The Gay Liberation Front is a movement group studying the nature of Gay oppression and the potential for liberation. Our activities include personal counseling, social events, and political action. Join us and help us build a society that speaks for our feelings as Gay people.

"FAG" ADS OFF, GLF ON

In response to the letter writing campaign initiated by GLF to the 24 Hour Stores and to WBBF protesting the ads perpetuating the stereotype lisping "faggot," these ads have been taken off the air. In addition, WBBF has invited GLF to appear on their weekend show "Contact."

When some of us visited Mr. Patterson, the manager of the 24-hour store chain, we found him very cooperative with our demands, and he took direct action to remove the ads which we were protesting. Also, he agreed to carry our newsletters in each of his stores. WBBF also received letters from gay people expressing anger about the ads. As a result, WBBF, who broadcasts a 3-minute spot called "Contact," invited us on the show. The show will be played periodically throughout the weekend of August 14, on 950 AM Radio. Representing Gay Liberation will be Larry Fine. The show will be heard by an estimated 100,000 people.

** COMMENTS ** by Jim Fishman

I feel this action is significant for two reasons. First, we showed straight people that we will no longer sit back and let the straight media degrade and misrepresent gays as a group of people. Second, we proved that through direct action, concrete results can be gained in our favor.

Most straight people, although they undoubtedly know some gay people, are unaware that these people are gay; when they think of gays, they think of the stereotyped images they see in movies, on TV, and on the radio. Misconceptions and fears spring from such misrepresentation. And to gay people these ads offer a negative self-image that is so hard to identify with, that they'd force any gay person recently coming out right back into the closet.

Many of us have had to listen to "fag" jokes and putdowns of gay people for years, and until recently, we just tolerated these remarks, while boiling up inside with anger. Now we have reached our boiling point. Our lives are not jokes. We refuse to be dismissed as "silly faggots" and "Bull dykes" who don't give a damn what's said about us. Our lives are important to us. We will not put up with anything less than respect and freedom to love each other.
PLEASE TOUCH

According to a recent study it has been determined that the average American will come into physical contact with another person only three times an hour as opposed to over a hundred times an hour in Europe. The lack of physical touch leads to a build up of tension and a feeling of isolation. Gay Liberation experimented with this study in an effort to overcome some of our tensions and isolation from each other.

If you have never had the experience of communication by touch alone, then you have missed one of the greatest feelings. During the August 1st meeting, members communicated with each other in a non-verbal experiment. They held each others hands and explored and let their hands communicate their ideas. You could almost sense the life power and warmth flow from one person to the other. When the experiment ended you really felt that you had gotten to know another person just a little bit better.

The ultimate experiment was the most moving. It is not enough to experience another person but you must also have faith and trust in the other person as well. The group experiment involved being raised from a lying position on the floor. The end result was a feeling of mutual trust and relaxation as each member was lifted and floated around the room.

Please Touch proved just what the original idea stated that most American people are out of touch with each other. We tend to forget that we are also physical human beings and that contact with other people is very important to our mental well being. Please Touch helped to reinforce this idea and to show that all contact with another person is not sexual in nature.

POTLUCK

We've been experimenting with different social events that will afford Gay people a relaxed, natural way of getting together. Since our last potluck supper provided such an atmosphere for socializing, we've decided to make it a regular event. On Sunday, Aug. 22, we're having our next potluck supper. Come and share some food and conversation with other Gay women and men. We especially welcome new people interested in Gay Liberation, or in just meeting other Gay people. The potluck will be held at 5:15 PM in Upper Todd Lounge at the U. of R. student union. We plan to hold these potluck suppers the fourth Sunday of each month. We hope to see you there. Bring something to share.

GLF is planning a festival in October marking the first anniversary of Rochester Gay Liberation. To date, we plan a dance, a church service, workshops, speakers, a street fair and more. The festival will be on the weekend of October 22.
The Genesee Co-op, (formerly the Rochester Free School), offers a wide variety of opportunities for people interested in counter-culture and alternative life styles. They are located at 942 Monroe Avenue, phone 244-3900. The Co-op people have been very helpful to us and have carried our articles in their paper, "Alternatives."

We have an addressograph machine which only needs someone who has access to facilities for imprinting addresses onto metal plates.

Also, we have an electric typewriter which needs fixing. Any helpers?

On Sunday, August 15, Jim's Local Tavern is sponsoring a picnic in Genesee Valley Park. We urge people attending the picnic to stop over at our meeting afterwards. The topic of that meeting will be "Gay Bars".

GAY LIBERATION MEETS:

Sundays, 7:30 P.M.
Frederick Douglass Lounge
University of Rochester

The next few meeting topics will be:

Aug. 15 - Gay Bars
Aug. 22 - As Straights View Us - Bring a straight friend.
Aug. 29 - Women's Liberation & Gay Liberation

The University of Rochester Campus is located on River Blvd., between Elwood Avenue and Clarissa Street. The Frederick Douglass Building is on Alumni Road. The Campus can be reached by taking the NO. 19 (S. Plymouth) bus.

The GLF office is located in 201 Todd Union, on the River Campus. Come by for a visit. We're open Monday thru Saturday from 9 A.M., to 9 P.M. Our phone number is 275-6181

New Consciousness-Raising (C-R) Groups are continually forming. A C-R Group is a group of six or so people who meet regularly (usually three hours every week) to share with each other their feelings and experiences as Gay people and to come to a greater awareness of our oppression and our potential to work together for our liberation. C-R Groups play a very important part in Gay Liberation, for they allow members to get to know each other in a way which is impossible in large general meetings or social events. The several C-R Groups now in existence are like "families" to many members and are the centers for much GLF activity. If you would like to join a C-R Group, contact the office or see Brian.