

**Lloyd E. Rigler - Lawrence E. Deutsch  
Foundation**

December 11, 1996

Mr. Thomas F. Coleman  
Spectrum Institute  
P.O. Box 65756  
Los Angeles, CA 90065

Dear Tom:

This letter will serve as our approval of your funding request for 1997 projects as stipulated in the attached sheet totalling \$39,000 for four specific projects:

1. The Right to Live Together Project
2. The "White Paper" Project
3. The International Personal Privacy Project
4. The Domestic Partnership Project

It is my hope that one day the DP Project will be adopted by the federal government so that they have the same rights as married couples. I'm enclosing an opinion piece from USA Today dated December 9<sup>th</sup>. *- Finkel*.

I congratulate you on your efforts this year and hope you win the Hawaiian legislation.

Regards,

  
Lloyd

LER/jf  
Enc.

### Spectrum Institute: Funding Request for 1997 Projects

**Total Requested: \$39,000**

**The Right to Live Together Project ..... \$ 9,000**

Prepare briefs in cases, as needed to protect the  
right of single people to live together without  
discrimination ..... \$ 9,000  
(includes travel to D.C. for argument  
in pending Supreme Court case)

**The "White Paper" Project ..... \$ 7,000**

Preparation of White Paper on the  
rights of single people ..... \$ 4,000

Distribution of White Paper ..... \$ 1,000

Follow up meetings/briefings ..... \$ 2,000  
(including necessary travel)

**The International Personal Privacy Project ..... \$ 6,000**

National Personal Privacy Project to  
protect privacy on a national level .... \$ 3,000  
(including travel costs to Washington)

International Privacy Project to protect  
privacy on a global level ..... \$ 3,000

**The Domestic Partnership Project ..... \$17,000**

Encyclopedia of Domestic Partnership (book) ..... \$ 9,000

Domestic Partnership Network (Internet) ..... \$ 4,000

Government Employee Benefits Project to  
protect the rights of unmarried employees ..... \$ 4,000

**Lloyd E. Rigler - Lawrence E. Deutsch  
Foundation**

April 10, 1997

FAX TO: Tom Coleman  
Spectrum Institute

FROM: Lloyd E. Rigler

Dear Tom:

Thanks for the file folder on Assembly Bill 54. It is well compiled and to the point. I also like the language used. What chances do we have to get it passed?

You realize we are getting closer to asking for federal acceptance of DP so that inheritance taxes would not confiscate the money DP's save and want to leave - only spouses benefit from inheritance today. All others pay from 30 to 60% of the inheritance.

Good luck next week in Sacramento on health coverage.

Regards,

  
Lloyd

**Mailing Address: P.O.Box 828, Burbank, CA 91503-0828  
Phone (213) 878-0283 \* Fax (213) 878-0329**

**To: Lloyd Rigler**

**From: Tom Coleman**

**Date: June 25, 1997**

**There have been several major developments this week which I would like to bring to your attention:**

**1. RFRA invalidated.** This morning, the United States Supreme Court held that the Religious Freedom Restoration Act is unconstitutional. Congress does NOT have the authority to mandate that the states, municipalities, and private citizens must accommodate the religious beliefs of everyone unless they can show a compelling interest not to give such accommodation. This means that right-wing religious business people will have to obey general laws, including civil rights laws, like everyone else. This is a major victory for a secular society. People who have religious objections to civil rights laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex, marital status, or sexual orientation, or requiring equal rights for domestic partners, will have to obey those laws. Religious bigots will not be able to use their religious beliefs as an excuse to violate the law.

**2. Our case.** On Friday, the U.S. Supreme Court will finally decide whether to take or not to take the fair housing case we won in the California Supreme Court where the religious landlady was forced to rent to an unmarried couple because refusing to rent to them violated California's law against marital status discrimination. We have been waiting for one year to hear one way or another from the nation's high court. I suspect that they will not take the case and we will finally win fair housing rights for unmarried couples. This will have national ramifications that will benefit domestic partners.

**3. Newsweek poll.** A new national poll released this week shows that a majority of the public supports legal recognition of domestic partnerships in matters of inheritance rights, health benefits, and social security benefits. Only one third support legalization of same-sex marriage.

**4. Business survey.** A business accounting firm released a survey this week of 1,500 randomly selected employers with more than 200 employees. On average, some 13% do not restrict benefits to married couples but also extend benefits to "nontraditional partners." About 23% of large firms with 5,000 or more employees offer domestic partner benefits, as do 12% of mid-size firms with 200 to 999 workers. This is major progress.

**5. France.** The new leftist government in France announced that it will follow through on its promise to pass a domestic partnership law in that nation. It is called a "contract of social union" and will be available to unmarried couples regardless of gender. It will give these couples equal rights with married couples in matters of housing, inheritance, and taxes.

**Plant a seed. Nourish it. Give it attention and tender loving care. Watch it grow and blossom. That's what we have done with family diversity, singles rights, and domestic partner benefits. Your financial investment and my time are paying off. We have much to celebrate. If we continue on the same path for a few more years, we will ultimately prevail nationwide.**



**To: Lloyd Rigler**

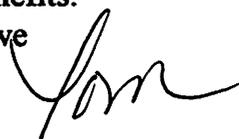
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**Lloyd E. Rigler - Lawrence E. Deutsch  
Foundation**

June 25, 1997

FAX TO: Tom Coleman  
Spectrum Institute

FROM: Lloyd E. Rigler

Dear Tom:

Thank you for your update on the major developments relating to our projects. All of it is very positive.

I noted with interest that you included Inheritance Rights as part of DP. I was never aware that there were any. Would you please fax me the benefits a surviving DP gets if he is the beneficiary of DP's estate? Would it apply only in states that recognize DPs? Certainly not at the Federal tax level - please respond.

Regards,

  
Lloyd

LER/jf

To: Lloyd Rigler

From: Tom Coleman

Date: June 25, 1997

I mentioned inheritance rights for domestic partners solely in the context of a public opinion poll.

