

WORLDnews

of Nizhny Novgorod. "I simply wanted to marry the man I love," Gogolev told Reuters.

The church quickly voided the wedding and suspended Enert. Now it has stripped him of his priesthood altogether.

"We have decided to expel Father Vladimir Enert from sacred office after he voluntarily carried out this blasphemous act," a spokesman said.

AUSTRALIA

A new study by the New South Wales state attorney general finds that 85 percent of Sydney homosexuals have experienced homophobic abuse, harassment or violence and that half of them have experienced it in the past year.

Verbal abuse was the most common problem, followed by offensive gestures, threat of assault and assault. Gay teens reported feeling most vulnerable.

The report, *Homophobic Hostilities and Violence Against Gay Men and Lesbians in NSW*, questioned 600 gays and lesbians in Australia's largest city.

SWEDEN

Swedish gay couples are being recognized as the parents of their children following a recent change in the law. A lesbian couple in Umeå are now the legal parents of a girl who was born to one of the women, and two men in Stockholm are now the legal parents of a girl they adopted in the United States.

MALTA

Under pressure from the European Union, which it is set to join, Malta banned anti-gay discrimination in the workplace Oct. 7.

A legal notice published in the Government Gazette stated: "In determining whether any treatment is treatment that is justified in a democratic society, the Industrial Tribunal shall take into account the provisions of any directive and/or regulation issued by the institutions of the European Union relating to discrimination and particularly Council Directive 2000/43/EC of 29th June 2000 and Council Directive 2000/78/EC of 27th November 2000 prohibiting discrimination on the basis of religion or belief, disability, age, sexual orientation, race or ethnic origin."

Gay activists welcomed the move but said they will be happier when the changes are written directly into labor law rather than merely published as subsidiary legislation.

About 40 percent of Maltese gays and lesbians report workplace harassment based on their sexual orientation, according to the Malta Gay Rights Movement.

UNITED KINGDOM

About 20 percent of gays and lesbians in Wales are afraid to come out at work, a survey by Stonewall Cymru and Cardiff University has found. And 25 percent say they've been fired for being gay.

A third of those questioned said they'd been bullied or physically attacked for being gay, and a quarter reported harassment or discrimination at the hands of police. The survey was completed by 364 people.

Britain is removing more than 300 people from its sex offender registry because they were convicted of crimes that will no longer exist come next May—buggery and gross indecency between men. The crimes will disappear when the sex offenses bill now moving through Parliament reaches the statute book, *The Guardian* said.



A confused Todd Grimshaw homes in to lock lips with Nick Tilsley for the first gay kiss in the 43-year history of the U.K. soap *Coronation Street*

A gay kiss on an evening soap opera that has aired in the United Kingdom for 43 years grabbed 54.7 percent of all television viewers Oct. 6.

About 14 million people tuned in to see *Coronation Street* character Todd Grimshaw (Bruno Langley) plant one on Nick Tilsley (Adam Rickett). A total of 16 viewers called in to complain about the snog.

THAILAND

A study by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has found that 17 of every 100 gay men in Thailand are HIV-positive.

The agency said that's the highest gay HIV rate in the world. But some Thai AIDS experts believe the CDC study was flawed because it tested men who frequent gay bathhouses and cruise parks, who might have a higher infection rate.

NEW ZEALAND

Gay and heterosexual couples are now treated equally under immigration rules, New Zealand Immigration Minister Lianne Dalziel announced Sept. 29. All couples must prove they have lived together in a genuine and stable partnership for one year when they seek a permanent residency application for a foreign partner.

In the past, there was a two-year wait for de facto and same-sex couples and no wait for married couples. Couples who have been together less than a year can seek temporary permits.

UGANDA

The Gay and Lesbian Alliance of Uganda has informed the government that gays will form their own political party if they are not granted equal rights, Kampala's *The Monitor* reported Oct. 6.

"We believe criminalizing us because of our nature is unfair," GALA chairman S.W.I. Lule said. "If you fail to honor our request, we will be forced to form our political party to represent our interests."

In response, Justice and Constitutional Affairs Minister Janat Mukwaya told *The Monitor*: "I would advise them to read the Constitution. I don't think gays have a right in our Constitution."

EGYPT

Egypt continues to round up and arrest gay men by the hundreds, Human Rights

Watch said Oct. 6. In the latest incident, Cairo police blocked both ends of a bridge known for gay cruising and arrested 62 men found on the structure.

They were held for three days and released on bail after being charged with "habitual practice of debauchery." They face up to three years in prison.

"These arrests are only the latest in a two-year official campaign against homosexual conduct," said Joe Stork, acting executive director of Human Rights Watch's Middle East and North Africa division. "Many of those detained in the past have been tortured in detention."

Stork charged police also continue to entrap Internet cruisers and provided details on several men jailed recently after seeking same-sex partners online.

ARGENTINA

The Association for the Fight for Transvestite-Transsexual Identity was denied governmental registration Sept. 23.

In rejecting the application, Justice Ministry Inspector General Ricardo Augusto Nissen wrote: "I consider that the aims listed by [the association] do not fall into the category of 'public good' required of legally registered organizations under Article 33 of the Civil Code. It does not seem to me that 'to fight for recognition of transvestism as an identity by both society and the state' nor 'building transvestite-transsexual citizenship' offer a valuable framework for the development of coexistence."



A Lithuanian sculptor insists his models are socialists, not queers

LITHUANIA

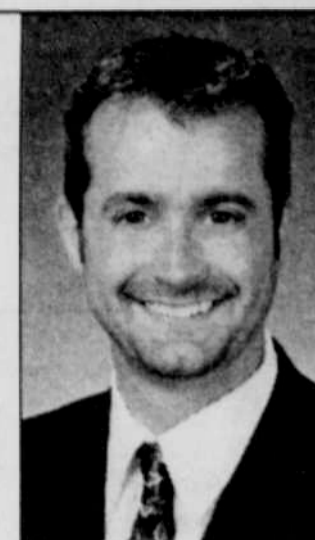
Lithuanian sculptor Bronius Vysniauskas wants \$300 from the Lithuanian Gay League because it snapped a photo of one of his public sculptures of muscular, square-jawed Communist workers and put it on the cover of its magazine. He says if the group doesn't hand over the money, he will sue them for \$8,000 for defamation.

"I created a monument of two socialist workers, not gays," Vysniauskas said, according to Advocate.com. "I don't know how homosexuals came to the idea my models were gay." [E]

Compiled by REX WOCKNER, who has reported for the gay press since 1985. He has a bachelor's degree in journalism from Drake University and started his career as a radio reporter.

Conforming
Non-Conforming
Stated Income
100% Financing
Zero Down
First Time Buyers
Jumbo Loans

Residential
Commercial
Investment Property



CHRISTOPHER V. TEMPLE-MORRIS

Loan Officer

503.781.3852 MOBILE

503.684.5800 ext. 29 OFFICE

christopher@pacificrimloans.com

Working for *everyone*

in the Community,

including those

with credit risk.

PACIFIC RIM MORTGAGE

MEMBER: OREGON ASSOCIATION OF MORTGAGE BROKERS
MEMBER: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MORTGAGE BROKERS



When an ordinary
Realtor simply
won't do...



3144 SE Belmont
Portland, OR 97214
office: 503-238-7617

