

letters

A Single Standard Is the Issue

TO THE EDITOR:

Congratulations on your argument by principle, not emotion, as used by your critics ["The Great Divide," Feb. 6].

A single standard, no matter whom the politician happens to be, is the issue. I can guess that if a straight official dated a teenager, we could reasonably expect that we would call for resignation.

BOB GEARY

Portland

Thanks for Speaking the Truth

TO THE EDITOR:

We are so glad you finally admit that you do not speak for the community. For years when accused of not covering parts of the community, you have professed that to "not be true." *Just Out* has always simply covered what it wants to cover, yet when accused it has been denied. Could this possibly be a bit of a Sam denial?

All we have wanted is for you to stand up and say: "I damn well run my business the way I want to run my business. No, I don't speak for or cover the whole community."

I'm sorry that you hold him to a higher level than you do yourself.

D. TIMOTHY BEALER

Portland

We Should Extend That Forgiveness

TO THE EDITOR:

While I disagree with Marty Davis' editorial stating that Sam Adams should resign, I support her right to say it ["A Difficult Decision," Jan. 23]. Obviously the GLBT community is split right down the middle on whether Sam should resign.

When King David, in the Old Testament, asked God's forgiveness, he was forgiven. Interestingly enough, some sports figure just admitted that he lied in 2005 to Katie Couric about his use of steroids and enhancing drugs. He "came clean."

When someone shows remorse for what they did, and "comes clean" and asks forgiveness, we should extend that forgiveness. There is not a single human being who does not need forgiveness at one time or another. We are all sinners: "All have sinned and come short of the Glory of God." If Sam Adams is not forgiven, resulting in his losing his job as mayor, it will be a sad day for the city of Portland.

SISTER PAULA NIELSEN

Portland

Can't Be Candid About Sex

TO THE EDITOR:

We live in a culture where no official can be open and candid about sex. Gay, straight, bi or questioning, there is no way for politicians to be human and still run for office. Think of all the politicians who have gone down in flames, not because

they weren't the leaders we needed to fight our battles, but because they lied about what was going on legally in their bedrooms. Gay sex is so abhorrent to the general population that there's no way Sam Adams or any other gay politician can talk candidly about it without undue recrimination.

If we're going to put every potential leader running for office through this kind of intimate scrutiny, we will never have good people serving the public need. This is an issue that will matter to us in the future as we try to gain positions of leadership.

GLENN SCOFIELD WILLIAMS

Portland

Punished by PERS

TO THE EDITOR:

I retired from Multnomah County, specifically the Sheriff's Office, on Aug. 1, 2001. During that period I had my PERS (Public Employees Retirement System) retirement, and a health related disability, to live on. Prior to retirement, my partner and I joined the county's program of providing health insurance to domestic partners, at the group rate, paid by the employee. It was a lifesaver. We signed the domestic partnership affidavit and applied for coverage—no problem. The county was excellent with assistance of every kind. My partner was one of the first 10 people to get domestic partnership coverage in the state of Oregon. I was very proud of the county and of Oregon, especially with the employers who followed suit.

When I became eligible for Medicare, I had to acquire supplemental coverage and drug coverage. As a PERS retiree, I had the option of enrolling in one of their plans. I called, gave them the info and requested that my domestic partner be covered. They refused and stated that PERS had a statewide policy that was based on federal policy. In other words, I was told that PERS was not an Oregon company and did not have to follow our domestic partnership law.

I suspect this is a legal matter that should be investigated. It is a dirty, well-kept secret.

I didn't work like a dog with the local union and Multnomah County, after my last partner died due to health issues, to get county coverage for our partners so it wouldn't happen again to anybody else, so these creeps could toss it in our faces and say, "Too bad."

They use the caveat that they will cover "domestic partners" if they have been covered on the one partner's federal income tax at least six months of the past year for tax purposes. As we know, the Feds don't cover domestic partners at all, nor our spouses from other states.

It is disgusting. I have had zero response from the governor's affirmative action people.

We've come a long way—about one half-inch. My partner and I are tearing up our official domestic partnership registration and sending it back to the governor's office.

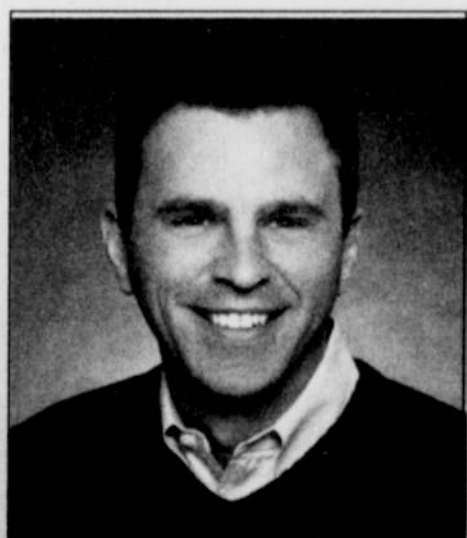
FRANCINE YUNKER

Phoenix, Ore.

JOEL HAMLEY

Broker, ABR

The Real in Realtor



Buy Curious?

Office: 503.238.1700, ext. 630

Mobile: 971.506.9499

joelhamley@meadowsgroup.com

DIAMOND MEMBER, MILLION DOLLAR CLUB



www.JoelHamley.com

Thanks Christine!

"As a Realtor®, I have had many opportunities to work with Christine, and my clients and I are always highly satisfied with her attention to detail and the speed with which she handles the transaction. When it came time for my own transaction, I had no hesitation in calling her. Just like with my clients, Christine handled my transaction with great care and efficiency, and as she always does, we closed on time. Thanks Christine!"



— CSHEA WALKER



Christine C. Hall
Senior Loan Consultant

Proudly Serving Oregon and Washington for over 14 years.

503-481-0574



Eagle Home Mortgage, LLC WA license number 520-CL-49036-49042 All rights reserved. Rates, fees, and programs are subject to change. ARM rates are subject to increase after closing. This is not an advertisement to extend credit as defined by Reg. Z. 3/6/09

Get the LOOK For Less.

A lot of style at half the price. We have hundreds of items at **50% Off!**

BONDED LEATHER Sofa \$399

Lighted Curios Mirrored Back \$129

Ashley Computer Wall Workstation \$1299
• Solids & veneers
• Brass accent hardware

Ashley Pub Style 5pc Dining Set \$497

City Liquidators
FURNITURE WAREHOUSE
823 S.E. 3rd Avenue
East End Of The Morrison Bridge

NEW HOME FURNITURE: 503-230-7716
OFFICE FURNITURE: 503-238-4477
Shop Every Day 9am to 6pm
www.cityliquidators.com

We Deliver Every Night 'Til Midnight!



Shea Steel
Realtor
503-282-4000 Ext 112
sheasteel@remax.net

Dawnie Grubstein
Mortgage Broker
503-557-9100
dawnie@moxiemortgage.com



We cover both sides of the fence.

We'll find you a home and get you the loan.

Close your transaction with Shea and Dawnie and receive \$200 off your closing costs!