

So Much Slime So Little Time: The Transgression of Pro—Feminism

Author(s): nikki craft

Source: Off Our Backs, Vol. 22, No. 11, Audre Lorde: 1934 — 1992 (dec 1992), pp. 8-9, 15, 20

Published by: off our backs, inc.

Stable URL: http://www.jstor.org/stable/25775827

Accessed: 12-01-2016 08:50 UTC

Your use of the JSTOR archive indicates your acceptance of the Terms & Conditions of Use, available at <a href="http://www.jstor.org/page/info/about/policies/terms.jsp">http://www.jstor.org/page/info/about/policies/terms.jsp</a>

JSTOR is a not-for-profit service that helps scholars, researchers, and students discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content in a trusted digital archive. We use information technology and tools to increase productivity and facilitate new forms of scholarship. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

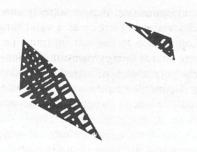
off our backs, inc. is collaborating with JSTOR to digitize, preserve and extend access to Off Our Backs.

http://www.jstor.org

## So Much Slime So Little Time:







The following article was provoked by an extreme violation of anti-sexist principles exhibited by the pro-feminist men's magazine, Changing Men (C-Men) in its treatment of oppressive sex, specifically in its latest, "Sex & Sexuality" issue (#24). The issue even included an ad for NAMBLA, the incestand-pedophilia-advocating North American Man-Boy Love Association. This wasn't the first inroad of pedophiles into the pro-feminist movement

Published in Madison, Wisconsin for fifteen years *C-Men* is affiliated with the National Organization for Men Against Sexism (NOMAS). It is a major voice for the pro-feminist men's movement focusing on "sex, politics, and gender" issues. After months of struggling with the editors, the article printed here will almost surely be published in issue #25 of their magazine.

Besides the story told here, there is another separate one on *C-Men's* and the NOMAS leadership council's reaction when faced with and challenged about the issues. At this point the magazine has expressed deep regret at running two pedophile ads and has agreed they will never do so again. At this point the position that NOMAS will take is not so clear.

NOMAS has released a statement saying they are shocked to see one of the ads appear. However, one of the main points of contention in the same issue with the NAMBLA ad is a feature article by one of the founders of their organization. At this time it seems that the NOMAS debate is beginning to center around whether a 17-year old having sex with a 12-year old (and a 40-year old therapist writing about it for the enjoyment of adult pro-feminist men in an unexamined, enmusiastic narrative) is inappropriate or not. A significant portion of the NOMAS leadership collective have voiced strong opinions that the age difference does not necessarily denote an imbalance in power and therefore abuse. There are many who disagree.

Since many feminists and pro-feminists are no longer willing to align with gay men (or lesbians) who refuse to be critical of power relationships—especially when it comes to sex—there are crucial lines to be drawn here by the pro-feminist and feminist movement.

In January NOMAS will hold their midwinter meeting where there will be an opportunity for a vitally important dialog to take place. I will be keeping the feminist community apprised of what happens there and where things

# The Transgression of Pro-Feminism

fall once the dust settles. If there are feminists willing to work with us to hold these men accountable your assistance, support, and your analysis would be greatly appreciated. If you are so inclined we would appreciate women passing this article on to pro-feminist men they know and discussing these issues with them. As always we value your feedback on the matters discussed in this article.

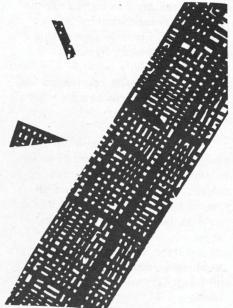
The media is the new church; the television its altar; the images its sacrament; the First Amendment its bible;
and any critique its blasphemy. Libertarians are the new evangelists, among
them the various nudist, naturist and
pedophile magazines—pumped—up
with select images of nude, white,
young, able, bonsaied, objectified women and children—preaching, not
"transgression" as they claim, but ageold patriarchal privilege and rightful—
ness. And now, we even find "profeminist" men's magazines helping
pedophiles recruit new assaulters.

I am pissed off I have to write this article in the first place, deeply disappointed in Changing Men's editors, and more than worried about their general readership too. I mean, do you guys get off on this stuff, or what? If you do, a lot of women who are considering you and NOMAS allies want to know, and we want to know now. Its too late for a simple apology from the editors to suffice. Unless Changing Men radically changes itself, its editorial and advertising guidelines, and becomes more accountable for what it chooses to publish, I'm going to join with others to organize a major boycott.

