

# Illinois Gender Advocates



Advocacy for the Transgender and Gender Variant Community

A §501(c)(3) Charitable Organization

Volume 2 Issue 11

November 2003

## Transgender Day of Remembrance Set for November 19

Illinois Gender Advocates will conduct a candlelight vigil at 6:00 p.m. on the evening of Wednesday, November 19, 2003 to honor the memory of the transgender and gender variant men and women throughout the world who were killed during the preceding year on account of their gender expression. The vigil will be held in the outdoor plaza of the James R. Thompson Center, located at 100 W. Randolph Street (corner of Randolph and Clark Streets) in Chicago, and will last approximately one hour.

The death toll from anti-transgender violence has reached staggering proportions. In the period from November 2002 to present, 16 transgender Americans were murdered on account of their gender expression. A total of 35 transgender murders occurred worldwide during the same period of time. Of course, these figures only represent the cases that have been reported by the news media. It is generally believed that countless other transgender murders have occurred, but have simply been ignored.

The victims represent a cross-section of the transgender community, and include cross-dressers, drag queens, as well as transsexuals in various stages of transition. Their murders tend to be particularly violent, and are frequently characterized by the "overkill" of multiple gunshot or stab wounds that are often associated with hate crimes.

*(Continued on Page 2)*

**The Next Meeting of  
Illinois Gender Advocates  
Will Take Place at 7:30 p.m. on  
Thursday, November 13, 2003  
And Will Be Held at  
New Spirit MC Church  
542 S. Scoville Avenue  
In Oak Park**

### **Whatever**

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#### *All Things Must Pass*

*By Beth Plotner*

This is my last column as Chair of IGA. Over the past 3 years I have had the honor of serving as Chair of IGA and ITIL.

During my tenure we were able to finally get the City of Chicago and Cook County human rights ordinances amended to include gender identity. Though it happened during my tenure as Chair, the effort was well underway and I have my predecessors to thank. In fact I have a lot of people to thank.

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## **Transgender Day of Remembrance Set for November 19**

*(Continued from Page 1)*

IGA's program is just one part of a nationwide Day of Remembrance observance organized by Gwendolyn Ann Smith, a west-coast transgender activist who maintains the Remembering Our Dead web site ([www.gender.org/remember](http://www.gender.org/remember)). "With this epidemic of violence continuing unchecked, we have no option but to continue to raise awareness," said Smith. "As a transgendered person who has faced hatred and prejudice, I worry that either myself or one of my friends could well be a future victim."

IGA's Day of Remembrance will have several short presentations by different speakers, including the Rev. Bradley E. Mickelson (Pastor of the New Spirit Metropolitan Community Church), Beth Plotner (current Chair of IGA), Bill Greaves (Mayor Daley's Liaison to the LGBT Community), and a number of others. The program will conclude with a reading of the names of the victims killed in the preceding year's anti-transgender violence.

Everyone concerned about the level of violence perpetrated against the LGBT community is welcome and encouraged to attend.

## **Whatever**

*(Continued from Page 1)*

So I think I'll use the Chair's prerogative one last time and say thanks to some people.

The first person I wish to thank is Miranda. She preceded me in this position and was my mentor. If there were but one person who deserves the credit for getting those ordinances passed it would be her. Miranda has worked tirelessly for our rights for over 8 years. She has given us her time, energy, money and heart. Right now she is running TYRA our youth project. Miranda is a true hero of our community.

The next person I would like to thank is Marsha Jackson. Marsha has been there from the beginning. Though Marsha has never wanted to step into the limelight so to speak she has worked tirelessly. Whenever we needed someone to do some of the "grunt" work Marsha would always volunteer. She attended many meetings when no one else could and reported back. Marsha whether you realize it or not your contributions are invaluable.

Next on my list is the current Vice Chair and incoming Chair Diana Williamson. Diana who has also served as Secretary and Secretary/Treasurer has often described her position as chief "Scullery Maid." In fact we gave her an award a couple of years ago to that effect. Diana is one of our community's biggest cheerleaders. Outspoken at times but that means she isn't afraid to voice her opinion. I'm sure she'll do a great job.

Stephanie Young and Janice Galeckas were our first Chair and Secretary/Treasurer. They were a big part of getting this ball rolling and were out front at the beginning. Thanks for your foresight.

To everyone else who has been a member, supporter, contributor or just plain helped us thank you.

