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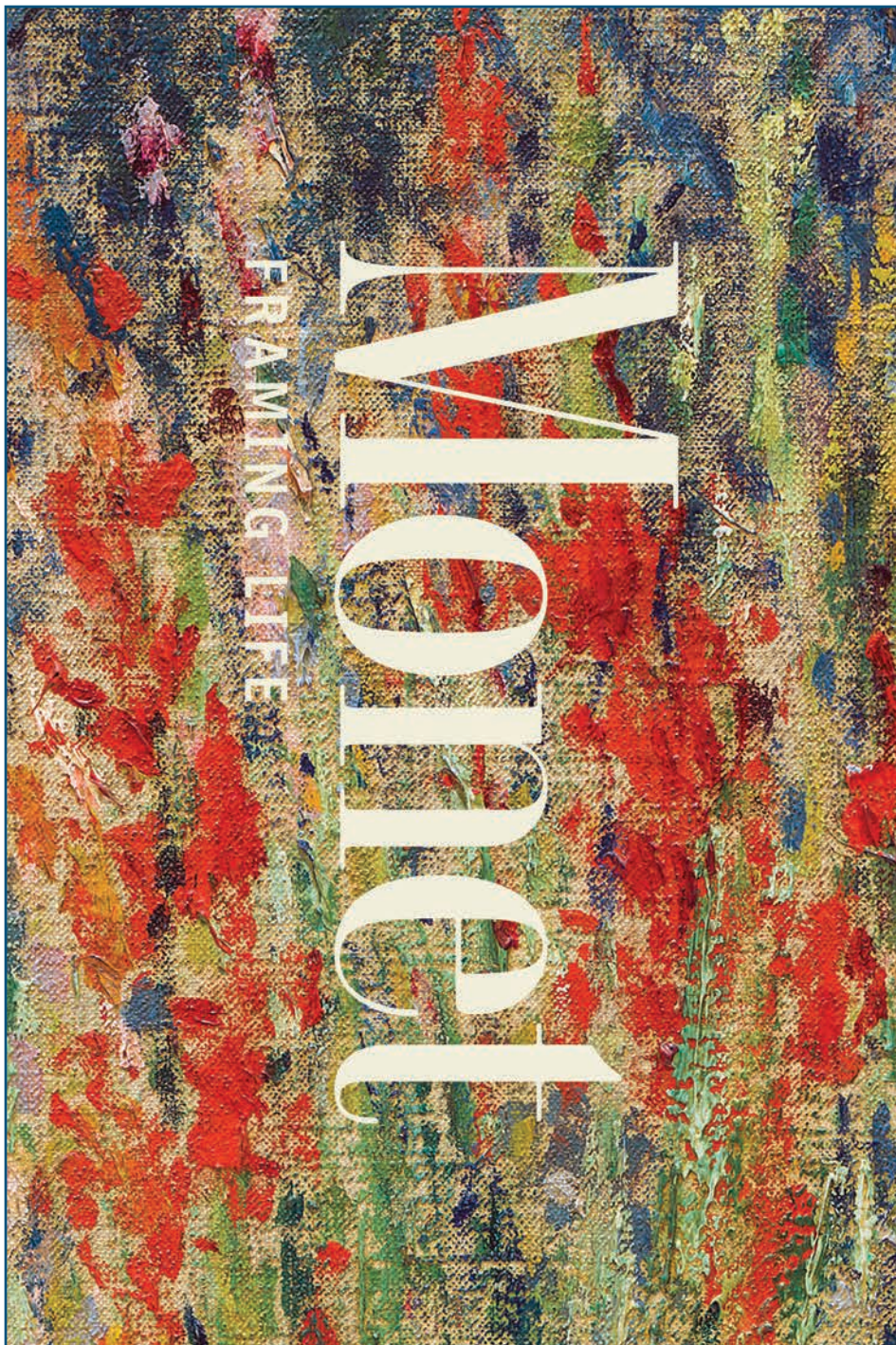
**Study: Religious Exemption
Especially Harsh on LGBTQ
Seniors**

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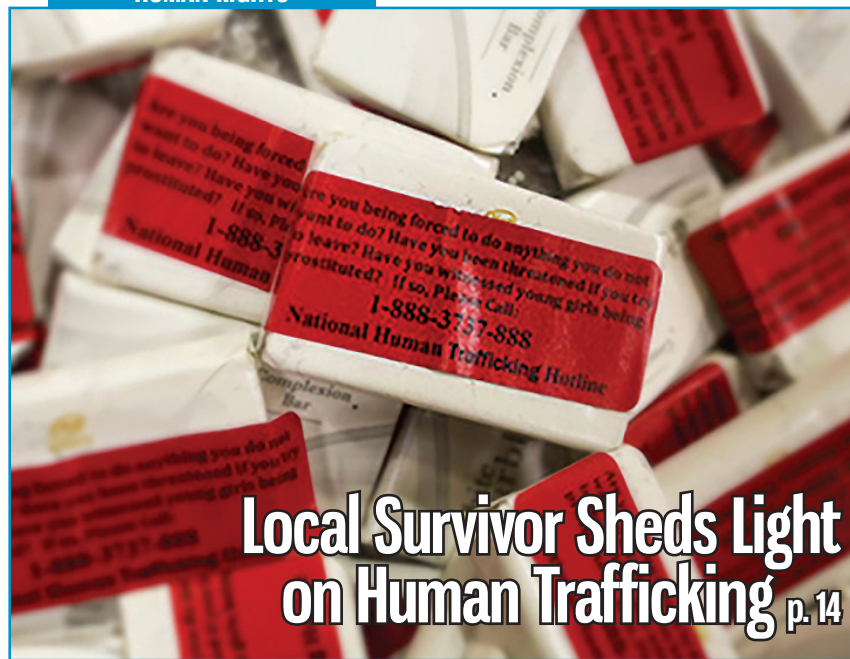
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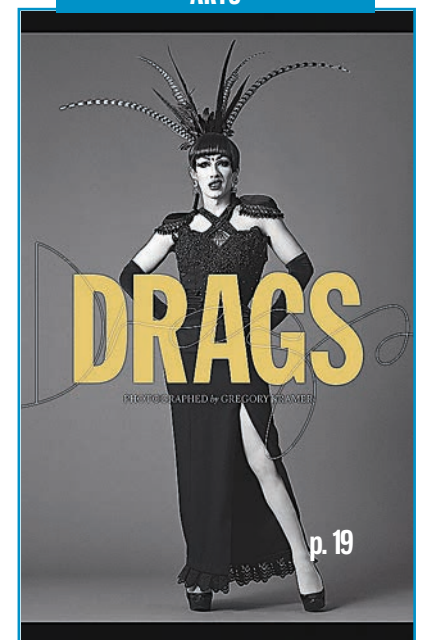
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VOL. 2605 • FEBRUARY 1, 2018
ISSUE 1052

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Dignity Denied

Study Finds LGBTQ Seniors Especially Vulnerable to Religious Exemptions

NEWS

BY EVE KUCHARSKI

Picture someone in the LGBTQ community, and the image is often of a young and affluent person. However, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, the population of the nation's people aged 65 years and older is set to double by 2050, to almost 84 million. And, public perception aside, it is estimated that there are nearly 3 million LGBTQ adults who are 50 years or older living in the U.S. today.

These statistics are part of a December 2017 report conducted by the Movement Advancement Project, Public Rights/Private Conscience Project and SAGE: "Dignity Denied: Religious Exemptions and LGBT Elder Services." These three groups worked together to create a study highlighting that LGBTQ seniors are an especially high-risk group in the battle for and against religious exemptions.

MAP is an independent think tank that provides research to aid LGBTQ people in attaining equality. The Public Rights/Private Conscience Project examines how religious liberty rights conflict with fundamental rights to equality and liberty and SAGE is the country's largest and oldest organization dedicated to improving the lives of LGBTQ older adults.

What follows is a summary of the study's findings, and how they relate to Michigan:

Harassment is Alive and Well in Senior Care Facilities

The study found that the majority of healthcare services for the aging are offered by religiously-affiliated organizations — about 85 percent. This affiliation could be part of the reason that LGBTQ older adults have reported discrimination when accessing a variety of services like "at work, at the doctor's office, within residential communities and when seeking housing and when accessing social supports like community centers."

Of the group of nearly 800 LGBTQ seniors who were surveyed, almost half of those who had entered long-term care had experienced some type of discrimination or mistreatment.

- 23 percent of these incidents were



Worried gay couple standing outside White House. Photo by David Adventures IStock.

based on a resident's involved verbal or physical harassment from other residents.

- 20 percent involved refusal to admit or re-admit a resident.

- 14 percent of incidents were committed by staff.

These seniors frequently find themselves at the mercy of organizations that are religiously-involved. According to the American Civil Liberties Union, 14 percent of hospitals in the U.S. have a religious affiliation and make up almost a fifth of all hospital beds in the country.

Religious Exemption Laws Only Stand to Expand

According to the study's findings, federal and state policymakers and activists are working to allow religious organizations across the U.S. the ability to discriminate against LGBTQ people. LGBTQ seniors, who frequently rely on the services of these

If religious exemption laws expand, services at risk of disappearing in many health organizations include same-sex visitation rights, admitting LGBTQ adults to emergency medical care or providing care, giving loans or housing vouchers and Medicare and Medicaid-funded hospitals could refuse service to LGBTQ seniors.

groups, are those who stand to lose the most. There are four main avenues to increasing this discriminatory behavior:

- Executive orders and agency guidance that permits discrimination by federal contractors and grantees, as well as government employees.

- State religious exemption laws that in some states already permit medical professionals to decline service to LGBTQ people.

- Increasing permissions to deny service, and potentially serious implications from the Masterpiece Cakeshop, Ltd. v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission, in which a baker refused to bake a wedding cake for an LGBTQ couple. The case is currently under consideration by the U.S. Supreme Court and a ruling is expected by the end of June.

- Court Cases that permit discrimination in employee benefit plans, that "could result in discrimination in pension and insurance benefits."

Executive Orders and Agency Guidance

In October 2017, both the U.S. Departments of Justice and Health and Human Services released "sweeping" religious exemption guidance and regulation. (Though not included in the report, an example of regulations like these happened at the start of 2018. The HHS announced a new department called Conscience and Religious Freedom.) Based off these rulings, any employer or insurance company is now able to refuse to provide coverage for contraceptives due to religious or "moral" reasons, regardless of being publicly funded.

The report found that in 2014 alone, the federal government gave \$1.88 billion to providers in the aging networks through grants, contracts or reimbursements, serving almost 11 million older Americans.

If religious exemption laws expand, services at risk of disappearing in many health

organizations include same-sex visitation rights, admitting LGBTQ adults to emergency medical care or providing care, giving loans or housing vouchers and Medicare and Medicaid-funded hospitals could refuse service to LGBTQ seniors.

State Religious Exemption Laws in Michigan

Currently, 21 states in the U.S. have laws in place that allow people, churches and nonprofit organizations to seek religious exemptions. For now, Michigan has no broad religious exemption law. According to the report, the “broad” language of these rules allows for those seeking exemptions to test the boundaries of their state’s discrimination rules.

Currently, Michigan is one of seven states to permit child welfare agencies to “refuse to place and provide services to children and families, including LGBT people and same-sex couples, if doing so conflicts with their religious beliefs.” Michigan is also one of 29 states to have “no public accommodations non-discrimination law covering sexual orientation or gender identity.” This means that organizations could continue to receive funding while actively discriminating.

The Implications of the Masterpiece Cakeshop Case

The Colorado baker involved in the U.S. Supreme Court case Masterpiece Cakeshop, Lt. v. Colorado Human Rights Commission, is directly challenging Colorado’s statewide law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. He argued that his position as a baker gave him the “artistic” free speech under the First Amendment to refuse service to the gay couple who requested a wedding cake, because the cake conveyed a message with which he did not agree.

Overall, MAP found that LGBTQ seniors are among the most vulnerable group to religious exemption rules because of their reliance on regular services in the arenas of health, employment and general care. Should religious exemption rules extend further, they stand the risk of losing access to critical benefits that they rely on at a higher rate than younger LGBTQ adults.

Though a decision is not expected by SCOTUS until June, if the court rules in the favor of the baker, the study reports that the implications could be far-reaching.

“An older LGBT person could be denied any service that might remotely be seen to include a ‘creative’ element, including long-term care, programming at senior centers, congregant meal sites and even health care,” the report stated.

The study also reported that businesses could also potentially even refuse to provide basic services like meals, or as in a recent case where an LGBTQ widower was refused service by a funeral home.

Discrimination in Employee Benefits Plans

Currently, organizations that are based upon religion, like houses of worship or religious schools, are legally allowed to hire people who follow the same religion as long they do not discriminate around race or disability. The study reports that recent court rulings are paving the way for this to extend to religiously-affiliated health service providers like Catholic hospital systems. Organizations like these are arguing that their affiliation could qualify them to gain similar exemptions to places of worship.

A 2017 court case in which SCOTUS ruled in favor of a religiously-affiliated hospital that had a “church plan” which regulated employee benefits, and sought religious exemptions on it. The ruling found that “church plans” neither must be established, nor maintained, by a church to qualify for the exemption.”

The study estimates that the U.S. has hundreds of thousands of employers that identify as religiously-affiliated, and provide work to millions of employees. If employers were able to prove that they too followed a “church plan,” the plan may not be subject to federal anti-discrimination rules.

Conclusions

Overall, the study found that LGBTQ seniors are among the most vulnerable group to be impacted by religious exemption rules because of their reliance on regular services in the arenas of health, employment and general care. Should religious exemption rules extend further, they stand the risk of losing access to critical benefits that they rely on at a higher rate than younger LGBTQ adults.

The full report can be found online at lgbtmap.org/dignity-denied-lgbt-older-adults.

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The Family Place: 8726 Woodward Ave • **313-410-7803**

Outside Detroit: contact your local health department

What is TRUVADA for PrEP?

TRUVADA for PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis) is a prescription medicine that is used together with safer sex practices to help reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 through sex. This use is only for HIV-negative adults who are at high risk of getting HIV-1. To help determine your risk of getting HIV-1, talk openly with your healthcare provider about your sexual health.

Ask your healthcare provider if you have questions about how to prevent getting HIV. Always practice safer sex and use condoms to lower the chance of sexual contact with body fluids. Never reuse or share needles or other items that have body fluids on them.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

What is the most important information I should know about TRUVADA for PrEP?

Before taking TRUVADA for PrEP:

- ◆ **You must be HIV-negative before you start taking TRUVADA for PrEP.** You must get tested to make sure that you do not already have HIV-1. Do not take TRUVADA to reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 unless you are confirmed to be HIV-negative.
- ◆ **Many HIV-1 tests can miss HIV-1 infection in a person who has recently become infected.** If you have flu-like symptoms, you could have recently become infected with HIV-1. Tell your healthcare provider if you had a flu-like illness within the last month before starting or at any time while taking TRUVADA for PrEP. Symptoms of new HIV-1 infection include tiredness, fever, joint or muscle aches, headache, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, rash, night sweats, and/or enlarged lymph nodes in the neck or groin.

