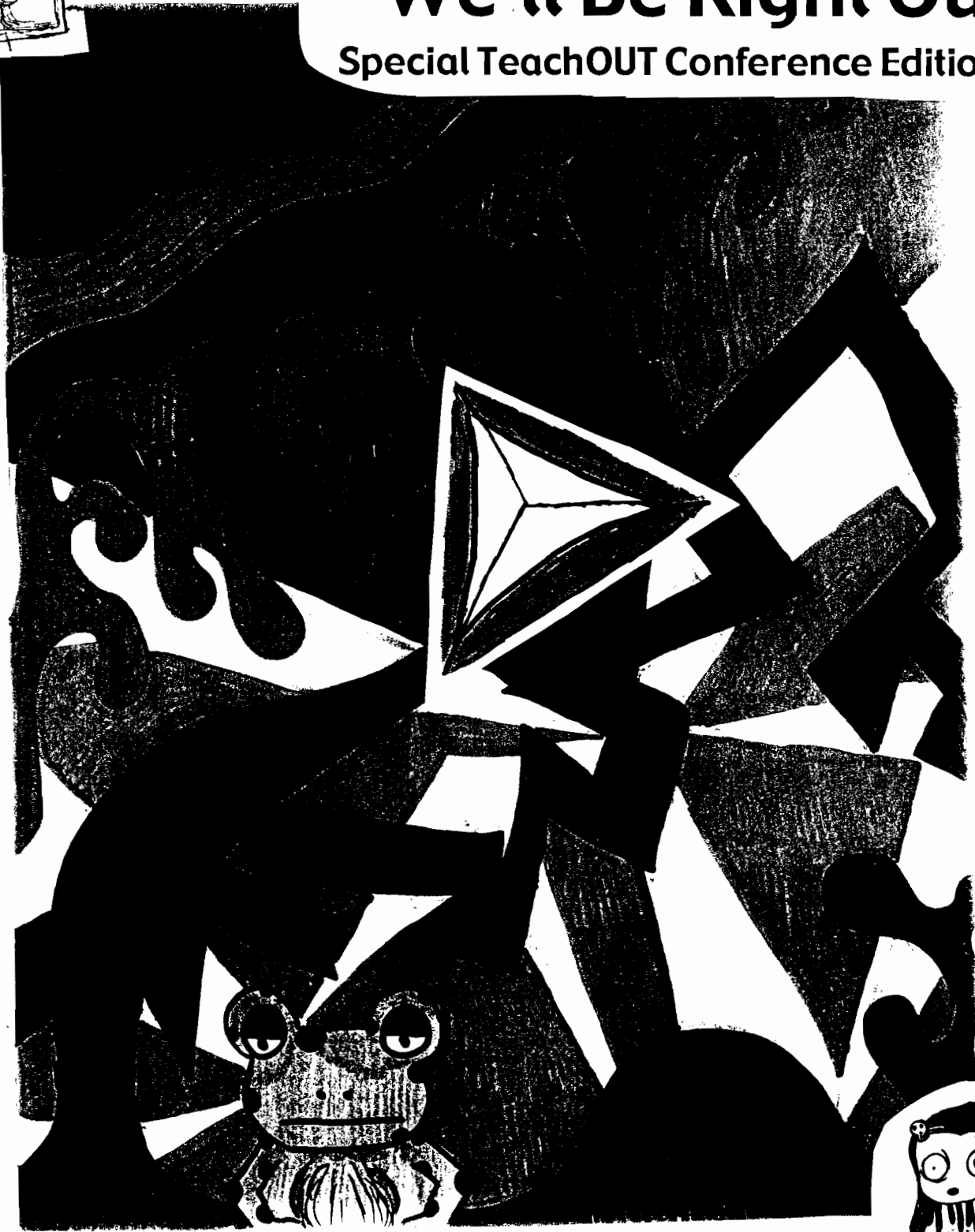




We'll Be Right Out

Special TeachOUT Conference Edition #2



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March 25, 2000



Goals we have and how we can achieve them:

For everyone to respect everyone else for who they are. Peace could be achieved if there is full acceptance of individuality.

I want to try to figure out how to get over my shyness and anti-socialness so that I can accomplish more for society in general. It's hard not to dwell on my own hang-ups about stuff, and get over them, when I know that I have a responsibility to society in general.