Though we've won some battles over the years the war is far from over. We have to be ever vigilant that those victories always remain so. We have to work with our allies to make sure the state bill is passed. We have to support those who are working on the national level for our rights on the federal level.

And when I say we I include myself. Though I may no longer be Chair I don't intend to disappear. I'll still contribute this column (though maybe not every month) and I plan to still be active in IGA.

I hope to see more of you become active in the organization. If you want to contribute please do. If you have criticisms don't be afraid to voice them. Our work is far from over. And you can make a difference.

With that, once again thank you for your love and support.

Beth

### ***How to contact us...***

**Illinois Gender Advocates**

47 W. Division St., #391  
Chicago, IL 60610

**Telephone Hotline:**

312-409-5489

Please leave a message. We will get back to you as quickly as possible.

**TYRA Youth Hotline:**

312-217-1120

**E-Mail:**

[IGA@genderadvocates.org](mailto:IGA@genderadvocates.org)

**Web Site Address:**

<http://www.genderadvocates.org>

## Miranda Writes...

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### *Coming Out Transgender*

by *Miranda Stevens-Miller*

[*Editor's Note: The following article originally appeared in the Northern Illinois PFLAG newsletter, and is directed at the parents of transgender children. It is reprinted here with the permission of the author.*]

Coming out at any time is a difficult process, and the decision when to, or even whether to come out is a highly personal one that depends as much on the individual as the individual's circumstances. For our transgender children, the decision is sometimes so difficult that they will go into deep hiding and never emerge until much later in life... sometimes in their 40's or 50's. Those transgender individuals who eventually find the greatest happiness in their lives are those who were able to come to grips with their gender identity early in life, and who have had a supportive family environment in which to grow into their gender role.

It is perfectly natural for all children to play dress-up with the clothing of their parents, regardless of sex. But as children grow older, and they continue to identify as the gender opposite to the one they were born into, it is important to listen to them and allow them the space to explore their identity. Most will grow out of it. Many will eventually come to realize that they are gay or lesbian. But some may truly be transgender. It is not something that you as parents did to your child... it is something they were born with, and it is who they are as a person.

Being transgender is different than being gay or lesbian. Being transgender doesn't refer to the person you are attracted to... that is your sexual orientation. Being transgender refers to how you feel about yourself as a person, how you see yourself fitting into society. Sexual orientation and gender identity are entirely independent concepts. A trans-girl (i.e. male-to-female) or trans-boy (i.e. female-to-male) may be attracted to boys, girls, or both. It would be a mistake to make assumptions about his or her sexual orientation on the basis of gender expression.

As a transgender woman who transitioned later in life, I am often asked what is the major difference between trans-adults and trans-youth. My best reply is that those who transitioned later in life were able to develop coping mechanisms that allowed them to hide their true gender identity and not lose the love of their family. Trans-youth didn't have that option. Gender identity is an extremely strong motivating factor in one's life, and trans-youth are merely presenting an honest expression of who they are.

The problems start when others refuse to accept the fact that a transgender child's gender is a valid identity. There is

confusion about gender identity and sexual orientation. Although the two concepts are different, transgender youth are often identified as gay, and are typically tormented by classmates and on the streets. The situation becomes dangerous when parents reject their child's gender identity, and refuse to allow him or her to express that identity, or, worst of all, abandon's their child to the streets. Trapped in the world between genders, not quite fitting in with either, not having a legal home or even a legal name that coincides with their gender, these youth are targets for hate crimes and violence. They will often turn to those who promise to help, but typically take advantage of their circumstances.

If you have a transgender child, or if your child is questioning his or her identity, all they need is your love and support. It is possible to be transgender and have a happy, well-adjusted life. And there are resources available to help both you and your child. Illinois Gender Advocates has a special youth initiative called TYRA (Trans Youth Resources and Advocacy). We sponsor a weekly drop-in center for transgender youth between the ages of 14 and 20, and we advocate for transgender youth at social service agencies and schools. Please call us at 312-217-1120 with any questions or concerns.

## Minutes for the Monthly Meeting of October 2003

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By *Rebecca Davis, Secretary*

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 PM on October 2, 2003. Seven people including the officers were in attendance.

**Legislative:** Beth said that Louis Viverito had stated he would be the 30<sup>th</sup> vote for Illinois S. B. 101. There are at least five other votes needed before he would become the 30<sup>th</sup> vote. The bill could possibly come up during the veto session on Nov. 4-5 or the week of Nov. 24 of this year. If not, the bill will probably not reach the Senate floor until next year. Sen. Carol Ronen and Equality Illinois were expected to sit down with leaders of the Chicago Archdiocese to discuss the bill and the reasons for the opposition to the bill.

