



CHILDREN OF LESBIANS AND GAYS EVERYWHERE

July 18, 1994

Dear friend,

We're writing to tell you about an organization which you might be interested in joining. You may have heard of us, but you may not know everything that we're up to.

The info on the reverse side of this page will give you an idea of what we do, and we also want to highlight two new things that aren't on that list.

- Children of Stonewall: A COLAGE Experience just finished it's run in San Francisco. This play by and about daughters and sons of lesbian and gay parents drew nearly 300 people for four shows. Nearly everyone involved in the production, including the six actors, are people with lesbian and gay parents. The play will continue to be shown at events in the Bay Area, and we are attempting to take it into schools as an educational tool. The video of the play recently played in local community television.

- Group Newsletter: COLAGE is pleased to announce the creation of a newsletter for people who lead or are interested in leading groups for daughters and sons of lesbian and gay parents. The newsletter routinely summarizes what other groups are doing, offer ideas on how to start and lead groups, raise funds, etc. Opportunities for kids from lesbian and gay families to get together are often extremely important, this newsletter means people already leading or trying to start groups won't have to re-invent the wheel.

These activities are a great addition to the things we already do for people with lesbian and gay parents, we hope you agree.

Joining COLAGE will give you access to these programs, and we encourage you to do so using the form enclosed. Thanks again for your interest in COLAGE.

Love Makes A Family,

Stefan Lynch
on behalf of the COLAGE Steering Committee

Encl.

Director
Stefan Lynch
San Francisco, CA

**Fundraising
Co-ordinator**
Kate Asmus
West Hartford, CT

**Member Relations/
Group Outreach**
Michael Beebe
Boulder, CO

**Conference
Co-ordinator**
Karen Bright
Conyers, GA

**Media
Co-ordinators**
Anna & Molly Heller
Somerville, MA

**Children's
Co-ordinator**
Maya Jaffe
Rockville, MD

Newsletter Editor
Tara Ludmer
Falls Church, VA

(202) 583-8029

2300 Market St. Box 165
San Francisco, CA 94114
USA

Box 187, Station F
Toronto, ON M4Y 2L5
CANADA

SUPPORT

The most pressing problem facing daughters and sons of lesbian and gay parents is our isolation from positive images and facts about our families, each other and each other's experiences.

● **Support Groups.** We work to start and support dozens of local groups for kids and young adults

● **Conference.** We annually bring together over a hundred kids of all ages for fun and to explore issues of mutual interest.

● **COLAGE Kids Club.** Coming Fall 1994 for kids 10 and under; membership cards, and fun pages filled with engaging, lesbian and gay positive activities.

● **Just For Us Newsletter.** By and for adolescent daughters and sons with lesbian and gay parents.

● **Second Generation.** A newsletter for lesbians and gay men with lesbian and gay parents.

● **Pen Pals.** We connect kids from across the USA and around the world who may otherwise be isolated.

● **Support for writers.** We solicit and critique writing about our experiences, and seek to publish our stories.

ADVOCACY

We are working to increase the visibility, rights and acceptance of children with lesbian and gay parents.

● **Media.** We work to connect members of the media with a variety of people with lesbian and gay parents.

● **Courts.** We provide fact sheets and testimony to courts on behalf of the best interests of the child.

● **Speakers.** COLAGE members are available to speak to your meeting, place of worship, school...anywhere.

● **Theater.** We sponsor productions to entertain and educate on issues relating to lesbian and gay families.

● **Videos.** COLAGE has sponsored several videos about lesbian and gay families which are available for rent or sale.

● **Publications.** Our newsletters and fact sheets provide information on lesbian and gay families and updates on challenges to their rights.

MYTHS

FACTS

Myth: "Gay people don't have kids."

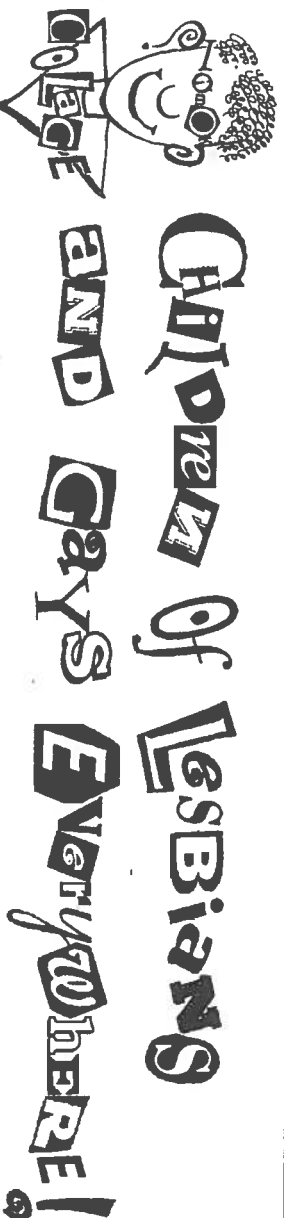
Fact: The American Bar Association estimates there are six to eight million daughters and sons of lesbian and gay parents.

