

NAMBLA BULLETIN

Vol. 25 No. 3

The Voice of the North American Man/Boy Love Association

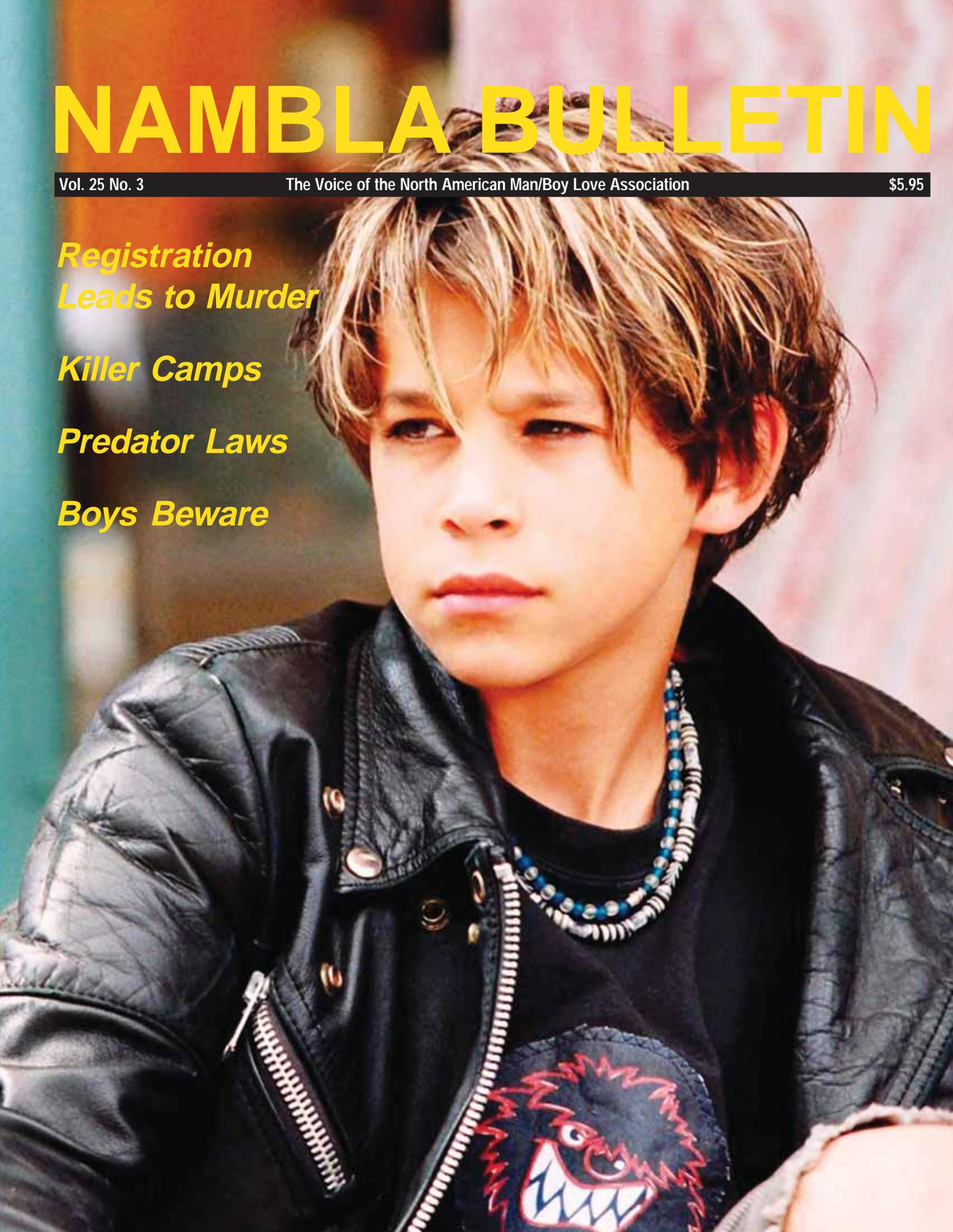
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*Registration
Leads to Murder*

Killer Camps

Predator Laws

Boys Beware



NAMBLA BULLETIN

ISSN 9100-2624

The dehumanization resulting from an unjust order is not a cause for despair but for hope, leading to the incessant pursuit of the humanity denied by injustice. Hope, however, does not consist in crossing one's arms and waiting. As long as I fight, I am moved by hope; and if I fight with hope, then I can wait.

— Paulo Freire

Collective

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The *NAMBLA Bulletin* is published by the North American Man/Boy Love Association. Content is determined by the Bulletin Collective, which includes all NAMBLA members working for the Bulletin.

The Collective operates autonomously, by consensus, with only general policy determined by NAMBLA's Steering Committee. Criticism, suggestions, contributions, and graphics are welcome.

Please send them to our Post Office box or to arnoldschoen@hushmail.com Unless permission is specifically given, contributors' names will not be printed.

The Collective may edit manuscripts for length, syntax, grammar, and clarity.

Photographs must depict models in a public setting so that no release is necessary for publication. Items submitted cannot always be returned or acknowledged.

The mention or presence of a photograph of any person herein is not meant to imply any fact or statement about that person's sexual orientation or activity.

published September, 2005

Where We Stand

The North American Man/Boy Love Association is both political and educational. We work to organize support for boys and men who have or desire consensual sexual and emotional relationships and to educate society on their positive nature. We speak out against the oppression endured by men and boys who love one another and support the right of all people to consensual intergenerational relationships. Throughout most of Western history (and not only Western), man/boy love has been the primary form of homoeroticism, and it is this love for which NAMBLA stands.

NAMBLA was founded in 1978 within Boston's gay and lesbian community, in response to a witch hunt against man/boy lovers in that city. Since then, NAMBLA has worked to build a community of support through our publications and conferences. Our spokespeople raise awareness of our issues in the media and academia, before community groups, and among the general public.

While NAMBLA's members represent a diversity of backgrounds and politics, we all share a libertarian, humanistic attitude on sexuality. We believe that sex is good and wholesome and that it is an important medium of personal expression.

NAMBLA condemns sexual abuse and all forms of coercion. We insist there is a distinction between coercive and consensual sex. Laws that focus only on the age of the participants fail to capture that

distinction, for they ignore the quality of the relationship. Differences in age do not preclude mutual, loving interaction between persons any more than differences in race or class.

Some existing laws criminalize sexual relationships that are loving and fully consensual. These laws are ill-conceived and morally repugnant. As is our right, we advocate their repeal. Nothing published here, either now or in any previous issue, is or has been intended to advocate or counsel the violation of such laws.

NAMBLA calls for the empowerment of youth in all areas, not just the sexual. We are against arbitrary constraints on the rights and freedoms of all, young and old. We support greater economic, political, and social opportunities for young people and denounce the rampant ageism that segregates and isolates them in fear and mistrust.

Join NAMBLA!

We need your support. All who agree with our goals of personal freedom and youth liberation are encouraged to join.

Membership entitles you to our publications. You must be a member to attend NAMBLA's membership conferences. For more information about joining, see the box below.



Membership Information: Annual dues in NAMBLA are US\$35 (US, Canada, Mexico) US\$50 (outside of North America). A three-year membership is \$95 (\$140 outside of North America). Supporting membership is \$75 per year. Sustaining membership is \$200 per year. Life membership is \$1,000. Upon application, persons with limited income may pay \$15, and prisoners may receive our prisoners newsletter free. All memberships include a subscription to the Bulletin. Nonmembers (individuals, libraries, institutions) may subscribe for \$40 yearly.

the north american man/boy love association

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Letters

NAMBLA,

I read a couple years ago in an article in Newsweek, I believe, that had a study of college students who were surveyed, that many of them were not harmed by past adult/child experiences. Are you familiar with where I can find this study?

Also are you aware of any other heterosexual adult/child advocacy groups?

Thanks in advance,
Marc

Hi, Marc,

Yes, the study that got so much attention is as follows:

Rind, B., Tromovitch, P., & Bauserman, R. (1998). A meta-analytic examination of assumed properties of child sexual abuse using college samples. *Psychological Bulletin*, 124, 22-53.

There is another study by members of the same research team that is equally important. Taken together, they are very powerful. Here it is:

Rind, B., & Tromovitch, P. (1997). A meta-analytic review of findings from national samples on psychological correlates of child sexual abuse. *The Journal of Sex Research*, 34, 237-255.

Now, there was a big stink when the 1999 study (actually a meta-analysis of prior studies) was published in the high-profile journal Psychological Bulletin, but no researcher in this field ever condemned the study or its findings — because the findings are not surprising to those familiar with the individual studies that are reviewed.

In short, no study has ever found evidence that sexual experience per se is harmful to boys who are not forced or pressured into it. And most studies find force and coercion to be uncommon among boys' sexual experiences.

