

ADVICE

The scarlet letter

When your fag hag's husband cheats (or when you do)



Ms. Behavior
by Meryl Cohn

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

My boyfriend, Paul, and I are delighted by the Massachusetts gay marriage decision and have been excitedly planning our June wedding in Provincetown.

Paul and I have been together for four years, and it's never entered my mind to cheat on him. Until recently.

I'd gone out to a club after work with some friends who were talking and laughing with a man named David. It was crowded, and David and I ended up sharing a barstool. There was an immediate magnetic attraction, and we stayed there chatting after our friends had dispersed.

Eventually we ended up in the hallway making out. I managed to pull myself away somehow and went home to Paul, who, thankfully, was asleep. Since then David and I have e-mailed each other 50 times a day, and he leaves messages for me on my work voice mail.

I love Paul and want to marry him, but I'm afraid of what this sudden romantic detour might mean. Is this just a reaction to being about to declare my love and fidelity to Paul in front of our friends and family? Is it some sort of innate desire to have "one last fling" before tying the knot?

Or is this a sign that Paul and I shouldn't be entering into a legal commitment to each other when I'm not absolutely sure of my feelings

for someone else? If so, I think I should call the wedding off now. I have visions of my wedding turning into some kind of tawdry B movie scene with my true love bursting in just as we are about to say "I do" and my running down Commercial Street in a wedding dress.

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—I Do, Don't I!

DEAR I DO, DON'T I!:

Whoa, boy. It's probably no coincidence that your first little extramarital make-out session happened right after you planned your wedding. Unfortunately, you now need to do the most unappealing thing you can possibly imagine: Tell Paul about your marriage anxiety and about your feelings for David (including the tongue insertion).

Although you're clearly tempted to sort out your feelings on your own, include Paul in the process; he probably has some clues about what's happening between the two of you lately and about what makes you feel afraid.

Besides, keeping your "romantic detour" with David a secret would only put a wedge between you and Paul, possibly wrecking your chances for a happy gay marriage.

Well-meaning friends may advise you just to cut off from David and not mention anything to Paul, with the hope of sparing Paul's feelings. But the

intensity of the attraction you describe isn't likely just to go away on its own.

Start by telling Paul the truth. Keep in mind that while Massachusetts may allow you to marry Paul, it doesn't mean you have to do it. You do, however, need to be honest with him.

P.S. In the future, if all the barstools are occupied, try standing instead of sharing.

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

On a recent trip to New York, I was all excited to hit the bars! Before my suitcase touched the hotel room floor, I was dressed and ready to go out and be with the hot NYC boys.

Well...as soon as I walked through the door of the first bar, I saw my friend's hubby loitering around looking for trade! The problem is, I am certain my friend Marsha has no idea that her husband is cheating on her—let alone with the gay boys!

My friend Jasper told me I should tell Marsha; after all, she is my No. 1 fag hag. But I'm afraid to be the bearer of hurtful

news. So, Ms. B, it's on you...what should I do?

—Lost in the Sauce

DEAR LOST IN THE SAUCE:

If you're sure that Marsha's husband was indeed cruising (and not just, say, looking for cute men to cast in a movie or peddling methamphetamine to underage hustlers), then you should inform her.

Yes, Marsha might be mad at you for bringing this little secret to her attention. But she'd be way more pissed if she found out that you knew her husband was out sucking dick and that you didn't bother to mention it. ☐

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MERYL COHN is the author of *Do What I Say: Ms. Behavior's Guide to Gay and Lesbian Etiquette* (Houghton Mifflin). Signed copies are available directly from the author. Send questions or correspondence to msbehavior@aol.com.

SPIRITUALITY

Metro: Spirituality

Ainsworth United Church of Christ is a multi-racial, multicultural, open and affirming church. Sunday worship is at 10 am; church school for children runs concurrently. (2941 NE Ainsworth St. 503-284-8767. aucc@teleport.com) (7/04)

Anawim Community of gay men meets weekly for Christian meditation and prayer. (7:30 pm Thursday, 503-281-0722.) (7/04)

Bridgeport United Church of Christ is a community of progressive, political people exploring and celebrating the Christian faith. We are sexual minority and straight, multicultural and multiracial, and our children are valued members. (10:30 am Sunday, 621 NE 76th Ave. 503-258-0992. www.bridgeportucc.org) (7/04)

