



ONE TO ONE

The official quarterly newsletter of SDA Kinship Australia 01/4/09

NEWSLETTER NO 9 ISSUE 1

OUR PURPOSE: Seventh Day Adventist Kinship Australia is a non-profit support organization which ministers to the spiritual, social and physical well-being of former and current SDA Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Transgender and Intersex individuals and their friends and families. Kinship is not supported by the SDA Church. Kinship is a confidential organization which supports the advancement of human rights for all people.

Dear Friends,

I'd like to invite you to take a look at the following website: www.asolemnappeal.org

After reading it, if you feel you could endorse it, sign your name and send it to any other family or friends you think might be interested. If you don't, of course I understand. It is being sponsored by both the Spectrum and the Adventist Today websites, and the hope/goal is to have 100,000 signatures by the time of the 2010 GC session. Already, in just six days there are 280 signatures. You might be interested in reading through some of them.

Thanks for taking a look!
Carrol Grady

Kinship Australia has been busy in setting up a space for Kinship Women to join on the web-site. So come on ladies feel free to join your part of the group.

We also have a space in the new Q News community web-site for people to find us. It is changeable to suit our needs. So if anyone has suggestions let us know.

Kinship International has a new look web-site.

Take a look at it www.sdakinship.org

It is a very clean and refreshing site. Well done to those who are involved!

Metropolitan Community Church.

Please be aware of these churches in Australia. They are on the East Coast of

Australia and are welcoming of all peoples. People who attend MCC often come from widely diverse Faith backgrounds as well as from no identified faith tradition.

All are Welcome

Kinship Loses a Long-time Friend/Advocate

We are greatly saddened at the death of Virginia Cason, a long-time friend and fierce advocate of Kinship members, who passed away on April 1, 2009. She was the daughter of H.M.S. Richards, Sr., founder of the [Voice of Prophecy](#) radio broadcast. Virginia and her husband, Dr. Walt Cason, were one of three couples interviewed on the DVD [Open Heart/Open Hand](#) where they spoke about their experiences as parents of gay and lesbian children. Our heartfelt sympathies and prayers are with the family.



Kampmeeting for this year, in Sydney, is your opportunity to meet up with others who are like mined.

We do as always have great speakers who are from the Adventist and General Community. It is in a beautiful part of Sydney at the Uniting Church Conference grounds Nth Parramatta. Take a look at the events page!

Bulayu House



Accommodation Deluxe room



Communication

Roadblocks To Relationships.

Written by Mark Woodman “Out in Perth”

In the lead up to Valentine’s Day GLCS takes a look at one of the most common reasons people call their phone counseling line – difficulties meeting new people, and, above all, finding a partner.

What are some of the common difficulties callers face and the ‘roadblocks’ that can sabotage their search for a partner?

Culprit #1: Internalised homophobia

This isn’t just a clichéd academic concept dreamt up by a frumpy social worker who doesn’t get out much. This is a very real and nasty saboteur that lurks inside every one of us. Want to see it in action? Select ten www.gaydar.com or www.manhunt.com profiles at random. I guarantee at least five will be a ‘normal’ guy looking for other ‘straight-acting’ men. (I have no doubt that gaydar girls and the pink sofa have as many women looking for ‘real’ women). To make this as clear as day - the only people on gay chat sites who have to specify that they are ‘normal’ are those who think most gay and lesbian people aren’t!!

Culprit #2: Sexism, racism, ageism

Again, check out gaydar profiles for the ubiquitous ‘no oldies, fatties, femmes or Asians’ qualifier. If you only want to meet ‘hot’ white ‘straight-acting’ guys aged 20 to 21, then it’s not surprising you might be finding it difficult to build new friendships!

Culprit #3: The desperate search for a partner

Desperation is never a good look! Focusing exclusively on finding a partner, as if shopping for a new sofa, is a recipe for disaster. Except for the lucky few, most of us have to put ourselves out there a bit before we meet someone we click with.

Culprit #4: It’s everyone/everything else’s fault (i.e., ‘the scene’; ‘boring Perth’).

Let’s be clear - you can’t blame a city for not having a partner. This is an odd way to think about the world and provides a convenient crux for those avoiding taking positive steps to get out and about and meet new people. This ‘Dullsville excuse’ is often accompanied by the ‘Sydney Gaytopia Fantasy’. No, Sydney is not packed with intelligent, educated hotties

just waiting for sad disheveled gay refugees from Perth to sweep them off their feet. It's simply a place with four times as many gays and lesbians as Perth... and four times as many people chasing those semi-mythical potential partners.

So what are some tips for getting out there, staying connected and increasing your chances of meeting that special someone?

- Avoid getting stuck in either the 'non-scene' or the 'scene queen' extremes. Don't disregard our venues and events, but mix and match from the options to make your own scene.
- Say yes to invites and don't make excuses not to go to venues or events.
- Volunteer for a community group, join a sporting or social club or take a course.
- Stay connected with the G&L community via our excellent print and online media.
- Think positively and set realistic expectations.
- Go to venues and events to have a good time with friends, not to pick up or to meet your soul mate.
- Be open-minded about who you are willing to meet.

And to think, finding a partner is the easy part! Then there's the small matter of keeping them...

Our Health

Help Yourself to Prostate Health

Frequent masturbation may help men cut their risk of contracting prostate cancer, Australian researchers have found.

It is believed that carcinogens may build up in the prostate if men do not ejaculate regularly.

Researchers surveyed more than 1,000 men who had developed prostate cancer, and 1,250 men who had not.