Unfortunately, girls' experiences are often different. They experience far higher rates of coercion in their early sexual contacts, and they are far less

likely to enjoy the contacts or to view them positively after the fact.

As for groups similar to NAMBLA with a heterosexual orientation, to our knowledge none currently exists. In the past, well, there have been some hetero groups, but not like NAMBLA. Our aim is social change, and our emphasis is on the need for greater respect for the agency of youth. But our work is informed by our experience as man/boy lovers, which brings a different set of issues than other gender combinations.

If you decide to start a group with similar aims, addressing the particular issues faced by man/girl or woman/boy love, our best wishes go out to you.

Sincerely,
Bill Duckett



To whom it may concern,

I am a 20 year old male in the US and am looking for a "spiritual" relationship. I am a BL...not pedo. I am unsure of ur inner teachings but that has no bearing on why I email you now. I am curious if their is any Intellectual/Spiritual "BLs". I despise lustful intention and believe that is the main diff between BL and the scum of Pedo. Anyways if u can possibly inquire and refer me to any Intellectual/Spiritual "BLs" who I can chat with and get to know. And in case you are wondering I am not desperate. I am an orphan and was raised by the "system"...I am 20 and would like a mentor to alleviate my lack of a father figure. Do not pity me...all happens for a reason, and I am grateful for my path as it shaped me into a very intelligent and spiritual person. BUT ANYWAYS!...I would appreciate any "help" u can give me.

THX.
PJ

PJ,

Your feeling is not as uncommon as you may think. There are on-line forums for man/boy lovers, and many in those forums express similar feelings of spiritual but not sexual attraction. Often, they will also condemn the baser sexual attraction and draw distinctions based on that condemnation.

At NAMBLA, we think the spiritual is wonderful, and the sexual is just as wonderful, and we recognize that many people, as well as some organized religions (including some older than Christianity), consider the sexual and the spiritual to be closely akin, if not inseparable.

Lest you worry that sex is bad for kids, rest assured that, despite many efforts by determined researchers, no study has ever found evidence that boys who are not forced or pressured into sex are harmed by it. The idea is a cultural myth, contradicted by many empirical studies in recent decades (see the previous letter, for example) as well as two centuries of anthropological study and thousands of years of history, and in some places, thousands of years of religious/spiritual practice.

I hope this answer helps in some way.

All best,
Bill Duckett



Letters Policy

Unless permission is specifically given to do otherwise, full names of letter writers will not be printed. Letters will be identified by first name or initials or place.

Opinions expressed in the letters column do not necessarily reflect NAMBLA's positions. Letters are presented in the spirit of a free and uncensored forum of ideas.

Letters may be edited for length or clarity.

Say what's on your mind!

Write to:

NAMBLA Bulletin

PO Box 174, Midtown Station
New York, NY 10018 USA.

email:

arnoldschoen@hushmail.com

Peter,

I was wondering if you were following the latest witchhunt happening against boylovers. In the area I live, Cincinnati, there is a major hunt to locate "sexual offenders" and make them move if they live within a certain distance of a school.

Luckily, some are fighting this invasion of one's personal rights to choose where they want to live. In addition, there is the humiliation, abuse and horrendous labeling that society dumps on those who love children.

The older I get the more accepting I am of my orientation as a boylover. I know this is the way we were born to love and be loved. Keep on standing firm and someday we will be free.

In boylove,
Jay

Hi Jay,

Thank you for your information and supportive words. So much happens all over the country and the world that we don't always follow every development. Your sending us specific articles by conventional mail or e-mail (no attachments please) would be helpful. As it happens, there is an article in this issue addressing this very subject.

Your recommendation to "Keep on standing firm ..." is certainly one we intend

to follow. However, help from individuals like you would definitely make a difference. Become an active member! If that is not possible for now, monetary contributions can go a long way to furthering the goals you express. If privacy is a concern, contributions can be made anonymously.

That you are accepting of who you are is great! Unfortunately, the barrage of lies that many of our own people continuously face makes this self-acceptance very difficult. In response, we as an organization strive to be the beacon that shines the light of truth and that exposes the lie-givers. Please help us maintain a very bright light!

All the best,
Peter Herman



Peter,

I don't have a lot of talents or a lot of money but I love to have friends. I don't know how to talk to others about my feelings for boys but would like to find others who are lonely and want a friend.

Thanks
Chris

Hi Chris,

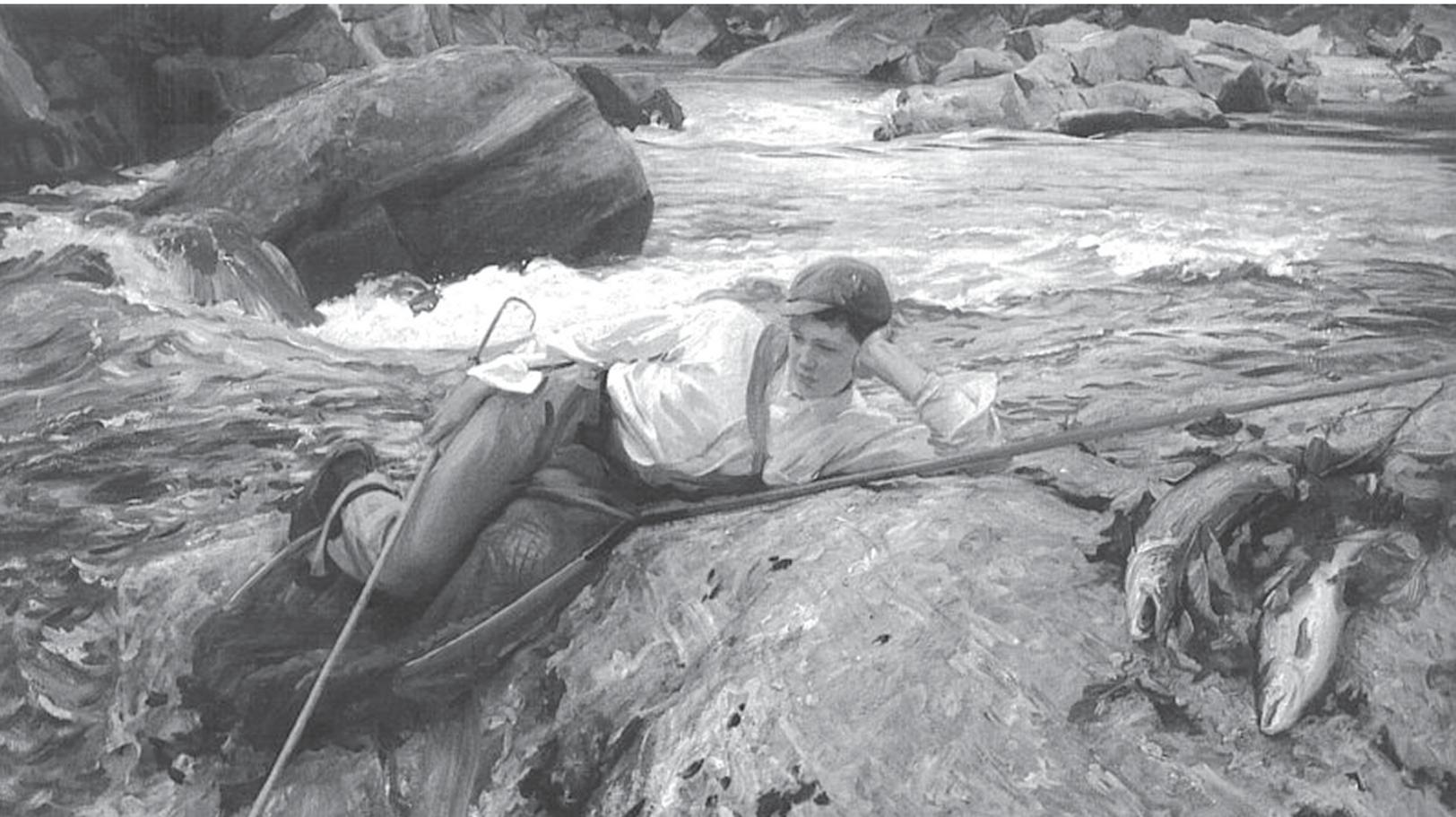
Your wanting to have friends who feel the way you do is understandable, but you

must understand the problems this involves. We are living in very dangerous times for boylovers. Our first responsibility is to not do anything that will endanger our members. Experience has shown that lonely people such as you describe yourself can inadvertently put themselves at risk because they do not fully understand the laws arrayed against them.

At this point it may be best for you to acquaint yourself with the issues at stake. Our quarterly Bulletin is part of this education. Our Web site also contains much additional useful information. Have you thoroughly explored our site? We also put out publications other than the Bulletin. These and non-NAMBLA publications are available for purchase. A catalog and order form can be found on our Web site.

As for talents, we do not require anything exceptional. You certainly know how to use the Internet. It has a vast amount of legitimate information which can be mined to benefit our cause. Your willingness to do research, or some other ability you have may come in handy in contributing to our work. Think about it!

