

Foreign Film Group meets every second and fourth Sunday to screen foreign films at various venues, followed by a group discussion. (pdxgayfilm@yahoo.com)

Portland Gay Men's Chorus is open to singers, support members and volunteers. (503-226-2588. www.pdgmco.org)

Portland Lesbian Choir, a nonaudition community women's chorus, encourages women of any musical skill level to participate in its 21st season of singing, skill building and socializing, led by interim director Casey Moffett-Chaney. Rehearsals take place at Ainsworth United Church of Christ. (6:30-8:30 pm Wednesday, 2941 NE Ainsworth St. 503-727-3306. portlandlesbianchoir@hotmail.com. www.plchoir.org)

Rose City Gay Freedom Band is a performance group for queers and supportive friends of varying musical skill levels with annual fall and spring concerts. Subgroups include the Rose City Swing band and a marching band with flag corps. Come join us! (503-790-2170. info@rcgfb.org. www.rcgfb.org)

Satori Men's Chorus welcomes new members of all ages and races, regardless of sexual orientation or musical background, to join Wednesday rehearsals. No audition necessary. (503-242-4244. www.satorichorus.org)

General

Asian & Pacific Islander Lesbians and Gays is a non-profit community voice for gay, lesbian and bi Asian and Pacific Islanders. Activities include potlucks, recreational outings and cultural events. Friendly environment to meet and connect with other API. (PO Box 12661, Portland, OR 97232. aplgl_pdx@yahoo.com)

Bad Girls is a social and educational leather and B/D/S/M club for self-identified women with an emphasis on safety and education. Workshops, discussions, events and parties. Women of all orientations can connect and ask questions during the Kinky Women's Welcoming Munch at 7 pm every second Tuesday. (503-972-2233. www.pdxbadgirls.net)

Bookwomen is a lesbian discussion group that meets monthly to share stories, favorite authors, top 10 lists and opinions and reviews of the assigned book. (503-684-0305. mikkata@comcast.net)

Border Riders Motorcycle Club provides social opportunities for gay men interested in recreational motorcycle touring and promotes education on safe and legal machinery. (503-281-4488. bmcprez@yahoo.com)

Cascade Flyers are gay, lesbian and bi aviators, both private and professional, in Washington, Oregon and southern British Columbia. Dinner meetings in Portland area. (503-701-7922. casflyers@yahoo.com. www.geocities.com/casflyers)

A Common Bond is a social support network for former or questioning Jehovah's Witnesses who are queer. (acbpportland@webtv.net)

Coqsure is a social group for people who were assigned a female sex at birth but identify otherwise (female-to-male, genderqueer, drag king, etc.). First Sunday meetings are open to partners and families of any configuration. (503-471-1515. groups.yahoo.com/group/coqsure)

Dungeon Men PDX hosts a men's S/M party every other month in a Portland dungeon. Masters and novices always welcome. (503-281-2076. bighnboy@aracnet.com)

F.A.G. PDX (Femme Affinity Group Portland), a radical activist and social group open to self-identified femmes of all genders, seeks to create solidarity among femmes, promote femme visibility and combat femmophobia in the community at large. (www.notsorry.org/fagpdx)

50+ lesbian social group for women meets on the third Saturday of the month. (4-7 pm. 503-642-3360 or 971-216-1173. sutayit@aol.com)

FTM Pacific NW OR & WA is a social and discussion group for female-to-male trans men. (groups.yahoo.com/group/FTM_PacificNW)

Funny Ladies, a social group for nice lesbians 35 and older as well as their friends and loved ones, holds potlucks on the second Saturday of each month. (fataps@yahoo.com)

Gay Men Who Have Lost Their Partners meets at the West Cafe to provide an opportunity for conversation and socializing. The death need not have occurred recently. (7:30 pm second Wednesday, 1201 SW Jefferson St. 503-701-9376)

Genealogy group forming. Gather with other lesbian researchers to trace your family tree and tackle "brickwall" female ancestors. (famhistnw@aol.com)

Happy Ours Productions is a grassroots group dedicated to building the visibility, community participation and collective leadership of lesbian women of color through a wide variety of social, networking, consciousness-raising and action-oriented activities, events and projects. (www.happyoursproductions.com)

Imperial Sovereign Rose Court of Oregon is the oldest gay, lesbian, bi and trans social/fund-raising organization in the state of Oregon. Meetings are the first two Mondays of each month. (www.rosecourt.org)

Jewish Gay Men's Group—please call for meeting time and place. (503-246-5939. efraimlevi@aol.com)

Keshet is a social connection group for queer Jews and their spouses, partners, significant others and good friends, whether Jewish or not. It meets monthly for potluck dinners and special events. (David 503-226-7079, ext. 14, or Mike 503-331-1111.)

