

Queer Beans

A Zine for Youth, by Youth.

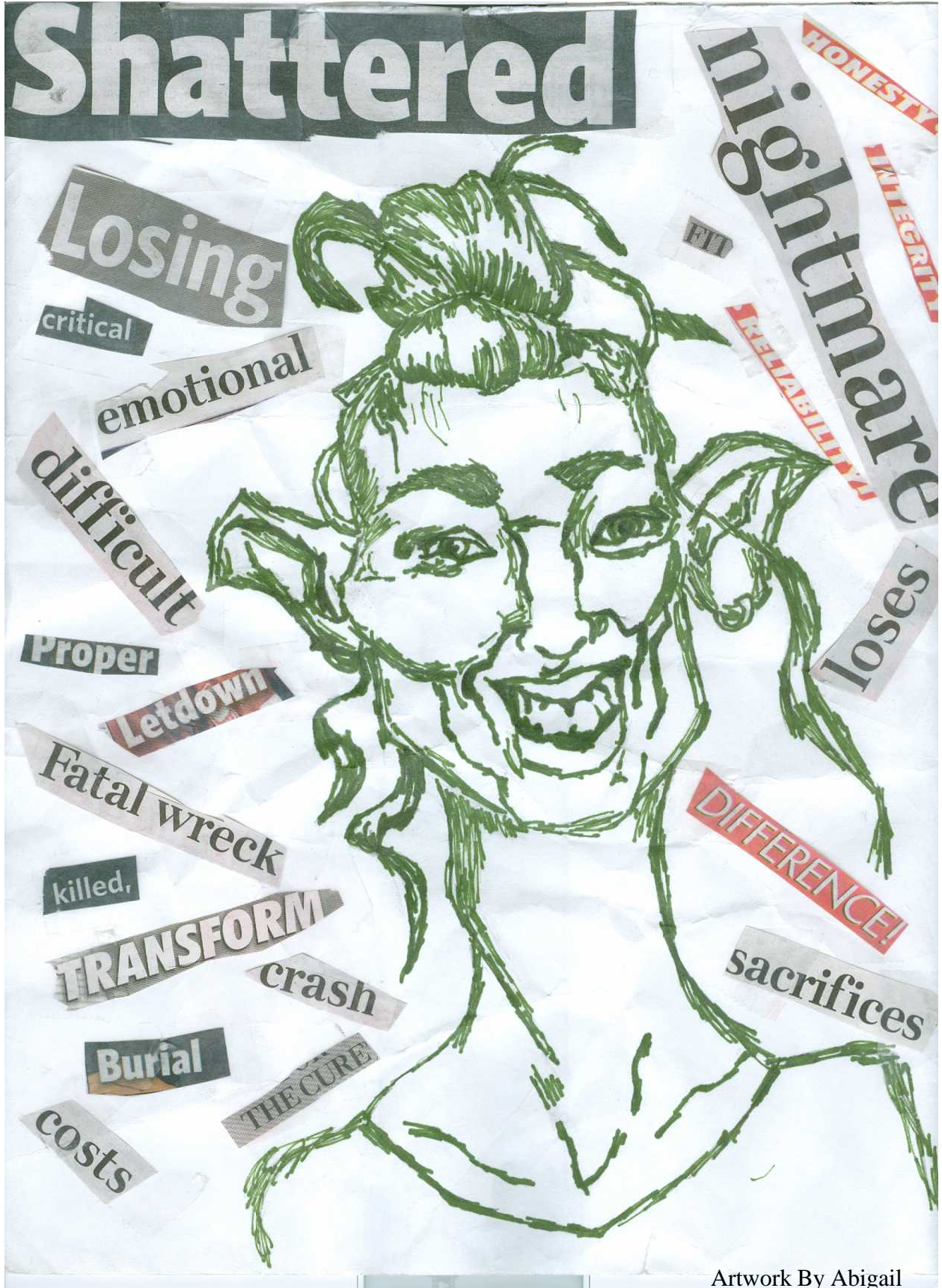


Artwork Created by Nelson

Pride for Youth
www.prideforyouth.org



Artwork By Abigail



Artwork By Abigail

What is the Point

By Abby

To everyone: I ask you all what is the point? It is not good to make assumptions.

What is the point of conflict? What is the point of being nice? What is the point of having an opinion? What is the point in being set to private? And finally, can anybody honestly trust most people?

People have an urge to be accepted/ to be liked. People have an urge to always be right and can't stand being wrong or attacked. People have hardly any restraint. No one is an exception to that, including myself. However, some people can be worse than others.

Why should I partake in a fight with someone who already has their mind made up about me? Why should I dissuade that person from their view of me, or their thought, when there is no changing their mind? Isn't it just easier to tell a person what they want to hear?

It makes them leave you alone. It makes them think of something else.

Why should I add a person who is only requesting me to look at my profile, and to find some reason to harass me? Why shouldn't I add them?

It is amusing to hear what they think, and to be harassed when they don't know the whole story, yet it is pathetic at the same time that someone would just be nice to a person in order to attack them hey it's life... Or they could really be nice people but you never know.

Why should I talk to a person who was a friend but can't admit to being wrong or not sure? Why shouldn't I talk to that friend if they are right on other matters?

It can be hurtful to hear a view or annoying but

it is never over until you admit they are right, yet what is the point of saying, "you're wrong" if they are great with other matters.

Why should I bother caring about anything at all? Why should I accept what people say? Why should I not accept it?

It is easy not to care I feel that way all the time, not caring. There really is no point. It wastes time and shows weakness. I care what I think but no one else. But why should others care what I think or "put me in my place," tell me I am something I am not. Why shouldn't I go up and tell them they're wrong. If I was to do that, would they care? No. Yet if I said something or someone else did would they expect me to care and change it, would they be hurt? yes.