All the best,
Peter Herman



The News

On-Line Database Used to Target Sex Offenders

Two men killed, others threatened

A Bellingham, Washington man used the Whatcom County Sheriff's on-line database to locate two sex offenders whom he later killed, according to Bellingham police. Michael Anthony Mullen, 36, is being held in Whatcom County Jail on suspicion of two counts of first-degree murder for the killings of Hank Eisses, 49, and Victor Vasquez, 68, on Aug. 27, officers said. Mullen was arrested after turning himself in and providing details of the crime.

The murders are only the latest in a series of killings nationwide — of men identified or in some cases misidentified as sex offenders — by vigilantes apparently inflamed by the media hyperbole surrounding and conflating various kinds of outlawed sex.

As is typical throughout the state, the sheriff's Web site includes the approximate residences (street and block) of "high-risk" sex offenders who are required to register with local authorities. For each offender, a .pdf type file is available giving details of their offense(s), but omitting direct mention of whether force or coercion was involved. As of press time, the site lists 29 men as high-risk offenders. The murdered men's names have been removed from the list, but their .pdf files may be accessed by directly entering the appropriate internet address.

Eisses and Vasquez had been designated as "Level III" sex offenders, the type considered most likely to reoffend, based on a byzantine ranking system that penalizes offenders based on their supposed relative likelihood of reoffense rather than on any consideration of actual or even likely harm from their actions. In practice, the effect of the level ranking system is typically to penalize youthful, homosexual, and unrelated offenders the most (these are the circumstances in which harm is least likely to occur) — although it does also penalize

violent offenders, and inevitably blends these groups together in the public mind.

Vasquez was convicted in 1991 of sexual contacts with several relatives. His victims also suffered repeated non-sexual abuse, according to press accounts based on court documents. The nature of this abuse was not detailed in the reports. He was under supervision of the Department of Corrections at the time of his death. He had been released from prison about two years ago.

Eisses was sentenced to 5 1/2 years in prison in 1997 for sexual contact with a 13-year-old boy at his home in Sumas, near the Canadian border. According to a Corrections Department field supervisor, Eisses was released from department supervision about two years ago.

Their bodies were found by a roommate, also a sex offender, who said a man wearing a blue jumpsuit and a cap with the letters FBI on it came to the home shared by the three men, claimed to be an FBI agent and said he wanted to discuss their status as sex offenders.

The man told the three that one of them was on a "hit list" on an Internet site, police said.

The roommate said he left while the FBI impostor was still there and found the bodies when he returned about four hours later. Neighbors said the man was at the house about two hours, according to police.

According to police, Mullen said he had been planning the murders for some time. An officer suggested that Mullen may have been motivated by anger over the case of Joseph Edward Duncan, who stands accused of

killing three people in a Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, home in order to abduct two children for sex.

The Duncan case was very highly publicized, but was of an extremely rare nature. No other case of a family being killed by an unrelated sex offender has been reported in the national media in recent years (or ever in this reporter's memory — while, on the other hand, many families are killed each year by fathers or mothers in murder-suicide cases).

According to reports from police and local newspapers in this town of about 71,000, Mullen has mailed letters to the papers threatening the lives of other registered sex offenders. The Bellingham Herald has reported receiving such a letter. Although Mullen gave no fixed address, he has reportedly lived in Whatcom County most of his life. He had a criminal record but no history of violence, according to police. ▼

Level 3 Sex Offender	
Currently Registered with the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office	
	
Hank A. Eisses	
D.O.B:	03/01/1956
Sex:	Male
Race:	White
Height:	5-06
Weight:	145
Hair:	Brown
Eyes:	Hazel
Scars/Tattoos:	
AKA/Nickname:	
Crime:	Rape of a Child in the Second Degree.
Cause #:	97-1-004490-2
Conviction Year:	1997
Road/Street:	Northwest
Block #:	2800
City:	Bellingham
Work County:	Whatcom
School County:	
Under Supervision:	Yes
Address Verified:	Yes
Registration Date:	1-06-03
Notification Date:	1-07-03
Victim Sex:	Male
Victim Age:	13 years old
Victim Relation:	Unrelated
<p>Hank Eisses pled guilty to Rape of a Child in the Second Degree in Whatcom County in 1997. He sexually assaulted a 13-year-old Male on several occasions at his residence. Eisses provided the victim with alcohol and drugs. He has participated in sex offender treatment, but was acting out sexually while in treatment. Eisses also has an organic head injury. On 1-07-03, Eisses was again released after spending 30 days in custody for Department of Corrections violations regarding his release conditions.</p> <p>The Bellingham Police have rated Eisses as a Level III (3) Sex Offender based on his history. He is considered a high risk to re-offend.</p>	

Gay Teens Hanged in Iran

Mahmoud Asgari, 16, and Ayaz Marhoni, 18, were hanged publicly July 19 in the city of Mashhad on charges of raping younger boys. The two also received 228 lashes prior to their execution. They said before their executions that they were not aware that homosexual acts were punishable by death.

Iranian law allows for the execution of females older than nine years of age and males older than 15. The practice has been protested by the European Union and human rights organizations, and in January the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child urged Iran to take steps to halt the execution of children.

Shiva Dolatabadi, spokesperson for the Association for the Protection of Children's Rights, said that Iranian authorities had reassured her organization that no children were facing the death penalty.

So what do we know about the case? We know that the two boys (whose names have also been spelled Mohammad Askari and Ayad Marhuni in western reports) belonged to Iran's Arab minority, which live in Khuzestan province, a province bordering Iraq. During the 8 years war between Iran and Iraq, the Arabs were forced to leave their home and some of them went to Mashhad in the North East of Iran. The two boys were from one of these families.

We also know that the authorities have been giving conflicting messages. Some are denying that the boys were persecuted because of being gays and they put more emphasis on the boys' alleged rape of a 13 year old boy, but according to the boys' lawyer the boys had said that they did not know that such acts (sexual relations with the person of the same sex) were punished by execution. This tends to show that the boys were executed simply for having same-sex intercourse.

In 2003, a 16-year-old girl said to be suffering from a psychological disorder was executed in Neka, a town in northern Iran, on charges of having an illegal sexual relationship.

In Tehran, Nobel Peace laureate Shirin Ebadi condemned the hanging of the two teenagers. She said her Center for the Protection of Human Rights would intensify its fight against Iran's executions of minors.

"My calls for a law clearly banning execution of under-18s has fallen on deaf ears so far but I will not give up the fight."

Ebadi, who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2003, has campaigned to protect the rights of children and improve human rights in Iran but has met stiff resistance from the judiciary, which is controlled by hard-liners. The Iranian government last year refused to give her permission to stage a rally to protest children's executions.



Peter Tatchell of the London-based human rights group OutRage!, said: "This is just the latest barbarity by the Islamofascists in Iran."

"The entire country is a gigantic prison, with Islamic rule sustained by detention without trial, torture and state-sanctioned murder.

"According to Iranian human rights campaigners, over 4,000 lesbians and gay men have been executed since the Ayatollahs seized power in 1979.

"Altogether, an estimated 100,000 Iranians have been put to death over the last 26 years of clerical rule. The victims include women who have sex outside of marriage and political opponents of the Islamist government.

"Last August, a 16 year old girl, Atefeh Rajabi, was hanged for 'acts incompatible with chastity.'

"Britain's Labour government is pursuing friendly relations with this murderous regime, including aid and trade. We urge the international community to treat Iran as a pariah state, break off diplomatic relations, impose trade sanctions and give practical support to the democratic and left opposition inside Iran," said Tatchell.

In Sweden, Foreign Ministry spokesman Per Saland said the government was "looking very seriously" at the hangings.

"We are against the death penalty and we particularly react when it comes to the execution of minors, pregnant women and the mentally disabled," Saland said.

Soren Andersson, chairman of the he Swedish Federation for Lesbian, Gay and Transgender Rights, called on Sweden's government not to deport gay and lesbian asylum seekers back to Iran.

"Sweden has turned gay and lesbian refugees back to Iran and they should know that these people could be killed," he said.

Even our own State Department felt moved to comment on these killings. A Mr. Edgar Vasquez, spokesman for the State Department (phone: 202-647-2492) had the following to say:

Your early renewal is much appreciated and saves volunteer time.

“We remain concerned about Iran’s judicial process. Defendants are not receiving due process of law, and trials lack procedural safeguards.

“As noted in our country reports on human rights practices, the judge and the prosecutor are the same person, trials are frequently held in closed sessions without access to a lawyer and the right of appeal is not often honored.

“We call upon the government of Iran to vigorously pursue prison reform, cooperate with international investigations of human rights cases and respect international human rights law and practice.”