While taking TRUVADA for PrEP:

- ◆ **You must continue to use safer sex practices. Just taking TRUVADA for PrEP may not keep you from getting HIV-1.**
- ◆ **You must stay HIV-negative to keep taking TRUVADA for PrEP:**
 - ◆ Get tested for HIV-1 at least every 3 months.
 - ◆ If you think you were exposed to HIV-1, tell your healthcare provider right away.
- ◆ **To further help reduce your risk of getting HIV-1:**
 - ◆ Know your HIV status and the HIV status of your partners.
 - ◆ Get tested for other sexually transmitted infections. Other infections make it easier for HIV to infect you.
 - ◆ Get information and support to help reduce risky sexual behavior, such as having fewer sex partners.
 - ◆ Do not miss any doses of TRUVADA. Missing doses may increase your risk of getting HIV-1 infection.
- ◆ **If you do become HIV-1 positive, you need more medicine than TRUVADA alone to treat HIV-1.** TRUVADA by itself is not a complete treatment for HIV-1. If you have HIV-1 and take only TRUVADA, your HIV-1 may become harder to treat over time.

TRUVADA can cause serious side effects:

- ◆ **Worsening of hepatitis B (HBV) infection.** TRUVADA is not approved to treat HBV. If you have HBV and stop taking TRUVADA, your HBV may suddenly get worse. Do not stop taking TRUVADA without first talking to your healthcare provider, as they will need to monitor your health.

Who should not take TRUVADA for PrEP?

Do not take TRUVADA for PrEP if you:

- ◆ **Already have HIV-1 infection or if you do not know your HIV-1 status.** If you are HIV-1 positive, you need to take other medicines with TRUVADA to treat HIV-1. TRUVADA by itself is not a complete treatment for HIV-1. If you have HIV-1 and take only TRUVADA, your HIV-1 may become harder to treat over time.
- ◆ **Also take** certain medicines to treat hepatitis B infection.

What are the other possible side effects of TRUVADA for PrEP?

Serious side effects of TRUVADA may also include:

- ◆ **Kidney problems, including kidney failure.** Your healthcare provider may do blood tests to check your kidneys before and during treatment with TRUVADA. If you develop kidney problems, your healthcare provider may tell you to stop taking TRUVADA.
- ◆ **Too much lactic acid in your blood** (lactic acidosis), which is a serious but rare medical emergency that can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: weakness or being more tired than usual, unusual muscle pain, being short of breath or fast breathing, stomach pain with nausea and vomiting, cold or blue hands and feet, feel dizzy or lightheaded, or a fast or abnormal heartbeat.
- ◆ **Severe liver problems,** which in rare cases can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow, dark “tea-colored” urine, light-colored stools, loss of appetite for several days or longer, nausea, or stomach-area pain.
- ◆ **Bone problems,** including bone pain, softening, or thinning, which may lead to fractures. Your healthcare provider may do tests to check your bones.

Common side effects in people taking TRUVADA for PrEP are stomach-area (abdomen) pain, headache, and decreased weight. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effects that bother you or do not go away.

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking TRUVADA for PrEP?

- ◆ **All your health problems.** Be sure to tell your healthcare provider if you have or have had any kidney, bone, or liver problems, including hepatitis.
- ◆ **If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.** It is not known if TRUVADA can harm your unborn baby. If you become pregnant while taking TRUVADA for PrEP, talk to your healthcare provider to decide if you should keep taking TRUVADA.
- ◆ **If you are breastfeeding** (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed. If you become HIV-positive, HIV can be passed to the baby in breast milk.
- ◆ **All the medicines you take,** including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. TRUVADA may interact with other medicines. Keep a list of all your medicines and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist when you get a new medicine.
- ◆ **If you take certain other medicines** with TRUVADA, your healthcare provider may need to check you more often or change your dose. These medicines include certain medicines to treat hepatitis C (HCV) infection.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.FDA.gov/medwatch, or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

Please see Important Facts about TRUVADA for PrEP including important warnings on the following page.



We're open, not unprepared.

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TRUVADA for PrEP™ is a once-daily prescription medicine that can help reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 when taken every day and used together with safer sex practices.

- ◆ TRUVADA for PrEP is only for adults who are at high risk of getting HIV through sex.
- ◆ You must be HIV-negative before you start taking TRUVADA for PrEP.

Ask your doctor about your risk of getting HIV-1 infection and if TRUVADA for PrEP may be right for you.

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MOST IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT TRUVADA FOR PrEP

Before starting TRUVADA for PrEP:

- **You must be HIV-1 negative.** You must get tested to make sure that you do not already have HIV-1. Do not take TRUVADA for PrEP to reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 unless you are confirmed to be HIV-1 negative.
- **Many HIV-1 tests can miss HIV-1 infection in a person who has recently become infected.** Symptoms of new HIV-1 infection include flu-like symptoms, tiredness, fever, joint or muscle aches, headache, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, rash, night sweats, and/or enlarged lymph nodes in the neck or groin. Tell your healthcare provider if you have had a flu-like illness within the last month before starting TRUVADA for PrEP.

While taking TRUVADA for PrEP:

- **You must continue to use safer sex practices. Just taking TRUVADA for PrEP may not keep you from getting HIV-1.**
- **You must stay HIV-negative to keep taking TRUVADA for PrEP.** Get tested for HIV-1 at least every 3 months while taking TRUVADA for PrEP. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you think you were exposed to HIV-1 or have a flu-like illness while taking TRUVADA for PrEP.
- **If you do become HIV-1 positive, you need more medicine than TRUVADA alone to treat HIV-1.** If you have HIV-1 and take only TRUVADA, your HIV-1 may become harder to treat over time.
- See the “How To Further Reduce Your Risk” section for more information.

TRUVADA may cause serious side effects, including:

- **Worsening of hepatitis B (HBV) infection.** TRUVADA is not approved to treat HBV. If you have HBV, your HBV may suddenly get worse if you stop taking TRUVADA. Do not stop taking TRUVADA without first talking to your healthcare provider, as they will need to check your health regularly for several months.

ABOUT TRUVADA FOR PrEP

TRUVADA for PrEP is a prescription medicine used together with safer sex practices to help reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 through sex. This use is only for HIV-negative adults who are at high risk of getting HIV-1.

- To help determine your risk of getting HIV-1, talk openly with your healthcare provider about your sexual health.

Do NOT take TRUVADA for PrEP if you:

- **Already have HIV-1 infection or if you do not know your HIV-1 status.**
- Take certain medicines to treat hepatitis B infection.

HOW TO TAKE TRUVADA FOR PrEP

- **Take 1 tablet once a day, every day,** not just when you think you have been exposed to HIV-1.
- Do not miss any doses. Missing doses may increase your risk of getting HIV-1 infection.
- Use TRUVADA for PrEP together with condoms and safer sex practices.
- Get tested for HIV-1 at least every 3 months. You must stay HIV-negative to keep taking TRUVADA for PrEP.

IMPORTANT FACTS

This is only a brief summary of important information about taking TRUVADA for PrEP™ (pre-exposure prophylaxis) to help reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 infection. This does not replace talking to your healthcare provider about your medicine.

POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS OF TRUVADA FOR PrEP

TRUVADA can cause serious side effects, including:

- Those in the “Most Important Information About TRUVADA for PrEP” section.
- New or worse kidney problems, including kidney failure.
- Too much lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis), which is a serious but rare medical emergency that can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: weakness or being more tired than usual, unusual muscle pain, being short of breath or fast breathing, stomach pain with nausea and vomiting, cold or blue hands and feet, feel dizzy or lightheaded, or a fast or abnormal heartbeat.
- Severe liver problems, which in rare cases can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow, dark “tea-colored” urine, light-colored stools, loss of appetite for several days or longer, nausea, or stomach-area pain.
- Bone problems.

Common side effects in people taking TRUVADA for PrEP include stomach-area (abdomen) pain, headache, and decreased weight.

These are not all the possible side effects of TRUVADA. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any new symptoms while taking TRUVADA for PrEP.

Your healthcare provider will need to do tests to monitor your health before and during treatment with TRUVADA for PrEP.

BEFORE TAKING TRUVADA FOR PrEP

Tell your healthcare provider if you:

- Have or have had any kidney, bone, or liver problems, including hepatitis.
- Have any other medical conditions.
- Are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.
- Are breastfeeding (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed. If you become HIV-positive, HIV can pass to the baby in breast milk.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take:

- Keep a list that includes all prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements, and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist.
- Ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist about medicines that should not be taken with TRUVADA for PrEP.

HOW TO FURTHER REDUCE YOUR RISK

- Know your HIV status and the HIV status of your partners.
- Get tested for other sexually transmitted infections. Other infections make it easier for HIV to infect you.
- Get information and support to help reduce risky sexual behavior, such as having fewer sex partners.
- Do not share needles or personal items that can have blood or body fluids on them.

GET MORE INFORMATION

- This is only a brief summary of important information about TRUVADA for PrEP. Talk to your healthcare provider or pharmacist to learn more, including how to prevent HIV infection.
- Go to start.truvada.com or call 1-800-GILEAD-5
- If you need help paying for your medicine, visit start.truvada.com for program information.



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MSU Investigating Allegations of Sexual Harassment Against Prof. Sue Carter

BY TODD HEYWOOD

Sue Carter, an out lesbian professor at Michigan State University is being investigated by the Office of Institutional Equity over allegations of sexual harassment.

Carter resigned from the MSU Athletic Council for the NCAA last week, in the wake of the child sex abuse scandal of former MSU Dr. Larry Nassar.

“As both professor and priest, I am profoundly saddened by Michigan State University’s public posture and seemingly callous regard for these girls and women,” Carter wrote in her resignation letter.

She is accused by Ellen Fedon-Keyt of an inappropriate sexual relationship 26 years ago.

Jason Cody, spokesman for MSU, confirmed by text message the university was investigating Carter over the allegation.

Between The Lines does not normally identify the victim of sexual assault or harassment, but Fedon-Keyt, in interviews over the weekend, agreed to be identified for this story. Fedon-Keyt is a psychologist in the Detroit area in private practice.

She said she came forward with her allegations after seeing Carter’s quotes related to her resignation from the Athletic Council.

“After reading the recent Detroit News article, I am stepping forward to say from personal experience that Sue Carter has no room to make self-righteous statements about the sexual predations and moral responsibilities of others,” Fedon-Keyt wrote in a letter to MSU this weekend. That letter triggered the investigation by the Office of Institutional Equity.



SUE CARTER

“She was putting herself out there as if she couldn’t imagine this happening at MSU and as if she was all above this,” Fedon-Keyt said in an interview. “It made me feel ill and I just thought, ‘You don’t get to do this.’”

Carter confirmed in a phone call the relationship had occurred, but declined to address the specifics of the complaint.

Fedon-Keyt alleges that she was a Wayne State University student at the time the relationship began, and Carter was teaching journalism at both Wayne State and MSU.

Lori Randlett, a friend of Fedon-Keyt, recalls the relationship as something her friend was not willing to discuss at the time. But she said she was concerned about the power dynamic between Fedon-Keyt and Carter.

“I mean, she was her professor,” Randlett said.

“I apologize. I am deeply sorry for any harm that our consensual relationship caused Ellen 26-years ago,” Carter said.

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Beth K. Mutch, MSN, FNP-BC
Teresa C. Kuz, MSN, WHNP-BC
Angela V. Viviano, MSN, FNP

Right:
Hina Javaid, MD
Marcie S. Mullins, MSN, CNM
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RAINBOW

Log Cabin Assails Dems for Blocking Ric Grenell Nomination

NEWS

BY CHRIS JOHNSON

Log Cabin Republicans officials are assailing Democrats for blocking the confirmation of Richard Grenell as U.S. ambassador to Germany.

The Grenell nomination, President Trump's most high-profile openly gay appointment, is being held up purportedly over comments Grenell made years ago on Twitter about the appearance of women, including Hillary Clinton, Madeleine Albright, Callista Gingrich and Rachel Maddow.

The Log Cabin missive, dated Jan. 29, attributes the hold up over Grenell to "Democratic dithering," asserting actions from the Senate minority are holding up an important nomination and the historic confirmation of an out gay ambassador.

"In earlier times confirmations such as Mr. Grenell's were perfunctory, made swiftly with deference to our nation's commander-in-chief in a way that transcended partisanship," the letter says. "Sadly, time and time again over the course of the past year, Democratic senators have abused procedural courtesy to prevent votes by simple acclamation."

The letter has 22 signatures from Log Cabin members as well as prominent Republicans and commentators. Among them is the George W. Bush administration's former White House press secretary Ari Fleischer; Phil Karpen, president of American Commitment; and Heather Higgins, CEO of Independent Women's Voice.

First nominated by Trump in September, Grenell founded the international consulting firm Capitol Media Partners in 2010 and served in various roles as a public communications adviser and a Fox News commentator. Under the George W. Bush administration, Grenell was the longest serving U.S. spokesperson at the United Nations and served four U.S. ambassadors.

For a period of less than two weeks, Grenell served during the 2012 presidential campaign as a foreign policy spokesperson for Republican nominee Mitt Romney, but resigned amid pressure from social conservatives over his sexual orientation. Grenell never had the opportunity to speak publicly in the role.

Grenell, who has described himself as a gay conservative Christian, has a same-sex partner, Matt Lashey. According to The Atlantic, the two have been together for 15 years and Lashey himself is a conservative Christian who graduated from Jerry Falwell's Liberty University.



But Grenell is perhaps best known on Twitter for his combative relationship with reporters, including those from the Washington Blade. Taking a cue from Trump, who has declared war on the media, Grenell often accuses reporters of harboring biases that undermine their reporting.

The dispute over Grenell's confirmation is purportedly over mean tweets the nominee made and unfolds in the context of the #MeToo movement in which women are coming forward with allegations of sexual misconduct.

One 2011 tweet directed at Maddow, a lesbian news anchor on MSNBC, said she "needs to take a breath and put on a necklace" and another compared her look to that of pop singer Justin Bieber. One tweet directed at Gingrich questioned whether she "snaps on" her hair. At around the same time, Grenell tweeted "Hillary is starting to look like Madeleine Albright."

(Those tweets echo comments he reportedly made in 1992 as a young aide for the re-election campaign of George H.W. Bush, according to a Washington Post article in 1995. A fellow staffer recalled Grenell telling a female aide wearing a red shoes flowery dress, "Didn't your mother ever tell you only whores and very small children wear red shoes?")

