**Opinions**

### Misguided compassion is a danger

To the editors:

No one would ever give lip-service to an alcoholic for it would result in serious physical and emotional harm and prevent that person from finding the courage and self-control needed to overcome the disease. When it comes to homosexuality, we believe that diocesan leaders would apply similar type of conduct which only perpetuates the suffering and endures the pain leading to the unhappy outcome of the homosexual.

The Church's moral behavior holovenor is an acceptable part of Christian life have tried to remove the historical teaching of the Church on this issue on the basis of homophobia, prejudice and ignorance. Such a position has resulted in the denial of inescapable knowledge leading to tragic consequences.

However, the idea of loving relationships among homosexuals, 20 percent of gays confined their relationships to impersonal "one night stands" and had between 100 and 1,000 different sexual partners according to the book homosexuality published through the Kinsey Institute. Fewer than 1 percent had long-term monogamous relationships. Adult homosexual assaults on boys represented 50 percent of the entire total of sexual assaults and that for a group representing only 1 to 3 percent of the population.

Those who believe in a genetic exploration for the condition have ignored the warnings of those responsible for some of the research in this field not to jump to premature conclusions about the causes of homosexuality. All agree the number of individuals studied is too small to draw generalized conclusions affecting such a large group of people. Findings in the brains of homosexuals can be easily ascribed to the diseases they suffer and not a genetic cause. Antigens on homosexuals who have successfully overcome their condition have not been performed adding further confusion to the picture.

By affirming the sexual conduct of actively gay people, these diocesan leaders are inviting them to enter a subculture involving a grave risk of serious diseases like AIDS, not often found in the general population, leading to an early and tragic death. They are depriving them of an opportunity to find treatment through the group "Counseling" which has already enabled many homosexuals to find healing, resolution of the homosexual conflict, vibrant heterosexual marriages and deep spiritual growth. When leadership and example are needed, guiding us to the weakness of these individuals is given denying them the ability to learn self-control.

The brokenness and pain of homosexuality can be healed. The wounds suffered by gays and their families can be healed leading to a greater happiness. Now is the time for all those concerned to learn the real truths concerning this condition because misguided compassion will only add to the misery and desolation long suffered by homosexuals.

**More bias seen in CNS articles than in coverage by secular press**

To the editors:

I echo with your columnists, Father Richard McBrien, in his evaluation of how the allegedly anti-Catholic New York Times covered the papal visit in October ("Review of Pope coverage: Lavish but positive," Nov. 2).

Apart from the unfortunate mistake of the reporter in quoting Pope John Paul II at his Queens homily, the coverage was excellent, with some 30 of its staff producing at least 54 stories that were vivid, insightful, and sometimes even lyrical. However, I would criticize our own Catholic News Service, before the Pope's arrival in the New York, for reporting the thrust of the Pope's three-page letter to the Austrian bishop, in which he "lashed out" at some 500,000 Austrian Catholics who had signed a petition for more openness at the Church.

CNS's choice of language, whereby the editorial is titled "Misguided compassion is a danger"

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**Letters Policy**

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Although we cannot publish every letter we receive, we seek, where possible, anonymous letters and the use of pseudonyms are unacceptable.

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