What is the point of talking, or trying, or conversing at all?

People twist words, they exaggerate, they miss points, and they get upset. They are not listening; they treat you no different, if anything they treat you worse. They don't care... at the same time they care too much

Why should I delude myself with a false emotion or try to be nice when all they have done is speak ill of me? Tell me... how is that fair?

You delude yourself because conflict among other things doesn't cease without it. You pretend to be happy, you pretend to be upset, you pretend to be angry, you pretend to agree... You pretend to like them and feel for them so that u can make yourself feel like you're better for once... it is never fair. That is just how things are... The people who suffer the most usually deserve it the least, there is no happy ending. That is how things are and will always be...



What Jarule thinks about homosexuality in America!

By Twelvette



Since when is 2 men or women dating on a dating show anti-children TV? This is the question I am posing to actor/artist JaRule. In this weeks issue of Go Nyc Magazine Ja Rule was quoted as telling a reporter from Complex Magazine that MTV and Viacom need to be "stepped to" in reference to all of the gay content on their shows.

His exact words were, "We need to go step to MTV and Viacom, and lets talk about all these fucking shows that they have on MTV that is promoting homosexuality, that my kids can't watch this shit. Dating shows that are showing two guys or two girls in mid-afternoon. Let's talk about shit like that! If that's not fucking up America, I don't know what is."

Now is this the same man that has sexually explicit lyrics in some of his songs, and is this the same man that plays "gun wielding, gangster" parts in most of the movies he has been in? Is he not worried about his children seeing him play these parts or dance up on half naked females... why isn't he questioning his own producers about that? Is it OK for children to watch explicit videos just as long as they are heterosexually oriented? These are the questions we can pose to JaRule in a rebuttal!

Since these responses only came from him due to the fact that he was questioned about his explicit, violent lyrics... it just seems like he is trying to push blame off of himself and being responsible for his lyrics onto something else which has nothing to do with him!

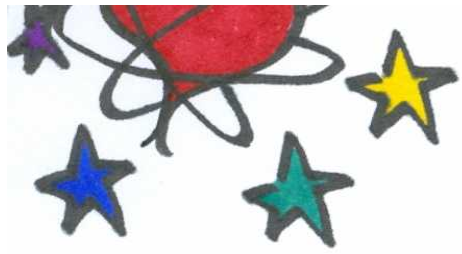
Beside if you want to control what your children watch then use the buttons on your remote labeled "parental control" and just block the channel/or program! Technology has come very far!

"Top Chef" attacked and robbed on Labor Day

By twelvette

Out former "top chef" Jossie smith got attacked and robbed on Labor Day weekend by a mob screaming anti-gay slurs outside a Nassau county bar. Jossie smith a contestant on top chef 32 years old says that the attackers spit on her punched her and stole her \$800 camcorder. When she and 6 other friends were at a sea side bar in Sea cliff N.Y. after a BBQ she and another female, durwood 30 were dancing together in the bar and was asked to leave and when jossie and durwood's sister began to leave they were meet by a group of about 12 people 3 of which were women that began to spit on them and call them dykes and bush munchers. Smith says that the bar employees never even tried to stop them they just came out and watched. After about 15 minutes the group just stopped and scatted. Smith said she thinks it because an older couple called the police. Jossie was left with bruises all over her body a lump in the back of her head and hearing loss. Smith said that the police didn't show any indication that they were trying to catch the attackers so after 3 days of not hearing anything from the police jossie contacted attorney Yetta G Kurland who said that gang assault is a class c felony and if prosecuted as a hate crime a class b felony and can carry a 5-25 yr sentence and we will find them says kurlnd.





Why fight when
we can unite?



HUMAN



Forever and Always

By Nigel

When I look into your eyes I see nothing but the loving tenderness and care that comes from you and only you.

When I kiss your lips I feel the love surge through my body and I never want it to go away.

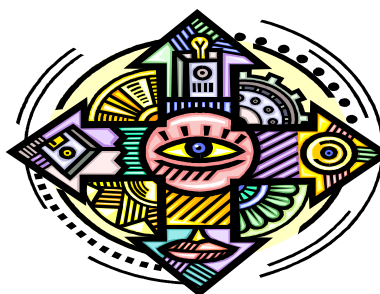
When I hold your hand I sense a passion inside you that is made for me and only me.

When you hold me close, I close my eyes and wish that the moment would never end.

I know that all those things you do for me have a hidden meaning and I know that they are made just for me and only me.

I know you are the only one for me and I and the only one for you.

For forever and always I will be with you.



Cocks

By: Dean Kaufman

There is a cock on my wa
motioning for my attention
both hands move around it
spinning in a sort of taunting way
as I seep in a wonderous dream
I wait for the cock on my wa to erupt in an uproarious
awakening of

Happiness, excitement, stress.

Without a cock on my wa
I could not get through a day.

I once met a boy with an enormous cock on his wrist
It must have been some sort of fashion statement.

I was never a big fan of wrist cocks

I just find them way too distracting.

But whether you have a cock on your wa
or a cock on your wrist

I know you are happy that you have a cock

(SORRY- the "L" on my keyboard didn't work, enjoy!)

New Cure for Homosexuality?

By Nelson

Imagine if your parent's dropped you on your head when you were a toddler to prevent you from being gay? Well that's the case in this article. According to a therapist named Joseph Nicolosi, he claims that he has discovered the cure for homosexuality; a head injury. Joseph told a room of heterosexual individuals that by tossing a toddler in the air and letting them fall on the ground, can prevent them from curving into the wild side. "Even if the kid cracks his head, at least he'll be heterosexual," Nicolosi said, chuckling. "A small price to pay."

