

LAMBDA

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from the editor



To borrow from the Human Rights Campaign's catchphrase – "Let's talk about it," coming out that is.

Embracing one's sexual identity is a personal decision and can prove to be a daunting task. But I can attest that the decision to come out will lead to a more honest, fulfilling life. At the end of the day, we are better off living true to ourselves rather than remaining in the closet.

The hardest part of the process for me has been coming out to my mother, even though she was the last family member I had to tell. When I made my revelation, she dropped her napkin and left the restaurant we were in; without a ride, I had to walk several miles to get back home. When I later stepped in the kitchen to resume our conversation, she refused and asked me to leave. I did just that and drove to my father's place. My mom and I did not talk for two and a half months.

Now more than a year later, she has begun to come around. For example, I told her last week that I was visiting my boyfriend in Washington for fall break; she acknowledged what I said without getting upset. These little steps toward acceptance are testament to the fact that even the most difficult people in our lives can move in the right direction. Did I mention how supportive the rest of my family, friends and fraternity brothers have been? They have accepted me as I am.

October 11 is National Coming Out Day, and in conjunction with that date, GLBT-SA wants students to talk about it. After all, coming out also serves the greater community because it makes us more visible, an important step toward addressing the systematic homophobia in our society. Lambda encourages students to take part in any number of the events planned for the annual "Coming Out" Week. Go ahead, learn to love your letter.

As the new editor of Lambda, I want to say that I'm honored to have such a dedicated staff this year. And we will be working hard to keep you up to date on what is going on in the local LGBTIQ community and beyond.

Cheers,
Thomas Cluderay
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Mission

LAMBDA IS UNC-CHAPEL HILL'S LESBIAN-, GAY-, BISEXUAL-,
TRANSGENDER-, INTERSEX- AND QUEER-AFFIRMING PUBLICATION,
PROVIDING A PROGRESSIVE OUTLET FOR NEWS, ANALYSIS, OPINION AND DIALOGUE.
AS SUCH, WE ARE INHERENTLY COMMITTED TO A FEMINIST, ANTI-RACIST AND
HISTORICALLY CONSCIOUS PERSPECTIVE IN PURSUIT OF SOCIAL JUSTICE FOR ALL PEOPLE.

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