It's funny that I have so much trouble thinking about what I can do in my community. I'll be leaving it soon. I really would like to get the rich white kids I'm always around to get their heads out of their asses. If more rich white kids like myself got a sense of social responsibility and a sense of humility that reminds them that even though we can control the world and/or the country, we don't understand it.

I think one of my main goals is to better my community is to make it aware of the stereotypes it is prone to. Not only to stereotypes but to the unnecessary and cruel problems that we are faced with in our small environment.

- 1) Getting a boyfriend
- 2) To start stirring up a little fun. After all, Andover's nickname is "Dullsville", and the most interesting thing that happens is people get pulled over.
- 3) I'd also like to have a funny little bake sale in front of our non-existent Wal-Mart!



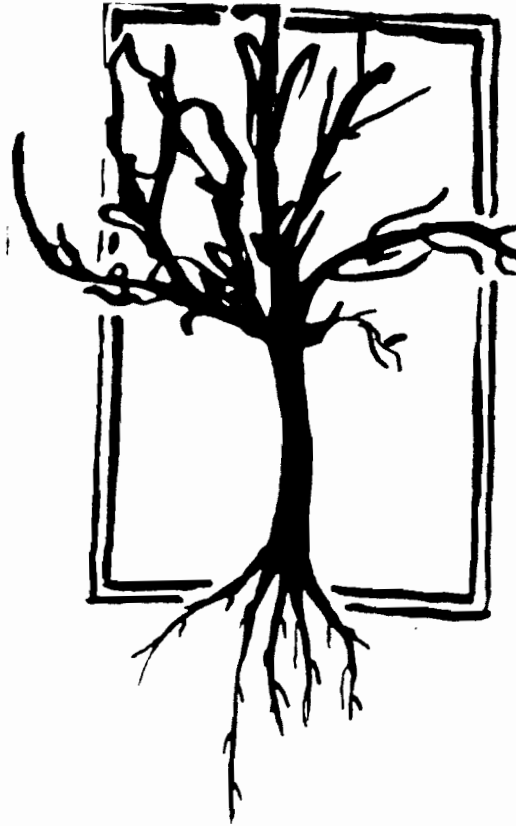
Raise awareness and acceptance in my high school by becoming more active and visible. I plan on taking my boyfriend to the prom and going with my friends to show them that we are here and I'm not afraid to show them who I care about, and that I am happy.



Yesterday I experienced discrimination for the first time. I mean, in the past I've witnessed it, and I have been the victim of it, but this was the first time I was actually afraid for my safety because of it. I was over my friend's house (he's a guy) and my other friend (she's a girl) and I decided to dress up in his clothes, and then we all took a little trip down to Medford Square. On our way we were confronted by three teenage boys. It was late and my friend and I (my friend who was a girl and I) had our arms linked. These three guys called Zach, my friend over, and asked him, "Who the fuck we were, and what the fuck we were doing here." Then one of the boys came over to Eliza and I and told us "to get the fuck out of here, and that we had better never come back." So, the three of us began to walk, very quickly, back to Zach's house. Eliza and I wishing we were back in Cambridge. About 5 minutes later we heard them yelling again, Zach turned around and told us once we turned onto his street run, as fast as we could, and don't stop until we were in his house. We did. As soon as I got inside I ran upstairs and changed back into my platform shoes and capri pants. I can only imagine what it's like to have to go through that every day.

There's this element of queer events that I find disturbing. Well, actually, there's a lot of things about queer events that I find disturbing. One thing that I've noticed over and over again is how white these events tend to be, yet how diverse we claim to be in them. While society in general is still pretty separatist, queer communities seem to be even more separatist. Like, it's not that people of color are not part of the queer "community"; it's just that there is a whiter community, a blacker community, etc. But what follows from this is a lot of frustration from white people who genuinely want to be part of a more diverse community. But the thing is, I don't think that as white people we can't ever understand or fathom how racism plays into the lives of people of color. Maybe we just need to learn that racism is a much broader and more deeply rooted issue that white people have a responsibility to address, sometimes more important than homophobia? While some of us have immensely huge problems dealing with sexuality and homophobia, the rest of us, many of whom are in positions of great privilege, need to work towards stopping the oppression of less privileged people.