I personally believe this is ridiculous. What if the toddler wasn't going to be gay? What then? The toddler will receive a head injury for no reason. I don't think its right for a person to drop a toddler on his head, to avoid him or her from being the person they're meant to be. This can lead to more than a head injury. I actually think it's very wrong for people to try and find cures for homosexuality. We're not science experiments, this is not a disease. We're normal human beings who are trying to fight for our rights and let people know that being gay is not a choice or a game.



Religion and Culture

By Dee

I was once told that I couldn't and would not amount to anything. I was told that my life was worthless and that I had purpose on this Earth. I want to take some time to tell you how I turned those negative and emotional abusive comments into power and how I changed my own life. A lot of times we are influenced by tradition and culture. A big part of culture is religion.

As an African American I grew up in church. I was raised as a Christian and Pentecostal at that. If you know anything about Pentecostal Churches they have service almost three to four times a week. They are mostly fundamentalist and they do not believe in accepting other beliefs other than their own. They believe in saving souls and winning souls for Jesus. They think that when reading the Bible you should interpret things literally and you should not have a right to question the Bible's passages. Often time's scriptures are used to attack certain groups or types of people. Some scriptures and Bible passages are also used oppress people who may have alternative lifestyles. Now these scriptures were not intended to oppress anyone but they has been interpreted. Also when reading scriptures you must consider the time they written in and the types a situations that were going on.

Eating Disorders on the Rise in Teenagers

By Kayla

When the society you live in cares more about the way you look on the inside, then on the way you look on the outside. It's no wonder that Anorexia and Bulimia are on the rise in teenagers. Statistics show that about 1% of all teenagers have some kind of eating disorder. And even though eating disorders are shown to be more common in females, they are also showing up more frequently in male teenagers as well.

There are two major types of eating disorders, Anorexia and Bulimia; and the other most common eating disorder is binge eating (which leads to obesity). Eating disorders are considered a psychological problem, because the person they affect literally becomes infatuated with the food. This links them because of their body image. Even though they may not be heavy; they will perceive themselves as such.

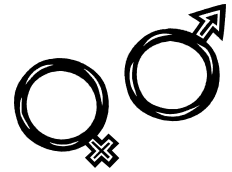
Anorexia is the most common of all the teen eating disorders. It starts off when the affected teen begins to starve him or her. They also begin to exercise excessively, in hopes to burn calories they did not even consume in the first place. Serious cases of anorexia can result in injury, and in even more serious cases death. Most teens with serious cases of Anorexia need treatment by specialists in clinics.

Bulimia is the second most common eating disorder among teenagers. Bulimia is a series of binge eating and self-induced vomiting/purging. This is, again caused by a distorted self-image of the affected teen. Like Anorexia, Bulimia can be extremely harmful if not treated.



Gender

By Mr. Opinion



A child is born! The first thing that is asked is: is it a girl or a boy? Why ask? How would the parent know? Yes, they can see it's male or female. But to ask, "Is it a girl or a boy", should be more accurately phrased. Do they fulfill the cultural expectations of a male or a female? Males will not necessarily grow up to be what a culture defines as a man, nor will females necessarily grow up to be what is defined as woman. Males often exhibit qualities of men, and females often exhibit the qualities of women, because they are taught to do so growing up.

What happens if a male's personality does not work well with the way a man is supposed to act? What happens if a female prefers a behavioral style that is not considered to be womanly? What I'm really trying to ask you is what happens to "sensitive" men and "tough" girls? What happens to transgendered people? What happens is that they are shunned. They did not fit into people's deluded little assumptions of the world; so they are shunned. People hate change, and difference is a type of change. A change of how they are used to people acting. The sad part is that gender does not "really" exist. It is a way of categorizing people in order to make them easier to understand.

While there is nothing wrong with identifying as either a man or a woman. It's wrong to expect others to. People have many different ways of being a man or a woman; and many don't match up with their sex, or how their assigned gender is "supposed" to behave. The bottom line is: It does not even matter. One's gender identity does not make them any less a parent, or more or less able to make rational decisions and succeed in life, all that has to do with personality. The most important thing is that we are human. If we were all to judge each other as humans, and not "men" and "women"; maybe there would be less discrimination, less hate, and more understanding.

8Homoscopes8

Fall 2007



Scorpio -When it comes to all things love-related now, you will want to stop. Breathe deeply and let your inner voice be heard.



Taurus -It's a great night to hang out and meet new and different people and especially places that you may never have been to before.



Sagittarius - You are feeling pretty sure of yourself, so take the time to scope out the situation.



Gemini - It's a good time for you to start saying yes, rather than no. Be open minded to new and different things that come your way.



Capricorn -Many factors come into play when it comes to making a relationship work but the most important factors of a successful relationship are the two of you.



Cancer -One of the great things about being single is to kick back and relax. Don't worry about anything. Let all the focus be about you and nothing else.



Aquarius - Romantic info is about to come across you. The stars say to welcome it.



Leo - Your busy telling everyone how it is on relationship topics. But it works even better if you took your own advice and tell the one you like that you have feelings for them. Trust me it will get you places by doing so...



Pisces - You're trying to start issues, or your partner is. If it's you, be more patient. If it's them, the same advice applies.



Virgo - It's time that you get out of your comfort zone and have some fun. But don't do anything crazy or unsafe.



Aries - A friend needs a shoulder to cry on. You may be going through trouble of your own but try to be there for them because it might help you out in the long run.



Libra - Your relationship will take off like a rocket once you and your partner either do something new or learn something new.