Lesbian Garden Club is a group of women who love gardens and gardening. They exchange plants, seeds, advice

and encouragement while having a good time. Call for a copy of the newsletter and information about upcoming events. (Linda 503-909-2002)

Lesbians with Degrees is a social group that was started for degreed women, but no degree is necessary. Just come and join the fun! Pool parties, Scrabble and more. (Lani 503-233-3557. Joinlistserv@LesbianswDegrees-subscribe@yahoo.com)

Lulu's Pervy Playhouse is a social group for self-identifying women who are into S/M. Play parties are held on the second Saturday of the month. (503-231-3992. dykedadi@comcast.net. www.luluspervyplayhouse.org)

Men Over 40 is a small, socially supportive group that meets second and fourth Thursdays. (503-777-1376.)

Night in Black Leather and The Leather Duck Club are the first and third Friday of each month at Gail's Dirty Duck Tavern. (9 pm-midnight. 439 NW Third Ave. 503-224-8446. orleatherduck@yahoo.com)

Oregon Men Enjoying Naturism is a social organization for gay male naturists/nudists. Social gathering second Saturday of every month. (omenpdx@omenpdx.org. www.omenpdx.org)

PDX_FTM is a social group for female-to-male trans men and their significant others, friends, families and allies. (groups.yahoo.com/group/PDX_FTM)

The **gay Pinochle Group** meets Sundays at Hobo's. Come play cards and meet the gang. New players always welcome. (6 pm. 120 NW Third Ave. Mike 503-641-7224.)

Podar Latino is a nonprofit social community voice group for gay, lesbian, bi and trans people that reaches out to Latinos and Latinas by organizing events and retreats and advocating HIV prevention. Meets every other Monday at Outside In. (6:30 pm. 1030 SW 13th Ave. Hugo 503-997-8615 or Audencia 503-261-5463.)

Portland Leather Alliance is one of the largest pansexual, nonproft B/D/S/M, leather and fetish lifestyle organizations in the Northwest. Regular social and educational opportunities, including KinkFest, Leather Ball and Fall Vendors Fair. (www.pdxleatheralliance.org)

Portland Leather Men meet every second Saturday for potluck and socializing. Meet into a leather lifestyle and keep abreast of leather happenings. No dues, no formal organization, no officers or board, just leather socialization for the past 21 years. (360-896-6665. pdm@directway.com)

Portland Lesbian Book Club gathers monthly to chat about a chosen book or to attend selected events. (6:30 pm third Tuesday. groups.yahoo.com/group/portlandlesbianbookclub)

Portland Lesbian Network organizes brewpub visits, golf events, hiking, kayaking, cycling, Scrabble games and movie nights and keeps you aware of what's going on in the area. (PDXLesbianNetwork-subscribe@yahoo.com)

Portland Metro Prime Timers was established as a social group for older gay men as well as younger men who enjoy their company. Meetings include potluck meals, dining out, bingo and celebrations of special occasions. (PO Box 5884, Portland, OR 97228. 360-254-1718 or 503-266-4613. pdxprimetimers@yahoo.com. www.geocities.com/pdxprimetimers)

Rose City Discussion Club, the largest and oldest open pansexual/alternative sexuality club in the Northwest, is open to all orientations, fetishes and lifestyles that are safe, sane and consensual. Monthly meetings, social, workshops and newsletter. (rcdc@teleport.com. www.rcdc.org)

Sappho Social Club is a group of women 40 years and older building community through social and cultural activities. (thesapphosocialclub@yahoo.com)

Soyboys Vegetarian Men's Group is a fun, social gathering for gay and bi men who are interested in a healthy vegetarian or vegan lifestyle. A variety of activities and monthly potlucks on the last Saturday. (veggieguys@aol.com)

Tuesday Twilight Tastings meets for casual tastings of fine wines and inspired food at West Cafe. (6-8 pm third Tuesday, 1201 SW Jefferson St. RSVP to 503-784-4807 or 503-227-8189.)

Women of the Rivers, the Portland/Vancouver chapter of **Women on Wheels Motorcycle International**, encourages women who love to ride to gather for good times, support and growth in the sport through social meetings, professional seminars, rider training and organized and pickup rides. Monthly meetings at MacTamanah's Taproom. (6:30 pm second Thursday, 2730 NW 31st Ave. www.womenoftherivers.org)

Physical Recreation

Adventure Group organizes a variety of activities year round, including hiking, walking, cross-country and downhill skiing, rafting and mountain biking. (PO Box 2201, Portland, OR 97208-2201. www.adventuregroup.org)

Amazon Dragons Paddling Club invites women 16 and older to join Portland's only out lesbian dragon boat team. Be part of the fun and fitness with this dynamic group. (www.amazondragons.org)

Fits Bowling invites you to come join this fun, friendly, alternative league at AMF Pro 300 Lanes. (7 pm Friday, 3031 SE Powell Blvd. 503-234-0237.)