Although Grenell deleted the tweets and apologized for them, they continued to haunt him through his confirmation hearing, where

he again apologized.

"Anybody who knows me knows that I am a very caring person and very sensitive — and I also appreciate good humor," Grenell said. "Unfortunately, there are times where what was intended to be humorous turned out to be not so humorous, and, again, that was never my intention and I regret that."

That wasn't enough for Sen. Chris Murphy (D-Conn.), who led Democrats on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to oppose advancing the Grenell nomination to the Senate floor. The party-line committee vote took place in October, but months later the nomination has yet to come to the Senate floor.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) could force a vote on the nomination, but it's unclear if the votes are present to confirm Grenell.

Stephanie Penn, a McConnell spokesperson, said "there are still Democrat objections, but we don't yet have a scheduling announcement."

Although the Senate no longer requires 60 votes to break a filibuster on presidential nominees, any individual senator can still refuse to give unanimous consent. That means it will require 30 hours of debate to move forward.

According to Murphy's office, Republicans sought consent to move forward with the Grenell nomination on Dec. 12, but the confirmation vote never happened. It wasn't

immediately clear which Democrat, if any, is objecting to bringing the Grenell nomination to the Senate floor.

Chris Harris, a Murphy spokesperson, denied the senator has blocked unanimous consent on Grenell and said Murphy is deferring to Senate leadership on bringing the nomination to the floor.

"Such a request has not yet been made this year by the way," Harris said. "And just for your information, the same was true when leadership's request eventually went around in December."

The absence of a U.S. ambassador to Germany may complicate U.S. foreign policy. When Trump visited the World Economic Forum in Davos, David Martosko, political director for the U.S. Daily Mail, commented on Twitter with the position vacant "the U.S. had no German ambassador there to follow up with the appropriate CEOs."

Besides the signatories of the Log Cabin letter, others have expressed support for the confirmation of Grenell. Among them is the Obama administration's U.S. ambassador to Russia Michael McFaul and "Ellen" show executive producer Andy Lassner.

But other LGBT groups have remained silent. The Human Rights Campaign and the Gay & Lesbian Victory Institute haven't come out in favor of the Grenell nomination and didn't respond to a request to comment for this article.

There are few out LGBT appointees in the Trump administration. Two were confirmed unanimously in the Senate: James Abbott, who was confirmed to the Federal Labor Relations Authority; and David Glawe, under secretary for intelligence and analysis at the Department of Homeland Security.

Claudia Slacik, was nominated, but not yet confirmed, to the board of the U.S. Export-Import Bank. Trump also re-nominated lesbian Democrat Chai Feldblum to the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, which by law requires appointments of different parties.

The office of Senate Minority Leader Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.), to whom the missive is addressed, didn't respond to the Washington Blade's request for comment.

This article originally appeared in the Washington Blade and is made available in partnership with the National LGBT Media Association.

Pence Breaks Tie to Confirm Anti-LGBT Brownback Nomination

BY CHRIS JOHNSON

In his role as president of the U.S. Senate, Vice President Mike Pence had to break the tie Jan. 24 to confirm Sam Brownback as U.S. ambassador at-large for religious freedom.

Brownback was approved on party-line 50-49 vote. Pence's tie-breaking vote was necessary to end the filibuster on his nomination and the confirmation itself. (For presidential appointees, only a majority vote is necessary to overcome a filibuster.) Sens. Bob Corker (R-Tenn.) and John McCain (R-Ariz.) were absent from the votes.

Both Pence and Brownback, who represented Kansas in Congress as a congressman and senator becoming governor of the state, have long anti-LGBT records.

As Kansas governor, Brownback rescinded an executive order barring anti-LGBT discrimination in state employment and signed into law a "religious freedom" allowing religious groups at taxpayer-funded public universities to exclude LGBT members.

As a U.S. senator, Brownback championed a proposed U.S. constitutional amendment that would have banned same-sex marriage



Washington Blade | Michael K. Lavers

nationwide and opposed "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" repeal.

Brownback's anti-LGBT history was on display during his confirmation when queried about his past by Senate Democrats. Upon repeated questioning from Sen. Tim Kane

(D-Va.), Brownback refused to say laws in foreign countries criminalizing LGBT status were always unjustified.

The U.S. ambassador at-large for international religious freedom heads up the Office of International Religious Freedom

at the State Department. Traditionally, the appointee in that role has advocated for religious minorities facing persecution overseas.

The confirmation of Brownback, whom Trump first nominated last year, was opposed by LGBT groups.

Sarah Kate Ellis, CEO of GLAAD, said in a statement Brownback is unfit for the position, but complement other anti-LGBT appointees in the Trump administration.

"There is a vast difference between combating the real and horrific persecution facing religious minorities across the globe and Brownback's own record of distorting religious freedom to promote anti-LGBTQ discrimination," Ellis said. "Brownback now joins the ranks of an administration fully committed to promoting religious exemptions as a weapon of discrimination against LGBTQ people and other vulnerable communities."

This article originally appeared in the Washington Blade and is made available in partnership with the National LGBT Media Association.

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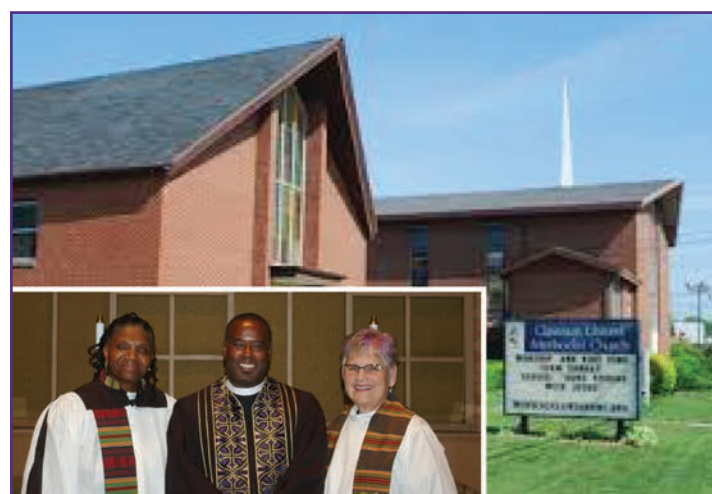
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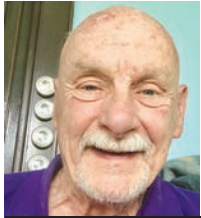
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LGBTs 'Our Misfortune'

Parting Glances

OPINION BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

Well-known Spanish philosopher Jorge Agustin Nicolas Ruiz de Santayana y Borrás – known succinctly in English as George Santayana – was born in 1863 and died in 1952.

He was gay – lived through the worldwide nightmare of Hitler and Nazism that took the lives of 50 million people, 6 million of them Jews, thousands of them, homosexuals – and famous for warning all who cared to listen: “Those who do not learn the lessons of the past are doomed to relive them.”

Having so jogged our own LGBTQ memory with his warning – and with Trump and his right-wing religious cronies stage center – step back in this nefarious Parting Glances to the year 1933 in Germany.

Within months of Adolf Hitler’s appointment as Germany’s Chancellor, Nazi SS thugs in Berlin stood menacingly in front of Jewish-owned businesses.

They held up signs in their grubby, beat-opponents-to-a-pulp hands. “Kauft nicht bei Juden! (“Don’t buy from Jews!”).” Nationwide the Nazi slogan was, “The Jew is our misfortune.”

Sieg heil! Germany has had a history of Jew-baiting dating to the 16th century. There’s an infamous, seven-point tract called: “On the Jews and Their Lies.” It circulated widely in 1543. It urged Germans to “... set fire to their synagogues or schools and to bury and cover with dirt whatever will not burn, so that no man will ever see a stone or cinder of them.”

It’s no stretch of imagination to say that for those historians who have documented the history of the Holocaust, a variation can happen again. They see cautions, hints and alarming similarities between times then and now.

It continued.

“This is to be done in honor of our Lord and of Christendom, so that God might see that we are Christians, and do not condone or knowingly tolerate such public lying, blaspheming of his Son and of his Christians.”

Its author was Martin Luther, founder of the Protestant movement. It is, one can say without fear of contradiction, an embarrassment to the many protestant denominations that have evolved since Luther’s time (1483-1586). Many but not all.

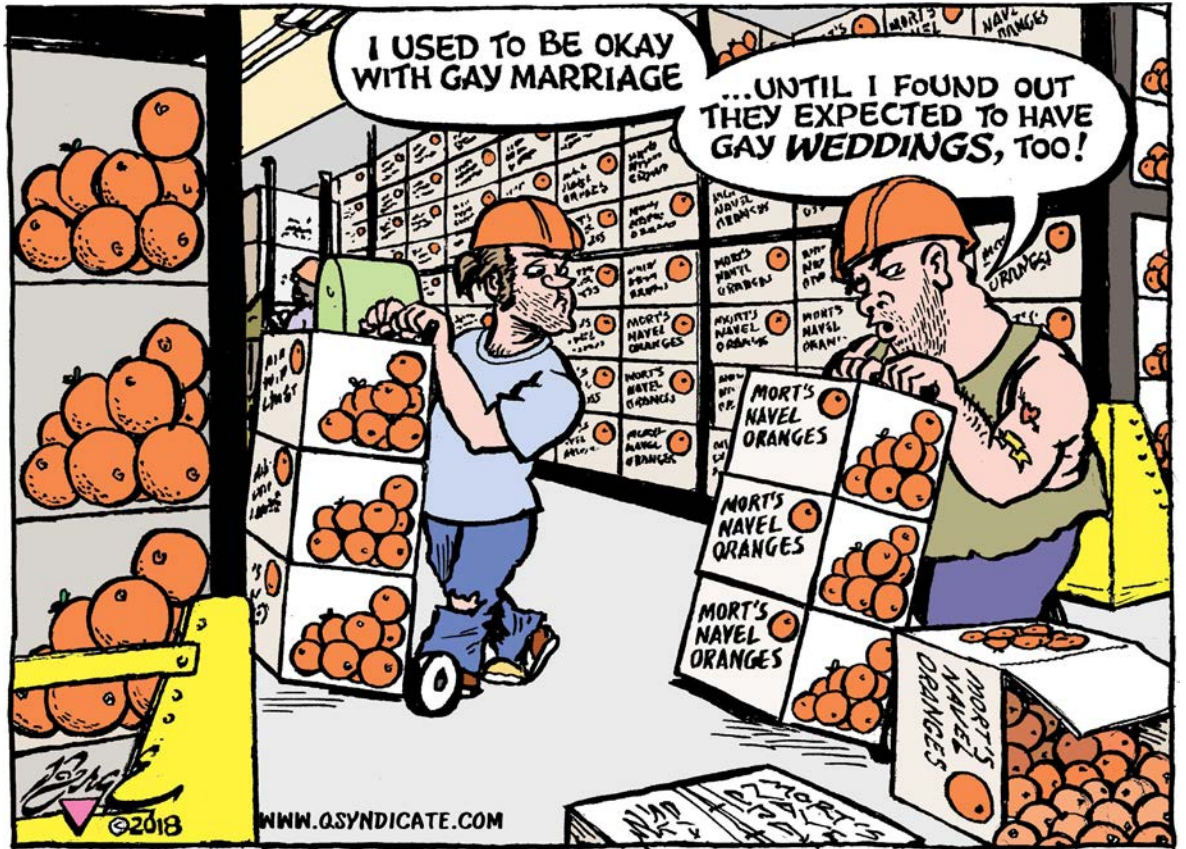
In 1935, Nazi Germany decreed the notorious Nuremberg Laws. Jews were made non-status residents with no rights. They were excluded from practicing any medicine, law or teaching of Aryan citizens (non-Jews).

In 1938, Jewish homes, businesses and synagogues were vandalized, burned and destroyed during the November weekend that lives in lasting infamy as “Kristallnacht.” Translated literally as the “night of crystal,” or the “night of broken glass.” Soon Jews were required to wear yellow stars.

Failure to do so meant death. Soon, Jewish property was confiscated. Jews were deported to lice-ridden ghettos.

German city after city was declared, “Judenfrei.” Free of Jews. It was hard not to know what was going on. But most Germans

See next page



BY JAY KAPLAN

& JOSHUA MAGALLANES

Viewpoint

LGBTQ Rights in Era of Marriage Equality

It’s been more than two and half years since the U.S. Supreme Court in Obergefell v. Hodges held that our Constitution guarantees us both the fundamental right to marry and the ancillary benefits associated with a legal marriage. The Williams Institute reports that as of June 2017, there are approximately 550,000 same-sex couples married nationwide, including 157,000 who married since Obergefell. It is not possible to over-emphasize the historical significance of this legal decision, which acknowledges that LGBTQ people are entitled to be a part of society’s oldest and most traditional institutions, which provides more than a thousand state and federal legal benefits and protections to same-sex couples and

their families.

And yet, we know that the goals of complete LGBTQ equality have not been achieved. Michigan, like 29 other states, lacks civil rights laws that specifically prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

We know that current Michigan family law fails to recognize LGBTQ parent-child relationships that were established prior to marriage equality. We see our opponents attempt to justify unfair treatment of us because

See next page

► Viewpoint: Brown

Continued from p. 8

of their “religious beliefs,” maintaining that those beliefs provide them with a license to discriminate — in employment, in public accommodations (a bakery and medical services), in foster care and adoption and in our public schools.

The Trump Administration Justice Department has given tacit approval and support for this position, arguing in courts that there is a constitutionally protected right to discriminate LGBTQ people, regardless of civil rights laws and other legal protections.

The struggle continues and it is essential that the LGBTQ community works with other coalitions and organizations to ensure that our civil rights movement continues beyond the right to legally marry.

Part of our ability to both successfully educate, organize and advocate for ourselves is dependent upon how strong we identify as LGBTQ individuals and as part of the LGBTQ Community. But how has marriage equality impacted that identity and our affiliation with the LGBTQ community?

For years both society and laws marginalized us — considering our lifestyle and relationships to be both unhealthy and unstable. This forced us to develop our own unique LGBTQ identity and to form relationships and a community that some would view as unconventional, in order for us to live as our authentic selves. Now that we have to access to the most traditional and conventional institution, do we feel less LGBTQ? If so, could this have negative

Now that we have to access to the most traditional and conventional institution, do we feel less LGBTQ? If so, could this have negative consequences for addressing the remaining challenges to full equality?

consequences for addressing the remaining challenges to full equality?

On Thursday, February 8, 2018 Seattle therapist Joshua Magallanes and myself will be offering a workshop that explores the both the current state of LGBTQ rights post-Obergefell, as well as addresses the impact of marriage equality on both our identity and relationships.

We hope to have both a lively and thoughtful discussion about how this historical Supreme Court decision has not only changed our lives (in having the choice and opportunity to marry), but also the way we view ourselves as LGBT people. We hope to see you there at Affirmations Community Center at 7 P.M.