Currently, no state gives dp's inheritance rights without a will. However, that will happen someday when a state passes a dp law that allows one dp to inherit from another dp (if they are both registered with the state as a domestic partnership) without a will. The fact that a majority of the public supports such inheritance rights will make it easier in the future to get a state legislature to pass such a law giving dp's such inheritance rights. But that is down the road, when other dp rights have been secured, such as the right to jointly rent an apartment or the right to health benefits as an employee benefit.

I hope this clarifies matters. Right now, it is merely a matter of public opinion. In the future, such public opinion will be carried forward into specific legislation.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tom", is centered on the page below the main text.

**Lloyd E. Rigler - Lawrence E. Deutsch  
Foundation**

July 8, 1997

FAX TO: Tom Coleman  
Spectrum Institute

FROM: Lloyd E. Rigler

Dear Tom:

Thanks for your fax on the Hawaiian law. We must do all we can to make DPs for all unmarried partners who share the same household and end discrimination. Can't you get a coalition of unmarried heterosexuals who live together to support you? Let's advertise for them.

As for the disability, abuse and personal rights conference - I'm having my video cameraman, Adam Williams, contact you for details. We can do it for you. Keep up the good work.

Regards,



Lloyd

LER/jf

**Lloyd E. Rigler - Lawrence E. Deutsch  
Foundation**

July 7, 1997

FAX TO: Tom Coleman  
Spectrum Institute

FROM: Lloyd E. Rigler

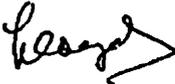
Dear Tom:

I assume you saw the story in this morning's Times about DP and the Hawaiian law. I just wish they talked about DP as unmarried, single adults that share the responsibility of a household and leave gays and straights out of it.

I noted that a recent field pole showed 59% of Californians approve giving DPs family leave, pensions, health insurance and death benefits.

Please tell me what death benefits would entail - that is, what we really need at the federal level. Under present law death taxes for any single person with over \$3 million is 55% on any amount left to a beneficiary. What do you think is the best way to approach giving DPs the same tax free benefit as spouses get now.

Regards,



Lloyd

LER/jf

To: Lloyd Rigler

From: Tom Coleman

Date: June 27, 1997

## **We Won!**

**After one year of waiting, today the United States Supreme Court refused to hear Mrs. Smith's appeal from our victory last year in the California Supreme Court.**

**This means that business owners in California may not hide behind their religious beliefs as grounds to discriminate against unmarried couples, or any other group for that matter.**

**I know that you have always said that we can't fight religion, but with the help of some fair minded judges on the California Supreme Court and the United States Supreme Court, secular human rights prevailed over religious dogma.**

**This has taken many years, and we had our share of losses and setbacks along the way, but the bottom line is that WE WON.**

**Thanks for your support on these cases.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom", written in a cursive style.

# NATION

SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 1997

## High Court Rejects Landlady's Appeal

She refused to rent to unwed couple

By Harriet Chiang  
Chronicle Legal Affairs Writer

The U.S. Supreme Court left intact yesterday a landmark civil rights ruling that a Chico landlady cannot refuse to rent to an unmarried couple for religious reasons.

Without comment, the justices refused to hear the appeal of Evelyn Smith, who claimed that she was entitled to an exemption from California's civil rights laws because of her Christian beliefs.

Civil rights lawyers say the case will protect the rights of gays and minorities as well as unmarried tenants.

"It means if you start a for-profit business and advertise to the public or deal with the public, you have to obey the civil rights law," said Los Angeles attorney Thomas Coleman, who represented Ken Phillips, one of the unmarried tenants.

"You can't impose your religious beliefs on your customers or your tenants."

The high court's action came two days after the justices struck down the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993, a law designed to expand the constitutional religious freedom protection.

Smith's attorney, Jordan Lorraine of Fairfax, Va., said that his client's case had the misfortune of being "in the wrong place at the wrong time" because of the court's striking down of the religious freedom act.

"This dilutes down the whole concept of civil rights to say what Mrs. Smith did is as morally reprehensible as a racial bigot discriminating against a racial minority," he said. The Smith case began in

April 1987, when Phillips and Gail Randall paid a deposit on one of four rental units owned by Smith in a quiet residential area of Chico.

Smith, a member of the Bidwell Presbyterian Church in Chico, told them that she did not rent to unmarried couples because she believes that sex outside marriage is a sin.

Phillips and Randall told her they were married, but just before they moved in, they admitted that they were not. Smith promptly canceled the rental agreement and returned their deposit.

The couple filed a claim with the Fair Employment and Housing Commission, claiming that Smith was illegally discriminating against them.

The state civil rights agency ruled in their favor and ordered Smith to rent to the couple. But a state appeals court in Sacramento reversed that decision, finding that Smith was protected by her religious beliefs.

The state Supreme Court overturned the lower court ruling, finding in a 4-to-3 ruling that the state ban on discrimination did not impose a "substantial burden" on Smith's religious beliefs.

The California Fair Employment and Housing Commission opposed the appeal, saying that Smith sought "the right to discriminate in business activities affecting the public interest."

Phillips, who split up with Randall several years ago, was elated when he heard about the high court's decision. "It's been a long, drawn-out battle," he said. "It's kind of nice to have it over and obviously in our favor."

**Lloyd E. Rigler - Lawrence E. Deutsch  
Foundation**

June 27, 1997

FAX TO: Tom Coleman

FROM: Lloyd E. Rigler

Dear Tom:

Thanks for your fax on our winning the Smith case. You can be proud. When I say you can't fight the Bible, I am talking about public opinion - and I don't think the Supreme Court has changed that.

What I'd really like to have us work on is federal recognition of DP so that the survivor of a DP could be the beneficiary of a deceased DP's estate without paying estate taxes. Under today's, the wife can escape estate taxes - that's discriminatory.

Regards,



Lloyd

LER/jf

**To:** Lloyd Rigler  
**From:** Tom Coleman  
**Re:** Hawaii Reciprocal Beneficiary Law and LA Times Article  
**Date:** July 8, 1997

Yes, I did read the LA Times article about the new Hawaii law. I am not in favor this new statute. It is not a domestic partnership law. It is special interest legislation that was proposed by conservative politicians, with support of moderates and liberals, to appease the Supreme Court in the gay marriage case.