They found that men who had ejaculated the most between the ages of 20 and 50 were the least likely to get cancer. Men who ejaculated more than five times each week were a third less likely to develop prostate cancer.

"Had we been able to remove ejaculations associated with sexual intercourse, there should have been an even stronger protective effect of ejaculations," said Graham Giles of the Cancer Council Victoria, who led the researchers.

Sexual intercourse may not have the same effect because of the higher risk of contracting a sexually transmitted infection, which could in turn raise the risk of cancer.

Young men who are sexually active with more than one sexual partner, regardless of whether they are gay or straight, face an increased risk of prostate cancer in later life.

Researchers at Stockholm's Karolinska Institute have pointed to sexual promiscuity as a leading risk factor in contracting human papilloma virus (HPV), better known as genital warts. HPV has already been linked to cervical cancer in women.

In men, HPV may explain a recent upsurge in prostate cancer. If the theory is correct, once young men are exposed to HPV it kick-starts a chain of genetic mutations that can lead to cancer decades later.

Prostate cancer affects one in 11 Australian men. In Australia, prostate cancer is the most common cancer in men and it is the 3rd most common cause of cancer death in men. It is generally a disease of older men with 65% of WA cases occurring in men 65 years or older. It is advised that guys above 45 should start regular check ups.

For more information read the full article on the Project-X website, www.projectx.net.au, or contact The Cancer Council Helpline on 13 11 20, or go to Lions Australian Prostate Cancer website at www.prostatehealth.org.au

. *Simon Yam, Project X*

Pope won't be silenced on condoms stance: Vatican

Sat Apr 18, 2009

The Vatican has denounced criticism of the Pope's remarks against the use of condoms, saying the Pontiff will not be intimidated into silence.

A Vatican spokesman says Pope Benedict XVI will continue to sustain the positions of the Catholic Church with strength and courage.

Last month on a visit to Africa, the Pope said that condoms are not the answer to AIDS, and could even make the problem worse.

AIDS "is a tragedy that cannot be overcome by money alone, that cannot be overcome through the distribution of condoms, which even aggravates the problems," the pontiff said.

The solution lies in a "spiritual and human awakening" and "friendship for those who suffer," he said.

Southern Africa bears a disproportionate share of the global HIV burden, with 35 per cent of the world's new infections and 38 per cent of AIDS deaths in 2007.

Several countries, including France and Germany, have called the remarks irresponsible and dangerous.

Belgian parliament yesterday passed a resolution calling the comments unacceptable and demanded that the government officially protest.

The Ins and Outs of Same-Sex Relationships

The aim of this survey is to offer a positive and unique contribution to the growing body of research on the lives of sexual minorities in Australia and ultimately help provide a more effective means of communication between people differing in sexual orientation. Results from the survey will build upon findings from earlier studies conducted in Australia and will be made available to organisations and individuals upon request, in order to further research and understanding.

- We truly value your participation whether you are generally open about your sexuality or not.
- The survey uses "scenarios" to look at how and when (if at all) individuals choose to disclose their sexuality through a same-sex relationship or while currently single.
- The survey also looks at the different types of same-sex relationships in Australia and people's preferences regarding relationship recognition whether single or in a casual or on-going relationship.
- We are also very much interested in your opinion regarding the views of others in relation to same-sex relationships and same-sex attractions.

To be eligible to participate in this survey we require that you (a) are at least 18 years of age (b) are a permanent resident or citizen of Australia and (c) consider yourself to be same-sex attracted.

More information on the survey, including confidentiality and ethical clearance, is available on the survey web-site prior to the start of the survey.

TO ENTER AND PARTICIPATE click on the link.



The Book of the decade is out.

Kampmeeting

Australian Kampmeeting will be 25th 26th September 2009 in Sydney, NSW. The theme for Our conference is "Incurably Gay and SDA." Check our events page for the details.

WE think you will be surprised at the level of speakers for this year 2009. So come and be part of it.

Fair Days. Sydney and Brisbane respectfully.

My Son, Beloved Stranger

By Carrol Grady

This excellent book has been reprinted with an added epilogue. This is a great book to have in your library and to have extra copies to give to parents, pastors, friends and anyone else who deals with having a loved one come out to them.

Open Heart, Open Hand

Three conversations about homosexuality and the family—a life and death matter. Introduced by Dr David Larson, a professor with the Faculty of Religion at Loma Linda University, this new resource features interviews with Adventist parents of gay and lesbian people.

Support for the Parents of Gay/Lesbian Adventists

Someone to Talk to.... Carrol Grady (Aka Kate McLaughlin My Son, Beloved Stranger),
Coordinator.

Web-Site <http://www.someone-to-talk-to.net>

P-flag Australia For parents and friends of GLBT people
Web site: www.pflag.org.au

Associations of Kinship around the World
SDA KINSHIP INTERNATIONAL
www.sdakinship.org

SDA KINSHIP AUSTRALIA - Principal Office:
P O Box 8097
Maroochydore DC 4558, Queensland Australia.
www.sdakinshipaustralia.org

MEMBERSHIP FOR KINSHIP IN AUSTRALIA IS WELCOME.

Membership is **FREE** in Australia, but relies on donations, to reach out to other people within the GLBTI community.

*Finally: You don't get to choose how you're going to die. Or when.
You can only decide how you're going to Live. Now*

Articles in this News Letter are not necessarily Kinships view: Contributions to this news letter are welcomed and encouraged. (The Newsletter One to One has been prepared by N Thorpe --- Coordinator.)