**My thoughts are racing,
Where do I start?
I don't know
What to do with the
Thoughts of my heart.**



What We've Been Taught

If you close your eyes,
It doesn't exist.

If you plug your ears exist.
It isn't happening.

If you don't scream outloud,
The pain will go away.

Is abuse in gay relationships a problem?

Yeah, abuse in any relationship is a problem. It's ridiculous that there always has to be a difference between homosexual and heterosexual relationships. Because there is, but so many people in the gay community want to stress that we are the same as straight people, while so many others want to prove that we are different.

The Endless
I feel my frustration
I feel my anger
It's not about anxiety
It's about my life
I've been band from so many things
The time is running short
I hate life it could be so depressing
Things people do and say
Are so meaningless it hurts
I take it in on one breath
When I express it the sounds is so faint
Its deafening

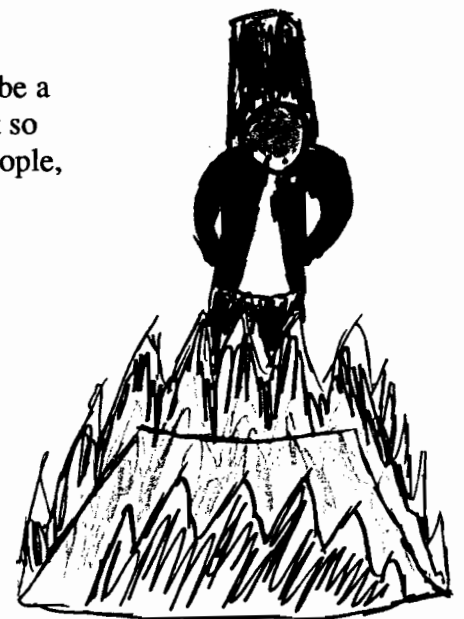
"SHHHHH!"

I go to a school in a community that is "caring" and "kind".

Here: My friend was sexually assaulted;
it was ignored.
A guy had a drug addiction;
he was expelled.

I used to sit next to a boy in science class.
He was depressed and scared.
He'd cut himself with razor blades;
I was told to close my eyes.

*MY, how this community loves
its students!*



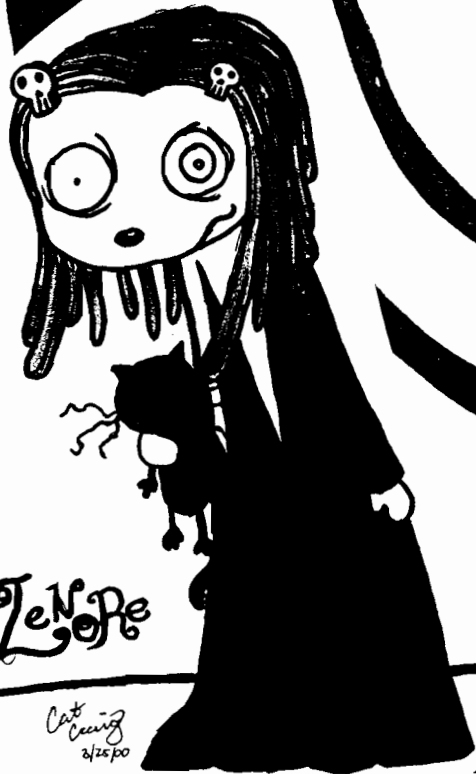
Self Anguish

Swallow Glass

Expelling the undesirable feelings seems most important to growing as a process. We're all down in that hole, but we could someday ascend from shadow, and in turn, provide the hand hold for others who wish to see the light. Perhaps I will never find resolve for what is so vexing, for what has driven me to reject human hungers. So many thoughts on paper, read by so many people, but I have never published the bluntness of truth.

Remembering the torment as an overweight child drove me to such extreme ends. Starving the pain out of me was cathartic, but the novelty soon wore off.

It was pushed further when he left, and it was a year ago today that they recalled me to life, but I won't live until I have had the opportunity to notify him of how grateful I was that he fooled me into believing that I was important enough to love. As ostentatious as I am, I have no self love. ☹



SLUT

She didn't want to do it
So she thought, "I'll scream as loud as I can."

Her crying didn't stop him,
He had to be a man.

When he was finally through,
She felt so dirty and unclean.

How could the man she loved
Be so brutal and so mean?

Back in school the football players would shove and,
Grab her butt.