Cook County began a domestic registry for same sex couples on October 1, 2003.

**Legal:** Same sex marriage is now allowed in some provinces in Canada and a suit is awaiting decision by the Massachusetts Supreme Court on the legality of same sex marriage. The question is now whether the U.S. will recognize the same sex marriages performed in Canada. The U.S. has always recognized legal marriages from Canada but now the issue is in dispute.

A motion to petition for custody was denied in the Simmons case. This case involves a FtM transsexual man who has been

denied custody of his children even though the children have requested him to be their guardian.

**Youth:** The word is getting out on the IGA youth program, TYRA, and we are seeing an increase in attendance at the IGA drop-in. It is on Wednesday nights at Holy Covenant church at 900 W. Diversey. The program is in need of help in the way of donations and other assistance. Please contact one of the IGA board members if you are interested in helping out.

**Events:** The next edition of IGA television will be at 6:30 PM on Nov. 7, 2003. Those of you with cable in the city of Chicago are invited to tune in. The show is on cable Channel 21 Cable Access TV, a part of the LGBT consortium on Hotline 21.

For those of you who are interested in helping the cause, Creating Change seminar will be held in Miami Beach, Fl. Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup>, 2003. This is a wonderful opportunity for members of our community to be a part of setting an agenda for the future.

If you're not able to be in Miami, then we encourage all of you to join in the celebration at the Rainbow Spirit Awards on Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>, 2003. IGA will be one of the proud recipients of these awards. For tickets and additional information contact Diana Williamson or Rebecca Davis, e-mail addresses are in this issue under IGA board members.

**IGA Elections:** As current chairperson of IGA, Beth Plotner exercised her prerogative to nominate Diana Williamson for chairperson. Diana accepted the nomination, the nomination was seconded and Diana was voted in by attending members as the next chairperson of Illinois Gender Advocates. Congratulations, Diana! Beth also nominated Rebecca Davis as vice chairperson. Rebecca accepted and was voted in as vice chair.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.

## **Be Sure to Attend Our Next Meeting; Annual Meeting and Election of Officers**

The next meeting of Illinois Gender Advocates will be held on Thursday, November 13, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. in the lower level of Transformations, located at 146 N. Oak Park Avenue in Oak Park.

This will be the Annual Meeting of Illinois Gender Advocates, at which the Chair and Vice-Chair will be elected for the following year. The following candidates have been nominated:

Chair: Diana Williamson  
Vice-Chair: Rebecca Davis

All members in good standing will be entitled to vote for officers, either in person at the meeting or by mail.

**Please note that this meeting will take place on the *second* Thursday of the month. Our usual meeting date of the first Thursday was postponed one week in order to avoid a conflict with the Creating Change Conference.**

### ***Feedback...***

Problems? Questions? Disagreements? Want to submit an article? Please write to us. We love to get mail.

#### **Board Members of Illinois Gender Advocates:**

##### **Chair and Acting Legislative Director:**

Beth Plotner  
BethP@genderadvocates.org

##### **Vice Chair, Newsletter Editor, Acting Volunteer Coordinator, and Scullery Maid:**

Diana Williamson  
DianaW@genderadvocates.org

##### **Secretary:**

Rebecca Davis  
RebeccaD@genderadvocates.org

##### **Treasurer:**

Marsha Jackson  
MarshaJ@genderadvocates.org

##### **Development Director:**

Jacob B. Mueller  
JacobM@genderadvocates.org

##### **Directors at Large:**

Sara Fenwick  
fenwick87@attbi.com

Toni Monzo  
msanthonia@yahoo.com

##### **Staff Personnel of Illinois Gender Advocates:**

##### **Youth Director, TYRA:**

Miranda Stevens-Miller  
MirandaM@genderadvocates.org

## Thanks to Our Contributors:

A big thank you goes out to those who contributed articles to the newsletter this month. It is really appreciated from month to month. Thanks!

- Miranda Stevens-Miller
- Diana Williamson
- NTAC
- Beth Plotner
- Rebecca Davis
- GenderPAC News

## Intersex Demonstration Sends a Message

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*From the National Transgender Advocacy Coalition (NTAC)*

A small band of intersex activists rallied in front of the Connecticut Children's Medical Center (CCMC) in Hartford, CT on Friday, September 26, 2003 to protest a gender revision surgical procedure scheduled for an unidentified infant. The 'Total Urogenital Sinus Surgical Procedure' was to be observed by participants of a Feminizing Genitoplasty and Total Urogenital Mobilization' seminar presented by the hospital.

