

Continued from Page 23

She says that while she cannot always pinpoint the root of disapproval, being lesbians, married and interracial is too much for many to accept.

"We've discovered it's sort of a lonely life. Getting married is one of the highlights of our lives, and when we share that with people, we find the enthusiasm is not equally matched in some people—in most people, actually," says Bolyard. "There are so many facets to our relationship for people to have hang-ups about."



Shauna Hardy (foreground), who is half Irish and half Korean, shares a moment with her mother, Elsie Garland

"When African Americans say the gay rights issue is not a civil rights issue, I know that it is. For me, it's fighting all the battles, and I think it's compounded, being interracial and being a lesbian couple," says Haywood.

For Garland, her marriage in the '60s coincided with a politically charged time for interracial relations throughout the country.

"It was a critical time in the civil rights movement with Martin Luther King Jr., so issues between the races were focused more between black vs. white and less on Asian and white relationships. It absolutely would have

A Civil Right

Second only to same-sex marriage in its ability to spark a heated divide is the controversy of whether the queer struggle for equality is a civil rights issue.

Some historians and African Americans do not perceive the queer fight for equality as on par with the black civil rights movement. Yet many same-sex marriage advocates feel their "separate but equal" treatment has some parallels to laws governing segregation of black people between 1877 and the mid-1960s.

For example, gays and lesbians are restricted from 1,000 federal and 500 state legal protections and rights that marriage provides, such as hospital visitation rights, inheritance rights and security protection for their children, according to Basic Rights Oregon, the state's largest sexual minority advocacy group.

Most of the major opposition to same-sex marriage has come from Christian conservatives.

"I'm concerned that we are in a climate nationally and politically where civil rights for every minority group is under challenge. I'm concerned that we have the growth of a Christian right wing that is motivated by their own religious values and a conservative agenda that has silenced moderate voices in our state so that politics have been polarized," says Roey Thorpe, executive director of Basic Rights Oregon. "I think it's really important to join together with other social justice and economic groups to prepare for attacks as they come."

She adds, "I actually think asking for marriage equality is a very conservative thing to do, but it addresses people's prejudices."

According to Haywood, her right to marry whomever she chooses is as fundamental as her right to vote.

been more difficult if I were marrying a black man than an Asian man," she says.

Just as her parents warned, Garland's children were teased. Second- and third-graders at West Union Elementary School in Hillsboro called her daughters names such as "slant eye" and "Jap." But Garland's daughters were proud of their Asian heritage, and corrected little boys when they pointed make-believe machine guns at them, saying, "Kill the Japs."

"They would stand up proudly and say: 'We are not Japanese. We are Korean,'" says Garland.

Today, Garland's daughter, Ramey Holsman, is creating an illustrated children's book, *Rice and Potatoes*, about growing up biracial.

Garland's experience with interracial marriage and its parallels to same-sex marriage deepened when Holsman came out to her mother when she was 25.

'IT'S ALL IN YOUR HEAD' TRAIN YOUR BRAIN. CHANGE YOUR LIFE.

"I have to date lost 22 lbs and am off Zoloft. All thanks to you. You are a goddess."

-Don Clarkson, Mayor (Mosier, OR) and Personal Coach

If you are struggling with depression, anxiety, panic attacks, attention issues, stress, sleep problems, mental clarity, or are seeking a peak performance edge contact:



Nora Gedgaudas
Neurotherapist
Nutritional Specialist

Northwest Neurofeedback
Johnson Street Professional Building
1920 NW Johnson Street., Suite 100
Portland, OR 97209
Office: 503-274-7733
Fax: 503-274-7770

call for a free consultation <http://www.northwest-neurofeedback.com>

ZAZEN
ZAZEN
ZAZEN

www.Dharma-Rain.Org



Oregon Camera
Everything Photographic

We have a knowledgeable, friendly staff helping you find the right camera, binoculars, or photographic accessories.

A 'family' owned and operated business since 1997.

582 SW Adams Avenue
Corvallis, OR 97333

(541) 753-2653
www.oregoncamera.com

*Keep the Pride
feeling going
all year long!*

Subscribe to

justout

at www.justout.com