Myth: "Kids are damaged by their parents sexual orientation and the ridicule they face in school."

Fact: Researchers have found no significant psychological differences between children with lesbian and gay parents and children with straight parents.

Myth: "Homosexual parents will have homosexual kids."

Fact: Studies have shown that a parents' sexual orientation is not an indication of their children's sexual orientation.





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CHILDREN OF LESBIANS AND GAYS EVERYWHERE

April, 1995
For Immediate Release

Contact: Stefan Lynch, Executive Director
(415) 861-5437

New Club for Kids with Gay Parents

The COLAGE Kids Club is the first and only organization for young kids with lesbian and gay parents, and it is created by daughters and sons of lesbian and gay parents.

"The most pressing problem facing kids with lesbian and gay parents is our isolation," says Suzanne Pullen, COLAGE's Administrative Assistant and herself the daughter of a lesbian mother. "It isn't about an adult world of politics, it's about a kids' world of connecting and making friends who understand. It exposes kids all over the world to a community they are a product and a part of, in a way that they can relate to."

The American Bar Association estimates there are upwards of 8 million daughters and sons of lesbian and gay parents in the U.S. alone, hundreds of thousands of whom are under 10. But despite these enormous numbers, books for kids with lesbian and gay parents, like *Daddy's Roommate* are one of the most censored genres, being pulled from the shelves of libraries all over the country by members of the religious right who don't understand that lesbian and gay people can make valid and loving families.

Instead of dwelling on other people's ignorance, the Club emphasizes the diversity of our family structures, racial backgrounds, economic levels and how kids came into the world in fun and engaging ways. This includes membership cards, t-shirts, birthday cards and the FunPages, a quarterly publication similar to the kids pages in the Sunday paper. The FunPages have lesbian and gay positive cartoons, games and member submissions.

COLAGE was created six years ago by children of lesbian and gay parents, focussing on the needs of teenagers. Over a year ago, a number of parents and younger kids approached COLAGE to ask for something for younger kids, out of which grew the COLAGE Kids Club. Building self-esteem early on is important and necessary for kids to connect with others and develop tools to deal with the ever present homophobia that children of gays and lesbians face.

COLAGE currently has over a thousand members and two dozen affiliated peer groups around the U.S., Canada, and Northern Europe.

#

Reporters:

Looking for a fresh Mother's Day story?
Or an interesting angle on lesbian and
gay families? Call us for our press kit
on lesbian and gay families.

Would you like to continue receiving
the latest news about lesbian and gay
families?

Please call, send, fax or email us this
brief form. Thanks!

Phone (415)861-5437 Fax (415) 255-8345,
Email KidsOfGays@aol.com, Address: COLAGE
2300 Market St. #165, SF, CA 94114.

return this to continue to receive the latest news on lesbian and
gay families

Contact for gay family issues _____

Organization _____

Mailing address: _____

Phone # _____ Fax # _____

Email: _____



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Contact for gay family issues _____

Organization _____

Mailing address: _____

Phone # _____ Fax # _____

Email: _____

LAVENDER PAGES®

584 Castro Street, Suite 618
San Francisco, CA 94114
(415) 864-4446 • FAX (415) 864-6725

Listing Form for the Resource Guide

Date 7/24/95

ORGANIZATION: (for record purposes only; not published)

Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere
Organization Name

2300 Market St. #165
Address

San Francisco CA 94114
City State Zip

(415) 861-5437 (415) 235-8345
Phone Fax

Stephan Lynch
Contact Person

Please type or print your 30 word listing below: (include organization name & phone number)

Category Heading: Family/Youth

Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere (COLAGE) fosters growth of often isolated children of queers through an international network of local groups; providing support, advocacy and community (415) 861-5437

Please note: Do not exceed the 30 word maximum. Your entry will be edited by *The Lavender Pages* if it exceeds 30 words.