Stand Up

By: Cuthbert

I look at my people and who do I see?
People with the initials LGBT
A people discriminated against throughout the land
All this is part of Gods special plan
Like the Jews were, we're different and proud
Proud like the Methodists we sing real loud
Some say they can't take the pain any longer
But it's precisely that pain that makes us much stronger
You can't recognize the peace without the pain
With contrast we'll see what we've to gain
If your life's always happy and never intense
It was probably won on someone else's expense
Because we must stand up on our own against protests and cries
When we finally stand up we'll be looking Jesus in the eye



An introverted, Semi-Freestyle

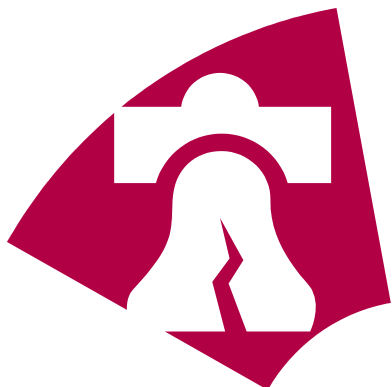
By: Emo-Shun-All

I'm different, does that bother you?
My outer appearance does not fit your mold, I'm no clone
I stand up to the authority that needs to be put in it's **place**, while others would rather turn their **face**, and pretend that nothing's wrong
I try and find the **time** to form my **rhyme**, to be **myself** and no one **else**
I don't **conform** to the **norm**, my heads a **storm** that simply refuses to calm.
They scream and they **cry**, and they spew out **lies**, but the truth is in their **eyes**
They rage and they **hate**, they **contemplate** on how to change me, 'cause I'm not **straight**

Free

By: Christina

I'm not taking this anymore
Can't wait to part from this pain
You're no longer worth my time
Wasting it all
As long as I live
I hope I never see your face again
I stopped caring long ago
But don't shed a tear for me
Because I'm done shedding them for you
So goodbye to you and all you've put me through
What goes around comes around
And I live for the day when it comes back to you



The Meanings

By Nigel

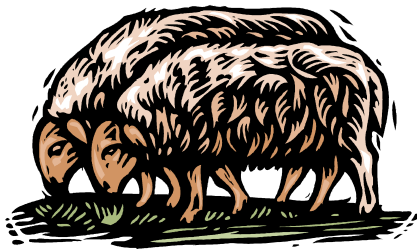
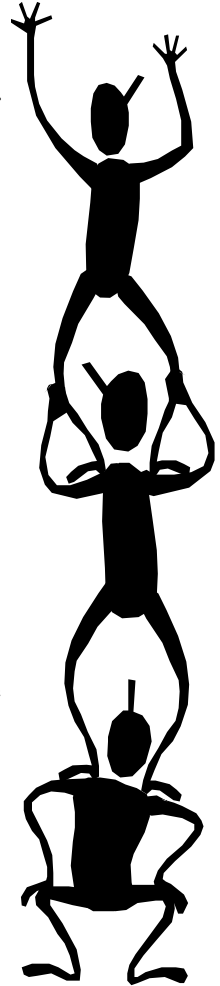
I have been a peer educator for about 3 years and I have loved every part of my job. I'm also an African American who is educating the community on LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender) issues. While doing this I have learned so much stuff that I thought I already knew about HIV/AIDS, Suicide and others. I consider myself lucky and so proud that I can help out my community by giving back a little something.

But I have a question, does anyone know what "Queer" means. I have two meanings. One of them is not feeling physically right or well; giddy, faint, or qualmish and other forms are to spoil or ruin.

The reason being is because the Magazine that I write for used to be called Queer Beans and then became Bam. Now the name once used before as the magazines name is coming back.

I don't agree with it because the word we used today is used to offend individuals of the Gay community; however others in the Gay Community use it to identify them. I as a member of the LGBT community don't use this word or identify with such a word.

In some cultures, like the Latino and African American communities, people don't associate with this word because you can't be Latino *and* gay or African American *and* gay. You have to be one or the other. I know this word doesn't apply to many youth or adults because in some cases it's used towards us in offensive ways. That's why I'm letting you know that you aren't the only one who feels what I feel. The reason why I wrote this is because I felt the need to reach out to people who get made fun of, who are being called a queer and I'm letting you know I don't agree with this word and I will never will.



Me and Sheep

By:Dean kaufman

Once I got lost next to some sheep
They soon became my friends
The sheep and I talked and played
Until one of them tried to eat my coat
Then I cried
That's when my father found me
me and sheep haven't gotten along well since.



LGBTST and Peace

By Twelvette



As Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Two Spirit, and Transgender (LGBTST) organizations and individuals of conscience in the U.S., we stand in opposition to the strategies, policies and practices of the U.S. government's "War on Terrorism". While the U.S. government prepares for an escalated, public and pre-emptive war against Iraq -- and declares the doctrine of pre-emptive military strikes central to the national security strategy of the U.S. -- we call on LGBTST communities to join with other peace-seeking communities in opposing war, and struggling for peace with justice. As residents in this country, we recognize our special responsibility to speak and act out against unjust and immoral U.S. government action (both within and outside the borders of this country). This "War on Terrorism" will not create safety or security for people within the U.S. or elsewhere. It is an umbrella term that encompasses many unjust and dangerous strategies intended to silence dissent, while entrenching U.S. power throughout the world. The "War on Terrorism" is in reality a permanent strategy for flexible war, where: 1) targets outside and within the US change; 2) the US acts as a global police chief, judge, jury, and executioner -- operating unilaterally whenever international consensus can not be arranged, and seeking to entrench its position as the only global superpower; 3) communities and individuals that are most marginalized within this country are faced with accelerated and deepened economic, social and political attacks; and 4) legitimate grief for those whose lives were lost on 9/11/01 is transmuted by the war machine into a permanent climate of fear, suspicion, and hatred.

Is this the men's room?

