



The official newsletter of Parents & Friends of Ex-Gays and Gays

May 2009



Parent Talk

Compassionate or Enabling?

There are numerous viewpoints about how we as family and friends should respond when discovering someone we love is homosexual:

- We can profess our unconditional love but set boundaries.
- We can ask that our loved one seek alternatives to homosexuality through therapeutic help or ex-gay organizations.

There's fact based research available that proves no one is born gay, homosexuality is not innate and change is possible. For families there are support groups like PFOX, conferences we can attend, and numerous books to read that educate and offer some answers about root causes that may have led someone to develop same sex attractions.

In spite of all the resources available, our families struggle to find some type of normalcy so we can function as an intact family. As time goes on we're able to let go of the hold, the feelings and concerns about our homosexual loved one have on our daily lives, and enjoy life and family once again.

It is important to have a responsible healthy parent-child relationship. To accomplish this we must speak the truth in love, not compromising our beliefs or

we risk becoming an enabler.

While our children may not be activists, they are impacted by the false information and behavior of gay activists. As concerned family and friends we must not confuse showing compassion to the

homosexual community with failing to hold gay activists accountable for violating our parental and religious rights and the rights of the ex-gay community.



Recently gay activists disrupted church services, ex-gay conferences and programs. There were verbal attacks and threats against ex-gays who shared their testimony with elected officials. (Check out Greg Quinlan's speech on page 3.) PFOX continues to experience hostility and is a target of gay activists because we are prepared to use the legal system when necessary to gain equal access to our public schools.

Can you imagine attending church services, a conference or an ex-gay retreat and have gay activists show up and disrupt the program, frightening attendees? Failure to prosecute illegal and hateful behavior is not compassionate – it's enabling and encourages the perpetrator to continue the behavior, which often becomes more extreme.

I think it's important for us to recognize and hold all people accountable for illegal acts no matter what side of the issue they're on. When we fail to hold people accountable, we are in fact enabling them and supporting bad behavior. We are sending a mixed signal to the perpetrators.

I have made decisions when PFOX came under attack. It was not easy, but we can either be victims or protect ourselves, the ex-gay community and children. Allowing intimidation and frightening behavior to go unchecked does not gain respect nor equality.

On a lighter note, happy belated Mothers Day. I hope you'll enjoy the copy of Ann Landers "Prayer For Parents" on page 2. It appeared in the Richmond News Leader on Nov.13, 1976. My mother-in-law saved this article along with other wonderful pieces in her Bible. I hope you'll enjoy it. Times have certainly changed since this piece was published but a mother's love has not.

Blessings
Regina

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The Prayer for Parents

O God, make me a better parent. Help me to understand my children, to listen patiently to what they have to say and to respond to their questions kindly. Keep me from interrupting and contradicting them. Make me as courteous to them as I would have them be to me. Give me the courage to confess my sins against my children and ask them for forgiveness when I know I have done wrong.

May I not vainly hurt the feelings of my children. Forbid that I should laugh at their mistakes, or resort to shame and ridicule as punishment. Let me not tempt a child to lie or steal. Guide me hour by hour that I may demonstrate by all I say and do that honesty produces happiness.

Reduce, I pray, the meanness in me. May I cease to nag, and when I am out of sorts, help me, O Lord, to hold my tongue. Blind me to the little errors of my children and help me to see the good things they do. Give me a ready word for

honest praise.

Help me treat my children as those of their own age. Let me not expect from them the judgment of adults. Allow me not rob them of the opportunity to wait upon themselves, to think, to choose, and to make their own decisions.

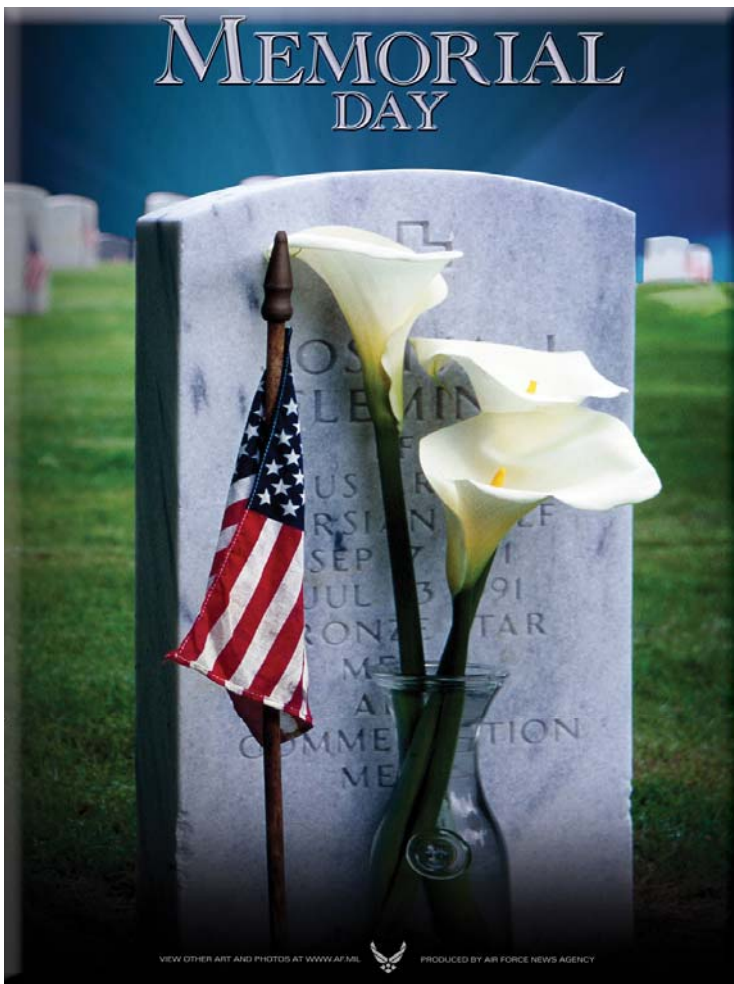
Forbid that I should ever punish them for my selfish satisfaction. May I grant them their wishes that are reasonable and have the courage always to withhold a privilege which I know will do them harm.