They figured they could get some too,
Considering she was a slut.

No one realized it, and she was unaware too,

In reality it was RAPE that
Was making her so blue.

Not knowing where to go
Not knowing what to do
Not having many friends
Not seeking any though
Feeling kinda sad
Feeling kinda bored
Feeling almost lonely
Feeling semi confused
What else is there to see here
What else is there to find
What else can I contribute
What else must I endure
I need to find a balance
I need to find a friend
I need to see the light this day
I need to smile once more

Ok, an ethical situation. Is it moral. You decide!?

An argument against the ten commandments.

An act is morally right is and only if it follows the ten commandments.

- 1)The ten commandments are the "word of GOD"
- 2)If the 10 commandments are the "Word of GOD," Then it is morally acceptable for the unattached gay man, to sleep with a married -to-a-female closeted man.
- 3)Therefore, it is morally acceptable for the gay, unattached man to sleep with a married-to-a-female-closeted man.

The Story

Peter is the typical gay boy next door. He's out and everything. Peters neighbors are Louis and Heather. He is quite attracted to Louis and try's to visit him as much as possible, just to see him. He waters the garden, cuts the grass, even throws parties just to see this Louis. Peter has a gaydar and has picked up on a Louis. In fact Louis is one of the biggest closet cases in the world. He just married her to get his mothero ff his back.

Reason 1 for the argument against the ten commandments.

Louis and his wife, Heather, have gone off on a vacation and they ask Peter to house sit. Louis, however, just cam home from an important business meeting in the middle of the week. On Wednesday, Louis returns home and starts talking to Peter. They talk and talk and talk. Suddenly POOF! Peter and Louis wind up in bed.(we won't go into details)

Now, there is nothing in the ten commandment that says "Do not covet the neighbors husband." Therefore it is morally acceptable for the gay, unattached man to sleep with the married-to-a-female-closeted man.

Reason 2

In some cultures, God does not exist. Therefore the "word of God" does not exist and the 10 commandments are something not to be followed.

Reflection

My thoughts are racing and I have no idea where to begin. I see prejudice and racism and the less fortunate/ needy being overlooked and neglected. I think that's what makes things harder. When you're in a position to help and you see problems but you just don't know what to do about it. Can one person *really* make a difference? The more I think about it, the more I understand. Everything starts somewhere... dreams don't just come out of thin air. All you need is a positive attitude, a little motivation, and a commitment to yourself to take risks and say how you feel.

It's much easier to make excuses why we *can't* make changes, or why we're too busy already. This world is so perfect & happy when you just close your eyes! Eventually though, our hearts, are forced to see what our eyes are trying to ignore. We need to think more about people who aren't as lucky as some of us are, and how a single person with a goal can make as big of a difference as their eyes are willing to listen to your heart. .∞



POP CULTURE!

Barbies taught me...

- to worship disproportion
- attractiveness = blonde, blue eyes, white
- weakness
- to be heterosexual
- focus my life on clothes, make-up, and Ken
- stability & happiness = A BOYFRIEND
- revealing clothes will make my career a successful
- my intelligence means SHIT
- a world filled of an unrealistic life
- "math is hard!"
- negative body image
- my waist should be 18 inches

Barbies taught me, and millions of other girls, to HATE OURSELVES AND FIT ONE MOLD!

Materialism is a wonderful thing. Having something to call your own is a wonderful thing. Being Materialistic also encourages being social. Honestly, who really wants to go to the mall by themselves?

Stuff is cool and I love buying things. I very rarely buy clothes; mostly I buy accessories to make the crappy clothes I have look cooler. I usually go and buy toys, because I don't want to grow up ever, because old people suck!! Mentally keeping young is cool.

SEX!

As most teenagers know, we can't be with our significant others 24:7, or even everyday. I know I can't. Because we are hearing peeks of our sexual life we want, and need, sex all the time. Though I don't practice masturbation many I know do. I've had the pleasure of or lack of, hearing what they use.

One tip: Icy Hot and bengay are a no-no. It might feel good for a moment, but desperade, it hurts more that it provides pleasure. I hear pumps are great. They act like a hand, but feel better. How? I wouldn't know.

Vibrators are great for some, but if your low on cash - maglites are excellent. Go to K-mart in the batteries aisle. Not that expensive, Yet just as fun as a vibrator.

