

# Speak Out

**just asking** As we wrap up another memorable year, what do you feel occurred during 2003 that will have the most significant impact on the sexual minorities community—for better or worse?

For better, *The Ellen DeGeneres Show*. I have enjoyed her acting in the past, but as a talk show host, she takes the cake. She is her warm, friendly, funny, compassionate self, setting a very wholesome example for not only the GLBT community but for humanity in general! High-five, Ellen!

ANGELA WALDROP  
Brush Prairie, Wash.

...

I think, by far, the U.S. Supreme Court decision about same-gender and so-called deviant sexual practices has the potential to have an huge impact on not only the so-called gay community. I suspect it will have an equally significant result in the allegedly straight community as well. It may, in fact, be the vehicle that finally brings an end to that division.

JOHN ANGEL  
Phoenix

**next issue** In response to the alarming rise of sexually transmitted diseases among queer men, should the Multnomah County Health Department consider regulating Portland sex clubs? Why or why not? (Please see related item on Page 12.) Respond at [www.justout.com](http://www.justout.com). (Don't forget to include your name, city and daytime telephone number.)

let's not forget that single mothers who lose their children to murder have suffered the ultimate injustice. How dare we speak of them with anything but compassion?

You might have found legitimate examples of how heterosexual parents have failed their children, but this says nothing about our fitness as parents. We don't need to point to other people's failures to demonstrate our own strength.

We need to work together so that all children are safe and all parents are supported in providing loving and secure homes.

SARA GRAHAM  
BONNIE TINKER  
Portland

## Valuable values

TO THE EDITOR:

I was extremely impressed with Marty Davis' New Year's Eve 2003 commentary, "What's in Store for 2004?: Publisher Resolves to Stop Making New Year's Resolutions" [Dec. 19].

More importantly, I was impressed with the whimsical way you laid out clear resolutions for those in disagreement with some of your advertising values, policies and practices. I perceived your tone, to those at the two extreme ends of gay male advertising, as being very respectful of others' opinions while standing firm on your own business values.

You demonstrate beautifully how important it is to make sure, as *Just Out's* editor, that you are thinking well about the entire LGBT community and not just a few loud, discontent voices. As one who shares your values, I want to say thank you for your refreshing leader-

The gay marriage rulings by the Ontario Court of Appeal and Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court are a turning point for the sexual minorities community. For better or for worse, they will force us to reach a compromise regarding everyone's right to equity under the law, privacy, societal traditions and honoring the tenets of our various faiths.

The impacts will take years to measure but are likely comparable to the impacts of the Roe vs. Wade decision on abortion rights that involved and still involves similar tensions.

ROBB TOPOLSKI  
Hillsboro

...

The gay bishop, Canada's approval of gay marriage. The few limping steps made by a couple of states toward legal gay coupling.

WES D. BEVANS  
Scappoose

ship—for not succumbing to the financial bottom-line pressure of the buck.

GUADALUPE GUAJARDO  
Portland

## We the people

TO THE EDITOR:

Since 1982 I have been trying to get Congress to pass and send on to the states a proposed constitutional amendment that would ban discrimination on any grounds.

I call my amendment the Universal Civil Liberties Amendment. Ironically, it was the Equal Rights Amendment that gave me the inspiration for my proposal.

Article 1: No government (federal, state or local) and no institution, organization, establishment or enterprise shall in any manner conduct practices or policies that are in any way discriminatory or otherwise unfair or unjust. The above stated shall not deny any person equal protection under the law, nor shall the above stated deny any person any rights or privileges without just cause.

Article 2: Congress shall have the power to enforce this amendment through appropriate legislation.

Article 3: This amendment shall not become part of the Constitution unless it is ratified by three-fourths of the state legislatures within 10 years after having been passed by Congress.

I hope that those of you who read this will try to get the U.S. Congress to pass it.

GEORGE RUEF  
Portland



**just out** Welcomes letters to the editor

Letters must be accompanied by a phone number for verification purposes. Anonymous letters and letters without sufficient contact information will not be published.

More Choices,  
More Freedom,  
More Potential,  
More Locations!

Willamette  
Financial Group, LLC

Floreid Walker & Greg Look

Retirement  
Life Insurance  
College Planning  
Sustainable Investing  
Longterm Care

3529 NE Broadway STE 100  
Portland, OR 97232  
503.445.9390 ext.101

3550 Liberty Rd. S STE 230  
Salem, OR 97302  
503.566.7266 ext.108

Call one of us today  
for more information!

floreid@wfgadvisors.com greg@wfgadvisors.com  
www.wfgadvisors.com



HILLSDALE VETERINARY GROUP  
6359 SW Capitol Highway  
Portland, Oregon 97239  
(503) 246-4660

Over 17 years of experience  
and compassion.

- Dentistry
- Internal Medicine
- Surgery
- Geriatrics
- Pain Management
- Preventive Care

**NEW CLIENTS  
MENTION THIS AD  
FOR A FREE EXAM.**

Mechanics  
that fix  
everything.  
Including  
your  
conscience.



PDX Automotive is a certified  
Eco-Logical Business.

(503) 282-3315



AAA approved repair shop  
Oregon certified DEO repair facility ASE Certified Mechanics

Gerard Lillie • 5934 N.E. Halsey

MARVIN  
SALLES  
broker



**CLOSE IN CONDO! \$149,000**  
Enjoy the Luxury of the Quintet just off West Burnside  
whether it is from your personal Deck or Pool side.  
2bd/2ba, fpic.

**BROOKLYN BUNGALOW  
\$269,900**

Enjoy the Neighborhood views from this stunning  
Historic Porch & 1916 Home. This corner lot house is  
a 3bd + bonus 1-1/2 bath 2192 sf.

**DOWNTOWN 4-PLEX \$590,000**  
Architectural Masterpiece built in 1907  
brings in high rents with 2 and 1 bedroom units.

**LEWIS CLARK RESORT  
HOME \$329,000**

1854 sf 3bd/2ba + bonus on 3/4 acre in park-like setting.  
Large deck allows observation of passing deer and birds  
within close proximity to the city!

(503) 320-1271  
[www.marvinsalles.com](http://www.marvinsalles.com)