While NAMBLA absolutely opposes all non-consensual sex, especially rape, we do not automatically assume that allegations of rape are always true. We are especially skeptical in this situation because this charge is all that stands between the alleged victim and his own hanging under Iranian law. The sole source for the accusation seems to have come from



the daily newspaper Quds in the city of Mashad where the two teens were hanged.

Hanging these youths for crimes allegedly committed when they were both under the age of 18 is in direct contravention of Article 37 (a) of the United National Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted by resolution 44/25 on November 20, 1989 at the Forty-fourth session of the General Assembly of the UN. This is a convention that Iran both signed and ratified.

While this double execution in Iran certainly disgusts us, according to Amnesty International since they started collecting records in 1990 there have been 14 known executions of children in Iran where the crime was committed when they were under 18. In the United States 19 youths were executed for crimes committed when under 18 in the period from 1990 until March 1, 2005, when the Supreme Court ruled the practice to be unconstitutional.

The United States signed the Convention on the Rights of the Child on February 16, 1995. However, it has not yet ratified the Convention. The only other country not to have ratified is Somalia. ▼

US Embassy No Help For Accused Sex Offender in Bangkok -- from a correspondent

A 56-year-old American citizen, Steven Erik Prowler, who had been teaching English in Bangkok since 1999 was arrested on May 10 following alleged complaints that he was paying underage boys for sex in his apartment. At about 3AM, police stormed into Prowler’s studio apartment, accompanied by the two boys, aged 15 and 16, who had left about 10 minutes earlier.

In the six-hour raid, police searched every possible item in the room, while a steady stream of mass-media representatives paraded in and out. Also on hand was a male representative of the US Embassy in downtown Bangkok. Police seized more than 35 self-incriminating personal journals, more than 400 black & white portrait photos of the Thai boys whom Prowler had befriended, plus a vast amount of other material, including two 35mm cameras, one framed work of art, and numerous non-graphic printed material from internet websites on boylove.

At the local police station, two other representatives from the US Embassy Division of Homeland Security assisted the police as interrogators and interpreters in the lengthy interview. It is presumed that Embassy personnel will forward information obtained from the house search and interview to the US Dept. of Justice for future prosecution in the US. At press time, it was not known what charges the Thai authorities would be seeking against Prowler.

Until the US passed a law prohibiting US citizens from having sex with minors abroad, one could usually count on the US Embassy to assist its citizens who were incarcerated in foreign nations. Not so anymore. The Embassy has now assumed a fully unhelpful, neglectful and adversarial role. Despite Prowler’s urgent request for financial assistance under the Embassy’s loan program, plus a plea for help in obtaining a pair of replacement eyeglasses (which were stolen at Bangkok’s Remand Prison) embassy personnel have seldom visited the accused to inquire about his health and welfare, and consistently have behaved in a manner that is rude and disinterested.

In perhaps the ultimate reflection of the level to which the US Embassy has stooped, a translation of the extensive Thai newspaper article on Prowler’s arrest indicated that the agent who had come to his apartment told the reporters that Prowler had been forwarding at least 20 photos as well as stories about Thai boys to the “gay club” in the US about 3 or 4 times a year; and that he is a member as well. (Presumably, the agent was thinking about NAMBLA.) Prowler maintained that at no time did he ever mail stories or photos of Thai boys to any organization nor distribute his photos for public use, including the internet.

The media fabrication was one of many that appeared in the worldwide coverage of Prowler’s arrest (another was that he had been having sex with his students.)

The false accusations from US Embassy personnel should serve as a warning to citizens abroad that they will get little or no assistance from the American sex gestapo masquerading as the “friendly folks” at the embassy. ▼

Viagra Falls

There was much wailing and gnashing of teeth in the press recently when it was revealed that some sex offenders received Medicaid-reimbursed prescriptions for Viagra.

Wrapped in a cloak of righteous indignation, state and federal officials across the country demanded that something be done about this and the feds said (contrary to their own 1998 directive) that of course states needn't subsidize such people.

"Federal, state and local reimbursement for the cost of erectile dysfunction drugs for sex offenders raises serious policy considerations and has the potential to place the public at risk," New York's Comptroller Alan Hevesi wrote Michael Leavitt, secretary of Health and Human Services.

"I am asking that you take immediate action to ensure that sex offenders do not receive erectile dysfunction medication paid for by the taxpayers. I urge you to take administrative action to remedy the situation or draft an amendment to the underlying statute as appropriate," Hevesi wrote.

NY Congressman Charles Schumer bloviated "The bottom line is, giving convicted sex offenders government-funded Viagra is like giving convicted murderers an assault rifle when they get out of jail."

He also said, "While I believe that HHS did not do this intentionally, when the government pays for Viagra for sex offenders, it could well hurt many innocent people," he said.

(The unsubstantiated implication is that Viagra facilitates rapes. It might, but then again, so might angina medication, antibiotics, or any other medical treatment.)

Tennessee, which took the position that the treatment of erectile dysfunction is not medically necessary, has approved coverage of Viagra in five cases, not involving sex offenders, for treatment of pulmonary hypertension. (Gee, I'd hate to be a sex offender with pulmonary hypertension!)

Once again we see moral busybodies insisting upon a closer fit between health care and the law. Medicaid is not an arm of the parole system. Prescriptions shouldn't be rationed in the name of social engineering. It sounds as if Health and Human Services might even revoke Viagra coverage for sex offenders who have already served their time. This is unconscionable. It's not up to HHS to heap extrajudicial punishments on people who've already paid their debt to society. ▼



Teenage Boys Beware

In Indiana and Tennessee, the crime of public nudity is defined to include:

"... the showing of the human male or female genitals, pubic area, or [Indiana only] buttocks with less than a fully opaque covering, the showing of the female breast with less than a fully opaque covering of any part of the nipple, or the showing of covered male genitals in a discernibly turgid state."

So if you're in a public place and find yourself with an erection, you are legally obligated to sit down until it goes away. The statutes are Indiana Code 35-45-4-1 and Tennessee Code Ann. 7-51-1114. Mississippi law (Miss. Code 19-5-103) also authorizes some counties to enact a similar prohibition; there's currently a bill pending in the legislature (House Bill No. 1480) that would extend the authorization to all counties. ▼

Route 69? NAMBLA Adopts a Highway!

In Illinois, the Adopt-A-Highway program was suspended indefinitely after the Department of Transportation was embarrassed by the accusation that NAMBLA was a participant.

Similar to programs in many other states, Adopt-A-Highway allows individuals and civic groups to sponsor two miles of state highway. They get a sign noting their participation in the program. In exchange for the publicity from the sign, the sponsors must remove litter along their stretch of road at least four times a year.

As of last year, more than 10,200 individuals in about 1,700 various groups were enrolled in the Adopt-A-Highway program, covering around 3,400 miles of highway. The Illinois Department of Transportation provided safety vests and plastic litterbags for cleanup.

Someone, in an amusing bit of monkey-wrenching, signed up as NAMBLA, INC. to sponsor a section of a suburban road in Arlington Heights. When this came to light, IDOT officials reacted with predictable outrage.

The sign was removed and Transportation Secretary Tim Martin said everyone in the program would be forced to reapply. Mission statements from all applicants would be examined closely.

“We are reviewing all the applicants — everyone,” Martin said. “That is the only fair way to do it.”