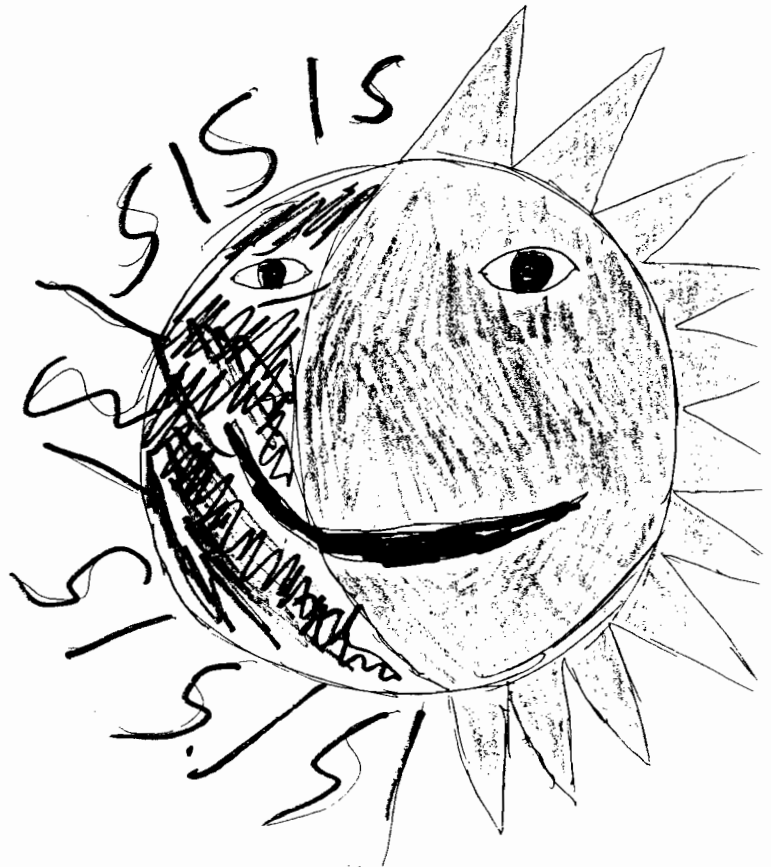
Though toys are good (supposedly) nothing beats the real thing. I wait for my partner and it all out then. But hey to each bis/her own. These are just a few tips suggestions. Do with it what you want.

Abercrombie and Fitch isn't about clothes, it's about the guys NOT wearing the clothes. The only reason I go into A&F is to "sight see", which is basically when you go in to the store just to stare at the cute, shirtless guys on the posters.

I think that there should be more Boy Bands. No, scratch that. There should be more Boy Bands with Music Videos. Because even if the music is bad, you can always turn the volume off on your TV and just stare.

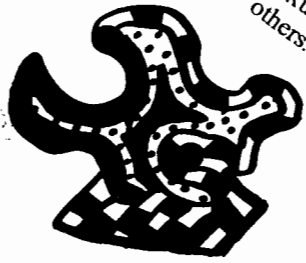
Abercrombie and Fitch SUCKS!

At my old school anybody who was anybody Wore Abercrombie and Fitch. Well I'm here to say: There are plenty of alternatives to getting cool clothes. Don't become an A.F groupie. It is not as cool as it is cracked up to be.

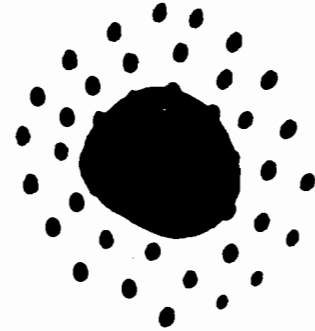


LABELS

I'm always being labeled. I'm not good enough for my people and not "good" enough for the American. I want to live in a society where colleges and work places don't ask for your ethnicity. I don't want to be put into "place" because of my skin color or sexual orientation. Society sucks. People are always judging others. People are people and that is that.



