

ACLU

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION

OF OREGON

705 Board of Trade Bldg. • 310 S. W. 4th Ave. • Portland, OR 97204 • (503) 227-3186

June 30, 1986

RECEIVED
JUL 2 1986

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMS.

Raymundo Marin
Metropolitan Human Relations Commission
1120 SW 5th Ave., Room 520
Portland, OR 97204

Dear Mr. Marin:

As you may be aware, the American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon has held the passage of a gay/lesbian rights bill as one of our highest legislative priorities. Attaining this long-term organizational goal is now the first project of ACLU's recently established Commission on Gay and Lesbian Rights.

The hysterical overreaction to the AIDS epidemic makes it more imperative than ever that we provide legal protection for gays and lesbians against discrimination in employment, housing, education and public accommodations. And, for the first time in eight years, we will have a governor who supports such legislation rather than one who would veto it.

After a series of consultations with many of the politically active groups in the lesbian and gay communities, and with their overwhelming support, the ACLU Commission is working to build a broad-based coalition to urge passage in the 1987 legislature of a bill that would amend Oregon's existing civil rights statutes to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

In 1982, Wisconsin became the first state in the union to enact such legislation, primarily because it had the active support of the mainstream religious community and many professional organizations, civil rights and civil liberties groups, unions and some business corporations. We want to emulate that model.

We seek the support of your organization in this effort and request the following:

- (1) Authorization, as soon as possible to list your organization as one of many requesting introduction of the bill;
- (2) The naming of a representative of your organization as a liaison to the Commission;
- (3) Preparation of a letter stating organizational support of the bill, for use in lobbying members of the legislature;
- (4) Agreement to testify in support of the bill at public hearings of the legislative committees to which it is assigned;

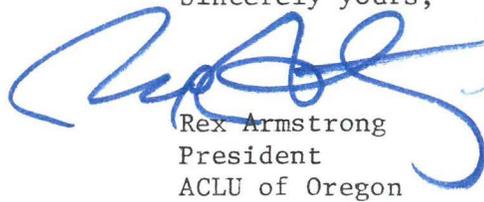
(Srd)
(Cheryl Johnson)
Schulz (G.C.)

(5) Your cooperation in generating supporting letters and calls to key legislators from individual constituents; and

(6) Such other assistance and advice that you can provide.

Please let us know when you can act on this request and what additional information, if any, you desire. All supporting groups will be kept informed through frequent status reports of the progress toward our goal.

Sincerely yours,

 Rex Armstrong
President
ACLU of Oregon

 Stevie Remington
Executive Director
ACLU of Oregon

Metropolitan Human Relations Commission

Multnomah County • City of Portland

August 13, 1986

Mr. Rex Armstrong, President
Ms. Stevie Remington, Executive Director
ACLU of Oregon
705 Board of Trade Building
310 S. W. Fourth Avenue
Portland, OR 97204

Dear Mr. Armstrong and Ms. Remington:

The Metropolitan Human Relations Commission wishes to reaffirm its commitment to the elimination of barriers that discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation. Our Commission advocates for the human and civil rights of all individuals including sexual orientation.

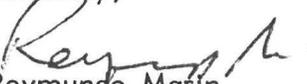
Consistent with our mandate and philosophy, you may list MHRC as a sponsoring organization. In addition, you can count on us to assist you in promoting and insuring the rights of all people.

We have asked Mr. Sid Galton, MHRC Commissioner, to represent us on the Commission on Gay and Lesbian Rights. Mr. Galton has gladly consented to be our representative, and we will assist in the coordination of these activities with his leadership and support.

I will consult with Mr. Galton on the drafting of a letter stating our organization's support of the proposed bill. In addition, Mr. Galton has agreed to keep us informed as to public hearings and how best MHRC Commissioners can assist in the lobbying effort.

We are pleased to be able to participate in supporting the ACLU Coalition in its effort to insure the rights of gays and lesbians in Oregon.

