

**Subject: Update**

**Date:** Friday, May 16, 2008 10:28 PM

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**Conversation:** Update

**NEWS - CALIFORNIA'S TOP COURT OVERTURNS GAY MARRIAGE BAN**

Excerpt:

SAN FRANCISCO - In a monumental victory for the gay rights movement, the California Supreme Court overturned a voter-approved ban on gay marriage Thursday in a ruling that would allow same-sex couples in the nation's biggest state to tie the knot.

Domestic partnerships are not a good enough substitute for marriage, the justices ruled 4-3 in striking down the ban.

Outside the courthouse, gay marriage supporters cried and cheered as the news spread.

*Read the whole article at [http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080515/ap\\_on\\_re\\_us/gay\\_marriage\\_16](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080515/ap_on_re_us/gay_marriage_16)*

*(Thanks James and Sharon!)*

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**UPDATE ON PHYLLIS & DEL - IT HAS TAKEN 56 YEARS BUT THEY ARE FINALLY ABLE TO BE LEGALLY WED!**

Please see the 2004 Article at <http://christiangays.com/marriage/51years.shtml>

In 2004, Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon (then aged 83 and 79) were the first couple to be married in San Francisco. Shortly thereafter an appellate court invalidated their marriage.

Now that California has overturned the gay marriage ban, Del and Phyllis will be the first to be married AGAIN pursuant to the California Supreme Court's decision.

We wish them well!

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## **NEWS - SEX CHANGE SURGERY COVERED UNDER OHIP**

Excerpt:

TORONTO -- Ontario will soon join other provinces in providing coverage for sex-change surgery under the province's health insurance plan, Health Minister George Smitherman confirmed yesterday.

Smitherman said the details have not been finalized, but Ontario will start paying for sexual reassignment surgery for the first time in 10 years, providing coverage for the limited number of people who qualify for the procedure.

"It's the government's intention to move forward with the provision of services on about the same level as they were (when) cancelled some number of years ago," Smitherman said.

"(It would) probably affect between eight and 10 people in Ontario, who after having very, very sustained psychological evaluations would be deemed by the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health as appropriate candidates to receive a surgical intervention."

Ontario's previous Conservative government cancelled coverage of sex-change operations in 1998, leaving some people stranded midway through the process.

*Read the rest of this Article and find links to other related articles at **Gay GOOD News**  
<http://christiangays.com/news.shtml>*

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## **NEWS - PEOPLE OF LESBOS TAKE GAY GROUP TO COURT OVER TERM "LESBIAN"**

Excerpt:

ATHENS, Greece — A Greek court has been asked to draw the line between the natives

of the Aegean Sea island of Lesbos and the world's gay women.

Three islanders from Lesbos — home of the ancient poet Sappho, who praised love between women — have taken a gay rights group to court for using the word lesbian in its name.

One of the plaintiffs said Wednesday that the name of the association, Homosexual and Lesbian Community of Greece, "insults the identity" of the people of Lesbos, who are also known as Lesbians.

"My sister can't say she is a Lesbian," said Dimitris Lambrou. "Our geographical designation has been usurped by certain ladies who have no connection whatsoever with Lesbos," he said.

*Read the whole article at <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/ap/world/5743651.html>*

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### **EVENT - BOLD – BOLD OLD(ER) LESBIANS & DYKES CONFERENCE – Sept 3 – 7, Vancouver, BC**

We are expecting about 200 lesbians and dykes, ages 50+ years, from across Canada and the US to converge on Vancouver September 4- 7. As well, younger friends, partners and lovers are very welcome. Women under 50 are an important part of the Conference, so we've discovered over the past 3 years.

The program is spilling over with stimulating and thought-provoking workshops, presentations, outdoor activities, socials, meals and entertainment...and there's still more to come! This is OUR time, n'est ce pas?

Information can be found at <http://www.soundsandfuries/bold>.

