

Alice

A monthly publication of the Alice B. Toklas Memorial Democratic Club

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To Members of Alice

Message From The President

It's been almost two weeks since the infamous Dan White non-verdict, and I've read and heard an infinity of comments and reactions about the trial, and events that night at City Hall.

I remain conflicted, torn between my dislike of violence and my rage at the injustice of the jury's decision.

Harsh critics have emerged, focusing on the violence of the night, but ignoring the events that led up to the violence: the murders of George and Harvey, increased physical attacks against gay men and women, the infamous Peg's Place affair and the equally infamous police investigative whitewashing, removal from the Dan White jury of a man solely because he was gay, and finally, the ultimate immorality and insult of the jury's decision.

Why are these factors being ignored?

Some newscasters hold the entire gay/lesbian community responsible for the damage at City Hall.

Are they equally willing to lay the blame on all heterosexuals for increased violence directed at gay men and lesbians by straight teen age punks?

I believe these people are unable to see beyond our sexuality, and are disturbed by it. They are attempting to use the City Hall events as a club against our community, and I, for one, will not stand for it.

There is a way to combat these homophobes and bring the full story to the public's attention.

The newly formed Mayor's Commission must investigate events leading up to Monday Night and address the problem of the increased pressures that our community has been under since the political murders of George and Harvey. This is a major priority of the Commission's final report. Without these facts, Monday Night cannot be fully understood.

Where do we go from here?