This critique will step outside the usual liberal platitudes where so many presently stand navel-deep in the quicksand of traditional, unaccountable libertarianism. It will document how the pedophile movement is a contradiction and a threat to the pro-feminist, and indeed to any progressive, egalitarian. agenda. It will offer concrete steps that pro-feminist men can take to counter the pedophile agenda. It is a

call for male editors, writers and readers, even the more "sensitive" ones, to become more accountable to the victims of sexual abuse. Expect it to be confrontive and dead serious about ending sexism—an "in-your-face," challenge of the sanctity of male sexual self—interest.

There are numerous things besides the pedophile ad for NAMBLA that have my hackles up about the latest issue of this magazine. There's Jeff Beane's hot article about "First Loves." about when the author was "looking into [the child's] pink-lipped boyish face...smelling his youthful skin...and being afraid to crush him" (and wanting to possess him, and all) back when he was 17 and had sex with a 12-year old. The first-person narrative, all about sex and the joy of trying to pressure several boys into it, was written by a "therapist...leader and organizer in the feminist men's movement..." and a big wheel in NOMAS. And what about the accompanying petite mort artsy-fartsy cheesecake shot? (p. 29) Was all that goop smeared over the unconscious or sleeping models meant to suggest blood? Only the editors know for sure.



It's too bad that *C-Men* chose to publish an article so true to the canon of child pornography. It isn't just the age differential, either. Throughout, Beane just revels in power imbalance; and his wet dream nostalgia is written

for adult men about children. Beane's sexual objectifiction of youths is ominously consistent with C-Men running the ad for NAMBLA in the same issue. And what are we to think about the editors' placement of the "Beloved Brothers" t-shirt ad right smack-dab next to Beane's fond memories of what many are interpreting to be child sexual abuse? It reads: "Always remember our LOVE is GOOD our MANHOOD is COMPLETE and without LIMITS." Without limits?!" Hmmm.

Speaking of operating without limits: What about the ad for Libido magazine with the dehumanized woman in her upper-classy basic-black cocktail dress, her head cropped so that only her fetishized, lipsticked mouth is showing, as her breasts are groped by her own and anonymous hands, one of them gloved (What's so fucking erotic about that?!)? But hey, she's smiling so I guess she's supposed to like being manhandled, as in any pornography. The ad even quotes a rave review of Libido from Playboy. (Playboy being, of course, that other pro-feminist men's magazine; yup, these days even Hef can get away with calling himself a feminist.)

I will never support any publication that defends their entitlement to publish such a problematic picture unless it were being used to challenge exploitation. Besides, what's that dehumanizing, exploitative image doing perched just above the video series entitled, "Counseling the Sexual Abuse Survivor"? Insensitive as hell, I'd say. Seeing the names of Florence Rush, Diana Russell, Louise Armstrong, Sandra Butler, Lucy Berliner and David Finkelhor (all researchers and/or activists against sexual abuse) juxtaposed with the Libido ad made me want to vomit. Wonder how they feel knowing a magazine committed to "non-oppressive masculinity" does this to them and their work?

Completing the theme for the whole issue was Duane Allen's "Invitation to Transgressive Sex" (p. 4), an appeal to "violate playfully the current genres of sexuality" in which Allen also endorses advocates of sado-masochistic pornography. Allen expresses such confusion

about oppression that he actually summons visions of orgies as a valid form of opposition to our war on Iraq: "i.e. using sexual energy/pleasure to counterbalance violence, hatred, repression." As if Amerikans pleasuring each other counterbalanced the death and devastation we visit on non-Amerikans! Well, suck my Patriot...No wonder. If whips, chains and Nazi/Jew scenarios can engender such swell(ing) hard-ons in those exploring sado-masochistic (more precisely sado-fascist) scenarios, then sexualizing war might get them to just explode...with pleasure, that is. Still, many of us, when we want to quench our anti-oppression passions, will be too busy fucking up deserving political targets to be lolling around n bed too much with anybody. But won't the next 200,000 Iraqis feel great knowing that at least someone in the U.S.A. does give a flying fuck about their massacre?