When Betsy Driver, Executive Director and co-founder of Bodies Like Ours, was alerted to this event, she quickly gathered a group of supporters to draw attention to the presentation and associated surgery by Dr. Richard Rink of the Indiana University School of Medicine. Approximately two dozen people picketed the hospital in a peaceful effort to draw attention to what they perceive as nonconsensual genital mutilation. Several protestors are intersexed people whose surgery as children resulted in assignment to the wrong gender. Their efforts paid off. Not only did Dr. Rink cancel his appearance, CCMC has also invited Bodies Like Ours to present a program on the perspective of adult survivors of early childhood surgery intended to assign an infant to one gender or the other. Several of the protestors, including Driver, are intersexed people whose surgery as children resulted in assignment to the wrong gender.

Following the demonstration, Driver said, "This was a great opportunity for intersex activists to come together with our allies across a broad spectrum to publicly and visibly voice our collective outrage at what is occurring in hospitals around the country five times a day to non-consenting children."

Jerimarie Liesegang, Chair of the National Transgender Advocacy (NTAC) Activism Committee, supported Driver's demonstration efforts. At the same time, she also worked to promote a transgender-inclusive governor's Proclamation for PRIDE Day in Connecticut. According to Liesegang, this made her deal with the question of why intersex was included as part of our transgender community. The answer, she says is simple. The transgender community has two embracing commonalities: "Sexual Orientation" and "Gender Identity

and/or Expression." The intersex community struggles with similar core issues: Medicalization of Anatomy and the insistence of society to place people in the binary sex model, wherein a man is a man and expresses masculine characteristics, while a woman is a woman and expresses feminine characteristics, and their sexual dichotomy exists for procreation. This model, she feels, goes to the core and oppression of the entire LGBTIQ community, whether one is Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer, or Questioning.

"The Connecticut TransAdvocacy Coalition took a proactive role in organizing and coordinating local logistics and Press with Bodies Like Ours for the CCMC action," said Liesegang. "The demonstration at CCMC on Friday included lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgender representatives from the Connecticut community. This action was a truly inclusive demonstration of solidarity and support of our intersex sisters and brothers. It is especially heartening that this action came just weeks after our Governor included bisexual, transgender and intersex in his Proclamation for PRIDE day here in Connecticut."

Bodies Like Ours is a non-profit educational organization dedicated to the elimination of the shame and secrecy associated with atypical genitalia and the elimination of early genital surgery unless medically necessary. The organization seeks to raise awareness of intersex issues resulting from societal and medical misperceptions. There is a broad overlap of social and legal issues faced by intersexed people and transsexuals.

NTAC supports the efforts of our intersex colleagues to end nonconsensual genital surgery of intersex infants. Critics often paint the transgender and intersex communities and individuals with the same broad brush of bigotry. Many of our issues are the same, and our resources can be shared to great advantage.

Driver notes that the success of the Hartford demonstration has resulted in requests for similar intersex projects in other cities. Bodies Like Ours, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization needs additional funding to do so. Information and forms for making tax-deductible donations can be found at [www.bodieslikeours.org/Support\\_Our\\_Efforts/donate.html](http://www.bodieslikeours.org/Support_Our_Efforts/donate.html). NTAC urges the LGBTIQ community to support this effort.

*Founded in 1999, NTAC – the National Transgender Advocacy Coalition – is a 501 (c)(4) civil rights organization working to establish and maintain the right of all transgendered, intersexed, and gender-variant people to live and work without fear of violence or discrimination.*

## Important Dates!

**Please mark your calendars and plan to attend as many of these events as possible.**

**November 5 – 9 (Wednesday through Sunday) –** Creating Change Conference in Miami, FL.

**November 7, 2003 (Friday) –** Illinois Gender Advocates Television, part of the LGBT consortium on Hotline 21, Channel 21 Cable Access TV, Chicago, starting at 6:30 p.m. Guest to be announced.