By Twelvette



On June 24th, Gay Pride New York City, a lesbian woman was thrown out of Caliente Cab Company restaurant due to the fact that they mistook her for a man. Khadijah Farmer was dining at this establishment on the day of NY's biggest gay festival and went to the restroom when the bouncer proceeded to pound on the door in an attempt to remove her from the restroom. After she came out the bathroom and attempted to show him her identification, which he refused, he then threw her out of the establishment. She is currently suing them in a lawsuit of sexual discrimination/ gender discrimination in conjunction with the Transgender Legal Defense and Education fund. The charge is sexual stereotyping, which means you are judged based on stereotypical notions of gender.

So lets get all of the facts "straight".....a woman went to a restroom in a NYC restaurant, was harassed while trying to "handle business", and then evicted from the premises for trying to prove the bouncer wrong on his assumption that she was a man!

First of all, this is New York City people...the Melting Pot, The Big Apple (for everyone to be able to take a bite out of); it's the pit of diversity. How come on Gay Pride day of all days did the bouncer not try to second guess his first assumption? Second of all, it's a restaurant in the Village...only one of the worlds most popular hangout spots for gay peopleso again I say why did he not second-guess his poor judgment?

Painted.

By Nelson

His life was bittersweet at the moment.
Mixture of colors, brushes and paper
were his only friend.
Watching orange, pink & green blend.
Inside he knew his imagination was only pretend.



Painting airplanes flying
Made him think of his mommy sighing.

His world was sketched and drawn.
To capture mother nature, such as the dawn.
Paint me a picture, he longed for someone to do it.
Wishing he was in an orchestra pit.

Music was his second love
Listening to melodies reminded him of the seasons
and small white doves.

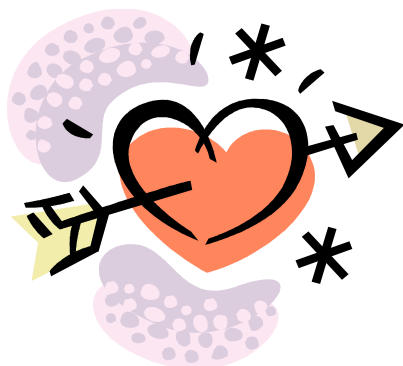
As his painted life continued
he painted roses every day, gray skies and his lover Jose.
He hoped to live in New York bay
to watch classical ballet.

Art, music, and photography were his ways of self-expression.
& even though many people questioned him
He left a permanent impression in everyone's mind.
Realizing that he could never be defined.

Most Awkward and Uncomfortable

By: Abby

I think we should be more than friends.
Each chord whispered drives me crazy.
I thrive on the touches.
Each hug disembodies me.
I feel your presence unannounced.
Each smile leaves me elated.
I see the taking of everything in.
Each eye absorbs the essence and identity of the surroundings.
I wait a second and a year for each visit.
Each visit lasts as long.
I feel together in our silence.
Each conversation is at the top of my mind.
I can't stand it at times.
Each kiss I wish would never stop.
I think we're better off as friends.



Prejudice in My Town

By Carlos



Every day, I hear discrimination in our hallways directed towards gay males and females. Such discrimination is caused by homophobia, an irrational fear of homosexuals. People

often use the word “gay” as an insult or put down. For example, someone might say about a movie they didn’t like “That movie was so gay!” Such behavior needs attention because as this prejudice grows, the more the LGTB community suffers (lesbians, gays transsexuals, and bisexuals).

In fact, prejudice against the LGTB community has even resulted in murder! One murder victim was Matthew Sheppard who was beaten, tied to a fence and left to suffer and die on the cold Wyoming Prairie simply because he was gay! Also, statistics show that one gay teen commits suicide every 5 hours. According to further research, this is because of the added stress society places on such people. In addition, thirty percent of the LGTB community consists of homeless teens whose parents have disowned them.

Even the government manifests an anti-gay attitude by forbidding homosexuals to marry. Also, there’s the “Don’t ask, don’t tell” law which targets gays in the military and kicks them out. The government is just as guilty as its citizens in looking down upon gays as less than human.

Why can’t people understand that gays are like everyone else- people with feelings just struggling to get through life. Also, some extremely talented and successful people are gay, such as Rosie O’Donnell and Leonardo da Vinci. Remember that fact the next time you are tempted to bash a member of the LGTB community!

Suicide

By Erik

My thoughts of suicide began shortly after I began middle school. My “friends” started teasing me a lot so I decided not to be friends with them anymore, then I was alone and miserable, I was the outcast of my entire grade. It was horrible so I would always think that I would rather be dead. It just got worse during the rest of middle school. Sometimes in 7th and 8th grade I would down half a bottle of Advil before I went to bed hoping that either I would be too sick in the morning to go to school or possibly dead, I never succeeded though. My life got a little bit better in high school I got some friends and then the teasing got really bad in 10th grade, I came out of the closet and everybody started bullying me and I lost some friends. After a while of this I couldn’t deal anymore, so in the beginning of May, 29 days before my 16th birthday I cut a big slit into my left arm with a razor blade. My mom and dad rushed me to the hospital after I screamed and they found me on my bedroom floor. I was put into a psych center for 2 weeks and then began therapy and group sessions, along with medication. After a little while I began to feel better about myself and have a more positive outlook on life. I made it through the really tough years and now I have amazing friends that I can talk to about anything and my mom and dad are really supportive and try to understand me. It was hard and I thought it wouldn’t end but it did and now I have a good life.



¿Queries?

What is the most productive way to handle homophobia in schools?

"Tell a principal "
-anonymous

"I think the best way to deal with homophobia in schools is through education"
-12vette

"Not overlook gay history"
-anonymous

"There is NO real way to prevent homophobia, but people can try by discussing it as much as possible and teaching respect." -anonymous

"Fight Back!" -anonymous

"include homophobia in psychology"
-anonymous

"Inform youth that homosexuality is not a negative lifestyle, and if you don't accept it, at least respect it." -anonymous

What are ¿Queries?

