

# Christians

## *Where are they?*

Do you ever wonder what straight people, particularly straight men, get out of putting / keeping lesbians and gay men *"in their place"*.

Our *"place"* according to many 'straight' definitions is somewhat lower on the human scale than that of god-fearing *"respectable"* heteros. Once I might have said *"breeders"* but this is no longer a valid appellation since the advent of the lesbian mum - gay dad baby boom. Our *"place"* is at a point where the denial of our humanity is no longer possible, but our prospects of being generally regarded as worthwhile, decent, hardworking, loyal or caring of others remains significantly diminished. The primary reason for this differentiation of fags and dykes is quite straightforward, for many straights we remain *"sinners"*.

Isn't this all a bit medieval?

Well although JC posed the challenge *"let he who is without sin cast the first stone"*, many straight people in our society seem to have little insight into their own behaviours and believe they are pure in thought, word and deed. In fact they are so god like that their right and ability to judge others is unquestioned (by them, at least). Their Pharisee like pride, bile, and rush to judge others may be born from insecurity regarding their own salvation, I'm not sure, but it does little to recommend Christianity. A glance thru recent media convinces me that still in today's Australia, and across much of the western and Islamic world, there are a lot of Mary Magdelane's customers who lug around a large manbag full of virtual stones and Jesus, Mary and Joseph, these metaphorical demon rocks are for pelting at us.

Faggots and dykes are a particularly convenient and rewarding political target. For all the anti-discrimination and anti-vilification legislation on our statute books there is still nothing more likely to get your name in the media, and shore up your conservative vote, than lambasting homosexuals for some egregiously outrageous reason. eg some of us want public and legal recognition of our relationships; most of us want to be equal with other Australians before the law.

*"what a nerve, heh? Dykes and poofs thinking they're equal to us?"*

A few years ago the community ran a campaign which in essence demanded "gays & lesbians want equal rights, not special rights" - whatever happened to this demand?

Young people coming out today seem neither to know nor care about the recency of our battles for equality. I think this is a primary reason why, as a whole, they have so little insight into how critical continuation of the social reform campaign and vigilance against complacency are. Well, not until some homophobe at school or work discriminates or vomits religious bile all over them.

What's to be done?

Maybe we need our own weekly two hour sessions in which we renew with ceremony and song our determination not to be put down by small minded bigots?

Maybe we need our own political party (since clearly we can't rely on Labor) If its good enough for the Hillsong church (Sydney) or the Assembly of God ( Family First), and we certainly outnumber both these groups, then why don't / can't we get seriously political.

**Vote Sleazy** probably isn't a winning political catchphrase but with One Nation and the Democrats about to bite the dust there is likely to be plenty of high profile names and catchphrases to choose from. Wouldn't it be ironic if in the future Australia's poofster and dyke communities turned out to vote for One Nation?