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### **INFO - DATING SERVICE – FRAUDULENT PROFILES**

If you are registered with our **Dating Service** you will know that from time to time I have the unpleasant task of notifying you of Fraudulent Profiles. These are people who

claim to be someone who they are not, usually for the purposes of scamming people.

Unfortunately my webhost will not allow me to send out more than 100 emails an hour, and I have no way of controlling it using the dating service, so I am no longer able to use that mail system.

To solve the problem I have registered a new YahooGroups list in conjunction with the **Dating Service** so if you wish to continue to be notified of Fraudulent Profiles or changes to the Dating Service, **please subscribe NOW** at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CGdate/>

For those who are not familiar with the **Dating Service**, you can check it out at <http://christiangays.com/osdate>

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## **NEW ARTICLE – MILDRED LOVING, MATRIARCH OF INTERRACIAL MARRIAGE, DIES**

Excerpt:

In 1958, the county sheriff and two deputies broke into the bedroom of newlyweds Mildred and Richard Loving. They were arrested for violating Virginia's Racial Integrity Act. Their prison term was suspended on the condition that they not live in Virginia and that they not return at the same time to Virginia for 25 years.

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Under miscegenation laws, children from interracial marriages were considered illegitimate and spouses and heirs could not receive inheritance rights or death benefits.

*Read the whole article at <http://christiangays.com/articles/equality1.shtml>*

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## **NEW WEBPAGE – “THE BEASTIALITY ARGUMENT - TRUTHFUL ANSWERS FOR THINKING PEOPLE”**

Many of you are familiar with our own Rick Brentlinger’s excellent book “**Gay Christian**

**101**", possibly the best Educational book that we sell on ChristianGays.com.

Rick has created a new page on his website that is worth studying.

**About bestiality.** Under the saccharine rubric of "hate the sin but love the sinner," many nongay Christians insult gays and lesbians by comparing our committed, faithful, God-honoring partnerships to bestiality (sex with animals). We provide nine answers to their demeaning arguments on this page.

*Please check Rick's website at <http://www.gaychristian101.com/Bestiality.html> to read this new webpage,*

*and please consider purchasing Rick's book "**Gay Christian 101**" from his website, or you can write directly to me for a copy. The book is \$22.95. Rick only charges \$3.49 for shipping. Due to outrageous postal rates in Canada, I am forced to charge \$6 for shipping.*

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### **EXCELLENT WEBSITE - "WOULD JESUS DISCRIMINATE"**

During a discussion on the **List Serve**, Rick gave us a link to information about a possible relationship between Ruth and Naomi at [http://www.wouldjesusdiscriminate.com/biblical\\_evidence/ruth\\_naomi.html](http://www.wouldjesusdiscriminate.com/biblical_evidence/ruth_naomi.html)

Without a doubt, this is the best article I've read on the subject, and I highly recommend it to everyone.

While there I checked out the rest of the website. It is FABULOUS! Please plan to spend a few hours on it – and if you're not a member of our **List Serve**, please consider joining us for some great fellowship, conversation, prayer support, etc. You can subscribe from the "**Join Our Family**" page at <http://christiangays.com/subscribe.shtml>

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### **EDUCATION - ADDITION TO "BIBLE STUDY TOOLS" PAGE – "Timeline of Bible Translation History"**

Excerpt:

**1400 BC:** The first written Word of God: The Ten Commandments delivered to Moses.

**500 BC:** Completion of All Original Hebrew Manuscripts which make up The 39 Books of the Old Testament.

**200 BC:** Completion of the Septuagint Greek Manuscripts which contain The 39 Old Testament Books AND 14 Apocrypha Books.

**1st Century AD:** Completion of All Original Greek Manuscripts which make up The 27 Books of the New Testament.

**315 AD:** Athanasius, the Bishop of Alexandria, identifies the 27 books of the New Testament which are today recognized as the canon of scripture.

**382 AD:** Jerome's Latin Vulgate Manuscripts Produced which contain All 80 Books (39 Old Test. + 14 Apocrypha + 27 New Test).