#### Transgression Anyone?

NAMBLA is an organization dedicated to the total elimination of sexual age-of-consent statutes. Its members believe that children any age, even under 10 years old, should have "free choice" regarding sexual involvements with adults. Its hard to imagine how NAMBLA keeps children from flocking to their meetings, since according to them and their allies, so many children experience wonderful, positive sexual experiences with grown-ups. But, as I and other researchers have ascertained, NAMBLA's meetings are made up nearly exclusively of adult, white men.

The classified ad in the last issue of *C-Men* for NAMBLA (#24, p. 61) reads: "NAMBLA seeks justice for men and boys interested in consensual relationships. Our monthly Bulletin features news, fiction, letters, pictures. Mailed discreetly. Subscribe!"

What was this ad doing in *C-Men?* It didn't "just happen." Somebody took NAMBLA's money, typed the ad, layed it out, and proofed it. Shit didn't just happen. Decisions were made. Who made them?

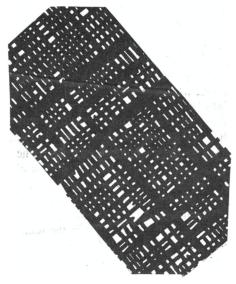
But there is more. Back in the winter of 1987 one of the editors of *C-Men* (while we were visiting at the house of a mutual friend) handed me the premiere issue (Autumn 1987) of *Uncommon Desires (UD)*, a pedophile magazine, catering to "man-girl sex" enthusiasts. He asked me what I thought of it.

The moment I read the table of contents I knew I had my hands on an important document. I nonchalantly browsed through it, but my mind was racing. I had to figure out, quick, what needed to be done about this obviously (if I may borrow form Duane Allen the term) "transgressive" journal. I asked him if I could keep it overnight, saying to him that I wanted more time to look at it before formulating an opinion. He said OK. I was up all night reading it and making phone calls. The next day I made 50 copies, and mailed it to ev-

ery cop and postal inspector I could find an address for.

Then, in the next issue of Changing Men (#19, p. 44) I noticed the following ad: "Uncommon Desires. Nonfiction journal about girl love. Power, equality, consent, social/sexual oppression of girls in patriarchy, ethical intergenerational relationships. Does not contain or advertise any photographs or written erotica."

When I saw the pedophile ad I was very upset because I knew C-Men was aware of the publication before the UD ad appeared in their magazine. But I didn't say anything at the time. Instead, partly as a result of that ad, I began an undercover correspondence with the editor of Uncommon Desires. I pretended I was a pro-feminist man in North Carolina who'd seen the ad in C-Men. In his second letter to me, the editor, N.S. Artistoff (an alias), wrote: "By the way, Changing Men was very positive (or at least non-judgmental) about UD --[the editor] in particular, with whom I spoke on the telephone on two occasions.'



What?! My policy, when I'm talking to men who promote having sex with children, is that I am either lying through my teeth to them and pumping them for all the information I can get to be used against them, or I'm confronting them in ways they will never be able to forget. Same as any conversation I would have with a racist — a pedophile would never mistake my position for condoning abusive behavior — unless I decided I wanted him to for my own purposes.

In a recent conversation with the editor, he told me he didn't remember seeing the magazine, showing it to me, talking to the editor of *UD* on the phone twice, or having run this ad. All of them claim they would *not* have run these ads had they been aware of them. Too bad these appear to have been truly unimportant and unremarkable incidents to them all. What are editors for, anyway?

When they say this I tend to believe them. They have even agreed that my turning over *UD* to law enforcement was the "appropriate action to take." Still they have some explaining to do. Until they show some accountability for their actions I am uncomfortable with

them being left off the hook. To do so would be, perhaps, dangerously naive – particularly in light of Jeff Beane's ode to man-boy love article in the same issue with the NAMBLA ad.

It's easy to see that liberalism, wishy-washy analysis, and complicitous silence may all be interpreted, as it was in this particular situation as approval for the pedophile's too common "desires." And its a task to figure out whether mistakes like these, made out of stupidity and sloppiness, are better or worse than the choices based on intentional complicity with abusers.

Two facts remain, regardless of the actual intentions of the managing editors of C-Men: 1. They have been irresponsible in running these ads; 2. Their behavior was sufficiently vague as to be misconstrued as supportive and/or non-judgmental by the editor of UD (and, I might add, one activist against sexual violence). Don't these pro-feminist activists need to be a lot more responsible in their general editorial practices and, specifically, in challenging and confronting known pedophiles?

#### How to Have Sex with Kids

Discovering the existence of Uncommon Desires was important enough to me that I was unable to forget it. From the moment I found out about it, I began to ferret out all the information I could about this magazine and the extensive pedophile network related to it.