Jay Kaplan is a staff attorney at the ACLU of Michigan. You can reach him at jkaplan@aclumich.org. Joshua Magallanes is a Seattle-based therapist specializing in the LGBTQ community. He can be reached at joshuatherapy.com. Affirmations Community Center 2889 E. Maple Road, Troy.

► Parting Glances

Continued from p. 8

looked the other way.

Most minded their own business. Shoah, the Holocaust, was underway. “Kauft nicht bei Juden” visibly began. It ended with six million deaths.

It’s no stretch of imagination to say that for those historians who have documented the history of the Holocaust, a variation can happen again. They see cautions, hints and alarming similarities between times then and now.

Trends to take note of and warnings to watch out for. Especially for LGBTQ citizens. (Trump’s new victims?)

Having reviewed as much, it’s noted with acute interest that the American Family Association has demanded its 180,000 members boycott The Home Depot, Target, Ford Motor Company and Walt Disney World for their generous support of the LGBTQ community. (81 percent of evangelical/fundamentalists voted for Trump.)

These AFA boycotts have not as yet been effective. Ford Motor Company has not gone under. Disney World still has popular gay days. And, so far, The Home Depot or Target — God Bless them! — have not been affected significantly. (Lesbian shoppers will see to that.)

What’s disturbing is that it’s all too easy to picture an AFA Bible bully carrying a sign, “Don’t Buy from Gays or Gay Supporters!”

And, standing theocratic thug to thug with them: Trump, Pence, Franklin Graham, Pat Robertson and hundreds of so-called Christians who choose to remain silent. Choose to look the other way. One gay less to think about. (WWJD?)

Charles Alexander is prolific both as a BTL columnist (700-plus columns) and as a well-known LGBT community artist (1000 Face Book images). He is a Spirit of Detroit Award recipient and an Affirmations LGBT CENTER Jan Stevenson awardee. Connect with him at Charles@pridesource.com.

Creep of the Week

David Kupelian

BY D’ANNE WITKOWSKI

It seems like every second there’s a new story about sexual harassment or abuse. The most recent being Larry Nassar, the USA Gymnastics and Michigan State doctor who sexually assaulted over 150 girls and women over two decades. He was sentenced to up to 175 years in prison.



But, by the time this column is published, I’m sure it’ll be eclipsed by another story of sexual abuse and scandal. And we all know who we can blame: the gays.

See, if only we hadn’t let gays start getting married maybe we could’ve prevented much of this wave of sexual harassment, abuse and assault.

Or so says WorldNetDaily’s Vice President David Kupelian.

Kupelian writes in a Jan. 29 column that abortion, out-of-wedlock births, casual sex, STDs and porn “testify to the wholesale abandonment of the Judeo-Christian morality of previous generations. Not to mention the glorification of homosexuality (indeed, its elevation to the status of specially protected class), the redefinition of marriage and the creation of dozens of bizarre new genders that never before existed in all of human history.”

“All of human history” is a little too broad to tackle in this column, so I’ll just say that I doubt Kupelian has researched gender identity going back that far. I’d also like to say to the homo Deep State: glory, glory homo-lujah.

“The predictable result of all this wild ‘sexual freedom?’” asks Kupelian. “Confusion, immorality, insecurity, pain, guilt, addiction, mental illness, infidelity, divorce, family breakdown, depression, self-destructive behavior and suicide.”

In other words, the radical left dared say that sex is normal and we should maybe not criminalize relationships between consenting adults and ended up ruining the world and making Jesus very sad.

Much better, surely, to repress and deny all things sexual in the name of “Judeo-Christian morality.”

One of the problems with Kupelian’s argument — and there are many — is that he claims that “the left” makes no distinction

Much better, surely, to repress and deny all things sexual in the name of “Judeo-Christian morality.”

between sex of any kind.

“Leftists have been dreaming, scheming, preaching, protesting, demanding, litigating and legislating total sexual freedom — complete sexual anarchy, no rules whatsoever — for decades,” he says.

This is not true. But it’s hard for Kupelian, who appears to want iron-fisted sexual repression in the name of his God, to distinguish between two adult dudes kissing on the lips and the molestation of a child. Really, I think he’s the one with the morality problem.

In his column Kupelian makes the favorite claim of the anti-gay right that “older males” initiate and convert “younger males into homosexuality.” He also claims that “pedophiles see their cause as the next great civil rights movement.”

First of all, you can’t “convert” someone into being gay. That’s not how it works. If anything, the outpouring of women coming forward to speak out against the men who sexually assaulted them only serves to strengthen the argument that sexual orientation isn’t something that changes depending on one’s mood. Otherwise, straight women wouldn’t continue to have sex with straight men in this sexist trash culture.

And unless thousands of pedophiles march on Washington, Kupelian can stuff his “next great civil rights movement” nonsense.

It’s important to note that when Kupelian thinks “pedophiles” he thinks “gays.” But the majority of pedophiles are men who abuse girls. See, for example, Roy Moore, a pedophile who most Republicans, including Donald Trump, supported because even a pedophile was better than a Democrat.

Sexual abuse and assault thrives in darkness. It is not because gays can get married that Larry Nassar sexually assaulted so many young women. It was because, in large part, of the shame and secrecy that surrounds sex, coupled with the power and influence of an abusive man. The same is true for Harvey Weinstein or Trump.

Kupelian would like to go back to a time when we didn’t talk about this stuff. And wouldn’t you know it, “don’t talk about it” is strikingly similar to what abusers tell their victims.

Local Survivor Sheds Light on Human Trafficking

HUMAN RIGHTS

BY EVE KUCHARSKI

In the well-to-do suburbs of Birmingham, it can be difficult to imagine something criminal taking place on the streets. However, for the then 15-year-old Theresa Flores, that was not the reality. At 15 years old, she fell victim to human trafficking.

“It was February of my sophomore year of high school. I had a crush on this guy, and he said, ‘Would you like a ride home from school?’ I was so naive; I really thought he was going to take me home,” Flores said in a biopic about her experience. “He gave me a pop that was laced with drugs, and then I got raped. He said they took these pictures, ‘We’re going to show these to your dad. We’re going to show these to his boss. And you have to earn them back.’”

For the next two years, under the cover of her trafficker being her friend, Flores was forced regularly into sex work around Detroit. She told no one in her family about her secret. She credits her father’s promotion at work with saving her life.

“My dad was transferred 1,000 miles away, we were able to move and I didn’t tell anybody we were leaving,” Flores said. “I don’t think I’d be alive today if they hadn’t moved.”

Today, Flores works to fight against what she fell victim to, with the S.O.A.P. project, which stands for Save Our Adolescents from Prostitution. And the name isn’t a random acronym, six years ago, Flores realized that hotel bathrooms were a good way to reach out to victims.

“Because they usually clean up after each man that they have to be with, and they’re in the bathrooms alone,” Flores said. “So, every hotel has different kinds of items, so it’s really an opportunity to get them alone, and they’re going to see that number.”

Now, S.O.A.P. has spread to 13 states and is in over 25 cities nationwide.

Although Flores’ story might seem like a rare occurrence, human trafficking can occur anywhere and to anyone, and, especially, to members of the LGBTQ population — who are considered to be at higher risk.

January is the annual, Human Trafficking Awareness Month, and though it is over, there are still many steps one can take to avoid falling victim to it, or help someone who has. Between the Lines spoke with Kimberly A. Hogan, who is the research project director at the Office of Sex Trafficking Intervention Research in Phoenix, Arizona, to understand the issue further, and how it relates specifically to the LGBTQ population.



The S.O.A.P. project, which stands for Save Our Adolescents from Prostitution, is in 13 state and over 25 cities.

What are some common pitfalls for LGBTQ youth to watch out for, to avoid getting involved in human trafficking?

Traffickers meet the needs of an LGBTQ youth by manipulating and exploiting their vulnerabilities. According to the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, sex trafficking is defined as a situation “in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age.” It is always sex trafficking when under age 18 if there is an exchange. Males, females and transgender persons can be victims of sex trafficking.

Common recruitment methods used by traffickers include forms of deception like seduction and romance, false job advertisements and lies about educational or travel opportunities.

Can social media play a part in trafficking?

What I have seen in our research is an older male offering a younger male a place to stay. They meet up on a social media app and what the younger male believes to be a safe place to stay for the night, turns into being brought into the life of sex trafficking. The young male has to engage in a sex act for a place to stay.

Why is the LGBTQ population particularly susceptible to falling victim to this crime?

The understanding of the intersectionality between LGBTQ homeless/runaway youth is an emerging field of knowledge. What we do know is that LGBTQ youth account for a disproportionate rate of the runaway and homeless youth population, and experience disproportionately high rates of victimization.

In a three-year analysis, from 2014-2016, the Office of Sex Trafficking Intervention Research completed a longitudinal study titled the Youth Experiences Survey (YES): Exploring the Sex Trafficking Experiences of Homeless Young Adults in Arizona.

(The study) ... explores the sexual exploitation experiences of homeless youth and young adults, including LGBTQ youth. LGBTQ participants were increasingly likely over the three years to report being a sex trafficking victim and went from being 38.4 percent in 2014 of the sex trafficked group, to 54.4 percent in 2016.

Research from the True Colors Fund, from the Serving Our Youth Study in 2015, indicated that the number one reason for LGBTQ youth homelessness is they were forced out, or ran away from their homes. This was for both LGBQ and Transgender youth.

“It was February of my sophomore year of high school. I had a crush on this guy, and he said, ‘Would you like a ride home from school?’ I was so naive; I really thought he was going to take me home. He gave me a pop that was laced with drugs, and then I got raped. He said they took these pictures, ‘We’re going to show these to your dad. We’re going to show these to his boss. And you have to earn them back.’”

– Theresa Flores

What are some of the impacts that sex trafficking has on its victims?

In our most recent 2016 YES Survey, when comparing the life experiences of sex trafficked LGBTQ youth vs. non-sex trafficked LGBTQ youth, the sex trafficked LGBTQ youth were significantly more likely to report a history of meth use, and a health history of PTSD, asthma and chronic pain.

The sex trafficked LGBTQ youth were significantly more likely to report a history of self-harm, characterized by cutting, drinking alcohol excessively, using drugs, not eating for long periods of time and vomiting. Furthermore, LGBTQ youth who had been sex trafficked were significantly more likely to report negative lifetime experiences of physical abuse and emotional abuse by a parent or guardian, sexual abuse (both in childhood and young adult years), harassment by peers and dating violence.

Hogan also provided a list of warning signs that includes poor physical health, a lack of control of one’s possessions or money, poor mental health or abnormal behavior and a restrictive work environment.

A full list of these warning signs can be found online at humantraffickinghotline.org. For more information about S.O.A.P., please visit soapproject.org, or call (614) 216-1619. The national Human Trafficking Hotline is 1-(888) 3737-888.



Washington Blade | Michael Key

Former Vice President Joe Biden has created advisory councils for women and LGBT rights. Washington Blade file photo by Michael Key

Biden Foundation Sets Up Advisory Councils for Women, LGBT Rights

BY CHRIS JOHNSON

Former Vice President Joseph Biden, among the potential Democratic candidates for the 2020 presidential election, announced on Monday the creation of two new advisory councils for his foundation: One to advance LGBT rights, the other to end violence against women.

Members of both councils are made up of prominent advocates on women's and LGBT issues, many of whom are supporters of the Democratic Party.

Individuals named to the LGBTQ Equality Advisory Council include singer Cyndi Lauper, former NBA player Jason Collins, transgender activist Sarah McBride, Judy Shepard, marriage equality advocate Evan Wolfson and former U.S. ambassador to Romania Michael Guest.

Biden said in a statement members of the councils "have devoted their lives to that creed, and we're lucky to have them lend their expertise to this mission."

"By working together, we can do more to protect the rights of all people, expand access to opportunity and give every American a chance at a middle-class life," Biden said. "I am eager for what we will accomplish together."

According to a statement from the Biden Foundation, the advisory councils will recognize the power of public-private initiatives, serve as ambassadors for the Biden Foundation and guide strategic partnerships to create societal change.

Louisa Terrell, executive director of the

Biden Foundation, said in a statement each council member "has made it their life's work to protect and advance the rights of the most vulnerable."

"We're honored to have them volunteer their knowledge to the Foundation as we work together to build a more just society," Terrell added.

Biden has a record of highlighting the issue of violence against women. As a U.S. senator, he was author of the Violence Against Women Act, a law that was reauthorized in 2013 when he was vice president to include LGBT-specific protections.

On LGBT issues, Biden was also at the forefront. The vice president famously came out for same-sex marriage days before former President Obama and called transgender issues the "civil rights issue of our time" and was active in championing international LGBT human rights.

Lauper, co-founder of the True Colors Fund, highlighted the issue of LGBT youth homelessness in a statement on her membership of the LGBT council.

"In America, up to 1.6 million youth experience homelessness each year. 40 percent of them identify as LGBTQ, compared to the seven percent of the general youth population that is LGBTQ. The True Colors Fund is working hard to change that," Lauper said. "As a lifelong ally and advocate, Vice President Biden gets it—and today, I'm proud to join the Biden Foundation as we work to make equality a reality."

See article online for complete list of council members.



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Dan Levy Is Doing Us All a **BIG FAVOR**



Photo: Vanessa Fein

Out 'Schitt's Creek' Creator Talks Show's Beloved Gay Relationship and Living More Like His Free-Spirited Pansexual Character

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

Next time you see Dan Levy, thank him. Thank him for “Schitt’s Creek,” his super-bingeable comedic riff on a once-affluent family forced to live like fish out of Perrier in the podunk Canadian town the show is named after. And thank him, he who created and developed the series, which premiered in 2015 on Pop TV (and can also be seen on Netflix), for willfully remaining single only to craft and deliver more rib-tickling bons mots for the show’s fourth – and most affectionate – season. Thank him again while you’re at it, because the 34-year-old former MTV Canada co-host has somehow found the time to create yet another queer-themed project that he tells me is in the works.

But let’s not get ahead of ourselves, for now we have David Rose (Levy), replete with his color-averse apparel and drop-crotch pants, general distaste for people, and his animated and generally disgusted facial contortions worn like memes in the making. Johnny, David’s perpetually on-edge father, is played by real-life father and “American Pie” and “Best in Show” actor Eugene Levy, who also serves as the comedy’s co-creator. Together they’ve developed both a comedic knockout and a rich what-if satire of Kardashian life. “Schitt’s Creek” also stars Catherine O’Hara, as the deliciously histrionic wig-loving family matriarch and former soap star Moira, and Annie Murphy as Alexis, the self-involved-but-somehow-sweet daughter who once argued with David over who would get murdered first in their sketchy new motel digs.

