

"GAY HISTORY" now in Massachusetts schools.

Your tax dollars at work...

Article from Newton North High School newspaper (Newton, MA), following day-long "Transgender Bisexual Gay Lesbian Awareness Day" workshops for students ("ToBGLADay").

Friday, Jan. 12, 2007

Newton North, Newtonite ♦ 11

'Fabulous Gay History'

Student tells about Stonewall riots; teacher speaks on ancient world

BY ALLIE KAYHART

Looking at the period since World War II and at ancient times in Greece and Rome, two speakers talked about gay history.

Junior Bonnie Guang is writing her junior thesis on the 1969 Stonewall riots, a violent conflict at a Greenwich Village bar that sparked the gay liberation movement.

Gay liberation began after World War II when Harry Hay and Chuck Rowland founded the Mattachine Organization in 1950, Guang said.

"It was the first organization in the United States dedicated to liberating the oppressed homosexual community," she said.

The organization opened chapters in major cities including New York and had success in decreasing entrapment, she said.

"In 1973 the American Psychiatric Association removed homosexuality from its list of psychiatric disorders," Guang said. "So why is gay liberation still an issue? Why hasn't it made as much progress as other movements born from the radical era of the '60s?"

"The immense opposition posed by the Christian Right has hindered its success."

Guang pointed to the Reagan and Bush administrations as other powerful political obstacles that have impeded the progress of the gay rights movement.

Referring to the debate over gay marriage, she noted that modern gay history continues today.

The second speaker, Jack O'Conner, teaches history at Day Middle School and focused on ancient civilizations.

In ancient times, he said, "Homosexuality wasn't considered homosexuality. It was all just sexuality.

"Women were second-tier citizens. They were not placed in traditional positions of power. Women were viewed as supportive. They tended to the home with children.

"If all the women were kept in the home, what were all the men doing without them? In Athens men engaged in voting, business and entertainment, which at times meant sexual relations."

Noting that in the ancient world there were few exceptions to a dominant-subordinate concept, O'Conner said that class always dictated relationships.

Sparta, however, needed strong women to rear strong soldiers.

"As a result, women were encouraged to be active and were granted more rights, O'Conner said. "Women could own property."

Thebes was another exception with its elite Sacred Band—"50 male couples, all equal, married," O'Conner said.

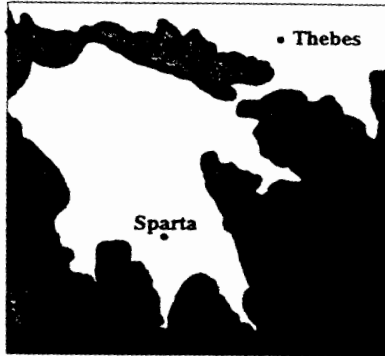
"As Plato says, an army made of lovers fights better," O'Conner said.

"They were the pinnacle of warrior prowess until they were wiped out by Alexander the Great at Ghair Novia."

During the Roman Empire, Caesar and Hadrian both engaged in homosexual acts, O'Conner said.

"How and why does all this change?" he asked.

"As Christianity rose and gained more power as a religion, we see a decline in open homosexual relationships in the ancient world."



Marc Held

Ancient history: In Sparta, the culture needed strong women, and in ancient Thebes, the Sacred Band was an elite fighting unit, said Jack O'Conner.

VERY STRONG Propaganda
This group also supported pederasty

Anti-Christian, political

??
??

Help MassResistance stop this!

MassResistance PO Box 1612 Waltham, MA 02454

www.MassResistance.org