There are many flaws with this new law. It is only available to same-sex couples and to close blood relatives, on the theory that these couples cannot legally marry. It is not available to opposite-sex couples who are not closely related by blood, such as seniors who will lose economic benefits if they marry. It is also not available to any other couple who may marry, such as a stepbrother and stepsister (who can marry in Hawaii).

This new law merely reinforces marital status discrimination and creates more sex discrimination. It is unconstitutional because it is not available to a man and a woman who live together. It is sex discrimination to allow a same-sex couple to register as reciprocal beneficiaries (RBs) and thereby gain certain rights and benefits but to disallow an opposite-sex couple to become RBs even if they have assumed mutual obligations.

The other flaw with this new law is that it is a free give-away of state-conferred rights and benefits. To register as RBs, the couple does not have to live together or, for that matter, have any obligations toward each other whatsoever. Any adult can select any other adult (except someone of the opposite-sex with whom they are not closely related by blood) to register together for these benefits. A state employee in Hawaii, for example, can select someone in New York whom he does not even know and who is very ill and in need of expensive medical treatment and those two people can register as RBs. The sick person then can get free medical benefits from the State of Hawaii.

Also, just as there is no requirement of obligation to each other as a precondition of registering as RBs, the couple does not automatically incur obligations as a result of registering. So, it is totally free benefits to any two adults who register, remembering, of course, that only same-sex couples and close blood relatives can register. The RBs can dissolve their relationship on the demand of one party without having to go to court.

In order to gain the same 50 or so benefits, an unrelated man and woman would have to get married in Hawaii. This would require them to assume the normal obligations of marriage, including spousal support obligations (potentially for life). It would also require that the couple go to court to dissolve the relationship.

In my opinion, it violates equal protection of the law to give free benefits to same-sex couples but to require opposite-sex couples to get married to gain the same limited benefits. It is also unconstitutionally irrational to give free benefits, with no obligation to each other as a precondition or as a result of registering as RBs, to people merely because of the gender of the parties. This law was not well thought out.

I am in the process of having an opposite-sex unmarried couple attempt to register as a test case. I am also having a stepbrother (gay) and his stepsister (straight) attempt to sign up. They want the same free benefits as same-sex couples now get as RBs. They do not want to change their relationship from brother and sister to that of spouses in order to get these benefits. Once both couples are rejected, I will seek permission from the Hawaii Supreme Court to file a friend-of-the-court brief to explain why the new RB law is unconstitutional and should have no effect on the outcome of the gay marriage case pending in that court.

I'll send you an explanation about the death benefits mentioned in the Field poll in another memo.

**Subject: \*M\*: HA 063: HONOLULU ADVERTISER, July 9, 1997: 1 of 2**

**Date: Wed, 09 Jul 1997 12:39:06 -1000**

**From: lambda@ALOHA.NET (Martin Rice)**

**To: queerlaw@abacus.oxy.edu, marriage@abacus.oxy.edu, queerpolitics@abacus.oxy.edu, queerplanet@abacus.oxy.edu**

Aloha awakea kakou.

In the context of this article, I call Terrance Tom a boldfaced liar. He caved into Rightwing Religious pressure that forced the compromise bills at the insistence of Jay Sekulow, Linda Rosehill, Debi Hartmann, Father Marc Alexander, Jack Hoag and George Shea in the late hours of April 11, 1997. Their fundamentalist, Catholic and/or Mormon connections are public record and knowledge and well-known to all.

HONOLULU ADVERTISER

P.O. Box 3110

Honolulu, Hawai'i 96802

tiser@aloha.net

July 9, 1997

PARTNER BENEFITS BILL NOW STATE LAW (Front page, above the fold)

By William Kresnak

Advertiser Capitol Bureau Chief

Gov. Ben Cayetano yesterday let Hawai'i's historic "reciprocal beneficiaries" bill become law without his signature as a message to legislators that they need to rewrite the law.

"Some of the problems border on the absurd," Cayetano said.

The new law provides to gay and lesbian couples, as well as other pairs of adults who can't legally marry, many of the rights and benefits enjoyed by married couples.

Those include about 50 rights and benefits such as health insurance coverage, motor vehicle insurance coverage, hospital visitation, joint real property ownership, inheritance rights and survivorship benefits.

The new law doesn't give reciprocal beneficiaries rights and obligations that are based on marriage, however, such as child custody rights. And such beneficiaries can't file joint income tax returns.

Lawmakers this year decided to ask voters in November 1998 to consider ratifying a constitutional amendment specifying that the Legislature can restrict marriage to opposite-sex couples.

The two-bill package was an attempt by lawmakers to head off court action to legalize same-sex marriage.

The state yesterday began issuing certificates to reciprocal beneficiary couples. Among the first to be certified were a mother and her adult daughter. Thirty-five certificates were issued yesterday.

Cayetano called the law "an important step" for providing rights to gay men and lesbians. But he said he is concerned about "defects" in the law and believes it should be limited to gay and lesbian couples.

"When you see in the preamble of the bill where it talks about a widowed

"When you see in the preamble of the bill where it talks about a widowed mother and her son could qualify, that wasn't the intent of what I wanted to see accomplished," Cayetano said.

"I was opposed to same-sex marriage but recognized the need to be fair to gay couples to provide for loved ones," he said. "It's a concern that it's opened up to other people."

Cayetano said lawmakers caved in to pressure from the religious right to include people who can't legally marry, such as a mother and adult daughter or uncle and adult nephew.

"By placating that segment of our community, they created problems for the state and employers," Cayetano said.

Business leaders had urged Cayetano to veto the bill, fearing increased health insurance costs.

House Judiciary Committee Chairman Terrance Tom, the chief negotiator with the Senate on the issue, said he felt no pressure from the religious right to include anyone other than gay and lesbian couples.

Tom said he didn't want to limit the bill to gay and lesbian couples because that would be discriminating against other people who can't legally marry.

"We did it this way to ensure the law would be constitutional," Tom said.