Sincerely,


Reymundo Marin
Executive Director

RM:gp

cc: John F. Heflin
Rodney I. Page
Sid Galton



1120 S.W. Fifth Avenue
Room 520
Portland, Oregon 97204-1989 • (503) 796-5136



Metropolitan Human Relations Commission

Multnomah County • City of Portland

February 18, 1987

Mr. Rex Armstrong, President
Ms. Stevie Remington, Executive Director
ACLU of Oregon
705 Board of Trade Building
310 S. W. Fourth Avenue
Portland, OR 97204

Dear Mr. Armstrong and Ms. Remington:

Subject: House Bill 2325 -- a bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation

The Metropolitan Human Relations Commission wishes to reaffirm its commitment to the elimination of barriers that discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation. Our Commission advocates for the human and civil rights of all individuals, including sexual orientation.

We are pleased to be able to support the work of the ACLU Gay and Lesbian Task Force in its effort to insure the rights of gays and lesbians in Oregon.

During the recent past, the Commission has experienced an increase in housing and employment discrimination based on sexual orientation. While the Commission continues to record the number of complaints presented, it has proven somewhat difficult because many victims of discrimination based on sexual orientation prefer not to identify their concern as discrimination based on sexual orientation.

House Bill 2325 is an excellent beginning. We wish you continued success.

Sincerely,

John F. Heflin
Chairperson

JFH:gp

cc: MHRC Executive Committee
Reymundo Marin



1120 S.W. Fifth Avenue
Room 520
Portland, Oregon 97204-1989 • (503) 796-5136



ACLU FOUNDATION OF OREGON, INC.

OF OREGON

705 Board of Trade Bldg. • 310 S. W. 4th Ave. • Portland, OR 97204 • (503) 227-3186

March 30, 1988

Mr. Gregory Gudger
Executive Director
Metropolitan Human Relations Commission
Suite 520
1120 SW 5th
Portland, OR 97204

RECEIVED

MAR 31 1988

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMS.

Dear Greg:

On behalf of the ACLU of Oregon I want to extend an invitation to you and MHRC board members to a lecture we are sponsoring Sunday evening, April 10th. The topic of the lecture will be Crisis in the Occupied Territories: The Hope for the Future. The lecture will take place at 7:00 p.m. at Reed College, Room 314 - Eliot Hall, 3203 SE Woodstock Blvd.

Phillipa Strum, a professor of political science at City University of New York, will be speaking of her first-hand knowledge of the crisis between Israel and the Palestinians taking place in the occupied territories. She has warned us that her remarks on this controversial subject frequently evoke strong emotional responses.

The ACLU is sponsoring this as an educational forum. Professor Strum will be expressing her personal views and not those of ACLU, which has no position on this issue.

We welcome you and interested members of the MHRC Board of Directors to join us on the tenth.

Sincerely yours,



Stevie Remington
Executive Director

enclosure

ACLU FOUNDATION OF OREGON

INVITES YOU TO

CRISIS IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES:

THE HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

A LECTURE BY PHILIPPA STRUM:

Professor of Political Science at City University of New York -
specializing in the U.S. Constitution and Civil Liberties

President of American - Israeli Civil Liberties Coalition

Member, American Civil Liberties Union National Board and
Executive Committee

SUNDAY, APRIL 10, 7:00 P.M.

REED COLLEGE

**ELIOT HALL -- ROOM 314
3203 SE WOODSTOCK BLVD., PORTLAND**

FREE ADMISSION

Prof. Strum will be speaking of her first-hand knowledge of the crisis between Israel and the Palestinians taking place in the occupied territories. She has warned us that her remarks on this controversial subject frequently evoke strong emotional responses.

The ACLU is sponsoring this as an educational forum. Prof. Strum will be expressing her personal views and not those of ACLU, which has no position on this issue.

CONFIDENTIAL

NORTHERN DISTRICT LAWYERS COMMITTEE

AGENDA

April 6, 1988

1. Henderson v. Rex Putnum High School. Church/State. Request for representation to challenge the inclusion of several Christian songs in the district's program for "Spring Sing 88."