*To see the complete list, please go to the bottom of the **Bible Study Tools** page at [http://christiangays.com/bible\\_study.shtml](http://christiangays.com/bible_study.shtml)*

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## **EDUCATION - KING JAMES**

James's sexual orientation was so widely known that Sir Walter Raleigh joked about it in public saying "King Elizabeth" had been succeeded by "Queen James."

~ Catherine D. Bowen, The Lion and the Throne

Although the title page of The King James Bible boasted that it was "newly translated out of the original tongues," the work was actually a revision of The Bishop's Bible of 1568, which was a revision of The Great Bible of 1539, which was itself based on three previous English translations from the early 1500s. So, the men who produced the King James Bible not only inherited some of the errors made by previous English translators,

but invented some of their own.

~ Skip Church

A physical weakling, as an adolescent James had shown himself to be a coward, who liked only to hunt, to read (which he did, prodigiously) and to talk. To protect himself he wore thick quilted doublets, so padded that they provided a kind of armor against any assassin who might attack him with a knife. When he revealed a sexual preference for men, falling in love with his cousin Esmé Stewart and elevating him to a position of authority on the royal council, some of his nobles kidnapped James and held him captive, banishing Stewart and controlling James's every move. After nearly a year James escaped, but continued to resent his jailers; after he began to rule on his own behalf, at seventeen, he made it a priority to bring the turbulent Scots nobles under control.

As he aged James indulged his preference for handsome men, living apart from his wife. His dotting fondness was part paternal, part erotic; he called his favorite George Villiers "sweet child and wife" and referred to himself as "your dear dad and husband." But to his courtiers, the sight of the aging, paunchy, balding monarch, who according to one court observer had a tendency to drool, leaning on his paramours was utterly repellant.

The first of the king's minions was Robert Carr, Groom of the Bedchamber, who the king elevated to earl of Somerset and appointed Lord Chamberlain. After six years of favors and royal gifts Carr was brought low, accused of murder and sent away from court. The second and greatest royal favorite, the extraordinarily handsome George Villiers, rose from cupbearer to Gentleman of the Bedchamber and ultimately to Earl of Buckingham.

"I love the Earl of Buckingham more than anyone else," James announced to his councilors, "and more than you who are here assembled." He compared his love for the earl to Jesus's affection for the "beloved disciple" John. "Jesus Christ did the same," the king said, "and therefore I cannot be blamed. Christ had his John, and I have my George."

With such pronouncements King James seemed to reach a new level of outrage, especially when he compounded his offense, in the view of many, by heaping Buckingham with costly jewels, lands, and lucrative offices.

~ Royal Panoply, Brief Lives Of The English Monarchs  
Carrolly Erickson, History Book Club

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## **NEW TIDBITS**

“The minute you accept the fact that you are different ... you become normal!”

“The illiterate of the 21st Century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn, or relearn.”

- Alvin Toffler

*(Thanks Dak!)*

*If you want to read more great tidbits, please go to the “**Tidbits**” page at <http://christiangays.com/tidbits.shtml>*

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## **TOP TEN THINGS THAT WOULD BE DIFFERENT IF THE TWELVE APOSTLES HAD BEEN GAY MEN**

1. The Sermon on the Mount would be a musical.
2. Jesus would never wear white after Labor Day.
3. Priests would get married ..wait a minute..never mind.
4. The Gospels would be Matthew, Mark, Luke, and Bruce.
5. Mary's hair would be FLAWLESS.
6. The Temple would not have only been cleansed of money changers, but re-decorated.
7. The water at the Wedding Feast at Cana would have turned into Perrier with a twist of lime.
8. The Triumphal Entry just SCREAMS for a drag number.

9. Replace the Beatitudes with "Fabulous are they..."

10. The Last Supper would have been a brunch.

*(I hope nobody's offended. I just thought they were cute.)*

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God bless,  
Mary

**Gay AND Christian? YES! It IS Possible!**

<http://www.ChristianGays.com>

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If you have any questions or concerns, please write to [mary@christiangays.com](mailto:mary@christiangays.com)

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