Make me so fair and just, so considerate and companionable that they will have a genuine esteem for me. Fit me to be loved and imitated by my children. O God, do give me calm and poise and self-control.

Ann Landers Column. Printed in Richmond News Leader, November 13, 1976.



Ann Landers



Remembering Our Heroes

Heroism is latent in every human soul - However humble or unknown, they (the veterans) have renounced what are accounted pleasures and cheerfully undertaken all the self-denials - privations, toils, dangers, sufferings, sicknesses, mutilations, life-long hurts and losses, death itself - for some great good, dimly seen but dearly held.

~Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain

PepsiCo held accountable for corporate donations

Congratulations to Greg Quinlan, who ably represented PFOX before the PepsiCo shareholders' meeting the morning of Thursday, May 7, in Plano, Texas.

Greg read a speech before the PepsiCo board of directors, criticizing them for being the leading corporate sponsor of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) and urging the PepsiCo stockholders to vote on a resolution requiring PepsiCo to divulge greater details about their donations to dubious charities. PFOX needed a 3 percent approval vote in order to bring the resolution back for next year's proxy, and the vote was 5 percent approval!

Many thanks to American Family Association (AFA) for helping us get the word out to PepsiCo bottlers, who own their company's stock and share our goals.

Pepsi shareholders asked to stop funding hate

PLANO, TEXAS – MAY 7, 2009/ Speaking at the PepsiCo annual shareholders meeting yesterday, Greg Quinlan of Parents and Friends of Ex-Gays & Gays (PFOX) asked PepsiCo to stop using shareholder profits to fund anti-heterosexual groups. Citing his experience as a former homosexual, Quinlan cited PepsiCo's donation of over a million dollars to controversial gay activist groups that support genderless marriage and oppose equal rights for ex-gays.

PepsiCo produces Frito-Lay snacks, Pepsi-Cola and Gatorade drinks, Tropicana juices, and Quaker foods. In his speech, Quinlan asked PepsiCo stockholders to stop donating money to groups that aim to discredit the ex-gay community. Quinlan's speech, below, can also be heard online at <http://pfox.org/Pepsi-speech.mp3>.

Last year PepsiCo gave away half a million dollars to PFLAG, Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. PFLAG is a gay organization that supports tolerance for gays but does not believe in tolerance

for ex-gays and other heterosexuals. When Republican Vice Presidential nominee Sarah Palin's church sponsored an ex-gay conference last year, PFLAG issued press releases against Sarah Palin and organized protests at her church. This same church was later anonymously vandalized by fire, reminiscent of the burning of black churches in the South during the civil rights movement. Churches should welcome former homosexuals like me and PepsiCo should not fund organizations like PFLAG that do not welcome diversity, but promote hatred.

I have been shouted and heckled by

spreads lies about ex-gay organizations. Diversity does not and should not mean funding one organization so that it can attack another.

PFLAG also funded support for the gay marriage political battles across the country last year. But the American people voted for traditional marriage and against gay marriage in every state where an initiative was held. In fact, 30 states, 3/5 of the United States supports marriage as one man and one woman. So why is PepsiCo involved in funding an organization like PFLAG that supports genderless marriage when the majority of the American people do not? This could hurt Pepsi's image and stock value.

In fact, it already has. Currently, there is a boycott of PepsiCo by AFA the American Family Association. AFA is a grassroots organization of concerned families across the country that successfully boycotted Ford Motor products for donating money to gay activist organizations. Now they're boycotting Pepsi products because they claim PepsiCo is funding the gay agenda, including same sex-marriage. Their boycott petition already has over 300,000 signatures by concerned Americans who are boycotting all PepsiCo brands. You can see the signature for yourself at www.boycottpepsico.com AFA has over a million members nationwide. AFA works closely

with 10,000 religious organizations and denominations in the United States, representing nearly 30 million American consumers.

