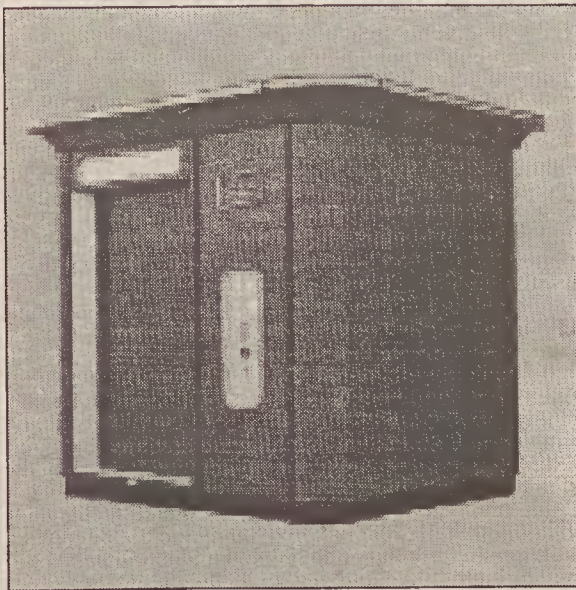


Scottish government installs 'Anti-Sex Superloos'

Scottish gay activists call authorities prudish

AYR, SCOTLAND — Local authorities are eager to install a new public toilet designed to stop people from having sex in it.



Maybe they shoulda' called it the "Nosex7:" Healthmatic's anti-sex 'Wessex 7' toilet — now in use in Ayr, Scotland.

The toilet features weight sensors on the floor which can detect if there is more than one person using it. A weight distribution facility compensates if a parent and child use the toilet and disabled users are issued with a special key that overrides the

weight restriction.

The toilet's introduction follows a series of well-publicized incidents in which local authorities received complaints about gay cruising and sexual activity taking place in public restrooms.

A spokesman from Healthmatic, the company that produces the street side toilets — you won't encounter them stateside — admitted that the toilet was a hot political potato. He said that local authorities are concerned by anti-social behavior and are attempting to prevent the problem of public sexual activity. The spokesman said that the toilet has been designed to prevent couples from having sex inside and added that it would also discourage drug abuse.

Healthmatic said that the toilet had been welcomed by the police, local authorities wishing to place orders and the British Toilet Association, who have been campaigning vigorously for better public toilets.

The spokesman denied that the new toilet would simply drive the problem out into the open, for example, on the gay beaches and deserted parking lots nearby the toilet in Ayr. He said that Healthmatic is a manufacturing and sales company that it is merely responding to the current market.

Garry Otton of the Scottish Media Monitor, a gay rights group in Scotland, said: "The general public seems to agree that these toilets are a good thing because they believe they stop crime. In fact they actually feed people's prejudices and promote repressive attitudes."

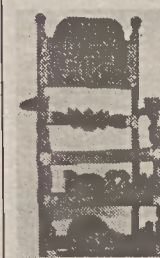
He added: "Gay sex is seen to be alright if it's not done underneath people's noses or out in public — but having sex in a toilet is not the same as having sex in public!"

Otton remarked, "The real problem is prudery, and Scotland has a big issue with that."

— Wire reports

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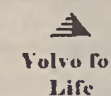
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