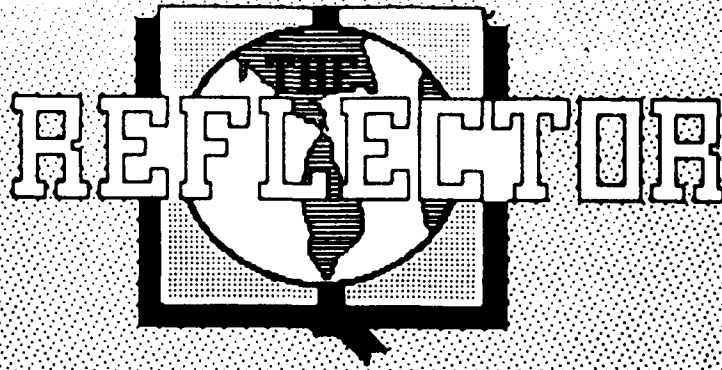


**NOVEMBER 1985**



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## **"GAY" RIGHTS IN LOUISVILLE**

Tom Moody

HOMOSEXUALS IN LOUISVILLE are conducting a campaign aimed at amending six city and county ordinances to prohibit discrimination against homosexuals in housing, employment and public accommodations.

Despite your genuine and legitimate concern of moral influence or physical health, you could not under such ordinances, decline to rent an apartment to or hire someone on the basis of homosexuality.

The "Greater Louisville Human Rights Coalition", a homosexual rights organization, wants homosexuals to be included in city and county ordinances in addition to members of racial and ethnic minorities, women, and the handicapped.

To say that citizens should not be allowed to use discretionary caution with reference to homosexuals for the same reason that they should not be allowed to practice bigoted discrimination against racial minorities, women, and the handicapped is absurd. Here is why:

1. Homosexual activity is committed by choice. No one is, by choice, part of a racial minority, a woman, or handicapped.

We realize that it is popular to contend that homosexuals are "born not made". No one has proven it. However, if it is granted that one has "tendencies" (temptations) which are homosexual, the fact remains that the homosexual act is carried out by choice. If someone is driven by an uncontrollable compulsion to

commit these acts, he surely is sick and must need help.

2. Homosexual acts are immoral according to the word of God (Romans 1:27; 1 Corinthians 6:9). Being in a racial minority, being a woman, and being handicapped are not immoral.

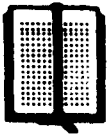
3. Homosexual activity, regardless of one's view of morality, is without question and manifestly unnatural and deviate. Being a woman or part of a racial minority is not unnatural and deviate. While a handicap is an abnormality, it is one which is inflicted and imposed upon its recipient, and which the handicapped individual would gladly and readily correct if possible.

4. Homosexuality brings to a community legitimate health hazards such as AIDS and other venereal diseases. Outspoken homosexual activists have charged that screening blood donors and military personnel or closing bath houses constitutes "unfair discrimination" against homosexuals.

Being a woman, a member of a racial minority, or handicapped does not pose similar dangers to the health of the community.

Spokespersons for homosexuals understand this problem clearly and indicate their fear that this fact could hamper their campaign. Donna Meers, speaking for a local homosexual activist group said she hopes people won't let their

(See Page 4)



# CHILDREN'S INFLUENCE UPON PARENTS

Bill Hall

Children can influence their parents just as parents can influence their children.

The following story about an imaginary couple may have been duplicated in the lives of many of our readers.

George and Mary were a wonderful couple as they began their life together. Throughout their youth they had received strong teaching concerning worldliness, and their conduct showed the effects of that teaching. They had been taught faithfulness in attendance, and they never missed a service for "anything." In character and conviction, they were blameless.

This young couple failed, however, to instill into the hearts of their children these same convictions. Consequently, as the children reached their teens, they began to put pressure on their parents to let them do what all the other young people were doing. Gradually the will of the parents was broken down, and they began to permit their children to do things they never dreamed their children would ever do.

Rationalization came easy for George and Mary. "After all, the Bible is not specific in these matters," they thought. "The Bible says 'modest apparel', but it doesn't define modesty." "And, they're only planning to go to the dance; they aren't planning to dance." "We can't say 'no' to everything," they said. When Junior began to show unusual athletic ability, the question of attending services became a problem. At first they took Junior out of games and brought him to midweek services, but then the team began to depend more and more on him. The play-offs came, and the team's only hope in the play-offs was for Junior to play. George and Mary gave in. And once they had given in, they had no more argument for the future. Junior never missed another game to "go to church."

George and Mary often found themselves on the defensive in Bible classes. They began to argue for their children's behavior. And, the more accustomed they became to their children's actions, the more innocent their actions seemed to be. Eventually, their own conduct became affected. They reached the point where they thought nothing of missing on Friday night during a meeting to see Junior play ball. Mary even adopted some of the daughter's dress habits, although remaining sufficiently "discreet" to stay in the good graces of the brethren. Yes, George and Mary are still in good standing in the church, and their change has been so gradual that many fail to realize that they are not the strong Christians they formerly were. What happened to George and Mary? Instead of bringing their children "up" in the nurture and admonition of the "Lord", their children brought them "down" in the nurture and admonition of the "devil."

