

PRESS CLIPPINGS

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year-old Spartanburg resident, whose "own family doctor appeared to know little about the syndrome and didn't think it was relevant to his health. He is now in the market for a new doctor."

Turner-Lewis also reports that the AIDS threat has not affected business at gay bars. She refers to one bar where club members still "pack the house on weekends for fast dancing and drinking that some say lead to casual sex encounters."

Things have changed somewhere, however, according to a piece in the *Wilmington, NC, Star* (8-13-83): "AIDS scare making people faithful." The focus is strangely on "people," not gays (the word "homosexual" appears only once). Apparently, the threat of AIDS (and herpes) has caused everyone to clean up his/her sexual act. Even during summer season, when "street and beach people" usually indulge in casual sex, folks are getting cautious: "Last summer, the Health Department distributed a case of condoms, while three or four cases will be given away before the end of this summer." As a result of this caution, the number of gonorrhea cases is down drastically: 329 between January and June of 1983, as opposed to 458 for the same 1982 period.

... In The Bible Belt

Part of how we live can be dictated by what others think of us — particularly in this intensely religious part of the country. The *Charlotte News* conducted a survey of 1100 of its readers, and reported the results in a series called "Religion: What You Believe." One piece (8-27-81) reported the opinions of 41 clergymen. In response to the question, "Do you think homosexual relations between consenting adults are wrong?" they answered as follows: Yes, they are wrong, 81%; No, they are not wrong, 7%; No opinion, 12%.

The readership as a whole (reported 8-25-81) responded to the same question in about the same ratio: Wrong, 82%; Not wrong, 14%; No opinion, 4%. The following breaks the group down by denomination (for each group, the three figures are Wrong; Not wrong; No opinion):


- * Baptists: 94%; 4%; 2%.
- * Methodists: 76%; 16%; 8%.
- * Lutherans: 75%; 16%; 9%.
- * Presbyterians: 86%; 11%; 3%.
- * Episcopalians: 50%; 35%; 15%.
- * Roman Catholics: 77%; 12%; 11%.
- * Jews (only 10 respondents): 10%; 90%; 0%.


Of those who attend religious services more than once a week, 96% said homosexuality was wrong. Of those who attend less than once a month, only 35% said it was wrong.

Afterbirth of a Nation

A letter (8-22-83) to the *Raleigh News & Observer* denounces the liberal media's failure to alert the "shrinking and sleeping white majority" to the fact that its numeric basis for racial superiority is slipping: "For decades America has grown progressively darker due to many unnatural and orchestrated social phenomena such as abortions, race-mixing, homosexuality, sterilizations, drugs, extremely low white birth-rate and the unchallenged flooding of America by millions upon millions of non-white aliens." This news flash comes to you courtesy of Glenn Miller of Angier, who signs himself — cordially, to be sure — "Leader, Carolina Knights, Ku Klan Klan."

— Michael Schwartz





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