Other Not-for-Profit Groups who may want to be included:

Organization Name: _____

Telephone No.: _____

Contact Name: _____

Organization Name: _____

Telephone No.: _____

Contact Name: _____

Organization Name: _____

Telephone No.: _____

Contact Name: _____

Organization Name: _____

Telephone No.: _____

Contact Name: _____

Thank you!

**Children of Lesbian and Gay Parents at
San Francisco Freedom Day!**

Come march with:

**kids of all ages,
parents,
co-parents,
friends
and supporters**

**Sunday, June 19th
for Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day
in San Francisco.**

Assemble at the **COLAGE banner** at 9:30AM. The location is in "Section R" of the parade, on McCallister between Hyde and Leavenworth. Or join in as the banner passes by in the parade!

Check out the **COLAGE booth** at the end of the parade route

For more information, call Stefan at (415) 206-1930

Help get the word out to lesbian and gay families and the world! Carry the COLAGE banner or staff our table for just an hour or two during Freedom Day. **Please call Stefan at (415) 206-1930 to volunteer.**

Sponsored by
Children of
Lesbians and
Gays Everywhere



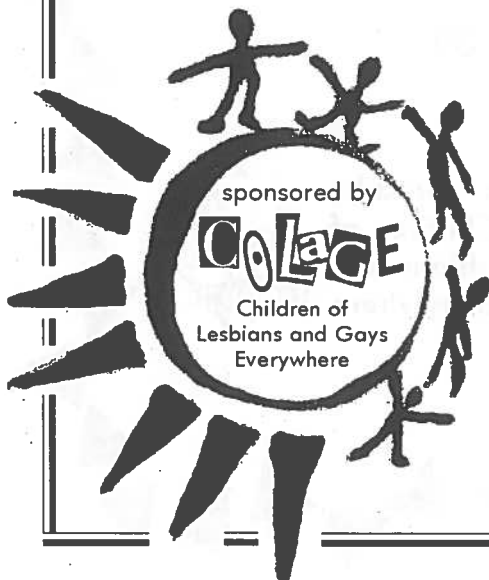
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discuss common issues like:

- When our parents come out
- Telling our friends
- Divorce
- Problems with our parents, their partners
and step-parents.
- Our own sexuality

Groups will meet in the **East Bay** and **San
Francisco**. Contact **Hope Berry** at **(415) 647-
4223** for more information



Age 18 and up: This is a social group
for older people that will meet regularly
to hang out over coffee. The group will
usually meet in San Francisco. Contact
Stefan Lynch at **(415) 206-1930** for more
information.

COLAGE 2300 Market St. #165, SF, CA 94114 (202) 583-8029
Groups • Newsletters • Conference • Pen Pals • Resources • Education

Face it, you need the exercise 1 and our planet needs a break

If you go up Valencia, you'll avoid several hills. (So don't go that way!)

2. MASS TRANSIT

(Not much exercise that you can read. When's the last time you took time out to read for fun?)

MUNI: J CHURCH to 24th St. Walk east (for you city-dwellers that's left) two blocks. Turn north (left again) on DOLORES.

BART: Get off at 24th St. and walk west (that's uphill) three big blocks. Turn north (right) on DOLORES.