City Church, Portland's "oldest gay-affirming Christian church," offers a spirit-driven church for today's diverse generations. (10 am Sunday communion and worship service, 6:30 pm Sunday worship service, 3830 SE 62nd Ave. 503-775-5024.) (7/04)

Congregation P'nai Or (Faces of Light) is a vibrant, egalitarian, Jewish Renewal congregation in Portland. Meets several times a month at Portland State University Campus Ministries. (PO Box 42187, Portland, OR 97242-0187. 503-248-4500. www.pnaorpxd.org) (7/04)

Eastrose Fellowship Unitarian Universalist, a welcoming congregation, offers Sunday service and children's religious education. (10:30 am Sunday, 1133 NE 181st Ave., Gresham. 503-665-2628. eastrose@teleport.com) (7/04)

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.) (7/04)

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 9 and 11 am. (1011 SW 12th Ave. 503-228-6389. www.firstunitarianportland.org) (7/04)

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.) (7/04)

Gay Men's Labyrinth Project meets quarterly for a walking meditation and wisdom circle on the labyrinth. (www.gaylabyrinth.com) (7/04)

Integrity is a group of sexual minority Episcopalians and friends. Various locations throughout Oregon. (Bruce 503-286-9111. brucepdxor@attbi.com. www.integrityusa.org) (7/04)

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) (7/04)

Keshet Portland is a potluck group for Jewish members of the sexual minorities community and their partners, spouses and supporters. Its purpose is to help build bridges with the larger Jewish community. Monthly social, religious and cultural events. (David or Laney 503-226-7079, ext. 14.) (7/04)

Koinonia Catholic Community is a progressive, small faith community that gathers weekly to celebrate

Eucharist at Bridgeport United Church of Christ. A welcoming congregation, Catholic in tradition and Ecumenical in membership. (6 pm Sunday, 621 NE 76th Ave. 503-699-0473. www.koinoniacommunity.org) (7/04)

Longview United Methodist Church is welcoming and reconciling. (10 am Sunday, 2851 30th Ave. 360-425-4927.) (7/04)

Metanoia Peace Community United Methodist Church is a "house church" that brings gay and straight together. Daily morning prayer and Sunday evening worship. (503-281-3697. www.tearsoup.com/metanoia) (7/04)

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 service. (2400 NE Broadway, 503-281-8868. info@mccportland.com. www.mccportland.com) (7/04)

Nichiren Buddhist Temple of Portland offers several weekly gatherings. Everyone welcome! (10 am Sunday, 7:30 am Tuesday and Thursday, 7:30 pm Wednesday meditation, 2025 SE Yamhill St. 503-232-8064. www.nichiren-shu.org/portland) (7/04)

Peace Church of the Brethren is a welcoming congregation. (11 am Sunday, 12727 SE Market St. 503-254-6380.) (7/04)

Portland Center for Spiritual Growth is a center for worship, growth and leadership that adheres to an all-inclusive spiritual philosophy similar to 12-step, Unity and Religious Science. (503-777-0727. www.portlandcenter.org) (7/04)

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@pccz.com) (7/04)

Seventh-Day Adventist Kinship is a support organization for queer people, their families and friends. (PO Box 7320, Laguna Niguel, CA 92607-7320. 866-732-5677. office@sdakinship.org. www.sdakinship.org) (7/04)

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) (7/04)

Southminster Presbyterian Church is an active member of the Community of Welcoming Congregations. Sunday school and nursery care. Classes, community service activities and events for all ages and interests. (9-9:30 am Sunday chapel service, 10 am Sunday community worship service, 12250 SW Denney Road, Beaverton. 503-644-2073. staff@southmin.com. www.southmin.com) (7/04)

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.) (7/04)

St. James Lutheran Church: 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. www.stjameslutheranportland.org) (7/04)

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. 1432 SW 13th Ave. 503-223-6424.) (7/04)

University Park United Methodist Church believes in giving to the community, caring for one another and making a difference one person at a time. Come celebrate God's diversity with us! (10 am Sunday, 4775 N Lombard St. The Rev. Jeannie Knepper 503-289-7843.) (7/04)

Waverly Heights United Church of Christ 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) (7/04)