Uncommon Desires (Passion Press) purports to be a "feminist" organization espousing "the voice of a politicallyconscious girl-love underground." It works to establish cultural and legal justifications for adult men having sex with female children. Its editor alleges that UD is not "an active network of individuals creating and exchanging erotica and exploiting children .... Our underground does none of this. We only raise political consciousness and prick the conscience of those who would bring harm to others." From what I gather, the harm they are speaking of would come from overzealous child protectors, and not from men who use children sexually. The membership is described as: "drawn together because of deep concern for the girls [they]

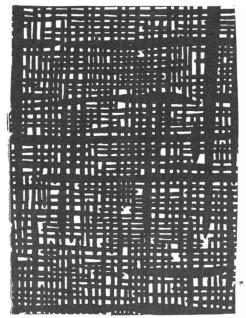
Nevertheless some of the *UD* writers (many using aliases) have been arrested on child pornography charges. one name I recognized in the table of contents of that first issue was the "sex researcher" David Sonenschein (a.k.a. David Gordon). Sonenschein is founder of the Austin Pedophile Study Group, an articulate proponent for sado-fascism, and the author of a self-published pamphlet called *How to Have Sex with Kids*. The man is just one of the many sexual predators working closely with the editor of *UD*. So much slime, so little time.

UD networks and functions as the

lesser known brother publication to the NAMBLA Bulletin, and seeks the same acceptance and success by promoting "girl-love" and the "attraction to prepubescent or pubescent girls" through legal channels. *UD* defines this "attraction" (in the publication at least) as a "loving and nurturing erotic/affection (though *not necessarily* sexualized) attraction."

Yet, despite any disclaimers, every page of UD — including its statistical information on sexual attraction to children and its sophisticated philosophical justifications for pedophilia — is all about adults' sex with young girls. Both UD and the NAMBLA Bulletin promote incest and child sexual abuse.

Pedophile groups are men's organizations and they do a lot of 'male bonding' -- constantly exchanging subscribers, information, photographs and sometimes even children. In a mailing to the general readership in December 1990, the editor of UD states: "Without NAMBLA, UD would not even exist!" He admits that he gets most of his subscription s from ads run in the NAMBLA Bulletin. The editor says that he thinks that girl "lovers" are reading the NAMBLA Bulletin because there's nothing else available that advocates sex with girls; thus these men make alliances with organizations that advocate sex with boys. But I have another opinion. I believe these men crave the power imbalance, the transgression, and the child's naivete that is intrinsic to adult-on-child sex, regardless of the child's gender. On the other hand there are a lot of men who will stick it in anything that's walking (or crawling) and about its gender (or humanity for that matter) they couldn't care less.



With intellectual rationales and verbal subterfuge, pedophiles are waging a widespread disinformation campaign to gain public acceptance. But once one pushes past their liberal-chic front men and women to the average male abusers on trial in courtrooms, it becomes all too clear that what these men really want and do is to take trade, publish and possess nude photographs of children — and fuck them, too, whenever possible.

continued on page 15

## So Much Slime So Little Time:



continued from page 9

Since many of their favorite activities are illegal in this country, the men who run these pedophile groups have a daunting public relations and damage control task. For example, the lawyer for UD, Lawrence Stanley, who is also a board member of NAMBLA and European pedophile publication called Padika was arrested last year and charged with receiving and conspiring to import child pornography. This occurred after he requested that a "lost" suitcase belonging to one of his "clients," Don Marcus, be delivered to his office at Tommy Boy Music in New York City. The suitcase, according to New York Newsday (12/10/91) contained at least 84 pictures of pre-teenage French children exposing their genitalia. Marcus, a family counselor and naturist (as is Stanley, who is listed as and American Sunbathing [nudist] Association attorney), had fled prosecution in 1989 and is currently wanted for importation of child pornography. Stanley's trial is scheduled for November 30.