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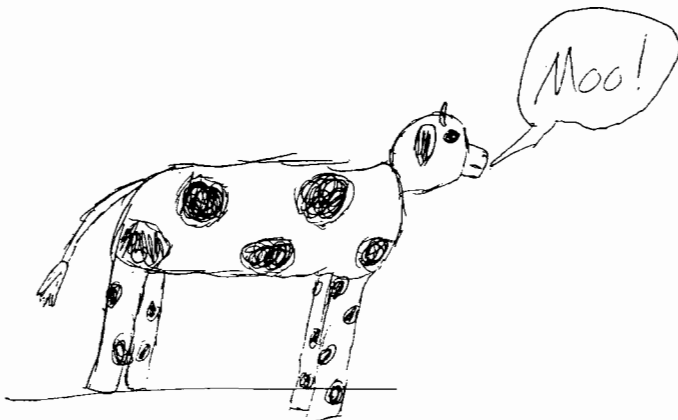
Many words in the English language have multiple meanings. There are, however, that have one meaning. Queer and gay, for instance, are commonly used to describe things that are different. Sorry, that's not what the words mean. Yeah we are different, but come on don't associate everything different to us. I mean, to us at least, you're queer. Get over it. We are gay. Deal with it. Accept us like we accept you.

Gay is a man that loves another man, not something that just so happens to be different. Just because we're not normal in your eyes means nothing to us. Think about this: If everything seems to be not normal, then wouldn't it be normal to be not normal. Queers might not be normal but straights aren't either.



Labels just complicate things. Being a teenager is so confusing already, it seems that forcing yourself to define everything now just makes everything that much harder. (at least for me). I'm sure that for some people giving themselves a label can give them comfort, a sense of identity. I guess I just don't feel I'm comfortable enough with myself to give myself a label that's somehow supposed to wrap me up in a little package.

The concept of beauty is usually meant as a physical beauty. The guidelines which make you beautiful are, a good body, pretty features, and of course a nice ass, or a nice rack. Oh and don't forget the clothing that makes you beautiful as well. But is that really true beauty? If that is tri beauty then I'm definitely not beautiful. Shouldn't beauty be your inner self. Your great personality, the way you treat other, your kindness? I'm very discouraged by the idea of beauty. Everyone is in someway beautiful. But real beauty the one that you should be judged by (if judging someone is really necessary) should be the persons inner beauty. Outer beauty is what is taught to many as a way of living your life. I hope one day people will be judged by there inner beauty and not there outer beauty.



I don't think I'll ever stop being weirded out by people...

Some people just want the strangest things, and what they do to get them is in itself, strange. A woman was stopped at an airport metal detector because she had a piercing on her clitoris then, when they searched her they found something on the order of eight pounds of heroin. What the hell? Why, would a person want a piercing there? What sexual partners would enjoy it? Isn't that dangerous? I know, of course it is, and that's probably one the main reasons she had it. But still, why does she want that danger? And given that she was smuggling that much heroin over an airplane, why didn't she make absolutely sure she didn't get stopped for anything? How big was the piercing that it set off a metal detector? I guess what I just find so mind boggling is that this makes sense to someone else and is probably just the tip of the iceberg. (an expression which is over-used most of the time, but I don't think now.) What kind of life does this person lead? What kind of childhood did she have? I think the only way that a person can with weirdness is to enjoy and celebrate it.

Zine list

Abby Horrell
 Ryan Fisk
 Lesley Lavamee
 Julie Gilbert
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 Dave Irvine
 Daniel Simmons
 Marisa Suarez-Groco
 Daniel Piper

Cat Craig
 Bun
 Rachel L.

Emily Scott

Becca Kaufman

Amanda Dembowski
 Tommy Raughter "Naughton"

Caroline Evans

Sean Craig

if your stuff

didn't get in,
 it's not because
 we didn't like it.

We ran out of
 TIME! - the
 editors

I wish the queer activist community were less divided. I mean, young queer activists don't go to the vents of the adult queer community in my town - I mean, the grown ups have dances and events that the are 21 and up, and kids never feel comfortable in their meetings. And most GSAs and g youth groups have upper age limits (something to do with the possibility of dating). Also, the adults often didn't come out until they were older (20 or 30) so they don't believe that we know at such a young age, or they don't identify with us (in our frustration and junior identity crises). Also, youth use different language to talk about oppression - we self-identify as queers and dykes - they often don't feel comfortable with such labels. And this workshop is even for kids, while other ones here are for adults only. Even queer teachers at my school aren't out to the queer students. It is weird and frustrating to try to come together on an issue. And this age issue is not to mention racial and ethnic gaps, which are enormous throughout activist communities.



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