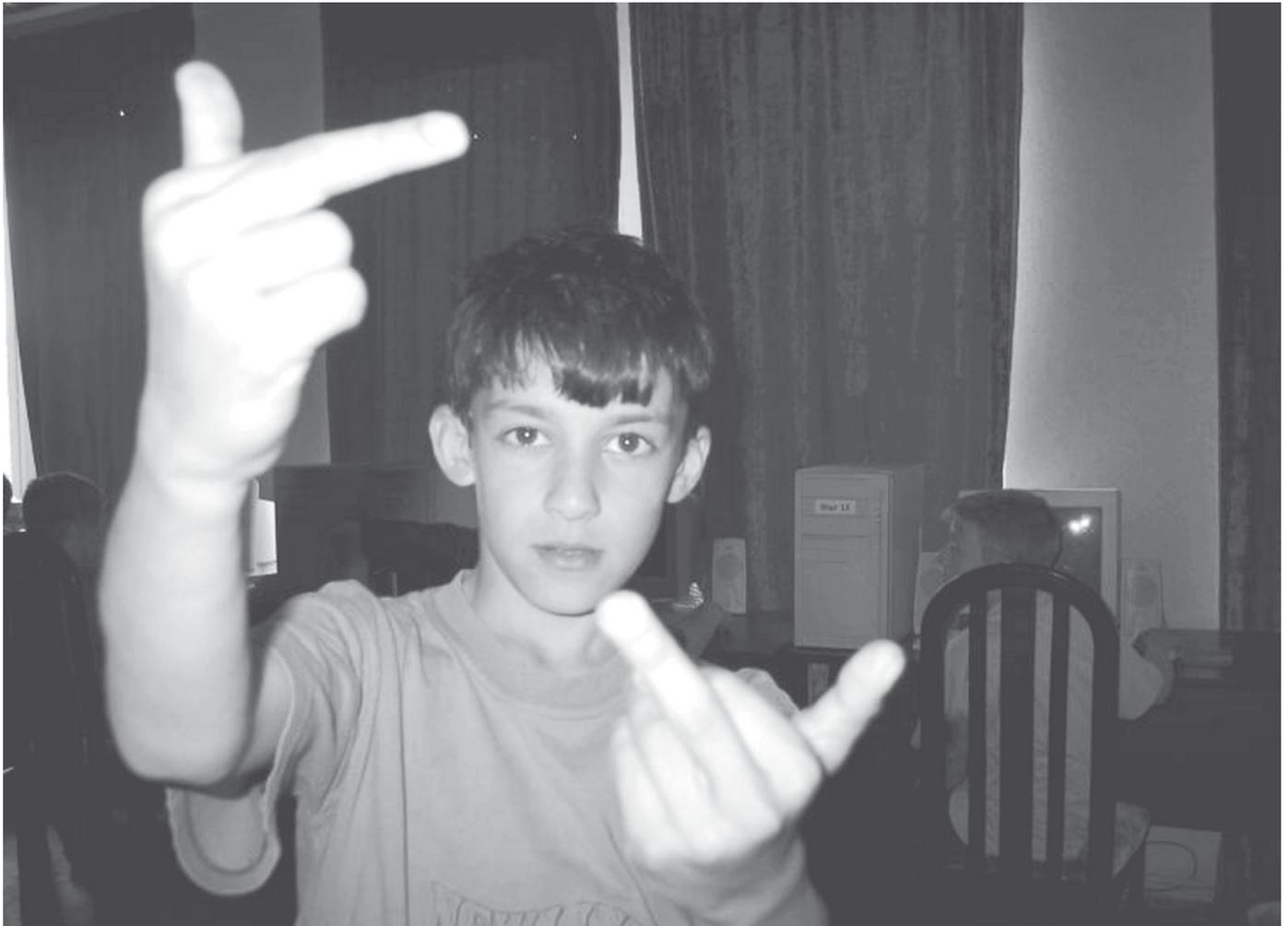
Department officials said that Martin erupted with much anger and yelling in the meeting in which he ordered the sign removed, and for it never to be put up again.

One official told him that legally, NAMBLA might have the right to the sign, given a recent court case in Missouri in which the Ku Klux Klan retained its name on a similar adopt-a-highway sign on 1st Amendment grounds. Martin called the official a lunatic and demanded a full review of the program.

“I’ve heard about the KKK in Missouri, but let me tell you, we won’t have NAMBLA signs on Illinois highways,” Martin said. “They can sue. But there won’t be any NAMBLA signs.”

The state is investigating who exactly applied for the sign, whether it was NAMBLA or whether it was a prankster.

Awww, let’s be kind and clue the state in — it was a prankster. There is no NAMBLA, INC. and never has been. We do thank our anonymous friend, however, for giving us a brief bit of free publicity and for exposing the IDOT officials as the IDiOTs they indeed are.





Predators Walk Among Us – Beware!

By Joe Power

In the hit TV series *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, vampires — which were classed as demons — appeared to be just like everybody else right up until they attacked. Ordinary, normal people didn't stand a chance against these monsters unless they were protected by the forces of good - who brooked no moral ambiguity whatsoever about destroying such evil by whatever means they felt necessary.

For quite a while now, our opponents have sought to portray us in exactly these same Manichean terms. First, the shrinks started talking about a “vampire syndrome” wherein an abused child would almost certainly grow up to become an abuser in turn without long (and profitable) intervention by those selfsame shrinks.

Eventually they started using the catch-all phrase “predator” for anyone whose actions — and even whose thoughts — they found objectionable. This semantic sleight-of-hand was important to them for a host of reasons. It is an evocative word that the media quickly picked up on and now uses almost exclusively. It lumps everyone so labeled into a single group so that the actions of few tar everyone. But most of all, it allows them to treat us as non-humans.

In Florida, the state government has just passed a law prohibiting sex offenders from using emergency storm shelters during hurricanes. Instead, they must report to their local jails. Of course, there has never been a recorded case of a sex offender harming anyone in a hurricane shelter but, hey, you can't be too careful.

The policy was created to keep sex offenders and predators away from children, said Robby Cunningham, spokesman for the Department of Corrections.

In Hillsborough County, which includes Tampa, all sex offenders are prohibited from shelters and the county does not offer alternatives. The sheriff's department customarily

advises sex offenders to “keep up with the weather, know what your restrictions are per court mandate, and don't come to a shelter,” said J. D. Callaway, a department spokesman.

Also in Florida, authorities are sending convicted sex offenders to jail for violating the terms of their probation by having men's magazines such as *Maxim*.

Andrew Calderon, 23, was jailed for six days before a judge ordered his release after officers found a “racy” poster and calendar and copies of *Maxim* magazine in his home earlier this year.

In another case, sex offender Joseph Conte, 56, was arrested when authorities found a copy of a sex manual in a drawer next to the bed the former schoolteacher shares with his wife. A judge later dismissed the probation complaint.

Why is Florida doing this? Two young girls were slain earlier this year; both of them allegedly attacked by sex offenders who were free on probation. Having dehumanized such people, the state finds it expedient to increase the differences between normal people and these monsters so they can get away with doing whatever they want to them. (Florida is also trying to deflect attention from the racism of its laws - convicted felons lose the right to vote in Florida and blacks & hispanics are disproportionately convicted of felonies.)

But Florida isn't the only state doing this. In Iowa, registered sex offenders who live within 2,000 feet of a school or day-care center must move by September 1st to comply with a state law.

“I'm not looking to make any arrests on September 1, but if there are people out there we know about to be in violation of the law, they will get notice,” Scott County Attorney Bill Davis said Thursday. “And they will need to be gone in a reasonable amount of time or they will be arrested.”

Officials say it's unclear how many of Iowa's nearly 6,000 registered sex offenders don't meet the law's requirements. Those who have lived in the same residence since July 2002 are not required to move.

The Iowa Civil Liberties Union, challenging the law on behalf of a group of sex offenders, argued that it punished them beyond their sentence and made it impossible to find housing, in effect creating modern-day penal colonies.

U.S. District Judge Robert Pratt struck down the law as violating due process, but the U.S. 8th Circuit Court of Appeals overturned his ruling. A pair of other appeals also were rejected, and the Iowa Supreme Court has also upheld the law as a tool to protect the public rather than punish offenders.

At least four towns in New Jersey ban sex offenders from living near schools, parks and playgrounds and others are considering similar restrictions. At least 14 states have such laws.

Restricting where sex offenders can live is misdirected and may be unconstitutional, say civil liberties advocates, defense attorneys and experts in the field.

“These laws have absolutely nothing to do with the protection of children and everything to do with scare tactics, cheap political points and an anti-intellectualism that is driving public policy today,” said John S. Furlong, a defense attorney who brought the first court challenge to Megan's Law.

But concerns about the constitutionality of the bans have not stopped the passage of the laws, in part because of political pressure. When one community acts, surrounding ones often follow suit to avoid being viewed as a haven for sex offenders.

“It’s pretty tough, if someone introduces an ordinance like this, to vote no,” said Joseph Scarpelli, mayor of Brick, which adopted its ordinance Aug. 1.

The ordinance added bus stops to the list of locations off limits to offenders and included a 2,500-foot buffer zone. With more than 2,000 school bus stops in the town, the measure effectively bars sex offenders from living anywhere in Brick, NJ.

Not to be outdone by their Garden State neighbors, Binghamton, NY is about to become a test case in New York for just how far cities can go in placing restrictions on the everyday life of sex offenders. Fifteen “John Doe” plaintiffs have sued in federal court over a law which is so sweeping that a person registered as a moderately or severely high-risk sex offender cannot drive on most roads in this city of 47,000. Convicted sex offenders could risk re-arrest here if they pull off the highway to gas up their car.

The number of such laws at the local or county level nationwide is not readily available, but such measures are in place or under consideration, statewide or locally, in many states, including Massachusetts, Texas, Alabama, Nevada, Oregon, New Jersey, and California, as well as Florida and New York. The laws generally prevent offenders from living within 1,500 to 2,500 feet of places where children congregate.

Then there are the civil commitment statutes, ruled constitutional by the US Supreme Court in 1997 (Kansas v Hendricks). Whoever created the term SVP must have been a public relations genius because that concise - if hardly precise - phrase spooked the public into enthusiastically supporting civil commitment laws (so called because the places to which the committed are sent are not prisons even though they have walls and bars and fences and guards and holding cells.)

Sixteen states (Arizona, California, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, New Jersey, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin) and the District of Columbia currently have them.