The PepsiCo Board of Directors approved a \$13 million total compensation package for the CEO, Indra Nooyi, in addition to her free personal use of the PepsiCo company plane, and a car and chauffeur for commuting. If PepsiCo can afford that, then it can afford to issue a report revealing to you, the shareholders, how your money is being spent on dubious charities that support genderless marriage and hate against ex-gays like me.



PFLAG members because I am out and open in society as a former homosexual. Why does PepsiCo fund groups like PFLAG that hate people who are different from them? This is not tolerance; this is not inclusion by any definition.

PFLAG publishes anti-ex-gay literature and opposes ex-gay inclusion although they advocate for gay rights – they just don't believe others should have the same equal rights. PFLAG contributes to the intolerance of the ex-gay community and stereotypes former homosexuals like me. By funding PFLAG, PepsiCo promotes fear and hostility against the ex-gay community and our supporters, and

Upcoming Conferences

A Wife's Healing Journey by People Can Change will be held Friday through Sunday, June 5-7 near Houston, Texas. This conference is for wives of men working to overcome unwanted same sex attractions. For more information, check online at www.peoplecanchange.com.

Love Won out will be Saturday, June 13, at the Sunshine Community Church in Grand Rapids, Mich. It is for family and friends whose lives have been impacted by homosexuality and those

seeking to overcome unwanted same sex attractions. For more information, check online at www.lovewonout.org.

Healing a Mother's Heart, for moms who have a daughter with same-sex attraction, will be held Friday through Saturday, June 19-21, in Denver, Colo. For more information, check online at www.janellhallman.com.

For all the latest in upcoming conferences, check out our opening page at www.pfox.org

Current address

Please note our address is now reach us at: PFOX, PO Box 510, Reedville VA 22539. You can also reach us by telephone at 804-453-4737. Thank you.

Family and Friends Prayer List

Mary Beth, Tom, Sean, Stan, Christopher, Lucas, Beth, Elaine, Joshua, Benjamin, Hampton, Cheryl, Stacy, Carol, Mattie, Nicole, David, Bob, Rose, Steve, Ronald, James, Madeline, Jesus, Rick, Gary, April, Maureen, Jen, Michael, Eric, Allen, Sara,

Damon, Sam, Matthew, Deborah, Corey, James, Jeffery, Melanie, Stan, Brooke, Lisa, Emily, Tyler, Jim, Chad, Brett, Charles, Brian, Jerome, Pamela, Kelly, Tim, Roger, Gaetano, Christian, Judy, Michael, Monte, Gary, Karen, Hillary, Stephan, Brooke, Terri, Elise, Joseph, Vickie, Tricia, Paul,

Tobby, Sandy, Brian, Larry, Alan, Christian Tom, Delores, Mark, Tara, Angela, Jessica, Dawn, Alicia, Jason, Frank, Paul, Edward, Maria, Mario, Michelle, Connor, Angela, Carl Jr., Marcus, Brandon, Gaylon,

Edmond, Kesha, Shannon, Paige, Melissa, Donny, William, Wendall, Leno, Mandy, Andy, E., Erik, Lauren, Chris, Todd, Jayson, Carl III, Steve, Zachary, Kelly, Toby, Cody, Dylan, Wayne, Tom, Jeff, Walt, Cayce, Tim,

David, Charles, Edward, Matt, Marc, Heather, Gary, Bill, John, Jeremy, Jen R, Cindy, Karen, Brian, Shellie, Pattie, Emily, Carrie, Alicia, Michelle, Bruce, Rebecca, Suhmin, Phil, Bryce,

Ethan, Doug, Tom, Nick, Harold, Kent, Glenn, Rob and Heath, Angela, Julia, Wess, Christine, Catherine, Jeremy, Katie, David, Troy, Mike, Lisa, Bruce, James, Mary, Samantha, Victoria and Buddy, Christopher A., Jeramie C., Adam C., Christopher K., Perry N., Eric, Missy, Nathan, Michelle, Joe and Idario.

Facts, Not Fiction

PFOX supports the rights of all students to enjoy a safe and bully-free environment in our nation's schools. Thus PFOX developed a Bully Brochure for use in schools. Take the time to review our Bully brochure and ask your school to add it to their resources. Check it out at www.pfox.org by clicking on the brochure.

Government statistics reveal trends in school crime

The latest statistics from the Bureau of Justice Statistics (4/09), available at <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2009/2009022.pdf>, presents the most recent data available on school crime and student safety. In the 2006-07 school years, an estimated 55.5 million students were enrolled in pre-kindergarten through grade 12.

- Between 2001 and 2007, the percentage of students who reported being the target of a hate-related word decreased from 12 to 10 percent.
- With regard to the specific characteristic to which the hate-related word was directed, in 2007,
 - 5 percent of students reported hate-related words concerning race
 - 3 percent reported words related to their ethnicity,
 - 2 percent each reported words concerning their religion or gender, and
 - 1 percent each reported words related to their disability or sexual orientation (figure 10.2 and table 10.2 in the).

Hate-related refers to derogatory terms used by others in reference to students' personal characteristics.



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