

letters

It's a Nonissue

TO THE EDITOR:

You've made a mistake. But I forgive you.

Sam Adams is my mayor, and I support him. His resignation would be a terrible loss for Portland, and I hope in the future you will choose to take a more objective stand on this nonissue.

ALISA BONES

Portland

Big Mistake

TO THE EDITOR:

Your call for Portland Mayor Sam Adams' resignation smacks of internalized homophobia and self-hate, masquerading as ethical outrage ["Difficult Decision," Jan. 23].

We have plenty of enemies who will be calling for Adams to resign because he's gay and because he's our ally. Many who won't be sublimating their homophobia with feigned outrage at Adams' ethical blunder. Why would *Just Out* join them?

So Adams lied; he apologized; he's humiliated and shamed; he'll have to rebuild trust. The *Just Out* editorial board needs to get over it and start thinking about what it means to be loyal, even when those we should be loyal to screw up. I am so infuriated by your reckless actions and your apparent lack of concern for the repercussions on the community you claim to serve. If you don't recognize that this is about power, then you are morons.

We in Portland's LGBTQ community are not the

wimps your craven call for Adams' resignation makes us out to be. We don't roll over and relinquish what little power we have. Not for something like this.

CHRISTOPHER DORR

Portland

Careless Lies

TO THE EDITOR:

Sam Adams has blackened the eye of our GLBT community. He has given credence to those who say that the GLBT lifestyle is perverted, a sin, and we are all going to hell.

I have worked with Sam on several occasions and would have voted for him if I were a Portlander. He has great vision for the city of Portland. But he has carelessly lied about his relationship and even advised Beau Breedlove to lie as well, which does not contribute to ethical conduct or behavior that we should expect from a civic leader, especially a metropolitan mayor. It is up to Sam to decide what is good for the community or face a very uphill battle to regain trust and work with the business community in Portland.

RICHARD A. PAZ

Vancouver, Wash.

Solely About Integrity

TO THE EDITOR:

Mayor Sam Adams needs to step down. The issue is solely about integrity and the ability of the

mayor to be up front with the citizens of this city in all decision-making involving his office.

I do not care a whit about Sam Adams' sexuality—I'm gay—but I do care that he lied and compounded the lie by asking others to lie on his behalf. It completely matters that Sam Adams denied a toxic event in his life in order to gain the city of Portland's most powerful public office, which suggests an immature ruthlessness of character.

That the mayor claims he's shamed and embarrassed at this point is not enough. He has cost this city and the gay community at large prestige. Sam should demonstrate he can be the better man and voluntarily step down.

KEVIN BUNKER

Portland

So Much Sound and Fury

TO THE EDITOR:

We are hoping we can all move beyond this initial sound and fury. It signifies nothing but shock and anger and sadness and should give way to reason and a shared vision of our city's future.

Reason says that sex is the one thing that everyone will lie about. Reason also says that the sexual relations between consenting adults should not be subjected to public scrutiny.

Our shared vision of Portland's future—one that Mayor Sam Adams champions—is about a strong economy, a sound environment, social equity and

ultimately a sustainable future. It posits Portland as a model city for America, and it is a vision we should not be willing to dash so quickly because of one person's poor judgment regarding his personal life. So please, lift him up, dust him off, and help Mayor Sam Adams get back to work.

MATTHEW ARNOLD

MEGAN REVILLE-LOVELL

Portland

Adams Is That Stereotype

TO THE EDITOR:

When Sam Adams allowed himself to be videotaped making an adamant denial of any manner of inappropriate sexual misconduct with young Mr. Breedlove in 2005, he lost a tremendous amount of credibility as a politician and as a man. This is what personally distresses me the most: that a man 25 years older than a high school student would dishonestly state, "This perpetuates the stereotype of the gay man who can't be trusted with minor boys." I find it both comical and pathetic. Adams is that stereotype.

Adams took advantage of an admiring and naive young man to satisfy his own shallow and selfish sexual needs. He lied about it, privately and then publicly, to all the good citizens of Portland. For these reasons and many more, Adams has a moral obligation to resign. If Adams is willing to

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