These programs were touted from the start to be a civil statute to put sex offenders into mental health programs, but they were sold to the public as a way to keep sex offenders who were being released from prison off the streets indefinitely. The provision of treatment is simply a pretext for indefinite incarceration.

One of the most evil of these ‘programs’ is Washington State’s “Special Commitment Center” isolated from the rest of the state on McNeil Island. Over 200 men (and 1 woman; double standard anyone?) are kept in a gilded cage euphemistically called a “residential center”. (hey Wash. State, if it has barriers and guards and if the residents can’t come and go as they please, it isn’t a residential center – it’s a prison.) Since 1994 it has been under a federal court injunction for providing inadequate treatment in inadequate living conditions. In fact, for several years it was held in contempt by the federal court because it was not making progress in the injunction.

If you have any criminal history, you can’t visit. If you don’t meet their dress code, you can’t visit. If you go to the restroom, the staff may monitor you. And on and on and on... There are about 200 cameras watching everyone & everything.

The Center’s website doesn’t have any statistics on how many people have successfully completed their seven-phase program. Perhaps because nobody has. This is hardly surprising considering the Center’s Superintendent has said: “No one is ever cured of these disorders.”

Inmates (sorry, Residents) are supposed to have regular reviews and be released when they are no longer considered a threat to society, but as one ‘resident’ said: “We have a whole bunch of guys here that are actually incapable of chasing someone — that committed a violent offense — because they’re bedridden or they’re in a wheelchair. We

have a [treatment] program that 75 percent of the population are not in so they really are just doing time here again for the same crime they already did time for.”

As Professor Alan A. Stone of the Harvard Law School wrote:

Our moral alarm bells ought to sound when the government claims the right to pick out a small group of individuals, suspend the “great safeguards which the law adopts in the punishment of crime and the upholding of justice,” and use “civil” confinement to prevent the commission of predicted future crimes. We ought to be doubly vigilant when this disadvantage is tied to a physical or mental “condition” of the individual, for this ought to recall shameful epochs in our history when such “differences” were the bedrock on which legal disadvantage of all sorts was justified.

When we start bending our own civil rights to appease people’s fears, then we do have something to be fearful about.



Sexual psychopath laws were used to round up homosexuals in the 1950s, allowed them to be subjected to Naziesque psychosurgery and ‘treated’ with experimental chemicals.



It was only when g a y s t a r t e d forcefully standing up for t h e i r rights that these laws w e r e abolished. It is past

time we did the same.

Finally, consider California. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger is becoming increasingly unpopular for his inability to fix the state’s budget crisis, his constant fights with the legislature and his many public relations mis-steps. In such a situation, what’s the governor to do? Why, propose sweeping new penalties and restrictions for sex offenders, including a requirement that paroled sex offenders wear satellite-tracking devices for life.

The governor wants to prohibit registered sex offenders from living near parks and schools. He also seeks to increase penalties for possession of child pornography, date rape and using the Internet to lure minors for sex acts.

If enacted, the legislation would give California some of the toughest laws in the nation for released sex offenders, its supporters said. Lawmakers in Florida recently adopted a similar lifetime monitoring requirement.

Assemblyman Mark Leno, who chairs the public safety committee, said he had not had a chance to read the legislation but said placing all registered sex offenders under satellite surveillance for life would be enormously expensive. He estimated the governor’s total package of proposed changes could cost as much as \$500 million a year, a price he said included the satellite surveillance, additional jail time for some offenders and longer parole terms.

The Legislature’s annual session ends soon, giving lawmakers little time to consider such a hefty bill, said Leno. “I don’t know how we digest a 52-page bill and give it the appropriate attention when we have as many things going on as we do.”

He also was concerned with placing limits on where registered sex offenders can live. Leno said he knew of someone who violated sex laws more than 30 years ago but

who was never again in legal trouble. Nevertheless, that person could lose his apartment under the proposed ban on living near schools and parks, Leno said.

“Is this good public policy?” he said. “I think not.”

Schwarzenegger said he did not know the potential cost of imposing lifelong monitoring of sex offenders but said it would be worth the expense.

Supporters of Schwarzenegger’s proposals decided to put all the changes into one bill and give the Legislature another chance. The issue will go to the ballot if they are unsuccessful this year, he said.

“We think the people of California deserve this,” state Sen. George Runner said. “Our thought was to give the Democrats one more shot and, if not, we’ve got it as an initiative.”

The legislation, formally titled the Sexual Predator Punishment and Control Act, is amended into Senate Bill 588 and Assembly Bill 231. (Both are about 52 pages long, but we advise you to read them and write to the California State Assembly & Senate with your concerns.)

So what can we do to combat this? First and foremost, we must not cede language to the other side. Challenge words like “predator”, “monster”, “rapist”, etc. wherever you come across them. Write letters every time you see or hear such words used and point out that it is part of a campaign to create an out-group so despised and feared that people will willingly go along with anything just to keep themselves safe from it. Remind them that we are just as human as everyone else and that our needs and desires are just as valid. Remind them of what has happened every time a state-sanctioned out-group has been created. Point out how many other — far more real — problems could

be addressed with the excesses of money and attention being paid to a problem the government admits (albeit, quietly, so as not to confuse people with the truth) has significantly declined. ▼



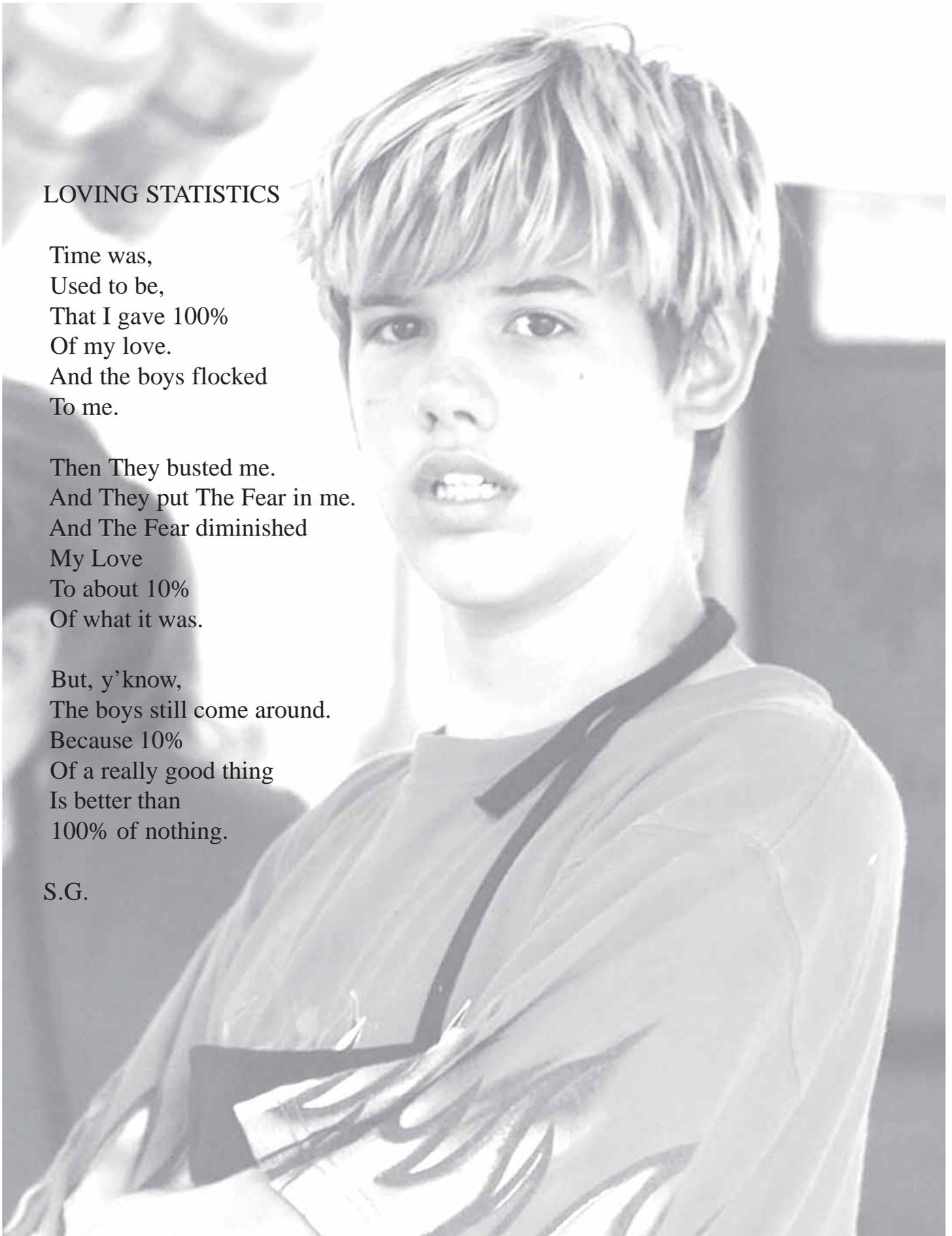
LOVING STATISTICS

Time was,
Used to be,
That I gave 100%
Of my love.
And the boys flocked
To me.