Via an allegorical wine conversation with hotel co-owner Stevie Budd (Emily Hampshire) presented in the show’s first season, “Schitt’s Creek” expertly tackled David’s pansexuality (“I do drink red wine, but I also drink white wine; I like the wine, not the label”). Then there was a throuple, and now there’s Patrick (Noah Reid), a yin-yang match so absolutely perfect for David – notice all the ways he challenges David, especially with the potential mortification of this season’s open-mic night at the store they co-own together – you’d be heartbroken if they didn’t last.

Read on as Levy freewheeled his way through our conversation about living vicariously through David and Patrick’s loving relationship, opening the minds of parents with queer kids, and how David has influenced him to “to try to live my life more out loud.”

As a gay man, how personally rewarding is it to you to have one of the healthiest, most normal relationships on the show be between two queer men?

You know, all I really can do is think back to a time when I didn’t think being myself was ever going to be a possibility. It’s such a full circle moment for me right now to be writing this love story for them and to look back at it and just remember that there was a time in my life when I honestly didn’t think that would be a

possibility for myself. So, it's incredible. And to have the network support to really be able to tell the kinds of stories that I want to tell with it and not have any interference is rare and a privilege. When you have that kind of freedom, there's also a certain level of responsibility to try and tell the most authentic story you possibly can. I think with these two characters I didn't want to reduce it to caricature. I didn't want it to be some kind of lesson that we're trying to ram down someone's throat. It was really about presenting a story of two people who have found love with each other.

You've made very deliberate choices regarding the treatment of David's sexuality both as it relates to him but also as it relates to the other people in his life.

Personally, I never learn when someone is trying to teach me something. I learn through experience, and presenting complete tolerance and acceptance across the board is the only scenario that should be existing right now. I want to show this without trying to make it feel like an educational lesson for people who don't quite understand it.

The letters that I've gotten from families who are more conservative leaning and who have never quite understood the fight – to have letters from these people explaining that they've never had a point of entry before, that was the most amazing and eye-opening part of this whole conversation. In a way, it opened my eyes to understanding them a little bit better and understanding that sometimes I look at it with "how can I not see the bigotry?" but at the same time, if people do not know what they do not know, all you can try to do is guide them with a gentle hand.

You guided Larry King with a gentle hand last year when you were on "Larry King Now" to talk about the show. It was really interesting to watch the dynamic between you and Larry as you explained pansexuality to him – that must've opened up a lot of eyes who hadn't even heard the word "pansexual."

It's about having conversations. We should have more of them. Talk to people instead of coming at things with bats swinging – and don't get me wrong, there are times when that is absolutely necessary. But I think when it comes to the world of sexuality, which is ever-changing, try to have a conversation with people and lead them down the path of acceptance by way of setting an example.

I've had great conversations with people on the streets who've come up and told me that when they came out of the closet their parents didn't quite understand them, but by watching the show and seeing how accepting Johnny and Moira Rose are to their kids – the fact that it was never a question – allows them to feel safer, allows them to feel like, "Oh, why am I having such a problem with it when these people who I've come to know and love are not asking the same questions that I'm asking? Why am I asking them then?" And it's changed the conversation in their house. You can't ask for a

more rewarding takeaway from the experience.

Did you need characters like them when you were younger?

It's interesting, because it's still kind of an ongoing conversation on the show in terms of Patrick being fresh out of the closet and exploring what that means. There's fear on either side. And, yes, I grew up knowing that my parents ultimately would not have a problem with it, but when you're going through that and you're internalizing that much fear you get to a point where you ask yourself, "Well, maybe they will have a problem with it; maybe I'm misreading the situation." There are so many questions that I think we're forced to ask ourselves because we're alone in that process.

Which show with queer themes did you gravitate toward most as you were coming into your own?

I guess it would be "Will & Grace." I think "Will & Grace" really opened up the conversation. "My So-Called Life" affected me more just because I was such a huge fan of the show. I think we've come a long way, and there's still a long way to go, but all you can really do is seize the opportunities that are given to you and try and make good with the power that TV can offer.

I watched the sixth episode of the new season, "Open Mic," and it was the first time that I ugly cried watching the show. In fact, until then, I hadn't cried listening to Tina Turner's "Simply the Best" either. When is the last time you serenaded a man?

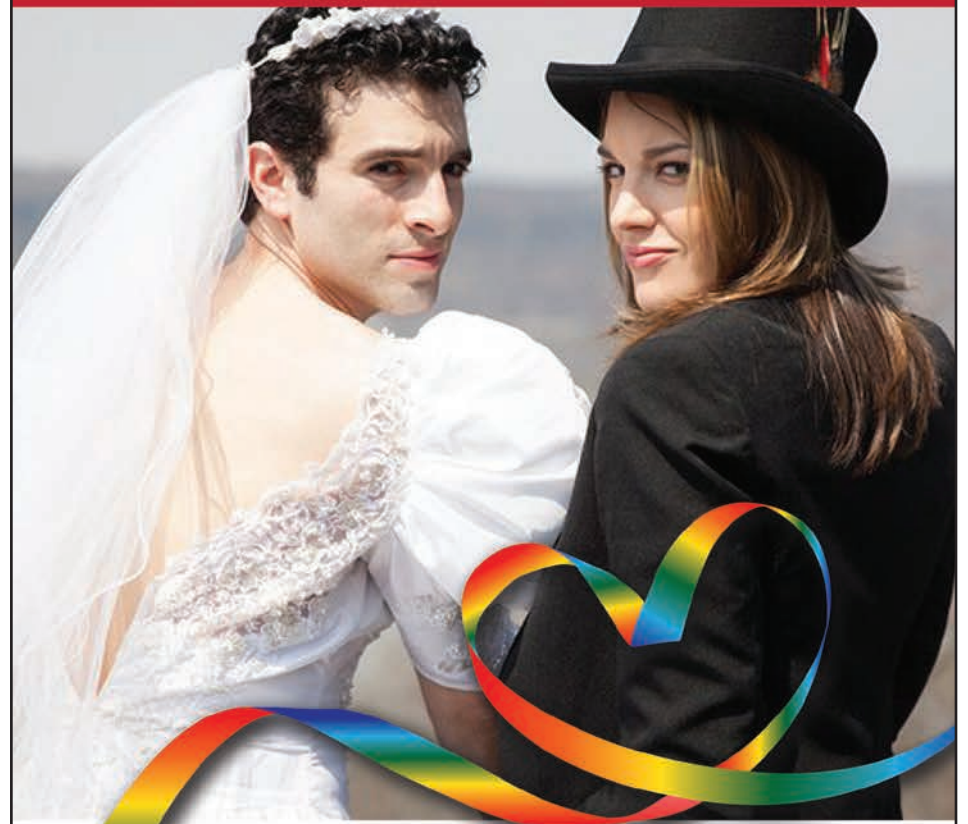
Never! Because the intention is always to keep them! (Laughs) (That scene) all stems from a conversation I had with a friend of mine who was seeing someone who chose to sing to them and it really just disrupted the whole momentum of their relationship because, unlike Noah who has such a beautiful voice, this person did not, and it just didn't work out in the end. But I knew Noah could sing, and I knew he was a musician going into it, so it was always my intention to somehow find a way for him to sing.

You know, I don't love writing dialogue where people are talking about their feelings. I would much rather bring some fun, interesting and dynamic ways of showing that kind of feeling, and the idea that David would be so off-put and embarrassed by his partner choosing to sing in front of a room full of people – and then to know that Noah has this voice, and that in the end we could use this as a device to really cement them as a couple in ways that I don't think they even expected – was really special.

And I had always had this fondness for the lyrics for that song, and for a long time whenever it came on at a bar or something, I would always be the person turning to someone saying, "The lyrics to this song are *really* beautiful." When you're listening to the Tina Turner version it's just a pop song and people are like, "Yeah, I know, it's fine," and it's like, "No, no, no – the lyrics are *really* beautiful." So, when we thought of this idea, it was the *only* option, this idea that Patrick would sort of

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► **Dan Levy**

Continued from p. 17

tease David with a flashy pop song but make it his own.

What is so lovely about that scene is it really subverts stereotypes about small town small-mindedness – the townies are there, and they're celebrating Patrick and David's love for each other right along with them.

It was our intention from the get-go to never make the town the butt of the joke and to always make the family sort of the joke. We wanted the town to always be this safety net for these people, and for them to always feel safe there.

Well, it gave me lots of hope.

Oh, good! That's what we're aiming to do, to be just a bit of a safe place for people for 21 minutes and 50 seconds a week.

Where does the line between Dan Levy and David Rose start and end?

Uh, there's a big one! It's interesting. Yeah, I would kill for his confidence.

I'd kill for some of his style. Every time I watch him I'm like, "Clearly, I need more black and I need more flow."

(Laughs) It's funny, 'cause in promoting the show we talked to someone who was going through some of the outfits and it was sort of a "yay or nay?" situation and it came upon the outfit that we wear when we're doing the number (in episode three, "Asbestos Fest"). I'm in, like, black with a baby's breath sweater with matching pants and the person decided to "nay" the outfit and I had to gently tell her that those pants were actually my own from home (laughs). Generally speaking, I wouldn't wear it with a matching top, but I did wear it at one point in my real life.

I think I've always been excited about fashion, so to be able to style the show with our costume designer really just scratches that itch for me. As a character, though, I don't think we're alike. I think some of our neuroses probably exist – the lack of patience (laughs) – but you know, it's funny, you start the first season of the show and these people are on paper at least really hard pills to swallow, and the intention of the show was to always make the takeaway "love doesn't cost any money" and these people will slowly start to realize that. My takeaway from David has been to try to live my life more out loud because I think his unabashedness when it comes to just being authentically himself at all times is something I wish I employed in my own life.

But you do seem to be much more open about your sexuality than before the show.

I think when you start out it's a really tough track to navigate. You can be really comfortable in your personal life, but the professional world is a very different beast. When gossip blogs were outing people – I really do feel like it's

such a tender thing; it's a very sensitive thing for people, and there should be no pressure to do anything until you're ready. I do know that there's obligation, obviously, that comes with being someone who's in the public eye and being able to use that, but for me it was just that you grow into yourself and you grow into what you want to share with people publicly. Because yeah, I do think that conversation is a tricky one, and actually, I am sort of naturally quite private and don't like attention. (Laughs)

Last year your co-star Emily Hampshire, who plays Stevie, told me men expect her to be Stevie on dates and that she feels bad she's not.

I know. She always says that: "Stevie's so cool ... and then I show up." (Laughs)

Do you have an example of that happening to you?

Being a disappointment to people? Yes! (Laughs) No – I think David has brought out the best in me as a person in terms of what I want to stand for and the kinds of things I want to fight for. I also have realized in ways that I never did before the reach that this show has to actually affect change in people's homes, and you know, you have to run with that and you have to wave that flag proudly because there's a lot of opposition out there. You have to constantly make sure that your megaphone is being heard over all the noise, which is why it was such a thrill for GLAAD to sponsor our LA event and to participate in the fundraising campaign. And again, you get to see people coming out of the woodwork and people of all different sort of backgrounds sending love to David and Patrick. It's incredible to watch.

They've instilled hope that, maybe, people aren't just looking for a quickie on Grindr.

Exactly.

It's refreshing.

Yeah, it's been really fun to play, and in a way, I often wonder if I wrote that as almost some kind of personal manifestation. If you write it, they will come. (Laughs)

Are they coming?

Not at the moment, but hopefully soon. It's all so tricky because we put so much of our time into this show and, for me, it's a 13-month commitment, so it's hard to be open and available to someone in a relationship when my eye will always tend to wander back to the show. It's finding the balance. But yeah ... one day.

Are you interested in creating or playing more realistic portrayals of queerness that cut beyond caricature in the way David has?

Of course, yeah. There is a new show that I'm working on right now with quite an amazing queer character that I quite love. I wish I could tell you more about it. It's pretty fun, and if it all works out we will talk again and I will give you the lowdown. But yes, if all goes to plan then there might be a new show coming out in the next couple of years.

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Michigan Native Releases Photo Book of NYC Drag Queens

BY JASON A. MICHAEL

Fashion and fine arts photographer Gregory Kramer might be at ease in New York City's fashion scene now, but – as with many artists – he had humble beginnings. Originally from the village of Pewamo, Michigan, Kramer always knew he had an artistic eye. After graduating from Pewamo Westphalia High School, Kramer enrolled at Lansing Community College and decided to put his vision to good use. There, he began studying photography, and soon put any of his doubts to rest.

“While attending college I had the opportunity to attend a few fashion workshops at Parsons in New York City,” recalled Kramer. “Those workshops confirmed my career choice, and I knew that eventually New York City would be my home.”

By 1992 Kramer was settled in New York, but he still didn't have much to show to potential clients. He decided to throw himself into the world of photography and gain as much experience as possible.

“My early years there were spent assisting various photographers and during that time I worked on my personal portfolio,” Kramer said. “Once that was together, I moved to

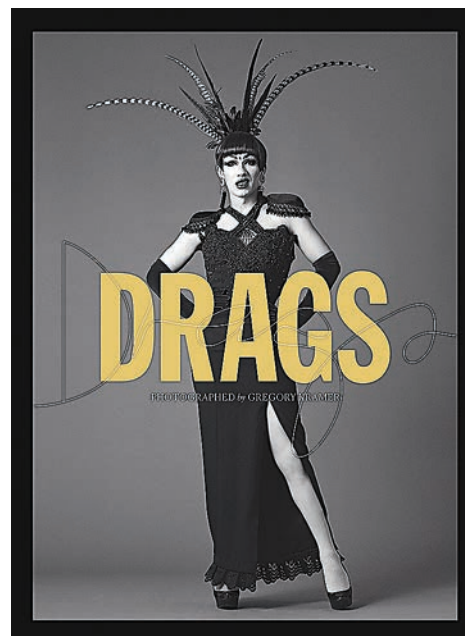
Presented in the style of classic fashion portraiture, “DRAGS” features legends – and up-and-coming legends – in glamorous, black and white, full-length studio portraits.

Sydney, Australia, to pursue shooting. Over the course of that year I began shooting for various publications. Then when I returned to New York I had a portfolio to start showing prospective clients.”

Eventually, Kramer would go on to shoot for Harper's Bazaar, Jane, Cosmogirl and other publications. He also shot ads for clients such as Saks Fifth Avenue, Bloomingdales and Macy's. He said that part of what drives him to continue shooting is New York's rich environment.

“Aside from being the hub for the American fashion industry, New York is a true melting pot,” said Kramer. “There's real diversity here, and a thriving subculture of artists and performers that I find inspiring.”

Among those artists and performers that spark his creativity, Kramer is fascinated



with NYC drag queen culture. To that end, he recently released his first photo book, the aptly titled “DRAGS.” His fascination began when he was looking for a new subject.

“I was looking for a project, and got inspired by Irving Penn's book ‘Small Trades,’” he

said. “After looking through it, I thought, ‘That's it. I want to do a photo book on New York City's drag scene.’”