Charlie Hinkle

2. Vervloet v. Portland State University, Lesbian Community Project, et al. Privacy. Request from the Lesbian Community Project for direct representation to defend them in this suit alleging that the plaintiff was excluded from a lesbian conference held at PSU in November. Plaintiff first filed a complaint with the Civil Rights Division. The Division found no substantial evidence that he was excluded because of his gender. He then filed a complaint in Multnomah County Circuit Court in which he includes as defendants twelve members of the association known at this time by their first names. It is anticipated that he will attempt to gain by discovery the names of all members of the organization. The project considers that legal action has been undertaken for the purposes of harassment because the plaintiff is homophobic. Barbara Diamond and Janice Wilson provided pro bono assistance through the Labor Division process, but are not able to continue with what promises to be lengthy and expensive litigation. Neither the project nor the members are able to pay attorneys fees and costs for their defense.

(See Civil Rights Division's Notice of Administrative Determination.)

Barbara Diamond

3. Proposed Portland Ordinance Prohibiting Hitchhiking. Free Speech. (Discussion #3) This matter was first discussed on January 13. The City Attorney had asked for our opinion regarding the constitutionality of an ordinance that would ban all hitchhiking in the City of Portland as a means to controlling prostitution in neighborhoods. The committee unanimously passed a motion "that Stevie communicate to Jeff Rogers our heartfelt conviction that an absolute ban on hitchhiking would violate Article I, section 8 of the Oregon Constitution, and that the proposal should be abandoned."

This matter was next discussed on March 23, after the proposed ordinance was released to the press and Stevie had

An Ordinance amending Section 16.34.040, Soliciting Rides

The City of Portland ordains:

Section I. The Council finds:

1. Hitchhiking often places either the driver or the passenger in danger of being the object of criminal activity such as assault, kidnapping, rape and robbery.
2. Solicitation from a public right of way of a ride is often an essential component to the criminal act of prostitution.
3. State law, ORS 814.080, and City Code, section 16.34.040, currently prohibit solicitation of a ride while on a roadway.
4. Public Safety could be enhanced by extending the prohibition on soliciting a ride to include doing so while standing on any portion of a public right of way and to include providing or offering to provide such a ride.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Council directs:

- a. That Title 16 is amended by amending Chapter 16.34.040 to read as follows:
16.34.040 Soliciting Rides.
 - A. It is unlawful for any person to stand in [a roadway] any portion of a public right of way for the purpose of soliciting a ride [from the driver of] in any private vehicle.
 - B. It is unlawful for any person to provide or offer to provide a ride in a private vehicle to a person (soliciting) a ride while standing in any portion of a public right of way.
 - C. Violation of this section shall constitute a Class B traffic infraction subject to a fine not exceeding \$250.

ed.
next week/after

The ACLU was founded by a group of Americans who were concerned about the mass arrests of suspected radicals by the Justice Department.

That was in 1920.

More than 50 years later, in the 70's, the ACLU still concerns itself with individuals whose civil liberties are being violated by the Justice Department.

Times may change, names may change, faces may change.

But the battles don't change.

Nor has the ACLU changed its principles.

Since its founding the American Civil Liberties Union has always been right in the middle of the fight to secure the rights of all Americans.

That hasn't always been a popular position to be in.

For the fact is that while some people pay lip service to such admirable principles as free speech, due process, fair play and equality they often wind up talking out of both sides of their mouths when it comes to putting such principles into practice.

Especially when the rights in question belong to someone whose views are in question.

Like the bigot who distributes anti-Catholic or anti-Jewish literature.

Or the black militant whose home is searched without a warrant.



FREE SPEECH



A FREE PRESS



NO MIXING OF CHURCH AND STATE

So, over the years, the ACLU has often had the difficult but necessary task of defending the rights of people who don't give a damn about the rights of others.

Somewhat it seems that defending individual rights against wrongs, hysteria, witch hunts, and discrimination often makes for strange bedfellows.

But it also makes for a record we can be proud of.

When John Scopes was fired for teaching evolution in a Tennessee school, we helped defend him.