Then They busted me.
And They put The Fear in me.
And The Fear diminished
My Love
To about 10%
Of what it was.

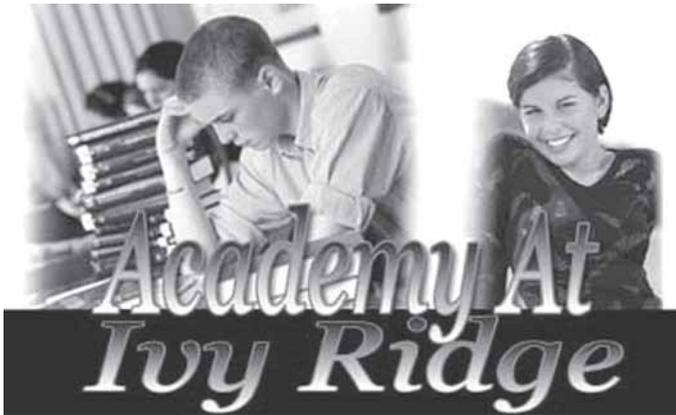
But, y'know,
The boys still come around.
Because 10%
Of a really good thing
Is better than
100% of nothing.

S.G.



Gulags For Teens?

In New York state, the Academy at Ivy Ridge, an institution that practices so-called “behavior modification” techniques on teenagers, had its accreditation suspended following a state attorney general’s office inquiry into its business practices.



According to David G. Steadman, executive director of the Northwest Association of Accredited Schools, “We sent them a cease and desist letter. It means they’re not supposed to say they’re accredited until their legal issues are solved.”

Jason G. Finlinson, director of Ivy Ridge, said its accreditation was “under review” but he refused to go into detail.

The Boise, Idaho-based Northwest Association conferred candidate membership on Ivy Ridge in 2002, the first year the boarding school on Route 37 just outside of Ogdensburg was open. Candidate members must complete a self-evaluation within three years of their application date that shows they are in “substantial compliance” with the association’s standards.

Ivy Ridge had maintained its accreditation as a result of visits to the campus by two teams from the association, but it sent Ivy Ridge the cease and desist letter after a telephone inquiry from the Watertown regional office of the state attorney general’s office led the association to believe the school does not have the state licenses required by the organization, Mr. Steadman said.

State agencies, including the attorney general’s office and the Office of Children and Family Services, in February began looking into Ivy Ridge, including allegations of physical abuse of students.

The association accredited Ivy Ridge because of its affiliation with the World Wide Association of Specialty Programs and Schools. However, WWASPS President

Kenneth E. Kay said Ivy Ridge does not belong to his organization; it just receives programming and support.

WWASPS runs camps across remote parts of the United States, Central America and the Caribbean, whose purpose is to “reform” defiant teenagers. While at the camps, students are monitored 24 hours a day, are not allowed to speak or move without permission and are subject to a rigid disciplinary system. Punishment includes being forced to lie on the ground for long periods without moving or speaking, being sprayed in the face with pepper spray, or having your arms and limbs twisted into unnatural positions - the idea being to cause extreme pain without leaving marks. Students have been beaten, put in dog cages and starved. Teenagers who cooperate with the program rise in a complex system of internal ranks, eventually becoming enforcers against new students. In so-called “group therapy” sessions, students are punished if they do not hurl abuse at one another, reveal personal information and proclaim their salvation by the program.

Despite the action taken against Ivy Ridge, Northwest Association does not plan to reassess the accreditation of WWASPS’s other facilities, in Montana, South Carolina, Utah and Jamaica. WWASPS-associated schools in Mexico, Costa Rica and the Czech Republic reportedly were closed by their respective governments because of allegations of physical abuse, a claim Mr. Kay denies.

As Michal Zapendowski wrote in the *Brown Daily Herald*: “These camps are not an aberration in a culture that fetishizes law and order above individual liberty, is unreasonably terrified of rebellion, drug use and teenage sexuality and is absolutely unwilling to believe that giving unrestrained power to fanatical conservatives could result in genuine atrocities. Both Republicans and Democrats are aware of these camps, but with the exception of Congressman George Miller of California, none of them have tried to do anything about it. It’s taboo to question the absolute rights of parents in this society.”

But, believe it or not, the kids who went to Ivy Ridge may have been the lucky ones – at least there nobody died.

A Deadly Enterprise

In November, Roberto Reyes of Santa Rosa, CA died of a spider or insect bite, less than a week after enrolling at the Thayer Learning Center Boot Camp and Boarding School, about 60 miles north of Kansas City, MO.

A lawsuit, filed by the dead boy’s parents, contends the boot camp failed to treat the bite quickly enough, resulting in the teen’s death. The lawsuit also claims the boy was dragged, beaten, placed in solitary confinement and “forced to lay in his own excrement for extended periods of time.”

A division of the Missouri Department of Social Services is conducting an investigation. A panel of state and county officials said in December that “earlier medical treatment” would have prevented Reyes’ death.

The boot camp, which has about 100 teenagers enrolled, employs no medical staff but contracts with a physician.

In April, a 13-year-old boy died after being restrained at a state-run camp for troubled youngsters in Georgia. He had told counselors he needed his asthma inhaler about an hour before he stopped breathing, records show.

Travis Parker was restrained at the Appalachian Wilderness Camp for roughly 90 minutes on April 20 by counselors who said he was acting belligerently. The boy had angrily confronted one of the counselors for withholding food from him as punishment.

During the first 10 or 15 minutes he asked for his inhaler, but counselors did not give it to him because a certified emergency medical technician saw no indications that he was having an asthma attack and because the boy had a history of asking for his inhaler when he was being restrained, said the report from the state Department of Human Resources, which runs the camp.

It said Parker went limp and some of the children who witnessed the incident told investigators that counselors commented “He is playing the dead fish game, he’s faking.” He died the next day at a hospital. A medical examiner ruled the death a homicide.

Dr. Amy Hirsh, of the Peachtree Allergy and Asthma Clinic in Atlanta, would not comment on the incident, but said a child should never be denied an emergency inhaler.

“Untrained medical professionals should not make a judgment call on whether a patient needs his or her rescue inhaler or not. If a child asks for a rescue inhaler, they should be given it immediately without questioning,” she said.

A White County grand jury handed up the charges of felony murder, child cruelty and involuntary manslaughter on six of the counselors: Matthew Desing, Ryan Chapman, Paul Binford, Torbin Vining, Johnny Harris and Phillip Elliott. All six had resigned or been fired after the boy’s death.

“This is all based on the criminal negligence or reckless conduct of these individuals,” said White County District Attorney Stan Gunter. “It was due to the restraint, and how they applied it, that has led to these charges.”

An attorney for one of the counselors said they restrained the boy as they had been taught. But Gwen Skinner, an official at the Georgia Department of Human Resources, which oversees the camp, said the counselors were not following agency rules or procedures.



“We do not train staff to do face-down restraints,” she said.

In May, the director of a boot camp for troubled youths in Arizona was sentenced to six years in prison for the death of a 14-year-old camper who collapsed in triple-digit desert heat.

Charles Long, a former Marine, could have been sentenced to up to 27 years for the reckless manslaughter conviction and an unrelated aggravated assault conviction for threatening another youth with a knife.

In 2001, Anthony Haynes’ mother sent him to the desert camp after he was caught shoplifting and slashed the tires on her vehicle. The teen died of complications from dehydration after collapsing at the camp, where the regimen included wearing black uniforms in triple-digit heat and harsh discipline.

Camp supervisors put Haynes in a bathtub at a motel to cool him down and later found him face down in the water. Long allegedly told supervisors to bring the teen back to the camp even though he was unresponsive.



God Hates Kids?

And then there’s the story of Zach Stark. Zach was a 16-year-old boy in Bartlett, TN who came out to his parents. He blogged about how they reacted:

Well today, my mother, father, and I had a very long “talk” in my room where they let me know I am to apply for a fundamentalist christian program for gays. They tell me that there is something psychologically wrong with me, and they “raised me wrong.” I’m a big screw up to them, who isn’t on the path God wants me to be on. So I’m sitting here in tears, joining the rest of those kids who complain about their parents on blogs — and I can’t help it.

