, 7 pm Thursday Bible study and prayer. 1500 NE 49th St., Vancouver. 360-885-9461. [gmbear68@netzero.net](mailto:gmbear68@netzero.net).) (7/03)

**Michael Servetus Unitarian Universalist Fellowship**, a home for the liberal religious spirit. (10 am Sunday. 4505 E 18th St., Vancouver. 360-695-1891.) (7/03)

## Willamette Valley: Spirituality

**First Congregational Church**, United Church of Christ is an open and affirming congregation offering worship and church school. Child care provided and wheelchair accessible. (9 am Sunday learning hour, 10 am worship. 700 Marion St. NE, Salem. 503-363-3660.) (7/03)

**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 Sunday. 3674 12th St. SE, Salem. 503-364-5013.) (7/03)

**Sacred Souls** honors all sacred paths, promotes peace and strives to create an environment that supports and promotes interfaith dialogue. Meets at the Oregon School of Massage. (6:30-8 pm Sunday. 440 Ferry St. SE, Salem. [wholhth@aol.com](mailto:wholhth@aol.com). [www.sacredsouls.org](http://www.sacredsouls.org).) (7/03)

## YOUTH

### Metro: Youth

**Flavors**, a program of MultiQueer and Brother to Brother, is a social support group for sexual minority youth of color 24 and younger. Meets every other Sunday for food and socializing. Regular events and activities. (Des 503-228-3892 or [des@imfamily.org](mailto:des@imfamily.org). Stephan 503-417-7991 or [hey\\_stephan@hotmail.com](mailto:hey_stephan@hotmail.com).) (7/03)

The **Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN)** fights to end anti-gay bias in K-12 schools. (12700 SW North Dakota St., Suite 180, #129, Tigard, OR 97223. 503-525-1177. [glsen@glsenoregon.org](http://glsen@glsenoregon.org). [www.glsenoregon.org](http://www.glsenoregon.org).) (7/03)

**MultiQueer**, a program of Love Makes a Family, provides advocacy to sexual minority youth. Offers resources and support in the community and the school systems, with a focus on support for youth of color. (Des 503-228-3892. [des@imfamily.org](mailto:des@imfamily.org).) (7/03)

**Outside In** operates a clinic for anyone who can't qualify for the Oregon Health Plan as well as needle exchange services that include those who inject hormones. Can provide transitional housing for youth 20 and younger as well as for those HIV+ and younger than 23. Also plays host to VOICES (Voices of Individual and Community Empowerment from the Streets), a self-support group for queer youth. Needs volunteers of all ages. (10 am-6 pm Monday-Friday. 1132 SW 13th Ave. 503-535-3800. [www.outsidein.org](http://www.outsidein.org).) (7/03)

**Vanguard Youth Services**, a program of Cascadia Behavioral HealthCare, offers support and recreation to gay, lesbian, bi and trans kids 23 and younger. Programs include: **Clackamas County Sexual Minority Youth Connection (COSMYC)** provides opportunities for queer and questioning kids to get together for free, fun and supportive social activities. Also one-on-one support and referrals to Clackamas County service providers. (503-969-0060. [cosmycyouth@yahoo.com](mailto:cosmycyouth@yahoo.com).) **Expression** is a free art/expression support group in Gresham for queer youth. Hang out and have fun every Friday! (Jonathan 503-872-9664, ext. 28.) (7/03)

**Pride Project** brings together Washington County queer and questioning youth to plan and attend monthly social events. Also information, referral and advocacy services in Washington County. (Molly 503-260-5792. [molly@prideproject.org](mailto:molly@prideproject.org).) (7/03)

**Sexual Minority Youth Recreation Center (SMYRC)** offers drop-in computer access, pool tables and an informal place to hang out. Weekly youth support groups includes 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. TTY 503-231-9286. [www.smyrc.org](http://www.smyrc.org).) (7/03)

**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.) (7/03)

## Washington: Youth

**Triple Point** offers education, support and advocacy to gay, lesbian, bi, trans and questioning youth in Vancouver. Wash. Meets 6-8 pm Tuesdays in the basement of Youth House, 1112 Columbia St. in Vancouver. (John 360-695-1325.) (7/03)

## Willamette Valley: Youth

**Gay, Lesbian, Bi, Transgender and Questioning Youth Group** for ages 13 to 18 offers support, information and fun in Eugene. Free, confidential, adult-facilitated. (Drop in 4-6 pm Friday. Amazon Community Center, 2700 Hilyard St. 541-684-3466.) (7/03)

**Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Youth Group** for ages 25 and younger meets every Monday in Eugene. (5 pm. Koionia Center, 1414 Kincaid St. 541-346-1134.) (7/03)