

# COLUMBIA SPECTATOR ARCHIVE

Columbia Daily Spectator, Volume CXI, Number 23, 3 October 1986 — Letters Homophobic censorship [ARTICLE]

## Letters Homophobic censorship

## To The Editor:

September 30th, there was a "safer sex" workshop, sponsored by the Columbia Gay Health Advocates. I was aware of this event because of the posters around campus. Unfortunately, these posters also made me aware that there is a group on campus who will go to any length, no matter how distasteful, to make its point. The group to which I refer has not been officially named. It is the "group" which tore down, mutilated, and defaced the safer sex workshop posters. Freedom of speech on this campus should not include the right to call for the destruction of another group on campus. Gay organizations' posters are consistently torn down as soon as they are put up. Don't the CGLA and Gay Health Advocates have as much right to advertise their events as Zooprax or the Italian Club? Why should Gay groups be singled out for "special" treatment?

I was especially disgusted to see that in at least two cases posters had been covered with graffiti—"Columbia faggots fuck off" and "faggots die." I want to meet the homophobic people who scrawled those sayings. What is wrong with them? The "safer sex" workshop was an educational evening presented in order to answer questions about AIDS and to help prevent that terrible disease from spreading more than it has. Do the people who destroyed the posters really want AIDS to spread? Do they really want the Gay men who read the graffiti to die? If they do, they are the perverted people on campus.

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