The Forest Group outings are cooperative adventures for women. Participants are responsible for providing their own equipment and choosing outings appropriate for their skill and fitness level. All skill levels welcome. (503-772-1860. innoregon@comcast.net. [\[ties.com/ncc1127/forestpdx\]\(http://ties.com/ncc1127/forestpdx\).\)](http://www.geoci-</p>
</div>
<div data-bbox=)

Gay Men's Walking Group invites gay, bi and questioning men to stroll in various neighborhoods around Portland for fun, friendship and exercise. (10 am Saturday, Tom 503-984-4549.)

Gay Women's Golf Group welcomes all levels of players. (www.turfgirlz.com)

Lesbian Equestrian Group gets together for equestrian activities in the Pacific Northwest. (Denise 503-654-3865. Lynn 503-777-2339. kelrav@rdrop.com)

Out Dancing teaches dancing for same-sex couples at Ankeny Street Studio. Classes for different dance styles start the first Friday of each month: country, swing, tango, cha-cha, etc. Call for schedule. (503-236-5129. out_dancing@yahoo.com. home.att.net/~outdancing)

OutKayaking, Portland's gay and lesbian sea kayak group, explores the lakes, rivers and bays of northwest Oregon and southwest Washington. (www.outkayaking.org)

PDX Pride Bowling League is recruiting for fun games Friday nights September through April. (info@pdx-pridebowl.com)

PDX NetRippers is Portland's queer soccer organization with competitive indoor soccer, outdoor scrimmages, practices for all levels and regional tournaments. (Kyle bendoverbeckham@gmail.com. www.myspace.com/netrippers)

Portland Gay & Lesbian Bowling Association celebrates 30 years with its 2007-08 season. Meets Sundays from Labor Day through Memorial Day at Hollywood Bowl. Drop-ins welcome anytime. (3:30 pm. 4030 NE Halsey St. Mailing address: PO Box 42034, Portland, OR 97232. 503-693-6261. pdxbowl@yahoo.com. www.pdxbowl.com)

Portland Gay Basketball Association welcomes all skill levels. (groups.yahoo.com/group/PortlandGayBasketball-Association)

Whether you're a running novice or a seasoned marathoner, **Portland Frontrunners** welcomes gay, lesbian, bi and trans people of all abilities and interests. (Gay info@portlandfrontrunners.org. www.portlandfrontrunners.org)

Rose City Softball Association is Oregon's largest sports organization for the gay and lesbian community. With open and women's divisions at all levels, RCSA plays slow-pitch softball games on most Sundays throughout the summer at Gordon Faber Recreational Complex in Hillsboro. Join a team or form a new one! (4450 NW 229th Ave. membership@rosecitysoftball.org. www.rosecitysoftball.org)

Rosetown Ramblers, Portland's gay and lesbian square dance club, dances at mainstream and plus levels. (PO Box 5352, Portland, OR 97228-5352. www.rosetownramblers.com)

Ruby Red Flippers, a group of gay and lesbian scuba divers in the Portland area, teaches new recruits and takes dives in Tacoma, Hood Canal and other Pacific Northwest waters. (rubbyredflippers@yahoo.com. www.rubyredflippers.org)

She Rocks, a supportive rock climbing group for lesbians 18 and older, organizes year-round climbing and training events chosen according to skill level. Monthly meetings are held at Bagdad Pub. (6:30-7:30 pm second Thursday, 3702 SE Hawthorne Blvd. www.sherocks.wetpaint.com)

Team Oregon, the umbrella sports group coordinating efforts for Outgames 2006 in Montreal and Gay Games 2006 in Chicago, holds monthly meetings for those wanting to participate. (503-736-3292. www.teamoregon2006.org)

Team Tennis meets Sundays at University of Portland. All levels of play welcome, and the first time is free. (8 am-noon. www.teamportland-tennis.org)

YOUTH

Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere (COLAGE) is the only international organization specifically supporting young people with sexual minority parents. (colage@lmfamily.org. www.colage.org)

Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN) strives to assure that each member of every school community is valued and respected, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity/expression. (12700 SW North Dakota St., Suite 180 #129, Tigard, OR 97223. 503-525-1177. glsen@glsenoregon.org. www.glsenoregon.org)

House of MOCHA (Men of Color Healthy & Aware) is a group of gay/bi/same-gender-loving men of color between 16 and 25 who want to engage in activities, socials and community events among their peers. (Kourtnei 503-417-7991. www.brotabropdx.org)

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. (Mo 503-260-5792. mkenney@cascaadiabhc.org. www.myspace.com/39241130)

Sexual Minority Youth Resource Center (SMYRC) offers support, recreation, counseling and referral to gay, lesbian, bi and trans kids 23 and younger. Drop-in computer access, pool tables and an informal place to hang out. Weekly trans, leadership and art support group meetings. (4-9 pm Wednesday, 4-11 pm Friday, 2100 SE Belmont St. 503-872-9664. www.smyrc.org)

Queerzone identifies and meets the needs of queer homeless youth by providing advocacy, safety, support, resources, referral and a safe place for them to socialize and get the help they need. (6-8 pm Monday, New Avenues for Youth, 812 SW 10th Ave. 6-8 pm Tuesday, Outside In, 1132 SW 13th Ave. 4-11 pm Saturday, Sexual Minority Youth Resource Center, 2100 SE Belmont St.)