I wish I had never told them. I wish I just fought the urge two more years... I had done it for three before then, right? If I could take it all back.. I would, to where I never told my parents things and they always were mad at me — It’s better than them crying and depressed cause they will have no grandchildren from me. It’s better than them telling me that there’s something

Some of the rules at LIA:

- *Kids in the program are not allowed to speak to anyone, not even their parents, for at least the first two days.*
- *Kids are not allowed to go anywhere unless they are accompanied by at least two other participants, one of which has to have at least 8 weeks of prior indoctrination.*
- *Kids are not allowed to keep a journal or a diary*
- *Kids are not allowed to discuss what goes on in the program with anyone, not even their parents*
- *Kids are not allowed to have contact with any family members other than parents, who also go through the program*
- *Kids are not allowed to have any physical contact with any human being other than a hand shake or a pat on the shoulder, and only when authorized.*
- *Kids are not allowed outside of a small geographic area within Memphis, even if accompanied by parents, without prior written authorization*
- *Kids are not allowed to listen to any music that is not explicitly Christian (Bach and Beethoven are specifically forbidden as being non-Christian)*
- *Kids are not permitted to enter restaurants that serve alcohol*
- *Kids are not allowed to speak after 9:00 p.m. under any circumstance*
- *Kids may be placed in a state of isolation where they are not allowed to communicate with one another*

wrong with me. It's better than them explaining to me that they "raised me wrong.

He did indeed get shipped off to 'camp,' but managed to get a blog entry out somehow:

I haven't been on a computer, phone, nor have I seen any friends in a week almost — Soon. Soon, this will be all over. My mother has said the worst things to me for three days straight... three days. I went numb. That's the only way I can get through this. I agree, if you're thinking that these posts might be dramatized.. but the proof of the programs ideas are sitting in the rules. I pray this blows over. I can't take this... noone can... not really, this kind of thing tears you apart emotionally. To introduce THIS subject...

I'm not a suicidal person... really I'm not.. I think it's stupid - really. But.. I can't help it, no im not going to commit suicide, all I can think about is killing my mother and myself. It's so horrible. This is what it's doing to me... I have this horrible feeling all of the time... I wish this on no person..

So, for about two weeks, Zach was trapped by an organization run by Rev. John Smid, who has said: "I would rather you commit suicide than have you leave Love In Action wanting to return to the gay lifestyle. In a physical death you could still have a spiritual resurrection; whereas, returning to homosexuality you are yielding yourself to a spiritual death from which there is no recovery."

Subsequent to Zach's two posts, the state of Tennessee conducted an investigation in response to allegations of child abuse at Love in Action, the Memphis facility to which he was sent that advertises homosexual conversion therapy for adolescents, according to the state department of health.

Love in Action is not licensed by the Tennessee Departments of Health, Mental Health, Human Services, Child Services or Education, according to Rachel Lassiter of Gov. Phil Bredesen's communications office.

"Emotional abuse is difficult to prove in the state of Tennessee," said Pamela Dickey, director of the advocacy center for Childhelp USA in Knoxville. "You have to document that the child is undergoing depression or suicidal ideation, that he can't sleep, or can't eat."

At the conclusion of the investigation, the Tennessee Department of Health notified the unlicensed group that it appeared to be functioning illegally and could potentially be referred to the county district attorney for prosecution.

According to a report in the Memphis Commercial Appeal, John Smid said that Love in Action would change its program to remain unregulated by the state, but that the state had not yet been told how the program plans to come into compliance with the law.

Officials from Love in Action appealed for "tolerance" of their program at a June news conference.

"It is our spiritual conviction that sexual behavior outside of heterosexual marriage is considered wrong in the sight of



God,” said John Smid, the program’s director, who describes himself as “ex-gay,” according to a partial transcript of the news conference.

“This program is operated on the will of the guardian or parent. We will work with the minor children as long as they are not overtly distracting to their own program or the program of others,” Smid added. “If it is shown that the client is overtly treatment resistant, we will work with the parent towards alternative options for their care and overall relational health.”

According to Joseph Stark, Zach’s father, “We felt good about Zach coming here — to let him see for himself the destructive lifestyle, what he has to face in the future, and to give him some options that society doesn’t give him today,” Stark said.

“Until he turns 18 and he’s an adult in the state of Tennessee, I’m responsible for him, and I’m going to see to it that he has all options available to him.”

Paul Chimubulo, a Los Angeles-based psychologist took issue with the father’s statement: “It appears that both Mr. Stark and the LIA director’s public comments are highly defensive and indicate that their concern is less for the child’s well-being and more for their own purposes.”

“The sort of homophobia they espouse has been shown to be rooted in anxiety and a feeling of threat - the gay child’s expressions are recognized and interpreted as injurious to the parent’s sense of self. With the publicity this has gathered, the father’s internal anxiety and feelings of threat over his son’s gay identity must really be ratcheted up.”

It is not yet known what effect the Love in Action experience has had on Zach, who initially blogged that his parents’ reaction to his coming out was driving him to suicidal thoughts. After his release, Zach first stated he was trying to come to terms with everything that had happened and then reported that his father had told him to quit blogging — then his site went down. ▼

Holiday Season Cards Appeal

From its inception NAMBLA has supported imprisoned boy-lovers. We have done this primarily because this is the humane thing to do. By our action, we also tell the world we do not accept the stigma a misguided society has forced on us.

The holiday season is approaching. This is the time imprisoned individuals feel the most abandoned. For most boy-lovers, even their closest relatives have shunned them. They never write or visit and fail to even send a perfunctory card.

Our volunteers have taken on this simple courtesy and have sometimes developed rewarding correspondences. If you are willing to send a minimum of 12 cards, please write to Peter Herman, 341 Lafayette St. #175, New York NY 10012. Do so even if you have volunteered before. In late November or early December he will send you a list of guidelines and a corresponding number of labels. He however cannot accommodate special requests such as geographical or personality preferences.

If for whatever reason you cannot volunteer (and even if you can), an extra monetary contribution to support our program will be deeply appreciated.



BOYS IN THE MEDIA

by Nat M. Black



Timmy Deters & Brandon Craggs in *Bad News Bears*

MOVIES: From a professional review of “Bad News Bears”: “The team exists thanks only to a lawsuit that forced the school’s hand, a delicious irony before the deluge of unspeakable un-politically correct dialogue ... The child actors are uneven. I was charmed by Timmy Deters as a thuggish blonde mop-top Tanner. Brandon Craggs, 13, as Engelbert, shows comic slant”..... Jamie (Billy Elliot) Bell plays a white trash backwoods teen in “Undertow”. Devon Alan plays his younger brother ... “Dear Frankie” is now on DVD. Also the first season of TV’s “The Nanny” ... The plot for “Sharkboy and Lavagirl 3D” was concocted by the 7 year old son of the producer ... I didn’t see “Rebound” which got lousy reviews. Another outcast coach who grows up; the kids are types.



Ben Salisbury in *The Nanny*

NOSTALGIA: Mac Culkin turned 25 ... E! TV showed “Child Stars Gone Bad”. They covered the usual suspects, Mac, Coreys Haim and Feldman, Adam Rich, Willie Aames. Little on Todd Bridges. Gary Coleman avoided interview by flopping on the car’s windshield ... Rick Schroder plays a doctor on TV’s “Strong



Eight is Enough's
Adam Rich & Willie Aames

Medicine,” Sunday nights at 9:00 ... Aaron Carter, 17, rumored to be the object of a struggle between Lindsay Lohan and Hilary Duff, ran offstage at his Orlando concert when a girl threw a used Kotex at him.

TV: “Two and a Half Men”’s story lines for Jake will evolve to reflect his budding adolescence. The show will move to the Monday 9 PM slot. Angus T.

Jones, 11, said playing Jake is easy because the character is much like him. Jones is obsessed with PlayStation2.



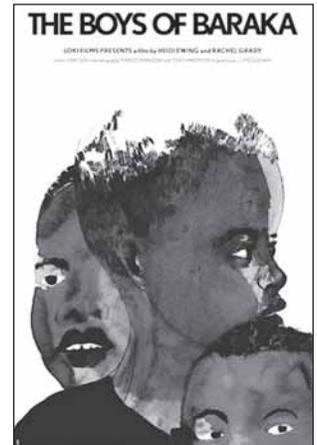
Angus T. Jones



Barney Clark

COMING MOVIES: Sept. 23, a new “Oliver Twist” with Barney Clark; Sept. 30, “Little Manhattan”, a love story of 11 or 12 year olds, from the director of “Wonder Years”; Oct. 14, “Innocent

Voices,” a 12 enlists in the Army in 1980’s Salvador; Nov. 11, “Zathura,” sort of a sequel to “Jumanji” but with 2 boys; Nov. 18, the fourth Harry Potter; Nov. 23, remake of “Yours, Mine and Ours.” The wife is no longer a navy nurse but a hippie artist. One of the kids is Lil’ JJ, 14, a black comedian. Sounds like the remake of “Cheaper by the Dozen;” Nov. 30, “Boys of Baraka,” some 12’s from Baltimore go to a boarding school in Kenya; Dec. 21, “Cheaper by the Dozen 2” (say it ain’t so!). ▼



Yours, Mine and Ours



Aaron Carter



Lil' J.J.



Undertow



Scenes from *Innocent Voices*