"This bill was attempting to provide a package of benefits to all couples who can't legally marry," he said.

Senate Judiciary Committee Co-Chairman Matt Matsunaga, a Senate negotiator on the issue, said the Senate wanted to limit the bill to same-sex couples.

He said he would be "amenable" to considering a change in the law to limit it to gay and lesbian couples.

## Hawaii Law on Same-Sex Couples Carries Symbolic, Practical Importance

By LINDA HOSEK  
*Honolulu Star-Bulletin*

HONOLULU—A controversial law, which is to take effect today, makes Hawaii the first state in the nation to legally recognize same-sex couples, extending significant rights in areas of insurance, property, pension and hospital visitation.

Its importance ranges from symbolic to the practical in which some same-sex couples will seek certificates as a step toward legal marriage.

For a 34-year-old gay corporate executive with the AIDS virus, the new law extending benefits to adults who can't marry will save thousands of dollars in medical bills for his partner of 13 years.

The executive, who declined to be named to avoid discrimination, said he will apply for an \$8 certificate to get his partner, who also has the AIDS virus and skin cancer, on his medical policy.

But he also owns a small company with about 40 employees, most of whom have relatives not likely to have medical insurance.

If he has to cover their legal partners the same way his corporation will cover his, he fears he could go out of business.

"I'm happy we're finally being recognized," he said. "But I don't think it's right to extend benefits to couples who aren't committed."

Portland residents and Waikiki condo owners John Weston, 65, and Jim McBroom, 63, plan to fly to Hawaii this month to apply for a certificate to acknowledge their relationship of 27 years.

"Our theory is not so much that reciprocal benefits will help us as much as it is a philosophical statement to assist in achieving civil rights," said Weston, a retired English professor, who has been with McBroom, a semi-retired real-estate broker, for 27 years.

But while the bill is historic in extending rights to same-sex couples, the rights remain unequal, said Dan Foley, attorney for the three couples who sued the state in 1991 for the right to marry.

"The irony is that all this was done to deny full equal rights to gays," he said.

The law stems from a bill to offer benefits to same-sex couples to convince the state Supreme Court to overturn its own 1993 ruling to allow same-sex marriage.

State representatives proposed rights that didn't carry costs, but senators insisted that same-sex couples have health benefits.

The House agreed to health insurance, but extended rights beyond gay couples to any two adults. Expanding the category also was a way to kill the bill by making it expensive to implement, Foley said.

But the bill survived because it was politically tied to one calling for a constitutional amendment in 1998 to let the Legislature decide who can marry.

Pressure to pass the amendment led to the passage of both, giving the state a new category of people with rights.

"We feel this may be a Pandora's box," said Fred Fortin, spokesman for the Hawaii Medical Services Association, which provides health insurance to most residents.

Fortin said HMSA didn't think domestic partnerships for same-sex couples would have had much impact on costs.

But the reciprocal-beneficiary law remains an unknown in which it may become a strategy to enrich coverage for any two adults, he said.

It also may force businesses to drop coverage for children to afford coverage for adult beneficiaries, he said.

adding, "We may gain on the one hand and lose on another."

Foley described the concerns of the business community as legitimate and predicted the Legislature would clean up the law next year.

He said lawmakers would like to add residency requirements and narrow the category to those with committed relationships.

Rep. Sam Slom, a small-business advocate who opposed the bill because lawmakers didn't know its economic impact, said he anticipated pressure to expand rights for reciprocal beneficiaries.

"The gay and lesbian community is strong," he said. "They will want to add benefits."

Foley said the same-sex community wanted equal rights, but only for committed couples: "You can broaden rights, but limit them to same-sex couples and limit costs."

He said many rights have no costs and that traditional marriage laws would add responsibilities to couples, shifting burdens away from the state.

No one has pinpointed the number of heterosexuals or homosexuals who will add a person to their policies.

"There's still so much homophobia," said Barry Porter, a deputy public defender who will apply with his partner of eight years. "People are still afraid to come out. There's also reticence about putting your name on a list run by the state."

The state Health Department anticipated 20,000 to 40,000 gays will sign up within three months, but may revise its count downward, said Patrick Johnston, department spokesman. Only 25 to 30 people picked up applications last Tuesday, the first day forms were available.

He had no estimate of how many heterosexuals will add a beneficiary to their policies, but said numbers would likely increase as people understand the law.

Sen. Matt Matsunaga, who favored domestic partnerships, has estimated that health costs will increase by about 1 percent of health budgets, based on research of other governments who have domestic-partnership laws.

The health cost to the state would run about \$1.1 million at 1 percent and about \$11.3 million at 10 percent, according to the Hawaii Public Employees Health Fund.

**Lloyd E. Rigler - Lawrence E. Deutsch  
Foundation**

July 8, 1997

FAX TO: Tom Coleman  
Spectrum Institute

FROM: Lloyd E. Rigler

Dear Tom:

Thanks for your fax on the Hawaiian law. We must do all we can to make DPs for all unmarried partners who share the same household and end discrimination. Can't you get a coalition of unmarried heterosexuals who live together to support you? Let's advertise for them.

As for the disability, abuse and personal rights conference - I'm having my video cameraman, Adam Williams, contact you for details. We can do it for you. Keep up the good work.

Regards,



Lloyd

LER/jf

**To: Spectrum Board Members and Officers**

**From: Thomas F. Coleman, Executive Director**

**Re: Recent Developments**

**Date: July 10, 1997**

I am enclosing some materials that pertain to projects and cases with which we have been involved. Please consider this a mid-year update on our activities.

Among the enclosed items are:

\* AB 1059 passed the Senate Insurance Committee. I was formally asked by the author to testify at this committee hearing as one of two speakers. The bill has passed the Assembly, only with the support of four Republicans. I provided these Republicans with information about the bill at the request of Frank Ricchiazzi, the "godfather" of Log Cabin. The Senate Insurance Committee report cites information supplied by Spectrum Institute.

\* We finally won the Smith fair housing case. I am enclosing a short memo I set to Lloyd and an article from the San Francisco Chronicle. After one year of holding it, the U.S. Supreme Court denied the landlady's petition two days after it invalidated the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA) in a Texas case.