Getting started, Kramer said, was not difficult.

“The book started with a small list of performers and a portrait of the legendary Linda Simpson,” he said. “Linda, whom I had become friends with over the years, was pivotal in putting me into contact with the other performers. From there the list grew organically. It was recommendations from people I just shot and searching social media to fill in the gaps.”

Just as effortlessly as it had begun, Kramer said the shoots followed suit.

“Every session was filled with gaiety,” he said. “The subjects would arrive in various states of drag, or get ready at the studio. After hours of transforming themselves into their persona, dressing would begin. Zippers were forced to their limits, pantyhose ran, feet would be squeezed into heels and nails would be constantly falling off. And then, the shooting began.”

Still, as lacking in conflict as the shoots were, there were no shortage of memorable

See Drag, page 22



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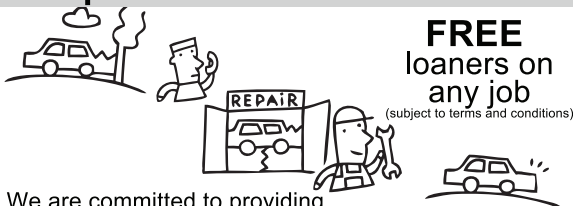


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Mary Lambert Thinks You're a Babe

BY EVE KUCHARSKI

Unafraid to speak her mind, Mary Lambert is proud to say that in her eyes, everyone qualifies as a babe. Conveniently, “Everyone is a Babe” is the name of her tour, where she’ll be showcasing her newest EP “Bold.”

Lambert, who is openly gay, got a kickstart to her career in 2012 when she had just graduated college and had begun setting herself up as an artist in Seattle. Her friend was working with Macklemore and Ryan Lewis on a song called “Same Love.” The track was missing both an LGBTQ voice and its hook. In less than three hours, Lambert wrote it and it translated to a track that got 189 million views on YouTube.

Since then, Lambert has been hard at work promoting her newest tour and her latest music project. BTL caught up with Lambert while she was en route to her Houston, Texas, performance to chat about her exploration of various mediums, not being a phony and the importance of being OK with one’s emotional state.

“Bold” takes the listener on a journey. It starts off with a spoken word piece, goes into high-intensity pop, and ends with a peaceful duet with your mother. Was that wave-like approach intentional?

I wanted a good arc. My passion is in music composition, so I’m really focused on orchestral writing and symphonic composition. I feel like that’s always in my blood a little bit, so I think of things in terms of a mathematical quality, of a balance, of making sure that things always come out to zero (laughs). And I think that’s why that arc is really necessary that there’s balance. I’m also bipolar (laughs) – that’s got to also be part of the equation.

Did you always have plans to include a spoken word piece as the second track?

Spoken word is just a part of my artistic expression. I love songwriting, but there is sort of desire to think pragmatically about how something functions or the techniques, “Does this fit right here in the chorus?” I just feel like there’s a bit more freedom with spoken word. They’re just different beasts, and I love the ability and the privilege to do both recording-wise and performance-wise. I just feel like if I could do pottery, I would also do pottery (laughs). I just have so many feelings and I need to get them out. I need two art forms to do it, because there’s so much.

Do you really think everyone is a babe?

Everybody is a babe is something that I tweeted three years ago (laughs). It’s just something that I always felt like saying: “Everybody is a babe!” Of course, it’s the same theme of like, “Beauty is in the eye of the beholder,” and those sort of things. There’s just so many great things that



“babe” means. As a femme, I feel like it’s very prevalent in our world, and I think there’s been this resurgence of the word which I love. I’m working on the next album, and it’s dark and sad, which is good. It’s cathartic and important, but I wanted to have a celebration before I just punch everyone in the throat. (Laughs)

Where did you get the idea for your latest single, “Know Your Name”?

I just wanted to start partnering with different producers, and I would love to write some pop songs. And so they (Kobalt Publishing) introduced me to Tobias Karlsson who was sort of from the Max Martin camp.

I went to his house and the musical track was already done and I thought, “Oh, this is so punchy and fun.” And it’s a familiar narrative of – I don’t know if anybody else does this, maybe I’m just totally delusional – but if someone cute walks into a room, I’ve created an entirely new life (laughs) and we have children, and we have dogs! I just wanted it to be fun, and I wanted people to crank it in the summertime and think about their crush, too.

Where did the arcade setting come in for the music video?

There’s a barcade by my house that I love so much, and I was there with my assistant and she kind of was like, “Hey, what if the ‘Know Your Name’ the tag was about someone having the best score and you don’t know who they are, but you know their initials,” and I loved it. I love the “Bad Blood” music video. I just think it’s so badass, and I was like, “I want to make my own girl group!”

I knew I wanted it to be very queer and diverse and so I had to have some of my friends in it and have this sort of hilarious, post-apocalyptic vibe in an arcade, and just have these babes that were taking over the arcade in modern time,

perform songs throughout your tours?

Absolutely. Yeah, if there’s one thing that I try to be firm with myself about it’s to be sure that I’m connected when I’m performing. I cannot stand lying through a song that I don’t believe in. If I don’t feel a song, I’m not going to perform it. There’s quite a few songs that I don’t feel, so I don’t perform. I’m performing it, because whatever the desire is, it has to be there. Otherwise, I’m a phony. I don’t want to be a phony.

If you had to sum it all up, what’s the one message you hope fans get from your tour?

That it’s OK to be where you’re at. I feel whether you just got out of college and you don’t know what you’re doing, or you’re dealing with trauma and you feel like you haven’t come far enough, or you’re continually making bad decision in relationships, it’s OK to be where you’re at. Everybody is doing their best. And come to my show and cry! (Laughs)

Mary Lambert will be at the Blind Pig in Ann Arbor on Feb. 8. More information about the show and ticket information can be found at marylambertsings.com.

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Ypsi Pride Hosts Turnabout Fundraiser

BY BTL STAFF

In preparation for the second annual Ypsi Pride, Ypsi is holding a fundraiser. However, it won't be just a boring evening of donations. Instead, they're putting on a drag show. This show is a bit different than normal, it's a turnabout. Turnabout shows are when a drag king or queen dresses up or does their take on a person who doesn't perform in drag. At the Ypsi Pride fundraiser, each participating king and queen will then perform their favorite

number in their chosen garb.

Although performers have not yet been officially announced, Ypsi Pride has already chosen a lineup of local drag performers to take the stage.

The show will be held at Bona Sera Underground at 200 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti. Doors open at 9 p.m. and the show starts at 10 p.m. The show is for ages 18 and up, and admission is \$8 at the door, with a \$2 discount for attendees with student IDs. More information can be found online at gaybe.am/mc.

Necto Pride Night Features BenDeLaCreme

BY BTL STAFF

Fans of BenDeLaCreme will expect nothing less than her "terminally delightful" outlook when she visits Ann Arbor's Necto Pride Night. For over a decade, "DeLa," as fans call her, has mixed a unique blend of performance art and comedy together for a "sweet as pie and sharp as cheddar" mix.

BenDeLaCreme is the stage name of Benjamin Putnam, a Seattle-based performer. Putnam shot to international fame as a contestant on season six of "RuPaul's Drag Race." Since finishing fifth, Putnam has performed all over the U.S., Europe and Australia and is slated to be a contestant for season three of "RuPaul's Drag Race: All Stars."

Putnam has also written three critically acclaimed solo shows, "Terminally Delightful," "Cosmos" and "Inferno A-Go-Go," each premiering Off-Broadway. According to bendelacreme.com "She has produced, written, directed and performed in many of Seattle's favorite shows including her most recent creation,




BenDeLaCreme Courtesy of YouTube.

'Beware the Terror of Gaylord Manor,' which enjoyed a month of sold-out audiences last year and will return to ACT Theatre this October."


Doors open at 9 p.m., the show is at 9:45 p.m. with an encore at midnight. Meet and Greet tickets are available for \$25. Necto is located at 516 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. Tickets are available online at ticketbrite.com.

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► Drag

Continued from p. 19



Bobbie

moments.

"I remember a time when one of my models, Bobbie, arrived with baggage that a porter would have trouble handling," Kramer said. "After hauling it all into the studio she realized she had left one piece of luggage in the cab. That piece of luggage held every piece of clothing that Bobbie owned. Fortunately the cab driver remembered Bobbie, and, in the end, her luggage arrived."

Presented in the style of classic fashion portraiture, "DRAGS" features legends – and up-and-coming legends – in glamorous, black and white, full-length studio portraits. Proceeds from the sale of the book will go to the Ali Forney Center, a New York-based non-profit that is dedicated to helping homeless LGBTQ youth.

While basking in the success of the project, Kramer has already moved onto his next series of subjects.

"I just started shooting a project called DOWNTOWN," he said. "It's studio portraits of the downtown scene including burlesque dancers, cabaret performers, writers, influencers and of course a few more drag kings and queens."

To learn more about Gregory Kramer's DRAGS, visit dragsbook.com.



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Happenings

OUTINGS

Thursday, Feb. 9

Swing Dance Party 9:00 pm Dust off those dancing shoes and come decked out in your best vintage attire for the ultimate swing dance party at The Cube in Midtown Detroit. Arrive early for a dance lesson and your favorite Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward Avenue, Detroit. 3135765162 <https://www.dso.org/ShowEventsView.aspx?id=4971&prod=4970>

Tuesday, Feb. 20

Does Addiction Treatment Work? 7:30 pm By Carl Christensen, MD, Ph.D., D-FASAM. Learn about the relative efficacy of various treatments for addiction. Free. St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center Auditorium, 5305 Elliott Drive, Ypsilanti. 734-485-8725 <http://www.dawnfarm.org/programs/education-series>

Saturday, Feb. 24

The Erotic Poetry & Music Festival 8:00 pm "An eclectic celebration of the erotic arts!" The infamous "Erotic Poetry & Music Festival" is Detroit's oldest community arts festival. "An eclectic celebration of the erotic arts!" it features provocative poetry, dirty spoken word, erotic Tangent Gallery, 715 East Milwaukee Avenue, Detroit. 2484451277 <http://www.facebook.com/EroticPoetryandMusicFestival>

Tuesday, Feb. 27

Relapse Prevention 7:30 pm By Erik Anderson LMSW, CAADC will describe creative, effective strategies to handle both every-day and high-risk situations in recovery from addiction. Free. St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center Auditorium, 5305 Elliott Drive, Ypsilanti. 734-485-8725 <http://www.dawnfarm.org/programs/education-series>

MUSIC & MORE

Valentine's Day With Cyrille Aimée Feb. 14, 7:00 pm "A massively talented international chanteuse," exclaims the New York Observer. Spend this

Valentine's Day with your special someone and French cabaret vocalist Cyrille Aimée. TICKETS: \$49 – VIP Experience -Includes reserved section premium seating and Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward Avenue, Detroit. 3135765162 <https://www.dso.org/ShowEventsView.aspx?id=4760&prod=4759>

<https://www.dso.org/ShowEventsView.aspx?id=4760&prod=4759>

Le Ciné Cube Feb. 16, 10:30 pm Film Shorts + Live Music by the Andrew Alden Ensemble Silent French films come to life with live music performed by the Andrew Alden Ensemble. From 1920's Avant-Garde horror to famous shorts by French Filmmaker Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward Avenue, Detroit. 3135765162 <https://www.dso.org/ShowEventsView.aspx?id=4765&prod=4764>

Le Ciné Cube Feb. 17, 5:30 pm Screening of Round Midnight + Q&A Bertrand Tavernier's 1986 American-French musical drama film Round Midnight stars

Editor's Pick

Galerie Camille's GeometriX Open Explores Form, Light and Color

When artistic mediums converge it can be a beautiful thing. With Galerie Camille's latest exhibition GeometriX just that happened. Artists James Benjamin Franklin, Clark Goeman and Franklin Jonas merged their collective skills in working with steel, ceramics, lacquers and resins into a mathematically-oriented exhibition. GeometriX challenges audiences to perceive geometric concepts artistically. Open now through Feb. 24, the exhibition is free and open to the public. Galerie Camille is located at 4130 Cass Ave., Detroit. More information about the exhibition can be found online at galeriecamille.com, or by calling 313-974-6737.



Art by James Benjamin Franklin.

First Aid Kit to Perform at St. Andrew's Hall

Sisters Klara and Johanna Soderberg became internationally famous in 2008 when their cover of "Tiger Mountain Peasant Song" went viral. Since then, the indie folk duo has released four albums, along with their latest, "Ruins," which dropped in the middle of January. First Aid Kit is kicking off the start of its international tour with some North American dates, and will be performing at St. Andrew's Hall on Feb. 3. Doors open at 7 p.m., all ages welcome. Tickets start at \$89.01. More information can be found online at firstaidkitband.com and livenation.com.

legendary jazz saxophonist Dexter Gordon, François Cluzet, and Herbie Hancock and captures the Paris jazz scene of the 1950s. Martin Scorsese, Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward Avenue, Detroit. 3135765162 <https://www.dso.org/ShowEventsView.aspx?id=4762&prod=4761>

Ravel's "The Child and the Spells" and Poulenc's "The Breasts of Tiresias" Feb. 22, 7:30 pm Tickets: \$25 adults, \$15 students Jam Handy, 2900 E. Grand Blvd., Detroit. 313-451-0806 <http://www.operamodo.com>

Ravel's "The Child and the Spells" and Poulenc's

"The Breasts of Tiresias" Feb. 23, 7:30 pm Tickets: \$25 adults, \$15 students Jam Handy, 2900 E. Grand Blvd., Detroit. 313-451-0806 <http://www.operamodo.com>

Ravel's "The Child and the Spells" and Poulenc's "The Breasts of Tiresias" Feb. 24, 7:30 pm Tickets: \$25 adults, \$15 students Jam Handy, 2900 E. Grand Blvd., Detroit. 313-451-0806 <http://www.operamodo.com>

Les Nubians + DJ Cambeaux 9:30 pm Vocal Duo Les Nubians, comprised of

Editor's Pick

D-Cyphered: Portraits by Jenny Risher at the DIA

Famous for its prolific techno and Motown scenes, Detroit changed the face of music history. However, Detroit native Jenny Risher's D-Cyphered series pays homage to the city's deep history of hip-hop. The exhibition consists of 75 portraits taken in the span of two years, and was made in collaboration with some of the city's most influential artists, producers and DJs. This exhibition is free with museum general admission — admission is free for residents of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties. The Detroit Institute of Arts is located at 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit. More information about the exhibition can be found online at dia.org.



sisters Hélène and Célia Faussart from Paris France, brings their distinctive Afropean, Urban, R&B sound to The Cube for an evening not to be missed. Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward Avenue, Detroit. 3135765162 <https://www.dso.org/ShowEventsView.aspx?id=4749&prod=4748>

