



LAMBDA

Carolina Gay And Lesbian
Association Newsletter

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The Carolina Gay and Lesbian Association is an "officially recognized, semi-independent" student organization at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The CGLA is funded by Student Activities Fees by vote of the Student Council and through CGLA fundraising activities.

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We welcome your comments, criticisms, and information. If you would like to be part of the staff, call the CGLA office.

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Commentary

Poppycock

Poppycock. Sheer, unadulterated, state-of-the-art, bonafide poppycock.

This is the sentiment of the general student body and the understandable reaction of the CGLA to yet another outlandish proposal by the so-called "Students for America" regarding a referendum to decide whether CGLA a University-recognized organization, has a right to receive student fees.

Before debating the merits of such a proposal, I think it is important to understand the political ties and funding of this neoconservative activist group. Students for America was conceived by right-wing religious and political groups back in 1984, presumably to bolster the media image of today's college population as Reagan-Bush-Falwell fanatics. In essence, a Republican cheer leading section. Since that time many writers have compared them to Hitler's Youth, another blind-faith organization of a not-too-long-ago era.

Upon close analysis, SFA does not appear to have as much popular appeal or political clout as they would have themselves to believe. SFA, a national organization, is funded almost exclusively by N.C.'s very own National Congressional Club, the political arm of U.S. Senator Jesse Helms (R-NC). A fractional part of their budget is provided through their annual dues; however, for the most part what we have here is an outside organization created and financed for the sole purpose of interfering in matters of public policy at state and private universities across the country.

SFA has a very specific social agenda to stop the perceived "moral decay" of U.S. society. They want to overturn the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision which legalized abortion. They want to frustrate the gay rights movement and reverse the gains which gays and lesbians have achieved in recent years. They want to stop the spread of "secular humanism," an umbrella concept which is supposed to cover liberals, scientists, agnostics, atheists, communists, free thinkers, union members, the Democratic Party, Catholics, Jews, Muslims, the State Department, or anyone else who dares to contradict the Holy Bible (King James version), Jesse Helms, or American Christian tradition.

Narrow goals for narrow minds. Of course, I haven't listed all their objectives, only a few related to social policy. One can also examine their propaganda campaigns in regard to the Contra terrorism in Nicaragua and their refusal to acknowledge that the atrocities committed under South Africa's apartheid system should be stopped now. Oh well, you get the picture.

With this information, I sincerely hope that you will proceed to analyze proposals such as the one to defund the CGLA with a deeper awareness of the prejudices and directed hate which they embody.

-Mark Donahue