\* ACA 24 was introduced in California in response to the invalidation of RFRA and the landlady's loss in Smith. If passed by the legislature and adopted by the voters, ACA 24 could pose major problems for the enforcement of civil rights laws prohibiting discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation, and marital status. I submitted a proposed amendment to Life Lobby that could preserve our victory in the Smith case in the event that ACA 24 moves forward.

\* A "reciprocal beneficiary" bill became law on July 8, when the Governor failed to sign or veto it. The Governor stated that his failure to sign it was a signal to the legislature that the law is flawed. "Some of the problems border on the absurd," he said. Enclosed are two articles from Honolulu papers. I have also enclosed a memo I sent to Lloyd about a strategy that Spectrum Institute plans to use to bring to the attention of Hawaii public officials, including the Supreme Court that the new law is unconstitutional because it gives free benefits -- no obligations attached -- to same sex couples but denies those same free benefits to opposite-sex unrelated couples and to members of stepfamilies.

\* I sent a memo to Lloyd on June 25 summarizing some positive developments on the DP front. Lloyd also sent me a few memos on various topics. They are enclosed.

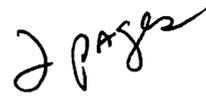
\* Nora has scheduled a "think tank" conference for her disability project to be held on October 8. She received a grant of \$4,975 from the State of California. Lloyd has agreed to have his video team tape the conference and reformat and edit it for national distribution.

**Let's schedule a phone conference in August. Please call me as soon as you get this memo and let me know your preference for Sunday, August 3 or 10 at 11:00 a.m. Nora time.**

To: Lloyd Rigler

From: Tom Coleman

Re: UC domestic partner proposal;  
It's not over yet



Date: November 22, 1997

The board of regents adopted a policy to extend health, dental, and vision benefits to the domestic partners of faculty and staff members.

To qualify, the domestic partner must be of the same sex as the employee, or a dependent blood relative. The only people left out of the DP program are opposite-sex partners who are not related by blood.

As you can see from the attached excerpt from the story in today's LA Times, regents Ward Connerly (a Republican) and Gray Davis (a Democrat) and some other members of the board plan to introduce a proposal at the January meeting of the regents to expand the new DP program to include opposite-sex partners.

This is an opening for us to press further for an inclusive program that is open to all single people living together as domestic partners.

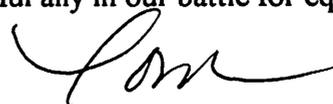
With your permission, I will prepare a letter from you to Ward Connerly and Gray Davis. The letter will ask them to invite me to speak before the finance committee at the January meeting on behalf of the inclusive proposal. Since the DP program also includes retirees of the UC system, I will write a letter to each of the seniors groups in California which support DP benefits and ask them to send a letter to each board member on behalf of the proposal to expand the program to include opposite-sex unmarried couples.

Then, when we confirm that they really plan to introduce such a proposal, I will prepare a memo in early January and send it from Spectrum to each board member.

The battle to end marital status discrimination in employee benefits at UC is not over yet. If, by some chance, the board rejects the proposal in January, Spectrum can work with disgruntled employees who have opposite-sex partners and help them file complaints with the appropriate state and federal agencies to allege sex discrimination and sexual orientation discrimination.

Also, somewhere along the way, you can make it clear that you will not give one penny to any organization that adopts a DP program that excludes opposite-sex partners. The same holds true for politicians: not one penny to any politician who supports a "same-sex only" DP program. In other words, you can inform those who solicit money from you or the foundation that you will not subsidize groups or individuals who support discrimination against single people.

I also think that we should enlist the support of Diane Feinstein. It seems that she plans to run for governor. When she was mayor of San Francisco she said that she would only support an inclusive DP program that covered all single people living as domestic partners. Let's see if she still holds the same view. If so, she could be a powerful ally in our battle for equal rights.



**Lloyd E. Rigler - Lawrence E. Deutsch  
Foundation**

February 2, 1999

FAX TO : Mr. Thomas Coleman  
SPECTRUM INSTITUTE

FROM: Lloyd E. Rigler

Dear Tom,

I am truly impressed with what you have accomplished in January 1999. You are truly making history, and the attached evidence of each task is most rewarding. Would that my staff could do the same for each 40 hours of work they do for me each week. I guess you have to be an attorney to discipline yourself to keep a record of what you accomplish for hours you are compensated for. But more than that, you have moved so far so quickly. The Mission Statement, the Action Alert, The Michigan trip and attending family support. I can't tell you how impressed I am with what you have accomplished for D.P. and AASP. I am certain we are on our way, and I'm so grateful to have finally turned you onto the solution to the problem of single people, and not any select group of them, but all inclusive. Yes, I am pleased and proud of what we have created, and it's only one month old.

Regards,



Lloyd

**PO BOX 828 BURBANK, CA 91503 / (323) 878-0283 fax (323) 878-0329**

**AASP**

# American Association for Single People

*Protecting the rights of single people, unmarried couples, and unmarried families*

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To: Lloyd Rigler  
From: Thomas Coleman  
Re: Invoice for January Services  
Date: February 1, 1999

Lloyd, you warned me that AASP would change my life. Well, it already has!

I spent almost the entire month of January working on AASP projects as well as developing and nurturing the organization itself. I devoted very little time to my law practice in January.

The name and the concept are being VERY well received by everyone. We already have members signed up in California, Michigan, Illinois, New York, and New Jersey.

Many of my family members are volunteering their professional services to AASP: graphics art, marketing, campaign coordination, business systems. One victim of discrimination has offered to start a local chapter in New York. The time is ripe and the issue is hot!

Look over the description of services in the enclosed invoice. I think you will be impressed with the amount of activity in January.

This month I will finish a marketing objectives plan and a marketing communications plan with the volunteer help of a professional marketing firm in Michigan. It will analyze and strategize short term and long term goals and methods. I hope to present it to you by the first week in March.