A2CT's 9th Annual Chili Cook – Off Feb. 25, 2:00 pm Ann Arbor Civic Theatre announces its ninth Annual Chili Cook-Off on Sunday, February 25 from 2-5 pm at The Wolverine State Brewing Company at 2019 West Stadium Blvd, A2, MI, 48103. Tickets for the event Wolverine State Brewing Company, 2019 W. Stadium Blvd, Ann Arbor. 734-369-2990 www.wolverinebeer.com <http://www.a2ct.org>

Ravel's "The Child and the Spells" and Poulenc's "The Breasts of Tiresias" Feb. 25, 7:30 pm Tickets: \$25 adults, \$15 students Jam Handy, 2900 E. Grand Blvd., Detroit. 313-451-0806 <http://www.operamodo.com>

ART 'N' AROUND

Monet – Framing Life 9:00 am One ticket sends you on two artistic adventures — Monet: Framing Life and Church: A Painter's Pilgrimage. Travel to distinct places and time in history to experience the world as these two artists did. Detroit Institute of Arts, 2100 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 313-833-7900 <http://www.dia.org>

The Art of Containment 12:00 pm 50 plus Vessels from Bloomfield Hills resident Sidney Swidler's Collection, curated & amassed over 30 years! Tickets: Adults \$7, Kids \$5, Senior Citizens \$5, Free under 12, FREE SATURDAYS! Flint Institute of Arts, 1120 E. Kearsley St., Flint. 810-234-1695 <https://flintarts.org>

Joseph Keckler: Dragon at the Edge of a Flat World, Penny Stamps Speaker Series Special Event 5:30 pm Special Event: Wednesday, February 7 at 5:30 pm / Rackham Auditorium, 915 E. Washington St, Ann Arbor 48109 Straddling the worlds of music, art, and performance, Joseph Keckler has garnered acclaim for his rich, versatile Rackham Auditorium, 915 E. Washington St, Ann Arbor. (734) 764-8572 <http://www.rackham.umich.edu/rackham-building/amphitheatre> https://stamps.umich.edu/stamps/detail/joseph_keckler2

Penny Stamps Speaker Series presents Stephen Burks: Towards a New Perception of Design 5:10 pm Stephen Burks believes in a pluralistic vision of design that is inclusive of all cultural perspectives. His ongoing Man Made project bridges the gap separating authentic developing-world

production, industrial manufacturing, and contemporary design. Independently and Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. 734-668-8397 https://stamps.umich.edu/stamps/detail/stephen_burks

Satori Circus: These Are My Friends 7:00 pm Performance Artist SATORI CIRCUS, performs with The Theatre Bizarre Orchestra under the leadership of Joshua James. Featured acts opening the show include: Michigan artists Josie Pace, Lushes LaMoan, Scott Dambacher (Scotty D.), The F.A.H. Corps The Crofoot, 1 s. Saginaw, Pontiac. 248-850-9333 www.thecrofoot.com <https://www.facebook.com/events/149039172418719/>

Penny Stamps Series presents Jaime Hayon: Design Follows Function, and then What? 5:10 pm Spanish artist-designer Jaime Hayon was born in Madrid in 1974. From his very first collections, Hayon has been at the forefront of a new wave that blurs the lines between art, decoration, and design, leading Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. 734-668-8397 https://stamps.umich.edu/stamps/detail/jaime_hayon

The Erotic Poetry & Music Festival 8 pm "An eclectic celebration of the erotic arts!" The infamous "Erotic Poetry & Music Festival" is Detroit's oldest community arts festival. "An eclectic celebration of the erotic arts!" Tangent Gallery, 715 East Milwaukee Avenue, Detroit. 2484451277 <http://www.facebook.com/EroticPoetryandMusicFestival>

THEATER

Into The Woods pm Tickets \$23-\$26.50 Baldwin Theatre, 415 South Lafayette, Royal Oak. 2485418027 <http://www.stagecrafters.org>

Our Lady of Poison pm Giulia Tofana and her daughter Girolama are beloved apothecaries, and skilled poisoners. This mother-daughter team run an infamous underground operation to provide unfortunate wives with an escape from untenable marriages. Based on historical events. Check Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam Road, Williamston. 517-655-SHOW <http://www.williamstontheatre.org>

A2CT Junior Theatre Audition Workshop Feb. 3, 10:00 am A2CT will hold a workshop on auditioning for Junior Theatre productions on Saturday, February 3, from 10:00am to noon at the A2CT Studio, 322 West Ann Street, Ann Arbor, MI. 48104. As a part of A2CT Studio Theatre, 322 W. Ann St., Ann Arbor. 734-971-2228 <http://www.a2ct.org>

DMTC Library Series: Community Show and Tell Feb. 7, 7:00 pm Join Detroit Mercy Theatre Company at Ferndale Area

District Library for "Community Show and Tell: Music that Inspires." Join us and share a song or piece of music that inspires you or your life. This ferndale public library, 222 E 9 Mile Rd, Ferndale. 2485462504 <https://www.facebook.com/events/108153576658387/>

A2CT Auditions for Arcadia Feb. 8, 7:00 pm Ann Arbor Civic Theatre announces auditions for its main stage production of Arcadia by Tom Stoppard, directed by Melissa Freilich. Auditions will take place Thursday and Friday, Feb. 8 and 9, at 7 A2CT Studio Theatre, 322 W. Ann St., Ann Arbor. 734-971-2228 www.a2ct.org/audition

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Moss Earns LGBTQ Support in Bid for State Senate

BY BTL STAFF

LGBTQ Victory Fund announced their endorsement today of Democrat Jeremy Moss, candidate for Michigan's 11th State Senate District.

"Victory Fund is thrilled to endorse Jeremy Moss," said Victory Fund President and CEO Annise Parker. "Jeremy's record of taking on the big issues facing Michigan residents makes him the best candidate for the State Senate. He has been a vital LGBTQ voice in the Michigan House and we're ready to work on his campaign to serve in the Legislature's upper chamber."

Victory Fund is a national organization dedicated to electing openly LGBTQ people who can further equality at all levels of government.

Moss was first elected to the Michigan House in 2014 with Victory Fund's support and became the state's second openly gay legislator alongside Kalamazoo Rep. Jon Hoadley. With the election of Rep. Tim Sneller of Burton in 2016, the three-member House LGBTQ Caucus introduced legislation this term to protect Michiganders from discrimination in housing, employment and public accommodations because of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Hoadley and Sneller also announced their endorsement of Moss' candidacy.

"I'm excited to hit the 2018 campaign trail to become Victory Fund's first endorsed candidate to serve in the State Senate," Moss said. "Our LGBTQ community can count on me to be a strong voice in the State Senate, not only to push for our civil rights but also to continue to fight for government accountability and transparency that will benefit every Michigander."

Michigan's 11th State Senate District includes 11 communities in southern Oakland County. The seat will be open in 2018 due to term limits.

A Safe Space for Comedy

BY EVE KUCHARSKI

If you ask Kai Quix what her comedy strategy is, it's simple: be honest.

"I try to just speak about myself basically. Nearly all of my jokes are 100 percent true," she said. "Like a thought I actually had, or something that happened to me. You know, just dates I've had or public reactions to my being a visible trans person."

And, after being an active member of Detroit's comedy scene for a year now, 30-year-old Quix has not only been developing her own style of comedy, she's been providing a platform for other people like herself who might not be heard in the mainstream: her monthly Quix, Women & Queers Comedy Showcase.

"It's old news that the comedy scene in itself is predominantly male. I think that it's, currently, not being fixed, but improved by more women hosts, more women booking the events, as well as more men being aware of featuring more women comics and the events and whatnot," Quix said. "I feel like what my show is more so trying to address is not necessarily the gender demographics, but the types of jokes that seem to keep women away from comedy events pretty effectively, like rape and sexual assault and just general degrading."

So, Quix has decided to exclude the group that she feels perpetuate these kind of jokes the most.

"I don't want to tell people what they can and can't say, so the simple solution in my mind is to just exclude the straight male demographic that's been basically the root of nearly all of the complaints from women that I hear about the comedy scene in general," Quix said.

And so far, Quix said she has been pleasantly surprised at the lack of heckling she's received about the idea for her show, or the fact that she is an out transgender woman onstage.

"People very rarely actually yell things out to me. It's not frustrating, it's fine," she said with a laugh. "I've actually told a joke about expecting to be heckled and



A photo of the first Quix Women & Queers Comedy Showcase. Photo by Nicholas McComber.

“It's old news that the comedy scene in itself is predominantly male. I think that it's, currently, not being fixed, but improved by more women hosts, more women booking the events, as well as more men being aware of featuring more women comics and the events and whatnot.”

– Kai Quix

having all these comebacks ready for it. But, I think I'm not entirely sure why that is. I would imagine it's because I'm trans. Or, other comics have noticed, because I draw the attention of the room a little bit better due to my differentness. But nothing transphobic or hateful or anything like that at all. I'm fortunate."

And that "differentness" is what drew comics to her first show last December. The lineup consisted of 14 female or LGBTQ comics that she met over the course of her career. Right now, she's in the process of refining the show's setup in preparation for her upcoming Feb. 11 showcase.

"I'm going to try to cut that back, so I have 8 comics total, so that everyone has a little bit more time. Just a rule of thumb that comedy shows shouldn't be over two hours," Quix said. "They say 90 minutes, but I won't keep it over two hours, so the audience doesn't get antsy."

Quix said she can also foresee her comedy showcase evolving into a multi-media platform.

"Another way I'd like to expand the show is moving beyond stand-up comedians and moving into spoken word and music that has an element of humor to it," she said. "I want to re-encourage people who feel kind of disillusioned to go back into the larger comedy scene, and to have a space for women who are just sick of it, where they know they're not going to walk away offended or bummed out."

The Quix, Women & Queers Comedy Showcase will have its next event on Sunday, Feb. 11. The event is BYOB and free with a \$5-10 suggested donation. It is located at the Trumbullplex at 4210 Trumbull Ave., Detroit. More information can be found online at gaybe.am/va.

From Outlaw to Conformist

LGBTQ Identity in the Age of Marriage Equality

BY BTL STAFF

For years the LGBTQ population has been considered to be a group of outlaws, living outside the margins of what are considered to be healthy and stable relationships. LGBTQ relationships and the families of those within the community were disregarded by the law and disapproved by society. In some ways, this forced LGBTQ people to develop a unique identity, living life on their own terms. On June 26, 2015 things changed legally, when the U.S. Supreme Court held that same-sex couples have a constitutional right to marry. Now, the LGBTQ population can revel in the fact that its members can have relationships accorded the same legal protections and societal recognition as heterosexual couples. Still, questions remain: How does that impact the LGBTQ identity? How does marriage impact

those relationships?

ACLU of Michigan Attorney Jay Kaplan and Seattle therapist Joshua Magallanes are offering a workshop to answer these questions. It explores both legal and public policy changes regarding LGBTQ rights, while addressing the impact that these changes have on LGBTQ identities and relationships.

This workshop is both informational and interaction-driven, and will be held Thursday, Feb. 8 at 7p.m. (registration begins at 6:30). Refreshments will be provided. For more information, contact Jay Kaplan at Kaplan@aclumich.org.

SEE RELATED OP-ED

From Outlaw to Conformist
Viewpoint on p. 12

Inclusive Justice Urges Educators to Support LGBTQ Students, Sign Letter

BY BTL STAFF

Although based out of Ann Arbor's LGBTQ Jim Toy Center, Inclusive Justice describes itself as a "state-wide, faith-based coalition, inclusive of all traditions that affirm the inherent dignity and worth of every human being as a matter of spiritual conviction." The charity dates back to 1993, when it began motivating religious communities to accept the LGBTQ population. Now, it is using its influence in religious circles to aid LGBTQ students.

"The State Board of Education approved supportive guidelines for LGBTQ students in September of 2016. Schools want to know if people of faith support these guidelines," said an Inclusive Justice press release.

The group is urging religious people who support the LGBTQ community to sign a letter to affirm their support for LGBTQ youth. Details about the letter and a means to sign up can be found online at gaybe.am/2W. Its full text is below:

Dear Education Professional,

As Faith Leaders and People of Faith in Michigan, we urge you to consider immediate adoption of the State Board of Education Statement and Guidance on Safe and Supportive Learning Environments for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and

Questioning (LGBTQ) Students.

We strongly encourage the adoption of these guidelines for all public and private K-12 schools, colleges, and universities in Michigan.

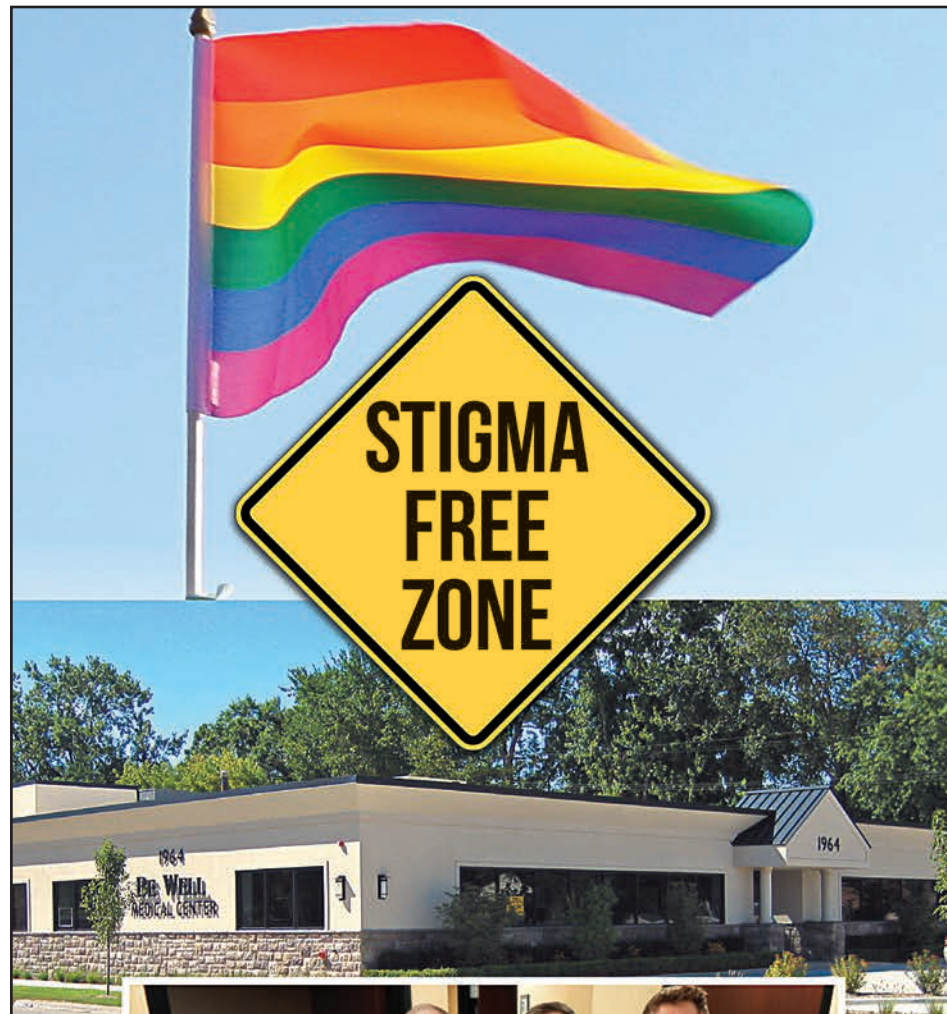
Our schools are an integral part of our communities, reflecting our values and commitment to our children's lives and their education. We believe these guidelines reinforce safe and supportive learning environments for all students in Michigan, and offer the best path forward to reduce the unique obstacles our Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning students encounter in pursuit of their education.