Good question! ¿Queries? **come from you, the readers.**

Basically, Queries are questions that the PFY Peer Educators answer for this 'zine.

To get your question into the following edition, email your question to:

Descobar@longislandcrisiscenter.org

Religion

By Mr. Opinion

Before I moved into the suburbs; I used to go to a Roman Catholic Church in the city. It was large, dimly lit, and stuffy. My mother had to work hard to get me and my siblings to attend mass. I could not listen to the sermons, whether it was because I could not hear the priest properly from the back, or because I simply could not listen to the monotonous droning; I'm not sure. It was probably a combination of both. At any rate I used to sit in the back of the church reading a children's bible while ignoring the mass. As a child, I have to admit I was quite naive about my father's religious beliefs. He never went to church with us except for special event; like me and my sibling's respective first holy communions. It never occurred to me until years later, that he was pagan. As I got older, Christianity became less and less of an excuse for me to get presents every Christmas. It became more of something I actually believed in. However I never really knew just what it was that I believed. I went on believing in whatever it was regardless. My beliefs were called first called into question when I came out to myself. I was about to be confirmed into Roman Catholicism (which I was), and I was drooling over a guy in my religious education class. So obviously I had a few disagreements with the church.

Up until a few years ago, the church did not even recognize that homosexuality existed; let alone everything under the umbrella term; "Queer". It was a "choice", "a lifestyle". Even in writing it makes me want to spit at the feet of the idea. It still mystifies me. How anyone could think that someone would willingly choose to be socially shunned? The whole idea is based on a book, a book. Maybe you have heard of it. It's called the bible; a book which contains the history of the Christian's Jewish past, and the life of Christ. A book which was written hundreds of years after the fact by prejudiced men. At any rate this conflict caused doubt within me. How could I go to a church that rejected an integral part of who I was? What if I were to become engaged to a man? I would want to be married in the church I attended.

Church became a house of ambivalence as opposed to a house of God. I wanted to remain a Christian, but not a Roman Catholic. I felt like I was allowing no enabling hypocrisy by my continued attendance to my church. They preach love! Love! Love! Except if you are not a straight Roman Catholic. The church has found many ways to send people to hell over the years. If your gay, transgendered, divorced, remarried (regardless of whether you were widowed or not), if you're not Roman Catholic, to name a few things could get you excommunicated. If you're not part of the Roman Catholic Church, you're automatically damned to hell.

What is hell anyway? If I were to take any stock in church doctrine it would be an indefinite time out for naughty children; a permanent slap on the wrist for mistakes made. I believe as long as you are truly sorry and understand the gravity of your sins that God will forgive you. As long as you are sorry you are pretty much guaranteed heaven, or at least an extended stay in purgatory. I have

heard many different interpretations of purgatory, mind you. My interpretation has been that purgatory is a kind of jail sentence for people who have committed grievous sins, and are sorry for them. Even then I have this strange Idea that Hell and Purgatory are really the same place. I believe there are two reasons one could be sent to hell; one's if you have committed a grievous sin and are not sorry, and the other is if you are sorry for your sins. If you are sorry you go to hell for an allotted amount of time, and that is purgatory. If you are not sorry you got to hell until you understand the gravity of your sins and become sorry. If you do become sorry, you receive an allotted amount of time, and it becomes purgatory. If you do not ever feel sorry, you stay there forever and that's what makes it truly hell. What does hell entail exactly? I've heard the idea that hell is whatever would torture you the most, but that would hardly teach you the error of your ways or make you sorry. My current theory is that you are forced to relive all of your sins from the point of view of the people they hurt the most; (i.e.: rapist gets raped, murderer murdered, greedy starves to death, etc.)

I have always believed in an immortal soul. I have heard people argue a lot about whether one is their soul or their mind; a spirit or the electric currents running through their brain. I believe the brain is the medium in which the soul contacts the physical world with. Sort of like a telephone which the soul dials into. When a person is brain dead their soul has lost the ability to tap into the brain, whether because of a birth defect, or brain damage.

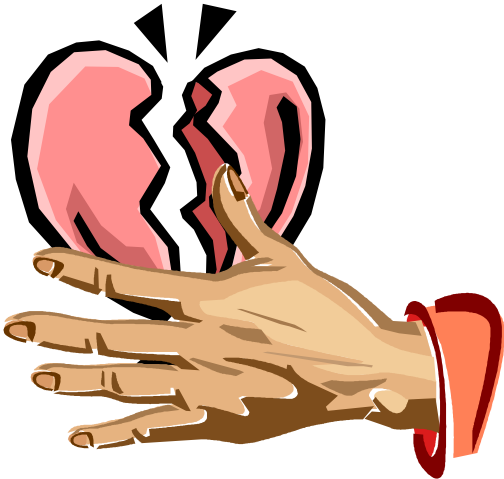
I believe God made the LGBT community for a purpose. God made gays gay, because that is how they were meant to be made. Straights were made straight because that is the way they were meant to be. The world is vastly overpopulated. However bad it may sound; if everyone since the dawn of man was straight, the earth's surface would be so packed with people there would barely be enough room to move. Divine purposes aside; how could being gay be wrong? It is love! Plain and simple! Just in a different form. I guess that is what it comes down to, Differences! People are too busy trying to separate the world into black and white to see the beautiful shades of gray.