When my sister and her male partner were discussing AASP and its plans at dinner one night in Michigan, the waitress overheard their conversation. She was so outraged by some of the discriminatory laws that she gave my sister her card and offered to join AASP and do volunteer work in Michigan.

You have a grand vision for singles' rights and I fully share that vision. I would like to see AASP eventually become the size, and have the clout of groups such as the ACLU, NOW, NAACP, and AARP. It may take 10 years to accomplish this, but I believe it can be done. With 80 million unmarried adults in this country, it should be possible to someday get 100,000 people to join. That would create at least a \$1 million budget.

I know that you have wanted to see something like this happen for a long time. I just had to be prepared for it before I could commit to such a grand enterprise. With your help, I am willing to devote all of my working time and the full strength of spiritual and emotional energy to making this dream come true. It is hard work, but it is also energizing and fulfilling. I want you to continue to be proud of me – and most of all, I want you to know that you are leaving a legacy that will last and that will change the future of this country. AASP will be a legacy that will make history.

Thanks for all of your support and encouragement. We can get together in person and discuss the transition from “David” to “Goliath” after I send you the marketing plans in a few weeks. I would also like you to meet some of the team that I have enlisted to get AASP off the ground and running.

Services of Thomas F. Coleman for AASP  
January 1, 1999, to January 31, 1999

**A. National and International Developments:**

Monitoring the Internet for news and developments regarding domestic partnership, marital status discrimination, debates on the same-sex marriage issue, etc. This takes about 3 hours per week. It is extremely valuable because we can stay on top of what is happening and we get information that is not readily available from other conventional sources. From this source I have gathered hundreds of pages of information on domestic partner rights from around the globe. This material helps us to spot problems when they arise throughout the nation and to intervene when necessary.

A. Time spent on this segment 4 weeks x 3 hrs/ week) ..... 10.0 hrs

**B. Cook County "Same-Sex" DP Proposal**

A same-sex only dp benefits proposal was introduced in Cook County, Illinois. I obtained a copy of the proposal, wrote an op-ed commentary which I sent to the Chicago Sun-Times, and wrote a letter to the president of the board of supervisors, encouraging them to open the plan up to any two adults who live together and who meet the usual criteria (regardless of gender or blood relationship). I am waiting to see if the newspaper prints the article. If not, I will submit it to the Chicago Tribune.

B. Time spent on this project ..... 8.0 hrs

**C. Foray v. Bell Atlantic**

We are assisting the lawyers for an employee who sued Bell Atlantic when they refused to grant benefits to him for his opposite-sex dp. BA has a same-sex only plan. We are waiting for the judge's decision. I received a phone call from the client – Paul Foray – thanking us for all our help. He was very impressed with our media package. I had a separate conversation with Paul and his domestic partner, Jeanine, the next day. They have joined AASP. She wants to start a local chapter of AASP in New York. I will do follow up on this offer next month when I have some more time.

C. Time spend on this project ..... 2.0 hrs

**D. Law Student and Lawyer Volunteers**

I spent two afternoons at Southwestern Law School at a student externship forum. I prepared posters and set up a table. I gave handouts to students who seemed interested in doing volunteer work for AASP, for academic credit. I should know more in two months as to which students will begin work for us in the summer.

D. Time spent on this project ..... 7.0 hrs

**E. Morristown, New Jersey**

I sent some materials to the mayor of Morristown since they are considering a dp benefits plan there. It would be the first one in New Jersey.

E. Time spent on this project ..... 1.0 hrs

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**F. NOW & Hawaii**

Patricia Ireland finally sent a letter to the Governor of Hawaii urging him to support a gender-neutral comprehensive domestic partnership bill in that state. Three days later, a gender-neutral bill was introduced by the House Majority Leader. I was happy to see this, since up to that point in time, the Governor was only supporting a same-sex bill. I think that the letter from NOW was the turning point that transformed it into a gender-neutral bill. The wording of the bill is almost exactly what I drafted for the Legislature in 1996. Our work is paying off. I sent a letter to Patricia, thanking her for the letter. I also wrote a letter to the House Majority Leader and faxed him a copy of Ireland's letter. I also asked Ireland if she would write to the Cook County president about the bill there.

F. Time spent on this project . . . . . 2.0 hrs

**G. Op-Ed Articles: Sacramento Bee, LA Times, Daily Journal, SF Chronicle & Examiner**

I wrote several op-ed articles this month and have been submitting them for publication in major newspaper. None have been printed yet, but sometimes it takes time for them to agree. One article was about the religious discrimination case involving unmarried couples. Another was about the exclusion of blood relatives from domestic partner bills pending in Sacramento, suggesting that it is time to open up dp to any two adults, regardless of gender or blood relationship. I sent a copy of the blood relative dp article to the governor and key legislative leaders, inviting them to remove the blood relative restriction in dp.

G. Time spent on this project . . . . . 10.0 hrs

**H. Florida Domestic Partnership Bill**

I was contacted by an African-American attorney in Clearwater. She told me that a black Senator was considering introducing a dp bill in the state legislature. I spoke with the attorney for about 2 hours on 2 different occasions. I also had a conference call with the senator. He liked me ideas and will probably introduce a dp registration and basic humanitarian protection bill there. It would allow any two unmarried adults who live together to register as dp's. I sent the attorney a large package of materials.

H. Time spent on this project . . . . . 6.0 hrs

**I. Lexis-Nexis Research**

I subscribed to Lexis for on-line computer legal research, so that I can look into the laws, statutes, and cases in all 50 states at any time. During the first 30 days, I was given free access to other databases as well and so I took advantage of it, looking up articles from newspapers and magazines on unmarried couples, singles rights, domestic partnership, cohabitation, and marital status discrimination from all 50 states and from many other countries. This data will eventually be used for our Encyclopedia of Domestic Partnership.