Our children may do wrong, but they must not do wrong with our permission. We do not seek anger, but repentance. Parents, would your names fit in the place of "George" and "Mary" in the above story?

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## Questions And Requests

We receive a lot of mail from readers of this paper. We wish we could reply personally to each person who writes, but we simply do not have the time. We have some letters requesting that we comment on some matters and questions about other things that we have not answered yet.

Beginning with the January Issue we hope to begin answering as many as possible through these pages. Be patient with us and maybe we will get around to your question or request soon. Thanks for writing. -Editor.

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**OUR SERVICES**  
**SUNDAYS:**  
**Bible Classes 9:45 AM**  
**Worship 10:45 AM**  
**Worship 6:00 PM**  
**WEDNESDAYS**  
**Bible Class 10:00 AM**  
**Bible Classes 7:30 PM**

## **"I HAVE TO WORK"**

Wayne Walker



Very seldom is every member of the local congregation present at any given service. Most always there are some who are sick or visiting out of town, and usually a few who are just plain negligent. But a reason for missing services that is heard with increasing frequency is, "I have to work." In our day of 24-hour plants and swing shifts, there are those who actually have to work in order to maintain their jobs and make a decent standard of living. Their ox is in the ditch, so to speak (Luke 14:5). It is an absolute necessity, at least occasionally.

However, there are two things that bother me about this. One is that many who say, "I have to work," really mean, "I choose to work." Their working while absent from worship is not to keep their jobs or maintain a basic livelihood. It is voluntary overtime, usually with time-and-a-half for extra pay, so they can get ahead and have a few luxuries of life. There is nothing wrong with nice things, but the Bible warns against covetousness and the love of money (Luke 12:15; I Tim. 6:9-10). In our materialistic age, we must constantly examine our attitude to see that we are working because we have to and not just because we want to have more.

The second thing is that so many teenagers say, "I can't come because I have to work." Why does a person have to work? It is to provide for his own, especially those of his own household (I Tim. 5:8). If a teenager is working to provide for the needs of his family, that is one thing. But, how many teenagers do you know in the church today who are doing this? Normally, they work for their own spending money or to save up a little extra for college. Again, it is not a genuine necessity, and what they are saying in truth is, "I desire to work instead of coming to church."

When parents start justifying themselves for not assembling with the saints because of optional work, it opens the door for the children to start asking not to go because of homework, school functions, athletic activities, etc. And do not think that they cannot see through our hypocrisy when we tell them, "no". As God's people living on this sin-cursed earth, we must learn that we have an obligation to attend every time the doors are open, unless it is simply impossible for us to be there. Our commitment to the Christ who dies for us demands no less. Besides, I have never known of a Christian who suffered economic deprivation because he chose to be at worship instead of going to work. "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matt. 6:33).



## Homosexuals

fear of AIDS muddle their thinking about what the coalition is trying to do. (Louisville Courier-Journal, September 29, 1985).

### What Homosexuals Want

"Jim", a spokesman for the Greater Louisville Human Rights Coalition (he did not want to use his real name) states that homosexuals want to amend current anti-discrimination ordinances to include the words: "Affectional or sexual orientation". That is, someone should not be "discriminated against" because of his or her "affectional or sexual orientation."

Such vague wording has no place in any law or ordinance because its generality would include not only homosexuality, but also those who practice bestiality, rape, or child molesting. If this is not true, will someone explain why? Would not those in any of these categories contend that they are simply living out their "affectional or sexual orientation"? Would not many of them cite evidence that they were "born not made" with such orientation, and that, after all, "God made them and loves them too"? Are there not organizations openly trying to overthrow laws and discrimination against the pedophile?

Homosexuals should not expect to be considered by law parallel to racial minorities, women, or the handicapped any more than adulterers, thieves, covetous, or drunkards.

The word of God puts homosexuals, adulterers, thieves, covetous, and drunkards in the same category (I Corinthians

6:9,10). This passage also points out that among the Christians at Corinth there were some who were guilty of these sins, but they had been washed, sanctified, and justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ (I Corinthians 6:11).

Christians should not mistreat homosexuals. Nor should we mistreat liars, thieves and drunks. However, this does not mean that we should condone their sinful activity, or that we should throw caution to the wind and not take measures to avoid the problems which can be brought on by homosexuals, thieves, and drunkards. I believe there are legitimate reasons to choose not to rent to a thief, drunkard, adulterer, or homosexual. There can be legitimate reasons for an employer not to hire a thief, drunkard, promiscuous heterosexual or homosexual.

Christians should try to share the Gospel with those lost in sin. We should show them how they can enjoy the blessings of the same grace by which our own sins are forgiven.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The situation that Tom here describes in Louisville is being repeated all over the country. No longer is the "homosexual rights" movement restricted to such places as San Francisco. We need to realize that homosexuality is a sin and not just some sickness. Let's take care not to be overly influenced by the humanistic reasoning of the world about us. Let's remember to have compassion and love for all sinners, but never condone sin in any way. The homosexual needs to "come out from among them and be separate" if he is to please God. -- eob,jr)

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