#### "Progressives" and Pedophilia

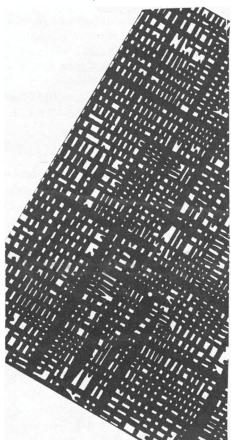
One of the main strategies of pedophile groups right now is public relations work: they seek legitimacy by association with feminist/pro-feminist/gay and other so-called "progressive" movements. For example: UD's editor, throughout all of his writings, aggressively works (and he has encouraged other pedophiles to do the same) to garner support from leftists, anarchists, and civil libertarian-type groups so as to make room for pedophile ideology and practice in "liberal" constituencies. That's why the UD and NAMBLA ads were placed in Changing Men in the first place. Of course, the pedophile movement's ultimate goal remains to recruit, encourage, and defend men who are considering -- or already practicing -- pedophilia.

A political platform that advocates fucking children and encourages taking and publishing nude, erotic photographs of children tends to upset people. Hence NAMBLA's and *UD*'s bad standing with the general population... except of course, many doggedly "non-judgmental" liberals.

The pages of *C-Men* are not the only instances where pro-feminist men and pedophiles have found themselves cozily in bed together. In 1989, at a Pittsburgh National Organization for Men Against Sexism conference, I confronted noted pacifist George Lakey — a conference panelist and long-time pro-

feminist — about his having represent ed the liberal First Amendment Funda mentalist position on a previous panel

at a NAMBLA conference. Was Lakey used as a front man for men who are hot to fuck children? Was it another `accidental' lapse that allowed NAMBLA to use Lakey's credentials to give credibility to their exploitation of children? Yeah, let's discuss it.



Some pedophiles, particularly the ones affiliated with *UD*, also want "feminists" to carry their banner. In order to disguise their specifically male power/sex gambit, they need to identify, trot out, embrace, and failing that, invent women who are sexually abusive of children. *UD* has been particularly interested in establishing an alliance with sado-fascist women. They have run ads, and gotten subscribers, in the pseudo-feminist publication *On Our Backs*.

I have found that working with apathetic, confused, non-discriminating, and even complicit liberals to try to cut off pedophile's access to children, or deal with sexual predators of any kind, does not produce satisfying results. It's just not a priority for them. Hell, even convicted felons despise child abusers (in jail, they call them "short-eyes") and send them a clear message that hitting on kids is just "not OK" — that they are putting their lives on the line by doing so. And child abusers listen. Sometimes they even commit suicide rather than go to jail. (An interesting

solution, it saves the taxpayers a lot of money and saves the children a lot more.) But liberals, hey, they just love everybody (except of course those humorless, strident anti-pornography/sex abuse activists).

#### Don't Fuck with Children

As soon as I heard that Changing Men could run an ad from NAMBLA, I knew they would positively welcome a pitch for two new fantasy discussion groups, NAMBLAH and REPKA. Both were lovingly created to expose the double standard of First-Amendment Fundamentalists and "progressive" publications that support the "rights" of pornographers and pedophiles to exploit women and children, and then work to diminish and censor the voice and rage of survivors of sexual abuse.

Those fantasy groups are:
NAMBLAH (New Activist Men Berating Liberal Ass Holes) and REPKA,
whose motto is: "Don't fuck with children or we'll fuck with you!" REPKA stands for Regional Pedophile Killer Association.

Like NAMBLA members, REPKA members "break no laws" but just want a safe and nurturant place within our communities for discussion about — and intellectual consideration of — "the possible societal benefits of humanely destroying men who rape children."

In the spirit of NAMBLA, REPKA members only discuss their *mutual* preferences — and all the killing would be *consensual*.

Nothing wrong with the free expression of a vivid imagination, right? Besides, REPKA offers vindication and justice that lots of survivors of child-hood sexual abuse can really *get off* on. "Experiment with a truly `transgressive' sexual remedial politic," advises a REPKA spokesperson.

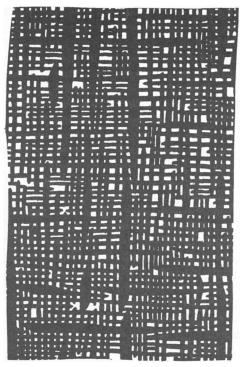
And wouldn't you know it? —
REPKA's anthem basks in the spirit of free speech and artistic expression. Just as Ice-T's popular "Cop K\*\*\*er" warns racist cops to lay off, REPKA sends a hippity-hop message to sexist men who target children. So shuck off those censorious attitudes, bro, and that liberal timidity, too — and rap along with us:

Hey short-eyes
I'm the kid's big sister
and Mister
You're in for a surprise
We saw ya
And we're comin' for ya
We know where you live -Kiss your ass good-bye!
REPKA's gonna get ya

Gonna find ya
REPKA's gonna stop ya
No matter what
Your fancy lawyers
Hey short-eyes
I'm the kid's big brother
Got a problem
Take it up with me
Wanna grab some guy
Try someone bigger
I'm gonna wrap your head
Around this tree!