I. Time spent on this project . . . . . 12.0 hrs

**J. Alaska Fair Housing Case**

On January 14, a federal appellate court ruled that business owners can discriminate against unmarried couples for religious reasons. I spoke with the Anchorage city attorney, was interviewed by the Anchorage Daily News (which mentioned AASP in the article), was interviewed by K-NBC News and was on the 11 p.m. newscast (which also mentioned AASP), was interviewed by a Seattle gay paper (which also mentioned AASP). I also prepared a press release and media kit which I sent from AASP to several major national tv programs, suggesting that they do a show on this and have me on as one of the guests (Today, Good Morning America, Nightline, Dateline, 20-20, Inside Edition, 60 Minutes, etc.)

J. Time spent on this project ..... 8.0 hrs

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**K. Detroit Mayor**

I learned that the mayor of Detroit has stalled implementation of a dp benefits plan approved by the city council last April. I wrote to the mayor, praised the plan, told him that I want to do a presentation on dp benefits at an upcoming meeting of the National Conference of Mayors (of which he is now the chairman), and told him that I want to showcase the Detroit model which is the best in the nation. I hope that this praising letter puts some pressure on him to get that program moving. I consulted a staff member of a councilman there who thought that the tactic and the letter were excellent.

K. Time spent on this project ..... 3.5 hrs

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**L. Governor of California**

I submitted a proposal to a staff member in the Speaker's office suggesting that Governor Davis convene a Task Force on Marital Status Discrimination. The purpose of the task force would be to document discrimination against single people, unmarried couples, and unmarried families, and to recommend ways to prevent such discrimination, including passing new laws and vigorously enforcing existing statutes.

L. Time spent on this project ..... 2.0 hrs

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## **M. AASP -- American Association for Single People -- Development of the Organization**

I spent a tremendous amount of time developing AASP and making plans for the future, the growth of the organization, and the promotions of its projects. We now have AASP members in California, Michigan, New York, and New Jersey.

Here is what I have done so far to help get AASP launched:

1. Official change of name with Secretary of State, from Spectrum to AASP
2. Fictitious business name statement with County of LA for AASP
3. Opened a new bank account for AASP
4. Removed two members from Spectrum's board of directors (deadwood)
5. Put Nora Baladerian on the board as President (single straight woman, single parent, psychologist)
6. Spoke to a marketing person about the possibility of doing infomercials on cable tv nationally
7. Spoke to Adam and wrote a proposal about doing a documentary on Singles Rights and a PSA
8. Started a website on the Internet for AASP (at singlesRIGHTS.com) and now have about 40 pages of material on the website about AASP and its projects, benefits of joining, and a membership application. I had about three one-hour meetings with the website company and spent many hours preparing the material to be put on the website.
9. Traveled to Michigan where I had two days of meetings with AASP advisors (all of whom are volunteering their time): my sister Cathy who is a nurse and who will head up a "Stop the Stigma" campaign to remove statutes and judicial language that is demeaning to unmarried couples and their children ("bastards" "illegitimate children" "illicit relationships" etc); her male domestic partner who has a marketing firm and who is helping me to develop a professional marketing objectives plan and a marketing communications plan (which I will submit to you in early March); my sister Diane who is a graphics artist and advertising professional, who is helping me design a logo for AASP as well as graphics for our Internet website; my sister Carolyn who specializes in business systems and management for a company, and she is advising me on plans for business systems for AASP, including membership application process and accepting Visa and MC for membership and other donations.
10. Started plans for two other national campaigns for AASP: a "Religious Freedom" Campaign to promote separation of church and state and to protect single people from religious discrimination; and an "Equal Pay for Equal Work" Benefits Campaign to encourage companies to adopt inclusive and gender neutral dp benefits plans or, better yet, to adopt Cafeteria Style Benefits Plans that give an equal amount of benefits credits to each worker who can then design a plan that best suits his or her personal or family needs. This will help our single workers.
11. Interviewed a potential additional staff member (I can't do it all alone). She seems like the perfect person. Her name is Msindo. She was born in East Africa, contracted polio when she was four years old, her family moved to England for her medical care where they stayed until she graduated from Cambridge, and moved back to Africa. She has a British accent and speaks and writes English like a pro. She can walk with a cane. She is straight, is married, and has two adult children. She has a fabulous work history: reviewing grant proposals for the federal government; working with television and radio and as a producer, writer, and narrator; she has made award winning films; she has worked with the World Institute on Disability, and with women's rights groups, and has connections with the Black community. She is almost too good to be true. And what is also amazing is that she lives only a few blocks from my house. I will discuss this more when I submit the marketing plan for AASP to you in early March.

**M. Time spent on this segment ..... 40.0 hours**

To: Lloyd Rigler

From: Tom Coleman

Re: Tomorrow is a big day for DP

Date: November 16, 1999

2 pages

I plan to go to the LA City Council tomorrow morning. The council will vote on an Equal Benefits Ordinance. The proposal will require all companies which contract with the city for goods or services (a few thousand of them) to give dp benefits to their own workers if they give benefits to spouses of employees. The definition of DP in the proposed new law is very inclusive. In fact, it not only includes same-sex and opposite-sex couples, but also two unmarried blood relatives if they register with the county of la under the county's dp registry.

If I see Joel Wachs there, I will try to speak with him about our communications to him and his failure to respond.

Also, a committee of the Seattle City Council will vote on an Equal Benefits Ordinance there. I wrote to each member of that council urging them to be inclusive. So far, the response has been positive on that score. See letter attached.

We are building momentum. It just takes time, and lots of work. It will pay off with tremendous results. Once the snowball gets rolling, there will be no stopping it.

I really enjoy working with you on this. We are making history and building a more secure and pleasant future for all unmarried Americans.

Tom

**To: Lloyd Rigler**

**From: Tom Coleman**

**Re: LA City Council action today**

**Date: November 17, 1999**

The dp contractor law passed the l.a. city council on the vote of 11 to 1. The three absent members would have voted for it. It must be voted on again next week and then it goes to the mayor. If he signs it, it will become law on Jan 1.

The law would require companies doing business with the city, when they sign contracts involving more than \$5,000 beginning next year, to provide dp benefits to their employees if they provide spousal benefits to workers. DP is defined in very broad terms and would include any two adults who live together, who share the common necessities of life, and who are registered as dp's with the employer or with a government entity.