3. CARS
You just have to find your own way. AND GOOD LUCK PARKING!

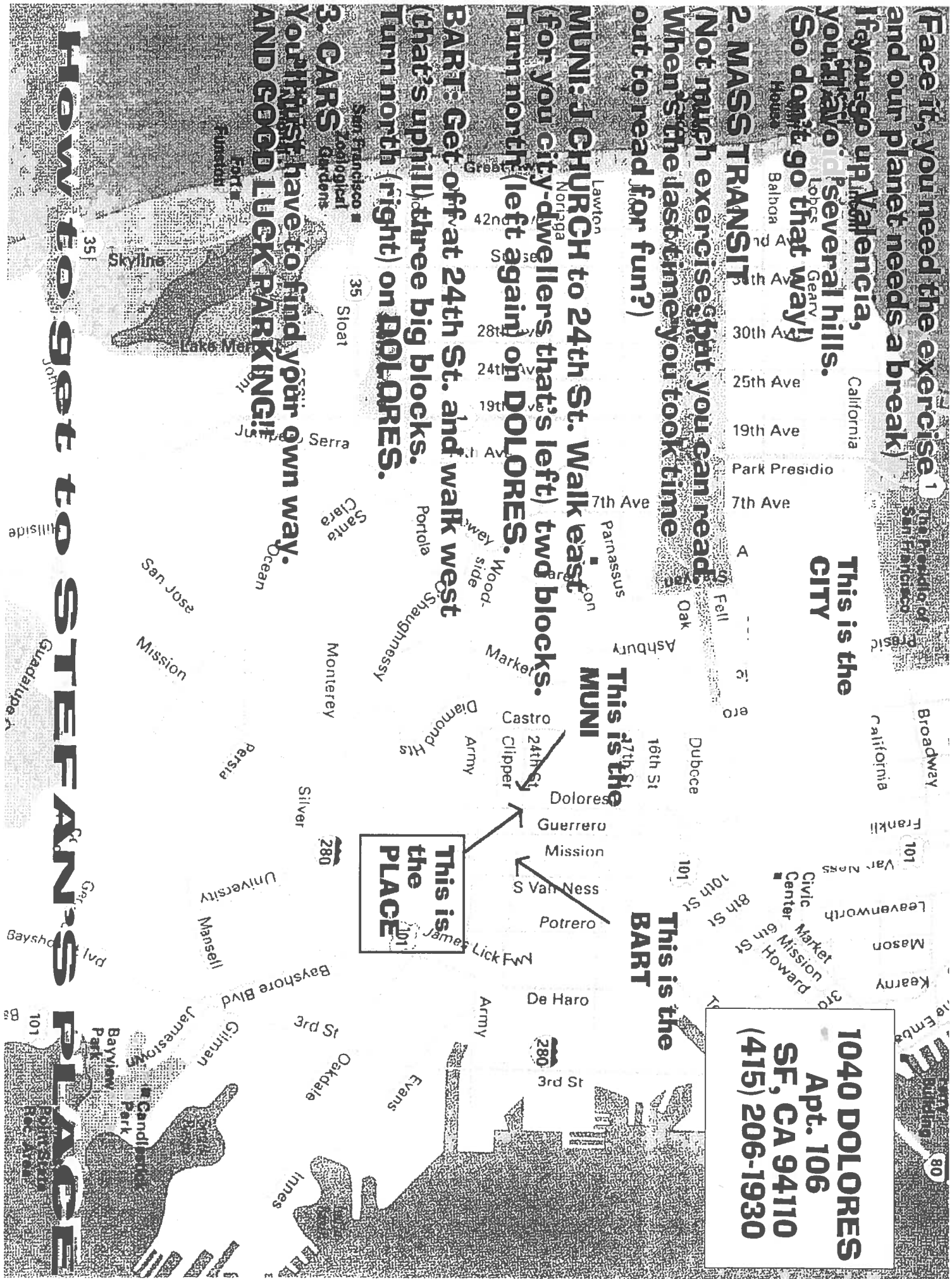
This is the CITY

This is the MUNI

This is the BART

This is the PLACE

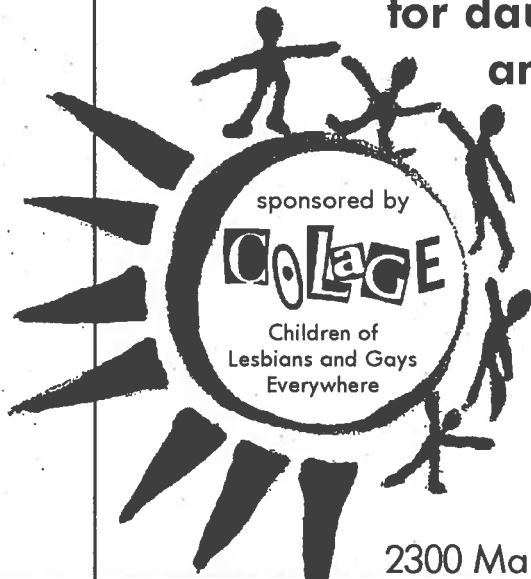
**1040 DOLORES
 Apt. 106
 SF, CA 94110
 (415) 206-1930**



HOW TO GET TO STEFAN'S PLACE

4 Groups in the San Francisco Bay Area

for daughters and sons of lesbian, gay
and bisexual parents:



COLAGE SF, (12-18 yrs.)
COLAGE East Bay, (12-18 yrs.)
COLAGE Coffee Klatch (SF, 18+ yrs.)
Gaybies (South Bay, 8-16 yrs.)