We fought for the rights of Sacco and Vanzetti. And the "Scottsboro Boys."

And James Joyce when his book was being banned by the Customs Bureau.

And thousands of Japanese Americans who were evacuated and detained during the 40's.

And religious minorities like the Jehovah's Witnesses.

We fought for America when it was threatened by McCarthyism.

And for the right of labor to organize. We've fought in the civil rights movement.

And the women's rights movement. And the anti-war movement.



A JURY TRIAL AND A LAWYER

What's more, we led the movement to impeach Nixon.

We've fought against wrongs like film and book censorship, loyalty oaths, government spying and secrecy, abortion laws, loitering laws, unreasonable searches, segregated juries and coerced confessions.

And while we may be almost 60, we're not ready to retire.

In fact, today we're still going as strong as we were when we started.

So we're presently involved in battles against government surveillance of people but for the public surveillance of government.



NO CRUEL AND UNUSUAL PUNISHMENT

We continue to struggle for the rights of women. Whether it's to work in traditionally men's jobs, to get paid men's wages, to choose abortion, or to work while pregnant.

We continue to struggle for the rights of every prisoner to be treated like a human being.

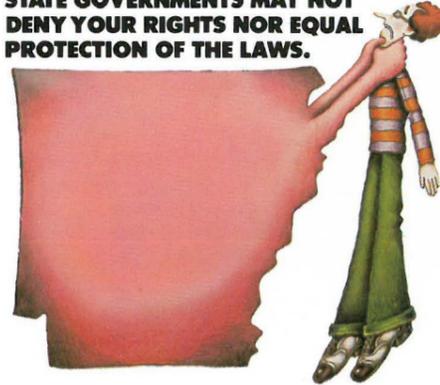
And for the right of every human being to write what he or she pleases.

And for the rights of racial minorities. And, more recently, for soldiers, mental patients, migrant workers, homosexuals, the handicapped, the young, the elderly.

And for the right of every American to know exactly what his or her rights are.

With all this struggling, it should be no surprise

STATE GOVERNMENTS MAY NOT DENY YOUR RIGHTS NOR EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAWS.



that the ACLU has appeared before the Supreme Court more often than anyone except the federal government.

And that's just the tip of the iceberg.

Because, for every case we bring before the Supreme Court, we bring hundreds to lower courts. And to school boards. And licensing bureaus. And welfare departments. And we lobby in Congress, the state legislature and the city council.

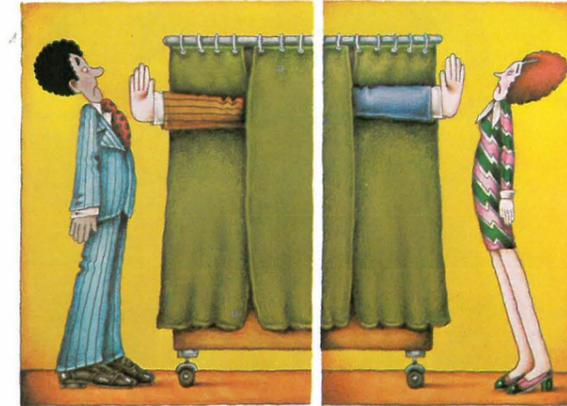
It takes a lot of time and money and volunteers, lawyers and organizers to do all that.

And that's just what this is all about.

For while we have secured liberties for all Americans that are now taken for granted, we cannot be taken for granted.

Not now. Not with government power growing the way it has; power for good, power for evil.

Not with giant corporations employing new, sophisticated electronic techniques to collect vast amounts of personal information on vast numbers of Americans.



THE RIGHT TO VOTE REGARDLESS OF RACE...OR SEX

Now, more than ever before, the ACLU needs you.

In each generation, there's a small number of people whose thoughtfulness and conscience tip the scales in favor of important human values. Their names aren't always recorded in history books. But the consequences of their deeds are.

We hope that you are one of those people and we ask you to join with others like yourself and support the ACLU.

The cost of fighting for what's right has gotten high.

But not half as high as the price of not fighting.

