

Crosscurrents

BY WICKIE STAMPS

As a burned out politico, I duck politics like I duck an ex-lover. But this brouhaha over gays in the military is working my last nerve. Everywhere I turn, TV, radio, newspaper, all I see and hear are straight people talking about how, if the ban is lifted, they are going to have to protect themselves from us queers, who, of course, are just dying to jump in the sack with them.

I've had it. So here goes. Let's just get down and dirty here. Since I'm a dyke, I'll confine myself to the dyke/straight girl thing. What I want to know is, when they lift the ban, who the hell is going to protect us dykes from those straight girls?

I'm serious. First of all, I'm not talking about who will save us when, with photos of their boyfriends clutched to their chests, these straight girls start throwing their nail files, hair spray cans and birth control pills at us dykes. Certainly this is a concern, but us bull daggers will just spit into their pancake makeup or have some of our gay acquaintances seduce their boyfriends.

What I'm more concerned about is who is going to protect us from straight girls who sexually pester us? So far, I haven't heard a word about this side of the kinky coin — straight girls who take sexual privileges with dykes.

This bizarre behavior by straight girls usually only crops up after you've been around them for a long time, such as in work situations or other long term environments, like the military. You see, there's a process straight girls go through. Like a play, it is broken up into three acts.

Act One: The straight girls finally realize that us dykes haven't the slightest interest in jumping into their heterosexual drawers. This period usually includes their taking offense that we aren't the least bit interested in jumping their bones by slipping under their bed sheets or ripping back their shower cur-

tains while they're showering, then...

Act Two: The straight girls start talking to us dykes about their problems with men. Who, they think, could be happier to hear about how much they hate men? All dykes hate men, right? So, of course, straight women spend days chatting to us about their problems — often sexual — with men. And, believe me, if you really want to hear women bitch about men, just hang around straight women.

Then, Act Three: What I call the "heterosexual ghetto mentality." Straight people think that us queers just love to be privy to every weird notion, kinky fantasy, or non-heterosexual act a straight girl has ever experienced or thought about. I'm serious; I've spent a lot of time around straight women as an out S/M dyke. Over time, every closet case in the joint 'fesses up'. By the end of my tenure with these straight women, I know who's having sex with her boyfriend, who isn't, who wants to have sex with the same sex — and who's just dying to get whipped or have some part of her anatomy pierced. And, a lot of these women are often friends with each other, but never talk to each other about their sexual meanderings away from missionary heterosexuality. They reserve their confessions, and they do feel like confessions, for the resident dyke.

Okay, I know I'm stereotyping. But, what the hell. So are they (and kindly keep in mind that for 30 years I, too, was a boy-fucking, *Mademoiselle* - reading, homophobic straight girl!)

Dykes in the military? Forget it. What I want to know is who's going to make those straight girls leave us poor dykes alone? Otherwise, I'm going AWOL with the gay boys, who I know are getting the same shit. It's just on a different stick.

Or maybe I'll just rent myself a priest's suit, complete with collar and put up a sign that reads "Confessions 5¢"!