Though I am Christian and believe in Jesus and Mary, and all that, I do not believe other religions are really wrong. All the religions are different ways of worshipping the same God. It's just with different ways of representing it and different pieces of frivolous doctrine. While I am monotheistic, I have pagan influence in me. One of the greatest mistakes of Christianity is placing humans above the rest of nature and acting as if we are separate. Though we have a loopy way of doing things we ultimately fit into the grand scheme of things. The circle of life! In the same way we are not separate, neither are we better. God's spirit pulses through every one of us. Animals (yes that includes us), and plants alike. We may eat plants and other animals, but we should be thankful for their sacrifice; for we are no better.

Is that it you ask? Is Mr. Opinion finally finished? Well, he is. I commend you for reading all the way to the end

Secrets Untold

By Brian



He been keeping for a long time he's hoping he will never tell he decided that one day people will know that behind the eyes of the boy that always but a smile on his face has a deep dark secret that thought was a dream but turned out to be real life. So one day he got up and turned on his tape recorder and started speaking as he talks about a guy he knew from the time he born have him living like nothing did not happen. I was lying down one day he speaks just watching television you know normal stuff as that person walked in my room I was only five at the time so I barely knew a little stuff so as he force him self on me I thought that what he was doing maybe right so I did not do anything but just lie there as he touched me not thinking that he's doing something wrong as he finished what he was doing I did not know what to do should I have told my parents or should I do what that person told me to do. And that is not to tell or else!!! So as the years past he never stopped touching me until I turn 12 when I realized what he was doing was wrong so the person stopped but I was left in a position that if I tell what about if my parents believe me what should I do so I finally told and they did not do anything but so I did not bother to go any further so I will just keep it as an untold secret.

Fragile Heart

By Nigel

Have you ever needed someone
To take the fragile pieces of your heart
And wrap careful hands
Deep within the cushioning cotton of his own?
Someone who can pull you close,
When you're feeling so alone
Who speaks not a word,
But knows how to touch you
In that one special place
That lets you know you are still alive
Someone who can look into your eyes
And see past the darkness
That has come to cloud your soul.
Someone who finds that one spark of caring,
Who nurtures it back to life
The one special someone
Who can wrap around you with his body
And give your soul a hug
Your heart ease?



What is the Point

By Abby

To everyone: I ask you all what is the point? It is not good to make assumptions.

What is the point of conflict? What is the point of being nice? What is the point of having an opinion? What is the point in being set to private? And finally, can anybody honestly trust most people?

People have an urge to be accepted/ to be liked. People have an urge to always be right and can't stand being wrong or attacked. People have hardly any restraint. No one is an exception to that, including myself. However, some people can be worse than others.

Why should I partake in a fight with someone who already has their mind made up about me? Why should I dissuade that person from their view of me, or their thought, when there is no changing their mind? Isn't it just easier to tell a person what they want to hear?

It makes them leave you alone. It makes them think of something else.

Why should I add a person who is only requesting me to look at my profile, and to find some reason to harass me? Why shouldn't I add them?

It is amusing to hear what they think, and to be harassed when they don't know the whole story, yet it is pathetic at the same time that someone would just be nice to a person in order to attack them hey it's life... Or they could really be nice people but you never know.

Why should I talk to a person who was a friend but can't admit to being wrong or not sure? Why shouldn't I talk to that friend if they are right on other matters?

It can be hurtful to hear a view or annoying but

it is never over until you admit they are right, yet what is the point of saying, "you're wrong" if they are great with other matters.

Why should I bother caring about anything at all? Why should I accept what people say? Why should I not accept it?

It is easy not to care I feel that way all the time, not caring. There really is no point. It wastes time and shows weakness. I care what I think but no one else. But why should others care what I think or "put me in my place," tell me I am something I am not. Why shouldn't I go up and tell them they're wrong. If I was to do that, would they care? No. Yet if I said something or someone else did would they expect me to care and change it, would they be hurt? yes.

What is the point of talking, or trying, or conversing at all?

People twist words, they exaggerate, they miss points, and they get upset. They are not listening; they treat you no different, if anything they treat you worse. They don't care... at the same time they care too much

Why should I delude myself with a false emotion or try to be nice when all they have done is speak ill of me? Tell me... how is that fair?

You delude yourself because conflict among other things doesn't cease without it. You pretend to be happy, you pretend to be upset, you pretend to be angry, you pretend to agree... You pretend to like them and feel for them so that you can make yourself feel like you're better for once... it is never fair. That is just how things are... The people who suffer the most usually deserve it the least, there is no happy ending. That is how things are and will always be...



...*What's the Point* Continued.

Why should I act depressed and alone, when I m not? Why should people think I am when they don't know anything about me? Why should I be told I am something I am not? Why should I speak badly of them because of it?

Because a person is filled with many emotions and at some point there is no high so you are going through a crash or that is just the role chosen so you must take it as is. People believe what they want there is no changing it, just pretend like u care about them tell them what they want to hear everything is good... right? ... Wrong! You're told your something because people thrive off of making themselves feel superior.... they pretend they don't attack other people b/c they don't want to suffer the consequences of it yet if they pretend they r great people at the same time and they win at making another person sad then they fell superior. I shouldn't speak ill of them b/c I don't know them as they don't know me.. So I m choosing a role for them as they have for me... y should I speak ill of a person I know if they treat me like that, I shouldn't because all of it is stooping to their level.

Why are some people predictable and others aren't?

Some people play to the roles assigned so you know some of them but maybe not the whole being, so half...the half they decide to show you. Some people try not to so many times they seem to be predictable so the other people believe what they want but if you know them you realize they are very different. If they do something different they are attacked even more

So just keep playing roles, it works better that way. Keep making assumptions. It works better that way. Keep pretending to be perfect, it works better that way. Keep pretending to be a friend. It works better that way.