### Pro-Feminists! Shit or Get off the Pot

So what about it, C-Men editors and readers? I'd like to know how adulton-child sex ads can run in your magazine -- not once -- but twice, the UD ad passing without one single published critical comment. Are supposedly "enlightened" men such easy marks that they fall for the pedophile's bullshit in their ads about justice, egalitarianism, oppression, and consensuality? Are you unable to figure out what "intergenerational" really means? Are many of you just so apathetic that you can't bring yourself to care much one way or the other? Or does such material actually reflect the type of (to use the trendy obscurantist term) "sexualities" that the average reader adheres to? I doubt it, but I can't be sure based on the evidence at hand.



By giving the girl and boy fuckers some of the credibility that they seek, that they so desperately need, and by helping pedophiles to network and recruit new members, *C-Men* has contributed irreparably to the problem of

continued on page 20

## The Transgression of Pro-Feminism



continued from page 15

child abuse in our culture. Now what are you going to do about it?

<del>muumuum</del>

## Removing *UD* from Under the Pro-Feminist Umbrella

As for Changing Men, I don't want to just hear how sorry its editors are. I want them to show us. They need to begin by undoing some of the damage they have done in the pages of their magazine. Here are my suggestions:

oChanging Men needs to sever once and for all public support for pedophiles and their sympathizers by refusing them access to the pages of their magazine. That will be harder than one might think once this article goes into print and all those cards and letters start rolling in about how great adult/child sex is. Brace yourself.

oChanging Men editors need to commit to publishing articles about pedophile organizations (men's groups all of them), identifying on an ongoing basis, their leaders and members who have

been arrested on rape, child molestation and/or child pornography charges.

oChanging Men editors need to adopt and enforce a strict policy prohibiting ads for any businesses that exploit and demean women, and any organizations advocating adult-on-child sex in their magazines, as if it mattered.

oChanging Men editors must establish clear editorial guidelines that define the vague "a healthy life-loving non-oppressive masculinity" with terms like "egalitarian" and "non-exploitative." If not, the feminist community should have serious reservations about any alliance with this magazine. Until "non-oppressive" is understood to mean "egalitarian" and "non-exploitating," the notion of "healthy masculinity" will remain and oxymoron.

oChanging Men editors need to commit to publishing articles that expose the exploitation of children and women by sexual predators, and that deal with related issues like incest, issues of power and dominance (as abuse! not as fun and games) in sexual relationships. They need to publish articles by feminists that reveal the child's perspective and not the abuser's. They need to set aside, immediately, issues devoted to "Accountability," and "Sex and Sexuality Revisited" (to be edited by people who hold equality in the highest esteem -- above orgasm, above masculinity, and even above libertarian arguments).

Here's a few things pro-feminists can do if you want to be allies with women who are working to end sexual exploitation:

oDocument and publicize the pedophiles' efforts to secure unregulated access to nude photos of children (local and national naturist organizations are an excellent place to start). Expose their strategies to make adult-on-child sex more available. Don't given them credibility. Don't be on their panels. Don't lose any opportunity to write letters and articles to block their attempts to expand their power base. You can help push these guys --NAMBLA, UD, Victims of Child Abuse Laws (VOCAL, a reactionary men's rights lobbying organization) and all the others -- back to the criminal subculture from where they came.

olf you are a man who has been a victim of childhood sexual abuse, it is a good time to consider coming forward with your personal history and analysis to challenge all the myth-making in progress about man-on-youth sex.

olf you have encountered a pedophile in the men's movement (or the nud-ist/naturist movement), I'd very much like to discuss it with you Your privacy will be protected.

oTaking responsibility for men's violence and sexual abuse, for real profeminists, is not optional. Get involved with local and national profeminist men's organization working to end men's violence. If there's not one in your area then start one. Act as if women' and children's lives mattered.