THE AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION

Illustrated Guide To The

BILL OF RIGHTS

An abridged version of those rights which the government may not abridge, as set forth by the Bill of Rights and certain later Amendments to the Constitution. To wit:

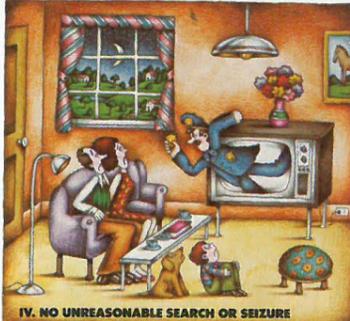
I. FREE SPEECH...



A FREE PRESS...



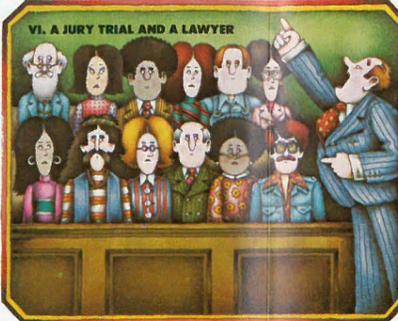
NO MIXING OF CHURCH AND STATE



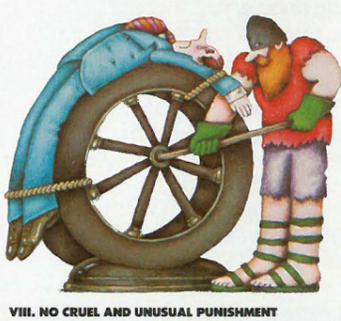
IV. NO UNREASONABLE SEARCH OR SEIZURE



V. DUE PROCESS OF LAW

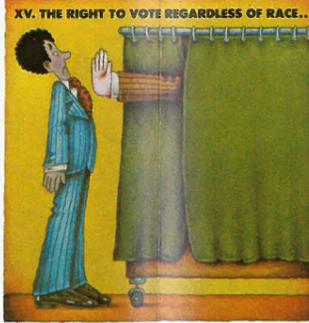
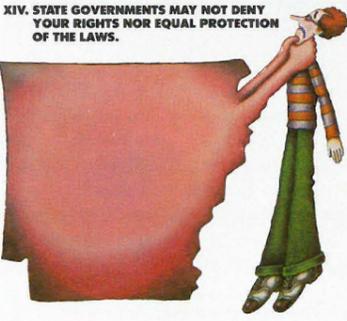


VI. A JURY TRIAL AND A LAWYER



VIII. NO CRUEL AND UNUSUAL PUNISHMENT

XIV. STATE GOVERNMENTS MAY NOT DENY YOUR RIGHTS NOR EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAWS.



XV. THE RIGHT TO VOTE REGARDLESS OF RACE...



XIX. ...OR SEX

For an unbridled leaflet, "The Bill of Rights" and for information about how you can help defend your rights through membership in the ACLU, write to your local ACLU branch or the national office:

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION
 22 East 40th Street
 New York, N.Y. 10016

Designed & Illustrated by
LOHSEL KALISH
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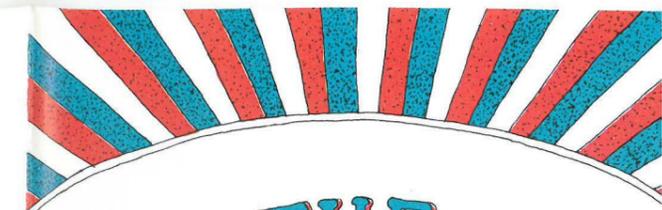
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AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION
 22 East 40th Street New York, N.Y. 10016 (212) 725-1222



THE AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION



"The ACLU has stood foursquare against the recurring tides of hysteria that from time to time threaten freedoms everywhere... Indeed, it is difficult to appreciate how far our freedoms might have eroded had it not been for the Union's valiant representation in the courts of the constitutional rights of people of all persuasions, no matter how unpopular or even despised by the majority they were at the time."

Earl Warren

We fight for what's right.