

# **LGBT History Project of the LGBT Center of Central PA**

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## **Documents Online**

**Title:** Governor's Council for Sexual Minorities Highlights of the Year Draft

**Date:** March 9, 1977

**Location:** LGBT-001 Joseph W. Burns Collection

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL FOR SEXUAL MINORITIES  
238 Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

TO: Council Members  
FROM: Tony Silvestre  
DATE: March 9, 1977  
SUBJ: Draft of the Highlights section of the Annual Report of  
the Council

Attached is a draft of the Highlights section of the Annual Report for your review and especially for suggestions for other highlights which should be included. Please send these suggestions to me immediately.

TS:km  
Attachment

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEARReplacing Myths and Fears with Facts and Deeper Commitments to  
Human Rights for Sexual Minority Persons

## Education of State Agency Leadership:

- \*exploratory dialogues held with the Secretaries of Education, Health and Public Welfare and the Attorney General
- \*conferences held with several hundred high and middle level officials, including a series of six meetings with the State Police Commissioner and other top level police officers, a pilot training session with the Affirmative Action staff of the Health Department

## Education of State Political Leadership:

- \*year-round telephone, letter and in-person contacts made with numerous legislators and others active in State and local political affairs describing discrimination based on sexual or affectional orientation - and providing literature and other relevant information
- \*in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Gay Rural Caucus, on March 23, arranged meetings with 80 legislators for 100 gay people from all parts of the State for discussion of the anticipated impact of proposed pro- and anti-gay legislation on the rights and lives of Pennsylvania's sexual minorities

## Education of Council Members and the General Public:

- \*guest experts spoke at each Council meeting on such topics as Religion and Homosexuality, Transexuality, the Androgenous Society and the Council and State Government
- \*a general information brochure about sexual minorities for public distribution prepared; <sup>to</sup> be published shortly
- \*the Council's Chairperson and other Council members appeared on more than \_\_\_ television and radio programs in different parts of the State

Protecting the Human Rights of Sexual Minorities

Improvement of the Quality of State Services for Sexual Minorities:

\*training about homosexuality included in the basic training course for all institutional staff of the Bureau of Corrections

\*list of issues about the rights of sexual minorities in basic and higher education prepared for use by the staff of the Department of Education

Expansion of Knowledge About the Special Problems and Needs of Sexual Minorities:

Advocacy of the Human Rights of Sexual Minorities:

\*a wide variety of situations of alleged harassment and/or discrimination in colleges, hospitals, public areas and private employment investigated

Protecting the Employment Rights of Gay State Employees

Redress of Infringements of the Employment Rights of Gay State Employees:

\*complaint desk, officer and procedure established

\*cooperation obtained from many State agencies beginning with announcements of the complaint procedure in employee newsletters

Affirmative Action Program Prohibition of Discrimination Against Gay Employees:

\*sexual minorities included as a protected class of employees in the Governor's Affirmative Action Program Directive and the implementing IMPAAC Manual

\*training program for Affirmative Action officers and personnel officers designed

Union Contract Prohibition of Discrimination Against Gay Employees:

\*cooperation obtained from the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Workers, AFL-CIO, for talks at union meetings and articles in union newspaper

\*support given by the Secretaries of Education and Public Welfare for expanding the anti-discrimination clause in union contracts to include sexual minorities