Wyeast Unitarian Universalist Congregation is an open and liberal religious community offering inter-generational services and religious education for youth and adults. We welcome gay, lesbian, bi and trans members and nurture spiritual growth living by Unitarian Universalist principles. (4 pm Sunday, 3915 SE Steele St. 503-777-3704. www.wyeast.pnwdu.uaa.org) (7/04)

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.) (7/04)

Central Oregon: Spirituality

United Church of Christ Congregational is an open and affirming congregation in The Dalles. (9:20 am adult Sunday school, 10:30 am Sunday worship, 111 E Fifth St. 541-296-2909. uccongd@netcnct.net. www.forministry.com/sonorocofcucco) (7/04)

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. The Rev. Kathleen Venjin 360-573-2626.) (7/04)

East Vancouver United Methodist Church is reconciling and welcoming. (10 am Sunday, 5701 MacArthur Blvd. 360-693-4761.) (7/04)

First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, holds services in an open and affirming congregation. (10 am Sunday worship, 11:15 am adult education, 1220 NE 68th St., Vancouver. 360-693-1476. vanucc@aol.com) (7/04)

Metropolitan Community Church of the Gentle Shepherd in Vancouver welcomes you. (10:30 am and 6:30 pm Sunday worship, 9 am Sunday Bible study, 2200 Broadway. The Rev. Harriet Barshofsky 360-695-1480.) (7/04)

Michael Servetus Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, a Welcoming Congregation, provides a home for the liberal religious spirit. (9:30 and 11:15 am Sunday, 4505 E 18th St., Vancouver. 360-695-1891.) (7/04)

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. (9:30 am Sunday learning hour, 10:30 am worship, 700 Marion St. NE, Salem. 503-363-3660.) (7/04)

Metropolitan Community Church Two Rivers is a Christian church with primary outreach in the sexual minorities community. (6:30 pm Sunday, 1166 Oak St., Eugene.) (7/04)

(541-889-3119 or 866-248-8369. eoocl@eoocl.org. www.eoocl.org) (7/04)

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.) (7/04)

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 Hayard St. 541-684-3466.) (7/04)

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Youth Group for ages 25 and younger meets every Monday in Eugene. (5 pm, Koinonia Center, 1414 Kincaid St. 541-346-1134.) (7/04)

Rainbow Youth is a safe, confidential support group for young gay men, lesbians, bisexuals, transgender, questioning and friends. (6-8 pm Wednesday, Micha Building, 690 State St., Salem. www.salemrainbowyouth.org) (7/04)

YOUTH

Metro: Youth

Flavors, a social support group for sexual minority youth of color 21 and younger, meets on weekends for food and socializing. Regular events and activities. Flavors is a project of Love Makes a Family's MultiQueer program and is supported by Brother to Brother. (Jaye 503-228-3892. jaye@lmafamly.org) (7/04)

The Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN) fights to end anti-gay bias in K-12 schools. (Suite 180, 12700 SW North Dakota St. #129, Tigard, OR 97223. 503-525-1177. glsen@gsenoregon.org. www.glsenoregon.org) (7/04)

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 queer and questioning youth of color. (Jaye 503-228-3892. jaye@lmafamly.org) (7/04)

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. Needs volunteers of all ages. (10 am-6 pm Monday-Friday, 1132 SW 13th Ave. 503-535-3800. www.outsidein.org) (7/04)

Sexual Minority Youth Resource Center (SMYRC), a program of Cascadia Behavioral HealthCare, offers support and recreation to gay, lesbian, bi and trans youth 23 and younger. Offers drop-in computer access, pool tables and an informal place to hang out. Weekly support meetings includes Trans Youth Group and the creative group Personal Deity Proxy. (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) Other programs include: **Clockwork County Sexual Minority Youth Connection (COSMYC)** provides opportunities for queer and questioning youth ages 23 and younger to get together for free, fun and supportive social activities. Offers one-on-one support, referrals and information on HIV and STD prevention and resources for adults who work with queer and questioning youth. (503-969-0060. cosmycyouth@yahoo.com) **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) (7/04)

Eastern Oregon: Youth

Eastern Oregon Center for Independent Living offers support and advocacy to gay, lesbian, bi, trans and questioning youth in Eastern Oregon.

Send your **outreach** listings to:
just out (attn: Calendar) • PO Box 14400 • Portland, OR 97293-0400
Fax submissions to: 503-236-1257 or e-mail: justout@justout.com
Submissions cannot be accepted over the phone. • Please type, do not handwrite, and proofread carefully.