(415) 206-1930

2300 Market St. #165 San Francisco, CA 94114

Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere



NEWSLETTERS • PEN PALS • GROUPS

CONFERENCE • WRITERS PROGRAM
• LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

MEDIA CONTACT CO-ORDINATION AND
ADVOCACY

NEW! COLAGE KIDS CLUB FOR KIDS
UNDER 10

2300 Market St. #165, San Francisco, CA 94114
Box 187, Station F, Toronto, ON M4Y 2L5

COLAGE Membership Form

Membership to COLAGE is \$10
annually in US funds. Please
allow 6 weeks for delivery of
your new members packet.

Return to:
COLAGE

2300 Market St. #165
San Francisco, CA 94114,
USA

Name(s) of
Child(ren) _____

Mailing Address _____

Love Makes
A Family!™
♥

NEW ADDRESS
 Stefan Lynch
 423 Capp St
 San Francisco, CA
 94110 USA

MAIL FOR COLAGE SHOULD BE SENT TO
 2300 Market St. #165, SF, CA 94114.

PHONE SHOULD BE THE SAME
 OLD ADDRESS: 1040 Dolores St #106 SF CA 94110

A woman wise in her ways once said, "everyone should live in a collective in their twenties." I am not fool enough to cross a wise woman.

When in San Francisco, guests of Stefan stay at the opulent Vegan Collective, a sunny victorian flat in the heart of the Historic Mission District with fifty radicals at your service.

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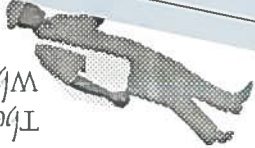
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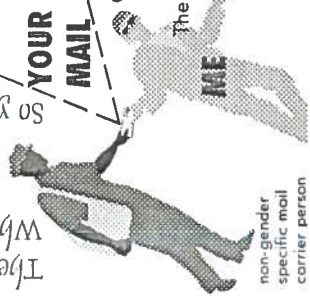
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There once was a boy name of Stef,
 Who couldn't stay put for a sec,
 So make sure to record
 His change of abode,
 So your letters won't go on a trek.



non-gender specific mail carrier person

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non-gender specific mail carrier person

kinko's

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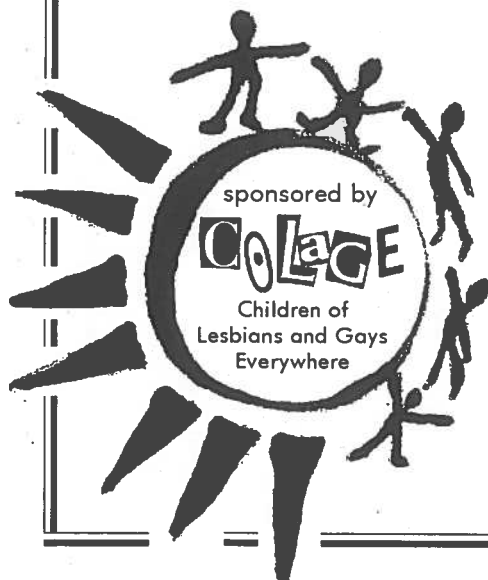
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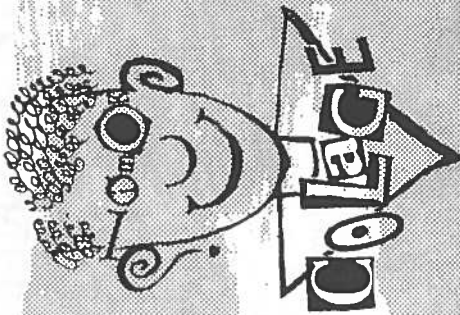


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Top 5 Reasons to Join COLAGE

1. Daughters and sons of lesbian, gay and bisexual parents will be the best spokespersons for lesbian and gay issues in the years to come -- so long as we have the support of the community.
2. Even if you or your kids know other kids with lesbian and gay parents, many others are isolated: COLAGE is the only means for hundreds of kids to connect with one another, the more members we have, the more outreach we can do and the more kids will know they aren't the only ones.
3. You or your children will receive the Just For Us Newsletter, info on Pen Pals, our Writer's Program, our newsletter for groups, our conference, opportunities to make a difference by speaking to the media, providing testimony for custody cases like the Sharon Bottoms case, etc.
4. You'll hear about our program for young kids that will debut soon.
5. So we can continue to do more events for lesbian and gay families. (You'll sure want to hear about our plans for the Holidays).



Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere

An international
organization which
supports and advocates
for daughters and sons
of lesbian, gay and
bisexual parents.

COMING SOON!
The
COLAGE Kids Club,
A national club
for young kids
with lesbian/gay
and bi parents.