This could bring another 2,000 or more employers on board with gender-neutral dp benefits programs.

We are making progress.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom", is positioned to the right of the text "We are making progress." The signature is fluid and cursive.

To: Lloyd Rigler

From: Tom Coleman

Re: Publicity about AASP over last two weeks  
and number of people who have recently joined

Date: May 30, 2001

5 pages

Free publicity mentioning AASP started on April 14 when the first AP census story was released. Two other AP census stories continued the free publicity in the following days.

Many local papers also wrote their own census stories which mentioned AASP. They began on May 17 and continued through May 25.

Census stories mentioning AASP also were done by some major networks on their websites: Fox, CBS, CNN, ABC, and MSNBC from May 15 to 19.

Then came the AP feature story about AASP and our trip to Washington. That was published by many local papers (many of which we have documented) throughout the nation on May 26 and May 27.

Today I was a guest on two separate radio talk shows in Phoenix. Both allowed me to give out our phone number and our website address.

Many people who saw the census stories on the Internet version of some of these papers then came to our website and joined. We received 40 or more members from May 15 to May 24 from these census stories.

Then after the AP feature story was released last Friday afternoon, many, many people joined through our website using their credit cards. We received 107 new members through the website in the last few days. Two people gave \$100. Another 14 gave \$50. More than 35 people gave \$25, with the rest giving the minimum of \$10. So most people did not give the minimum but gave more.

We have started to receive membership donations in the mail. Yesterday we received 10. I am sure that we will get lots more of them in the next few days.

But most people are not on the Internet and don't know how to reach us. The interest may have been raised by the news stories, but they need to know how to reach us. That is why the small follow-up ads are important.

I will now try to focus my efforts at creating the next newsletter. We promised people a quarterly newsletter. I must make that promise good by creating one so that we can distribute it.

Tom

# **AASP mentioned in the following print and broadcast media reporting on the 2000 Census**

## **Associated Press Stories**

by Genaro Armas

### **May 14-15: national household composition**

Tucson Citizen  
Honolulu Advertiser  
Topeka Capital-Journal (KS)  
Kansas City Star  
Dallas Morning News

### **May 18: rise in single dad households**

Baltimore Sun  
Boston Globe  
Detroit Free Press  
Evansville Courier & Press (IL)  
Knoxville News-Sentinel  
Las Vegas Sun  
Lawrence Journal World (KS)  
Miami Herald  
Bergen Record (NJ)  
Orange County Register  
Seattle Post Intelligencer  
San Jose Mercury News  
Tampa Tribune  
Minneapolis Star Tribune  
Dubuque Telegraph Herald (IA)  
Philadelphia Inquirer  
Athens Banner Herald (GA)  
Pioneer Press (ST. Paul, MN)  
Austin American Statesman (TX)  
WWJ News Radio (Detroit)  
KNX-AM Radio (Los Angeles)  
WBBM-AM Radio (Chicago)

### **May 19-20: increase in unmarried couples**

Boston Globe  
Las Vegas Sun  
Orange County Register  
Star Banner (Ocala, FL)  
Journal & Courier (IN)

## **Stories by Local Media about state census data**

### **May 17**

Columbia Missourian  
Lexington Herald-Leader (KY)

### **May 18**

Salt Lake Tribune  
Tulsa World

### **May 21**

Times Record (AR)

### **May 22**

Colorado Springs Gazette  
Santa Fe New Mexican  
Augusta Chronicle (GA)  
KNX-TV (AZ)

### **May 23**

Winston-Salem Journal (NC)  
Portland Press Herald (ME)  
New Haven Register (CT)  
Sun Herald (MS)  
Seattle Times  
Trenton Times (NJ)  
Tribune Eagle (WY)  
Detroit News  
Herald Sun (NC)  
Traverse City Record Eagle (MI)

### **May 24**

Boston Globe

### **May 25**

KCBS Radio (San Francisco)  
WCBS Radio (New York City)  
WJR (ABC Radio) Detroit  
ABC National Network News  
Online versions of the following papers:  
    Minneapolis Star Tribune (get May 26 print paper)  
    Boston Globe (get May 26 print paper)  
    Las Vegas Sun (get May 26 print paper)  
    Seattle Post Intelligencer (get May 26 print paper)  
Bloomberg Radio (AM 1130) in NY

## **May 26**

Oxnard Press Courier (CA)  
Oakland Press (MI)  
Antelope Valley News (CA)  
Fairbanks Daily News-Miner (AK)  
NBC-TV Today Show  
Seattle Times (WA)  
Daytona Beach News-Journal (FL)  
AOL News Online  
Houston Chronicle (TX)  
Arizona Republic  
Picayune Item (Or May 27)  
Sun Herald (MS)  
Messenger Inquirer (KY)  
Canton Repository (OH)  
Herald of Everett (WA)  
New Jersey Online  
ABC28 Online (Lubbock TX)  
Fox News Online  
Evansville Courier & Press (IL)  
Alabama Online  
Seattle Times  
New Orleans Online  
Sun Herald (Biloxi, mS)  
Journal Star (Lincoln, NE)  
Lawrence Journal World (KS)  
Charlotte Observer (NC)  
Valley News (W. Lebanon, NH) 800-874-2226

## **May 27**

Atlanta Constitution (GA)  
Spokane Spokesman Review (WA)  
Columbus Dispatch (OH)  
San Jose Mercury News (CA)  
Denver Post (CO)  
Pensacola News Journal (FL)

## **May 29**

Santa Fe New Mexican (NM)

## **May 30**

KXAM-Phoenix (AZ)  
KTAR-Phoenix (AZ)

## **May 31**

Boston Globe

## **June 4**

Washington Times

# **Network News Websites Mentioning AASP**

## **Fox News Channel**

May 15: Census: More unmarried couples, singles, empty nesters

## **CBS News**

May 15: Big increase in unmarried couples

## **CNN**

May 15: Big increase in unmarried couples

## **ABC News**

May 18: Dads go it alone

## **MSNBC**

May 15: Big increase in unmarried couples

May 18: Sharp rise in single father homes

May 19: More unmarrieds are living together