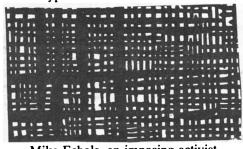
### Raining on NAMBLA's Pa-

I got goose bumps when Melissa Farley told me about what she did at the 1992 Gay Pride Parade, attended by some 500,000 spectators, in San Francisco. It's an excellent example of how we can publicly challenge NAMBLA and other organizations of that ilk. Like some of the best actions, this one was a spur-of-the-moment thing. When she got to the parade, she first searched the length of it to find the NAMBLA contingent. She spoke with many of them, one of whom proudly informed her that he had just been released from two years in jail in Thailand on charges of child trafficking. She then marched, much to their dismay, directly behind their group, carrying two signs that read: "Pedophilia NOT!" (the NOT! in multi-colored glitter, of course), and "The Solution to Teenage Homophobia is not Pedophil-

It was a brave action because she did not know what to expect, NAMBLA having been an established part of the parade for 15 years, with only pockets of resistance so far. She figured she'd be hissed and booed, but instead it was NAMBLA that the crowd berated. After the parade, a television reporter approached her and said NAMBLA had claimed that 80% of the gay and lesbian community supported them. But, after seeing the crowd's positive response to her signs, he said it was obvious there was "very little support for NAMBLA in the gay community in the Bay Area."

"It feels like the tide has turned," Melissa told me. Indeed, there have recently been rip-tide intense letter exchanges in the gay newspapers in San Francisco, with increasing numbers of people calling for the immediate expulsion of NAMBLA from future parades, not only because of their exploitation of children but also because of NAMBLA's leeching onto the lesbian and gay community. One letter said:

"They must be politically isolated and allowed to twist in the wind of their own hypocritical rhetoric."



Mike Echols, an imposing activist who had infiltrated the San Francisco Chapter of NAMBLA by posing as a rich homosexual pedophile who wanted to give NAMBLA money, set up an expose with several Bay Area reporters. NAMBLA was barred from holding public meetings at their usual public library location after their meeting was broadcast by KRON television. I'd have given anything to have been their when Echols and reporters pulled out a hidden video camera and NAMBLA members scrambled for cover like cockroaches when the kitchen light goes on.

Several days later Echols dealt NAMBLA another blow during a brief but memorable television interview when it was revealed that a spokesman for NAMBLA, who claimed that none of the groups' members had ever been arrested in San Francisco, had himself been arrested, convicted, and was currently on probation for solicitation of a 9-year-old boy. Subsequently the man was arrested for violating his probation because of information that came to light as a result of Echol's work. Why can't more people take his initiative?

These stories illustrate how much can be accomplished by people who care about stopping sexual exploitation. Both these activists have had a significant impact on reducing NAMBLA's public image, and are role models for true feminist and pro-feminist activists!

000

So you guys want to really transgress? Want to really break some
fucking rules? Try bucking hard up
against male power and dominance.
One way to do that is to challenge, in
any way, men's rights to sexual access.
Try standing up to men who wish to
extend and legitimate male sexual privilege. When you do, it's surprising how
fast they begin to show their true colors: you learn a lot. Besides, if you can
succeed at grappling just a little bit of
that prick entitlement away from them,
then you will be making the world a
safer place for all living entities.

In the meantime, when — for women — often the means determine the end, I have adopted this creed: if in my life, I can make these sexual predator's existences a little bit more pained, fearful, guilt-ridden, costly, and/or paranoid — if I can just manage to be a nuisance to them — if I can prevent even one of them from exerting his power to exploit a child, then my work will not have been in vain.

You see, I became convinced a long time ago, that if we — women and children — are to survive male violence, we must become as strategic, relentless and obstinate as the male sexual predators who are stalking us. Women, as June Jordan has said, must learn to become a menace to their enemies. I am working on it. So are a lot of others. Besides, it's hard to help but notice that many feminists are starting to take seriously the simple fact that wild warriors pumped up on testoster—one only seem to respect people they fear. Are we a "civilized" culture, yet?

I hope that these suggestions and my work will encourage and excite those *C-Men* readers, and their feminist friends, who want to really do something about the sexual exploitation of children; and I for one don't mean to limit anyone's imagination when going after sexual predators. Yeah, yeah, I know: two wrongs don't make a right. But, like Sister Souljah says, it damn sure makes things even.

I hope that pro-feminist men, like an increasing number of critically thinking and/or politically pressured gays and lesbians, will discover creative was to rain on NAMBLA's and *UD*'s parade by challenging pedophiles, incest perpetrators, child pornographers and all other sex-as-playful-violation "transgressors", in every community — in every way you can imagine.

by nikki craft