Germ Warfare

Should we stage an intervention for the Dirty Mommies?



Ms. Behavior
BY MERYL COHN

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

We are lesbian moms who have formed a group with other lesbian moms and gay dads. The problem is that one couple (I'll call them June and April) seem to be a little lax with their child. For instance, they wipe their little girl baby from back to front when cleaning during a diaper change. And they will literally pop a pacifier that's dropped on the floor right back in the kid's mouth, without even wiping it clean, let alone washing it off. They carry her all slumped over without sling or other device, and they don't have her on any kind of a schedule. This upsets the other mothers and dads who want to have an intervention to give these women a clue.

My partner thinks we shouldn't impose our parenting on them, but I don't feel good about doing nothing. What's the right way to handle the situation?

—Sammy's Mommy

DEAR SAMMY'S MOMMY:

It may be tempting to formally intervene or to at least say, "Yo, your kid is slumpy and germly and probably at risk for a vaginal plague," but unfortunately an attempt to educate June and April about how to care for their bacterially challenged charge may backfire. You could end up alienating them and making them feel defensive enough to leave the group.

Instead, try initiating show-and-tell sessions, where members share information about baby care and products. Then you'll be free to whip out a baby sling and show it to the whole group, without calling attention to April and June's misshapen, undersupported baby. You can demonstrate front-to-back wiping or do a PowerPoint presentation about floor germs on pacifiers without alienating the Dirty Mommies.

If, however, April and June remain stuck in their nasty ways, don't despair. Living in a bit of filth apparently isn't all bad: According to the "Hygiene Hypothesis," the growing rate of allergies and asthma in babies and children may actually be the result of too much cleansing and sanitizing. This comforting theory suggests that the presence of germs helps children's immune systems develop properly. If parents overuse antibacterial soap and push antibiotics at the first sign of infection, the kids aren't exposed to enough germs. Consequently, the immune system can become overly sensitive, resulting in increased risk of asthma and allergies. Also, antibiotics and hand sanitizers may kill off weaker germs but aid in the development of resistant strains of bacteria. The stronger germs may become "supergerms," tough enough to resist the effects of stronger antibiotics.

So, instead of worrying about April and June's mothering skills, try to remember that their poor bacteria-ridden little critter may actually be healthier than her gleaming peers.

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

After having escaped a hellish childhood, I have chosen to live far from home and family. I'm fortunate to have a secure job for a big company in a gay-friendly environment.

I learned recently that my stepbrother, Eric, is moving to my town and applying to work for my company. Eric and I were close as kids, but in his late teens he became an angry, homophobic person, and we've avoided contact for years. Now Eric says that he wants us to be friends again and wants to have lunch. Part of me is curious, and another part wants to stay away.

I have an acquaintance in human resources who will probably ask my opinion about Eric. I think Eric is messed up, and I wouldn't feel comfortable if he were around. Would it be wrong for me to say this? Is it unethical for me to wreck his chances at employment?

—Homo Bro

DEAR HOMO BRO:

Sharing your negative opinion of Eric with your acquaintance in human resources may be slightly mean-spirited, but it's not unethical. Like it or not, jobs are frequently attained or not attained based on personality and connections. If your opinion is solicited and valued, it's not wrong to answer honestly.

However, you may want to check out how you feel about Eric in the present by having lunch with him before offering an opinion. It makes sense that you feel conflicted about seeing him, since you cared for each other before he developed into a full-size homophobe. But contact with him doesn't have to be a black-or-white decision. Lunch doesn't mean that you're committed to being "friends" again or that you need to help him get a job at your workplace. ☺

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

Just Out is published on the first and third Friday of every month. The deadline for submissions is 14 days prior to publication. OutReach listings of up to 50 words are provided free of charge to organizations and groups specifically serving the sexual minorities community. All listings are subject to editing and inclusion is subject to space limitations, relevance and receipt by deadline. Listings expire once a year (in July) and submissions run from the date received until

the next scheduled expiration date. Listings are automatically deleted upon expiration. To ensure uninterrupted listing, please submit updated information at least a month prior to the expiration date. Complete listings are available online at www.justout.com. Send listings to Just Out (attn: Calendar), P.O. 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 your announcements and include full contact information.