**November 13, 2003 (Thursday) –** Regular monthly meeting of Illinois Gender Advocates, at the New Spirit Metropolitan Community Church, 542 S. Scoville Ave. in Oak Park, from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Annual meeting; election of Chair and Vice-Chair to serve during the following year. **Please note that this meeting has been postponed from the usual first Thursday of the month on account of a conflict with the Creating Change Conference.**

**November 19, 2003 (Wednesday) –** Day of Remembrance candlelight vigil for all transgender people who were killed on account of their gender expression during the preceding year, to be held at the Thompson Center, located at the corner of Randolph and Clark Streets in Chicago, starting at 6:00 p.m.

disregard for Barry Winchell, or for anyone not considered the conservatives' brand of 'heterosexual.' It's typical of this administration's animosity towards GLBT America." Clark has been subject of much controversy for his apathy toward the homophobic harassment that Barry Winchell faced in the weeks leading to his death. Winchell fell in love with a pre-operative transsexual, Calpernia Addams, who performed at the Connection – one of Nashville's famed nightclubs known for its drag performances – just an hour down the road from the army base.

After a night of drinking, PVT Calvin Glover beat Winchell to death, egged on by PVT Justin Fisher.

Reached by phone, Addams expressed her dismay at the Committee's action. "On July 4<sup>th</sup> of 1999, a day that should have been wonderful for many reasons," she recalled, "my boyfriend PFC Barry Winchell was murdered in his sleep by fellow soldiers at the Fort Campbell Army base in Kentucky. Major General Robert T. Clark was in charge of Fort Campbell at the time. The problems on base were longstanding, and included general low morale and inadequate access to healthcare and training, as well as the problems that created the environment for Barry's murder. These things do not happen overnight, and as any officer will tell you, a commander is ultimately responsible for every action under his command. Fleeing from Kentucky and the growing scandal of his mismanagement of Fort Campbell, MG Clark now awaits confirmation of his promotion to three-star General. MG Clark has a responsibility to own up to his failure at managing the people under his command at Fort Campbell, and does not deserve another star. Barry was our star, and we will never have him again thanks to the collapse of and a mountain of failures on MG Clark's part. I ask those who will decide, please do not reward this incompetence. And please, put someone in the White House who would not rescue and promote such a man. We owe it to Barry and every good soldier who is willing to lay down a life for this country and defend the freedom that we all deserve."

Patricia and Wally Kutteles, the parents of Barry Winchell, contend that Clark failed to address anti-gay harassment during his command at Fort Campbell. An Army Inspector General report found other problems during the time that MG Clark commanded Fort Campbell: low morale, inadequate health care, and widespread, leader-condoned underage drinking on post. MG Clark contends that there was no problem with homophobia during his tour of duty, despite the murder, and other antigay assaults, and a record number of GLBT discharges.

Following the Committee's action on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Kutteleses stated, "Today, despite ample evidence of Major General Robert T. Clark's leadership failures, the Senate Armed Services Committee took an unfortunate first step in confirming his promotion to Lieutenant General, the Army's second highest rank. We believe the Committee's action is a grave mistake. Those Senators who voted in favor of MG Clark's promotion have place the political gains of a failed

## Final Battle Over Controversial General's Promotion

*From the National Transgender Advocacy Coalition (NTAC)*

After a delay of more than a year, the Senate Armed Services Committee has forwarded the nomination of Major General Robert T. Clark for promotion to Lieutenant General to the full Senate for confirmation. The decision was made in closed-door meeting. Clark commanded Fort Campbell, KY where PFC Barry Winchell was beaten to death in 1999 because fellow soldiers thought he was gay. The decision to send Clark's promotion to the Senate floor drew disbelief and a call for action from the National Transgender Advocacy Coalition (NTAC), which had repeatedly requested that the general's promotion be pulled from further consideration.

"The decision by the Senate Armed Services Committee is nothing short of stunning," said NTAC Chair, Vanessa Edwards Foster. "This is a shining example of callous

leader ahead of America's families. The harassment of our children must not find harbor in the world's most effective military. The sting of anti-gay animus has been felt far outside Fort Campbell and beyond the reaches of MG Clark."

"The full title of the military policy on GLBT service members is Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue, Don't Harass," said Robyn Walters, Chair of the NTAC Veteran Affairs Subcommittee. "No one should be placed in a position of military leadership who isn't sensitive to the needs of the thousands of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, and intersexed members of the armed forces. Personal safety is a primary need. Until such time as this flawed policy is rescinded by Congress, allowing GLBT people to serve openly, the services and Congress have a responsibility to ensure that the military leadership lives up the Don't Pursue, Don't Harass policy."

