



The Sodomy Challenge

To raise awareness and to benefit the work of the Bisexual Resource Center

Fall
2002

The Sodomy Challenge

is an effort to raise public awareness about archaic sex laws which are still on the books in many jurisdictions around the world, and to raise funds to support the work of the Bisexual Resource Center, a Boston-based non-profit organization that advocates on behalf of the bisexual community around the world.

Example of an Archaic Sex Law

"Whoever commits the abominable and detestable crime against nature, either with mankind or with beast, shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for not more than 20 years."

Basically, under such a law anything other than different-sex penile/vaginal sex is illegal and a felony.

The Bisexual Resource Center

The 'BRC' is a non-profit educational and advocacy organization that works to educate the public about bisexuality and bisexual people and to advocate for the bisexual community. We publish the international *Bisexual Resource Guide* which can be ordered through our website located at www.biresource.org.

Obtaining Sponsors

Please be ambitious in setting a fundraising goal for yourself -- your support makes the work of the BRC possible and will further public awareness about the existence of archaic sex laws which criminalize the sexual expression of many people in our societies. Ask your friends, family, and co-workers to make a pledge of \$25 to sponsor you in this civil disobedience fundraiser. You will be surprised at how many people will respond positively to a request that they sponsor you at the \$50 or \$100 level. **Please ask all of your sponsors to pay in advance at the time that they agree to sponsor you.** Checks can be made out to "The Sodomy Challenge" or "BRC". All participants who send at least \$250 in donations to the organization will receive a free BRC t-shirt as a reward for their hard work! Additional pledge sheets can be obtained online at www.biresource.org or by contacting the BRC. All checks and pledge sheets should be mailed to the BRC, P.O. Box 1026, Boston, MA, 02117-1026, USA by **October 11, 2002**. There will be a gathering at the BRC office in Boston on National Coming Out Day to celebrate the conclusion of The Sodomy Challenge.

Archaic Sex Laws

Even if you are fortunate enough to live in a place which does not have archaic sex laws on the books any longer, many places do (for information on sodomy laws around the world, see www.sodomylaws.org). There are many such statutes. Some criminalize consensual sexual behavior between or among adults; others make it illegal to use vibrators and other sex toys. You can protest a different place's laws in solidarity with those of us unfortunate enough to still live under such a legal threat! In most jurisdictions in Canada and the USA, such laws are usually only enforced against people who are in a legally vulnerable position or part of a sexual minority group (bisexual, lesbian, gay, and transgender people; those who are part of the SM-leather-fetish communities; and others).

We encourage people to get in touch with their governments to demand reform of these restrictive, antiquated laws and secure our freedom of sexual expression! In the U.S. you can find out how to reach your local, state, and federal representatives at www.vote-smart.org. Exercise your right to protest!