We support these guidelines because they protect the dignity of all students, helping to ensure that all students are treated with respect and understanding.

Our diverse faith traditions and lived experiences teach us to love our neighbor and honor all life. We take this obligation seriously and believe strongly that the guidelines support this belief by thoughtfully addressing family and school engagement, as well as student needs.

Those signed below are in agreement that these guidelines should be adopted without delay and we, along with our faith communities, urge your full support.

Visit gaybe.am/2W for more information about the letter, and a means to sign it.



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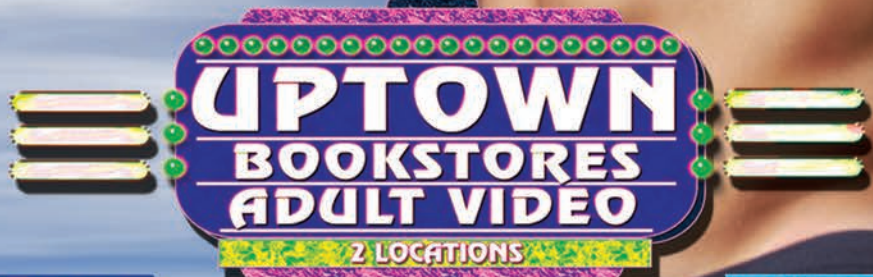
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Classifieds

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hay@ferndalehonda.com

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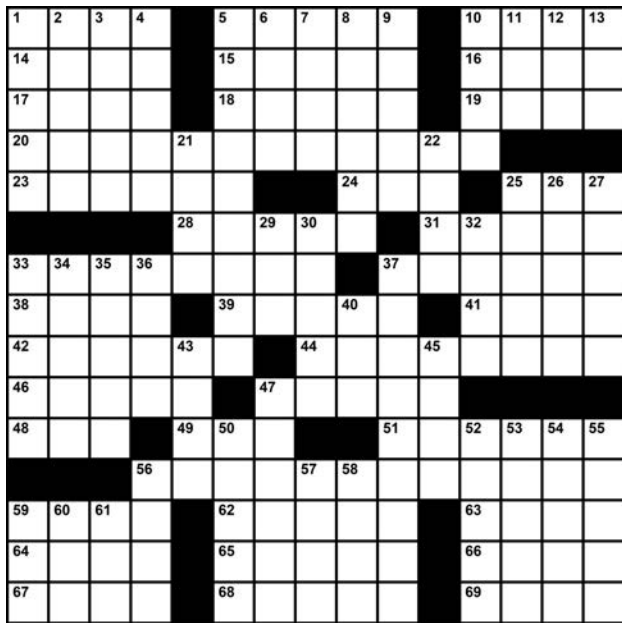
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MegaMates.com 18+

Q Puzzle



- 39 Position in Bernstein's orchestra
 41 Gilbert or Teasdale
 42 Amy chaser Ben
 44 ...and because 20-Across is probably this
 46 Where "Aida" premiered
 47 Butler of "Gone with the Wind"
 48 It may follow directions
 49 Personal-ad stat
 51 Desists
 56 What it's hard to keep when you read the claims of McInnes
 59 Hoofbeat of a stallion
 62 "Frasier" pup
 63 Rock's Jethro
 64 Enjoy phone sex
 65 Speed skater Blanchart
 66 Red rind contents
 67 "Climb ___ Mountain"
 68 Former Mouseketeer Don
 69 Meter maid of rock
- 10 "Billy Elliot" epithet
 11 Rent alternative
 12 Stroke your furry one
 13 New Age music pioneer
 21 Dating from
 22 "...our gay apparel, ___..."
 25 German sub
 26 Our, in "Les Miserables"
 27 Can't bear the thought of
 29 Essen exclamation
 30 Cary Grant's real last name
 32 Recess at St. Peter's
 33 Lickety-split
 34 Be a success in life
 35 "___ the Family"
 36 River near Dunkirk
 37 Like grumpy Bert on Sesame Street
 40 Suffix with duct
 43 Bear's fur
 45 Editor's word
 47 Woolf's "The Common ___"
 50 Allman ex of Cher
 52 Last word of a fairy tale
 53 Gulf war ally
 54 Fame
 55 1965 voter registration drive site
 56 Able to bend over
 57 It comes out of your head
 58 What you do to loins
 59 Broadway role for Antonio
 60 "Little Miss Evil" writer Raphael
 61 Water sports accessory

You're Fired, and Furiously

Across

- 1 Filed for palimony, e.g.
 5 Gay rodeo accessory
 10 Jeremy Irons title, in "The Borgias"
 14 Lesbos, for one
 15 Ike's opponent
 16 Wilson of "Zoolander"
 17 Man in a skirt, perhaps
 18 Pieces of Porter's fuel?
 19 "I'm ___ your tricks!"
 20 Author of Trump expose "Fire

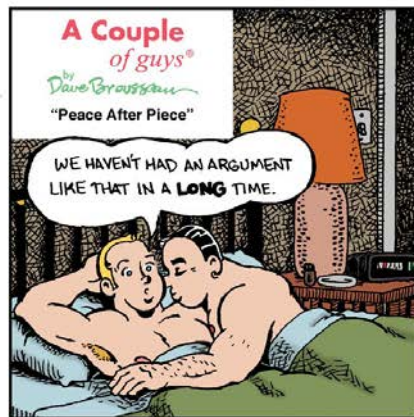
and Fury"

- 23 Mary Cassatt, for one
 24 Three R's supporter
 25 And, in Aachen
 28 Tests that could make you go down?
 31 What a surrogate mom goes into
 33 Gavin McInnes claims you can't trust 20-Across because he has this...
 37 Hoffman title role
 38 Tammy Baldwin and others

Down

- 1 S, as in Socrates
 2 Old line for cockpit workers
 3 Log Cabin Republican's poster word
 4 New ___ (birthplace of Urvashi Vaid)
 5 Where Eliza cheered for Dover
 6 Ryan of porn
 7 What there oughta be
 8 Chicken hawk's weapons
 9 Gay partners can walk this in every state

Find solution to this puzzle at www.pridesource.com



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Hello? I've got a question. **Talk to a live expert about STDs**

800 872 2437
 The Michigan HIV/STD Hotline. Live Weekdays, 9 am - 5 pm.

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Tools of Engagement

There are hundreds of businesses and nonprofits in this edition of Pride Source Magazine & they welcome everyone.

Invest in equality and work with organizations that support Michigan's LGBTQ community!

128 Pages of Essential Michigan Resources In print & online @ www.pridesource.com

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Find over 300 Non-Profit Listings Serving Michigan's LGBTQ Online @ pridesource.com

Editor's Note: This is a sampling of the hundreds of Michigan non-profits working with the LGBTQ community across the state. From time to time this print resource will emphasize different sectors as space permits.

AIDS/HIV

There are dozens of AIDS/HIV organizations and resources listed at www.PrideSource.com. Here are just three of them:

AIDS Walk Detroit

Contact info@aidswalkdetroit.org or 248-399-9255 for more information. The walk takes place this year on Sunday, Sept. 15, 8:30 a.m. at the Royal Oak Farmers Market

Macomb County STD Clinic

27690 Van Dyke
Warren, MI 48093
586-465-9217

<http://health.macombgov.org/Health-Programs-HPDC-HIVAIDSCounselingTesting>

Matrix Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program

120 Parsons Street
Detroit, MI 48201
888-226-6366
248-545-1435
www.matrixhumanservices.org/programs/ryanwhite/

UNIFIED - HIV Health and Beyond

3011 W. Grand Blvd. Suite 230
Detroit, MI 48202
313-446-9800
www.miunified.org
Michigan HIV/STD Hotline
800-872-2437

Advocacy

Equality Michigan

19641 W. 7 Mile, Detroit, MI
313-537-7000
equalitymi.org
[Facebook.com/equalitymichigan](https://www.facebook.com/equalitymichigan)

Campus

Currently there are 19 organizations listed as active online at www.pridesource.com/yellow-pages. The following are some in the southeast Michigan area:

U-M Ann Arbor

Spectrum Center
Spectrumcenter@umich.edu
<http://spectrumcenter.umich.edu>
734-763-4186

Oakland University Gender & Sexuality Center

gsc@oakland.edu
www.oakland.edu/gsc
248-370-4336

Eastern Michigan University

LGBT Resource Center
emich.edu/lgbtrc
734-487-4149

The Lawrence Tech LGBT Resource Center

ltu.edu/student_affairs/lgbt.asp

Wayne State JIGSAW

[Facebook.com/groups/WayneStateJIGSAW](https://www.facebook.com/groups/WayneStateJIGSAW)
wsujigsaw@gmail.com

Community Centers

Michigan has nine active LGBTQ community centers, with a tenth planned in Lansing. Here are three of them.

Jim Toy Community Center

Ann Arbor
www.jimtoycenter.org
www.facebook.com/jimtoycenter
or follow them on Twitter @JimToyCenter.
319 Braun Court
Ann Arbor, MI
734-995-9867

LGBT Detroit

Detroit
www.lgbtdetroit.org
www.facebook.com/lgbtdetroit
or follow them on Twitter @LGBTDetroit.
20025 Greenfield Road
Detroit, MI
Phone: 313-397-2127

Affirmations

Ferndale
<http://goaffirmations.org>
www.facebook.com/Affirmations/
or follow them on Twitter @GoAffirmations.
290 W. Nine Mile Road

Ferndale, MI
248-398-7105

Legal

American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan

Jay Kaplan, Staff Attorney, LGBT Project
2966 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI
www.aclumich.org
313-578-6800

Fair Michigan

PO Box 6136
Plymouth, MI 48170
877-432-4764, 313-556-2300
fairmichigan.org

[Facebook.com/fairmichigan2016](https://www.facebook.com/fairmichigan2016)

Know Your Rights Project

Outlaws U-M student group
outlawslegal@gmail.com
734-995-9867

Older Adults

SAGE Metro Detroit

290 W. Nine Mile Rd. Ferndale, MI
313-578-6812
sagemetrodetroit.org

[Facebook: SAGE Metro Detroit](https://www.facebook.com/SAGEMetroDetroit)

Political

The LGBT and Allies Caucus of the Michigan Democratic Party

[Facebook.com/TheLGBTACaucusoftheMDP](https://www.facebook.com/TheLGBTACaucusoftheMDP)

Stonewall for Revolution

www.facebook.com/stonewall4revolution

Professional Groups

Detroit Regional LGBT Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 32446
Detroit, MI 48232
detroitlgbtchamber.com
1-800-DET-LGBT

Ties Like Me

Professional networking events
third Weds. 5:30 - 8 p.m.
TiesLikeMe.org

Suits And The City

Lansing, MI
suitsandthecity@gmail.com
www.suitsandthecity.org

Transgender

FtM Detroit

<https://www.facebook.com/FtMDetroit/>
ftmdetroit@gmail.com

FtM A2 Ypsi

ftmannarborypsilanti@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/ftma2ypsi/>

Transgender Michigan

23211 Woodward Ave.
Ferndale, MI
info@transgendermichigan.org
www.transgendermichigan.org
800-842-2954

Trans Sistas of Color Project

19641 W. 7 Mile Rd. in Detroit
313-537-7000 Ext 107
info@tscopdetroit.org
www.facebook.com/TSCOPD/

Youth

Ruth Ellis Center

77 Victor Street, Highland Park, MI
48203
info@ruthelliscenter.org
[Facebook: Ruth Ellis Center](https://www.facebook.com/RuthEllisCenter)
313-252-1950

Ozone House

102 N. Hamilton Street
Ypsilanti, MI
734-662-2265
734-662-2222

Stand With Trans

Farmington, MI
www.standwithtrans.org
248-739-9254



Find a digital version of PrideSource Magazine online under Our LGBTQ Yellow Pages

Find these resources online

- Adoption Services
- AIDS/HIV Hotlines
- AIDS/HIV Organizations
- Alzheimer's Association
- Animal Shelter
- Anti-Violence
- Archives/Collections
- Campus; Student and Alumni Groups
- Cancer Support Groups
- Choruses
- Community Centers
- Employee Resource Groups
- Families and Parents
- Foster Care
- Foundations and Funders
- Hotlines & Switchboards
- Labor Union
- Legal Organizations
- Museums
- Music Groups
- National Organizations
- Political Organizations
- Professional Organizations
- Religious & Spiritual
- Senior Living
- Seniors
- Social/Community Organizations
- Sports
- Substance Abuse
- Transgender Groups/Services
- Women's Health
- Youth Services

Get Listed, Promote Your Events

You can add or update any listing by going to www.PrideSource.com and clicking on Yellow Pages. Once you submit your listing, our staff will contact you to confirm your information.

You can add your event to the Pride Source Calendar online and in print by going to www.PrideSource.com and clicking on Calendar, then "Add Event." Send any press releases and announcements to editor@pridesource.com

STD/HIV CLINIC

"The Risk is Not Knowing,
Know Your Status! Get Educated! Get Tested!"



Health
Department

Services Provided:

- Risk Assessment Counseling
- Free Condoms
- Rapid HIV Testing/Counseling



Testing and Treatment:

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- Syphilis
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- Non-gonococcal urethritis (NGU)
- Scabies
- Pubic lice
- HEPC

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February 22nd

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Holiday Inn, Near the University of Michigan
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Ann Arbor, MI 48105

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EDCure.org/Events

Boston Scientific Corporation has sponsored this patient seminar and accompanying educational material. We are sending this mailing to people who may or may not have the medical conditions mentioned. This material is meant only to provide information about products available. If you've received this letter in error, please disregard this mailing.

1. DIMeO PJ. Psychosocial and Relationship Issues in Men with Erectile Dysfunction. Urologic Nursing. 2006 Dec; 26(6): 442-453. 2. Hunskaar S, Sandvik H. One Hundred and Fifty Men with Urinary Incontinence. III. Psychosocial Consequences. Scand J Prim Health Care. 1993; 11:199-96.



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