NTAC joins the Service Members Legal Defense Network, the Democratic National Committee, People for the American Way, the Human Rights Campaign, the National Lesbian & Gay Task Force, the National Organization for Women, American Veterans for Equal Rights, the Transgender American Veterans Association and Michigan's Triangle Institute in opposing MG Clark's promotion.

MG Clark's nomination is expected to reach a Senate vote this week. To tell your senators to oppose his nomination, find their contact information at <http://www.senate.gov/>. Call now and tell the staff that you oppose the promotion of Major General Robert Clark to Lieutenant General.

## Illinois Gender Advocates Announces



**Trans Youth Resource and Advocacy  
Youth Drop-In Center**  
Every Wednesday from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.  
At Holy Covenant UMC (the Mural Church)  
925 W. Diversey, Chicago  
Near the Diversey Brown Line L Stop

**For Transgender Youth Ages 14-20  
Call the Youth Hotline, 312-217-1120  
for more information**

TYRA drop-in center is a safe and confidential place for young transgender people between

the ages of 14 to 20 to come and meet other youth who also identify as transgender, or are questioning their gender identity.

## California Father Continues to Fight for Son's Freedom from Gender Discrimination

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*From GenderPAC News*

PACIFICA, CA (Oct. 27, 2003) – The Pacifica School District board of trustees voted unanimously Oct. 8 to deny the \$100,000 claim of a parent who says his son repeatedly suffered gender discrimination at the hands of fellow classmates, the Pacifica Tribune reported.

Mark Shaposhnikov says he has recorded incidences in which 33 students of Ingrid B. Lacy Middle School have harassed his son with epithets like "gay fashion model," "fag," and "girl." Shaposhnikov says his son faces ongoing taunting and assaults because he is a champion ballroom dancer.

Shaposhnikov had met repeatedly with school administrators, but says that he has seen that little or no improvement in the taunting his son endures.

Shaposhnikov told the Tribune, "Now we go to court. They are in clear violation of state and federal laws. It doesn't matter how many workshops they had, enforcement was important. I want to expose what's going on here. They knew about it from the first week of school."

Shaposhnikov said any punitive damages he may win will be donated to charity. Paul Smoot, Shaposhnikov's attorney, told the Tribune that the case is similar to previous suit filed successfully against the school district, adding "You just destroy a kid's self-esteem. That shouldn't happen."

## New York Federal Court Allows Transsexual to File Title VII Action

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*By Beth Plotner*

A Federal District in New York has ruled that a transsexual has a right to sue under Title VII. In *Tronetti v. TLC Healthnet Lakeshore Hospital* a judge ruled that the plaintiff a male to female transsexual had the right to sue under Title VII for sexual harassment. Title VII, which is part of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, which among other causes prohibits discrimination in employment.

In the ruling the judge did not expand the coverage of Title

VII to transsexuals. The basis of the ruling was that as Title VII protects a person from sexual harassment if that person is harassed because they do not exhibit the proper behavior and characteristics of their sex. In other words Tronetti was still legally a man and was harassed for not acting manly enough. This line of reasoning was based on the Hopkins v. Price Waterhouse case where the plaintiff, a female, was found to

have been discriminated against and denied a promotion for not being feminine enough.

Legal observers in the Transgender Community are hoping this case will lead to a further expansion of our rights by the courts.

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## Application for New or Renewal Membership

YES, I would like to join (\_\_\_\_) or renew (\_\_\_\_) my membership in Illinois Gender Advocates.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Name to Be Used on Mailing Label (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP+4 \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Level (check one):

(\_\_\_\_) Student/Youth - \$10

(\_\_\_\_) Regular Membership - \$30

(\_\_\_\_) Supporting Member - \$100

(\_\_\_\_) Benefactor - \$250

(\_\_\_\_) Other - \$ \_\_\_\_\_

How would you like to be involved with Illinois Gender Advocates? (Please check all that apply.)

(\_\_\_\_) Keep informed by newsletters

(\_\_\_\_) Participate in monthly meetings

(\_\_\_\_) Participate in actions

(\_\_\_\_) Join a working group or committee

(\_\_\_\_) Liaison with other human rights groups. Please specify \_\_\_\_\_

(\_\_\_\_) Do you have any special skills that could help us out? (legal / legislative, artistic / design, technical / computer) Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been a victim of a hate crime or discriminated against because of your gender identity, expression, or image? Yes / No (circle one)

If yes, may we document your case for our report? Yes / No (circle one)

Please mail, along with your check or money order, to:

**Illinois Gender Advocates, 47 W. Division St., #391, Chicago, IL 60610**