

LGBT History Project of the LGBT Center of Central PA

**Located at Dickinson College
Archives & Special Collections**

<http://archives.dickinson.edu/>

Documents Online

Title: *Dignity Brochure*

Date: undated

Location: LGBT-036 Lawrence V. Valerio Collection

Contact:

LGBT History Project
Archives & Special Collections
Waidner-Spahr Library
Dickinson College
P.O. Box 1773
Carlisle, PA 17013

717-245-1399

archives@dickinson.edu



dignity

CENTRAL
PENNSYLVANIA

What is Dignity?

DIGNITY is a community of gay and lesbian Catholics and other concerned individuals who believe that God made and loves us all and that we have a right to full membership in the faith community, including the right to share in the spiritual and sacramental life of the Church.

Founded in 1969, DIGNITY became a national organization in 1973. Presently there are over one hundred chapters throughout the United States and Canada.

DIGNITY/CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA was established in 1975. Our membership is open to women and men of all faiths who share the ideals of DIGNITY.

DIGNITY/CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA is incorporated as a non-profit organization in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and receives no financial support from the Catholic Church or from any agency. Its entire operation is made possible through the contributions of its members and by friends who share in the mission and goals of DIGNITY. All contributions are tax-deductible.

Areas of Concern

What is the Purpose of Dignity?

The purpose of DIGNITY is to promote the cause of the gay and lesbian community. To do this, we believe that we must accept responsibility:

- **To the Church.** To work for the development of its theology of sexuality and for the acceptance of lesbian women and gay men as full and equal members.
- **To Society.** To work for justice and social acceptance through education and legal reform.
- **To Individual Gays and Lesbians.** To reinforce their sense of dignity and their self-acceptance and to aid them in becoming more active members of church and society.

DIGNITY attempts to minister to the needs of all gay and lesbian people, to develop leadership among them, and to be an instrument through which they may be heard in the church and in society.

• Spiritual Development

We seek to attain maturity through all the means at our disposal, including the Mass, the sacraments, scripture, personal prayer, pastoral counseling, and active love of neighbor.

• Education

We seek to inform both ourselves and others in matters of faith and in all that concerns the lesbian and gay community. We wish to develop the outlook needed to live fulfilling lives in which sexuality and spirituality are integrated and by means of which we are empowered for service to our community and our world.

• Outreach

We seek to become involved in actions that bring the love of Christ to others and that provide a basis for social reform.

• Women's Concerns

We seek to work toward the elimination of all constraints that are based on ascribed sex roles.

• Social Events

We seek to provide social and recreational activities that promote an atmosphere where friendships can develop and mature and where the individual's sense of acceptance and dignity may be strengthened.

- I wish to receive more information about DIGNITY/CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA.
 I wish to subscribe to *Keystone*, the bimonthly newsletter (\$5.00 annually).
 I wish to become a member of DIGNITY/CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA.

Annual dues: \$~~20.00~~ individual membership #25
~~\$40.00 couple membership~~

I wish to make a contribution (amount \$ _____).

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mail to: Dignity/Central Pennsylvania
P.O. Box 297
Federal Square Station
Harrisburg, PA 17108-0297

ALL INFORMATION IS STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

DIGNITY / CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA ACTIVITIES

Spiritual

- regular celebration of the Mass
- evening prayer and Bible study
- traditional ethnic observances (e.g., blessing of homes, the Passover Seder)
- worship services for women

Education and Outreach

- "Keystone"—the chapter newsletter
- a quarterly calendar of events
- guest speakers
- reading and discussion groups
- liaison with other gay groups
- speakers service

Social Events

- weekly volleyball games
- monthly potluck suppers
- parties and open house celebrations
- summer picnics and cookouts
- trips, hikes and excursions
- dinner and theater engagements
- fellowship with other organizations
- and more!