COLAGE Membership Form

Membership to COLAGE is \$10 annually in US funds. Please allow 6 weeks for delivery of your new members packet. No one will be declined for lack of funds.

Return to:
COLAGE
2300 Market St. #165
San Francisco, CA 94114,
USA

Name(s) of
Child(ren) _____

Mailing Address _____

Our Mission:

To foster the growth of daughters and sons of lesbian, gay and bisexual parents of all racial, ethnic and class backgrounds by providing education, support and community on local and international levels, to advocate for our rights and those of our families and to promote acceptance and awareness in society that love makes a family.

WHAT IS COLLAGE?

COLLAGE is a unique organization that operates on local and international levels. We have a variety of services for children with lesbian and gay parents provided by children with lesbian and gay parents. We give children an opportunity to meet, see, talk to, read about, and become involved with the community of which they are a member. Being connected to this community helps us learn more about, enjoy, and better deal with specific issues that affect our lives.

WHAT DOES COLLAGE DO?

Support Groups

There are currently many groups around the U.S. and Canada providing community, a sense of belonging and ongoing support for school age children, as well as fun on a regular basis. For more information on groups in your area, or for our booklet, "YOU can start and run a group for daughters and sons of lesbian, gay and bisexual parents: A Guide," write to us.

Newsletter

The Just For Us Newsletter is a way for nearly nine hundred children with lesbian, gay and bisexual parents to keep in touch with each other, to gain insight into events that affect our lives, and to have a good time reading. We feature articles, letters, interviews, cartoons, book reviews, and other tidbits of interest. To subscribe, send us your name and address. We request a ten dollar donation for a subscription and all our mailings are discreet.

Conference

A once-a-year intensive opportunity for children to learn from each other while exploring issues of identity, self-esteem, homophobia/heterosexism, gay and lesbian community pride and heritage, AIDS, spirituality and our own sexuality. In June, 1994 the conference is in New York City. The conference is held simultaneously with the Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International's conference, and some activities are shared with those conference goers.

Pen Pals

COLLAGE offers a pen pal connection service to enable isolated kids with lesbian, gay and bisexual parents to talk with each other. Requests for pen pal information may be sent to our main addresses.

Writer's Program

Growing up in lesbian, gay and bisexual homes can be a very special experience. Many of our members are writing or have expressed interest in writing about their own experiences, or other subject matter related to daughters and sons of lesbian, gay and bisexual parents. COLLAGE works with several professional editors and writers to provide a constructive forum for such work to be critiqued, and strives to have works produced/published for the benefit of other people in similar situations, and the general public.

Leadership Opportunities

We do not rely on professional help, we are run solely by daughters and sons of lesbians and gay men. There are many opportunities for children to become actively involved in running the organization, from participating or leading a local group, to membership on the COLLAGE Steering Committee which is responsible for the newsletter, conference planning, and other programs.

Media Contact Coordination

We are directly in touch with more sons and daughters with lesbian, gay and bisexual parents than any other organization. We can connect members of the media, writers, and researchers with a great variety of our membership. Please write to us, or call the Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International at (202) 583-8029 to be directly referred to our Media Coordinator.

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ADVOCACY

We are working to increase the visibility, rights and acceptance of children with lesbian and gay parents.

Media. We work to connect members of the media with a variety of people with lesbian and gay parents.

Courts. We provide fact sheets and testimony to courts on behalf of the best interests of the child.

Speakers. COLAGE members are available to speak to your meeting, place of worship, school...anywhere.

Theater. We sponsor productions to entertain and educate on issues relating to lesbian and gay families.

Videos. COLAGE has sponsored several videos about lesbian and gay families which are available for rent or sale.

Publications. Our newsletters and fact sheets provide information on lesbian and gay families and updates on challenges to their rights.

MYTHS AND FACTS

Myth: "Gay people don't have kids."

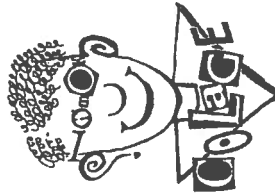
Fact: The American Bar Association estimates there are six to eight million daughters and sons of lesbian and gay parents.

Myth: "Kids are damaged by their parents sexual orientation and the ridicule they face in school."

Fact: Researchers have found no significant psychological differences between children with lesbian and gay parents and children with straight parents.

Myth: "Homosexual parents will have homosexual kids."

Fact: Studies have shown that a parents' sexual orientation is not an indication of their children's sexual orientation.



CAMP AND COLLEGE EVERYWHERE!