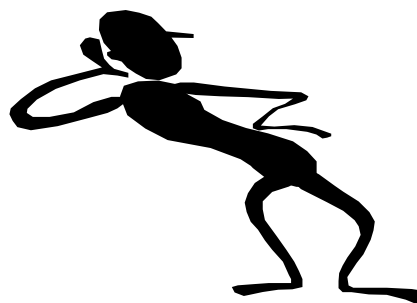
This includes everyone at least in a small way including myself for the negative and positive aspects.

Why did I talk at all? People will assume every-

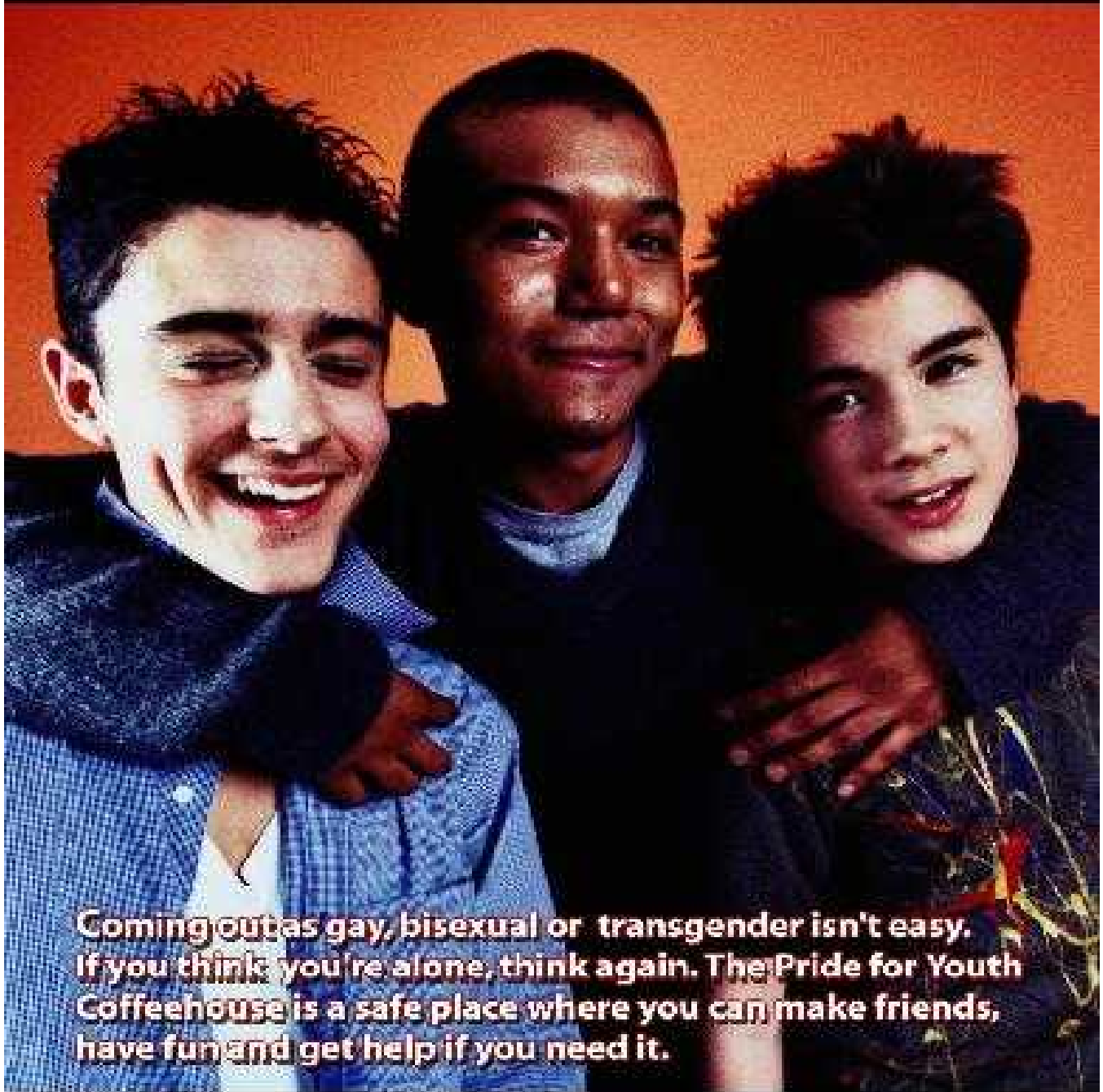
thing said is about them?

People will assume it is about someone else. Why did I bother saying any of that at all? There was no point... things need to go back the way they were... I will pretend to care.... I will tell u all what u want to hear.... I will play into a role, and act like a snob or a show off or a prude or however people view me just because I apply myself or look differently then them... and I will continue to be a different person entirely when I m with certain people. That is just how it is supposed to be.

I will pretend not to hear when someone is talking about me... I will pretend to not see when someone looks at me in a mean way or as if I am less then them...I will pretend there is nothing wrong w/ this image put together, like it is not partly my fault, like it is no one else's, like it is only other people... when I let it go on.... That is just how things are supposed to be. I will listen when I hear a complaint about this blog... and I will tell you w/e u want to hear.... After all that is just how it is supposed to be.



THIS IS WHERE IT ALL CAME TOGETHER



Coming out as gay, bisexual or transgender isn't easy. If you think you're alone, think again. The Pride for Youth Coffeehouse is a safe place where you can make friends, have fun and get help if you need it.



Pride for Youth Coffeehouse
2050 Baltimore Ave. Baltimore, NY 11710
(516) 670-0000
www.prideforyouth.org

THIS IS WHERE IT ALL CAME TOGETHER



Coming out as lesbian, bisexual or transgender isn't easy. But if you think you're alone, think again. The Pride for Youth Coffeehouse is a safe place where you can make friends, have fun and get help if you need it.



Pride for Youth Coffeehouse
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