

**A piece of the Rock for
Gays and Lesbians**

**How to keep
focused in an
up-and-down
Market**

Featuring:

Brian Tremain
Senior Portfolio Manager

Lambda Strategy Fund

The Lambda Strategy portfolio invests only in companies with clear written policies of non-discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. Developed in 1994, Lambda was the first and remains, the largest gay-specific investment opportunity.

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offering insight and practical advice!**

Hosted by: Daniel M. Pye
Dinner: Monday, November 5, 2001
at 6:00 p.m.
Lunch: Tuesday, November 6, 2001
at 11:30 a.m.
Location: Governors Club, Phillips Point
West Palm Beach
RSVP: 561-691-5108
by November 1, 2001
Seating is limited.

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**Broward School Board
Rejects GLSEN Partnership**

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manifestation. The Board had been expected to routinely pass the GLSEN proposal, which had been supported by the Office of Diversity and Cultural Outreach.

GLSEN currently works with the Diversity Office to help staff members and teachers identify abuse and harassment based on sexual orientation, and how to effectively manage and counteract it.

The GLSEN group also provides literature, advice, and training to guidance counselors, social workers, and school psychologists who work with students.

The most recent cooperative effort between GLSEN and the Diversity unit was a new training video entitled “Dignity for All Students: Gay and Lesbian Youth.” The video was shown to all Broward Public School teachers and employees at mandatory screenings in the past two weeks.

Bobby Popler is the Task-Assigned Executive Director of the Office. With them since its inception in 1996, she stressed that GLSEN and its training efforts have no direct contact with students and are simply for employee-training purposes. She also indicated the experiences were positive with no negative feedback associated with them.

Nevertheless, the first motion addressed by the School Board was to remove the word “student” from any written agreement between the Office and GLSEN.

Steve Kane was amongst five who spoke out against the proposal. He accused GLSEN of being “a hardcore activist organization with a political agenda.” The next day, on his radio show, he likened GLSEN to “Nazis with shaved heads” and referred to them as part of a “gay Mafia trying to wrestle control of the schools from ‘normal’ people.”

On that show, he was supported by a call-in from Pastor Bob Coy, of the Calvary Chapel in Fort Lauderdale, the same group whose ministry donated over \$100,000 to the unsuccessful drive to repeal the gay rights ordinance in Broward County. Kane identified himself as a member of the Church, and referred to ‘Pastor Bob’ as ‘his pastor.’

At the School Board meeting the day before, Kane failed to identify himself as a representative of any church group. He said he spoke only as a ‘parent.’

At the School Board meeting, eleven citizens spoke in favor of the agreement, including Steve Krantz, current President of the Fort Lauderdale chapter of the group Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG). In a prepared statement, Krantz publicly applauded the effects of the currently

existing partnership as helping to save his own son’s life.

“Today, the co-chairs of GLSEN are my personal heroes for their dedication, skill, and leadership in seeking ‘Dignity for All Students,’ especially the estimated 10% gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender students in our schools,” he declared.

Board member Lois Wexler was publicly lauded by Krantz and GLSEN for her continuing support. She voted with fellow Board members Beverly Gallagher and Bob Parks to continue the partnership.

Wexler demonstratively noted, “that if this Board fails to maintain this partnership, we may have to pull back from the agreements we have with every special interest group, and it could begin with the NAACP and end with Hispanic Unity.”

Within seconds of the vote, stunned community leaders were verbalizing their frustration with the School Board decision.

GLSEN co-chair Mike Record said, “This needs to be a rallying call for all of us. GLSEN’s focus for the next few weeks is to make sure that the major stakeholders in the school system are aware of what the School Board decided to do, and hear from us.”

Record continued that “The Board has an overall excellent record on diversity issues. However, we now need to show them that we are a force to be reckoned with just as much as [the opponents to the proposition] are.”

Record said that GLSEN would nevertheless still continue the informal partnership that currently exists. He indicated regret that “the relationship was not formalized, as over 200 others had been.”

Record says that members of GLSEN will meet with each and every Board member individually over the next several weeks.

In the meantime, Record urges each and every member of the GLBT community to “get involved in this now.”

Ed Nicholas, the Director of the Gay and Lesbian Community Center of South Florida, who attended the meeting, stated that “Gay children still don’t feel safe in our schools and we must work for their rights, and to allow them learn without confrontation.”

Record noted that GLSEN policy states that it “strives to insure that each member of every school community is valued and respected regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.”

Founded in Boston in 1990, GLSEN has grown to a network of 85 chapters in 35 states. Broward County Public Schools is the 5th largest school district in the country with close to 250,000 students.

**AFE/EB Victory in Broward!
Even With \$100,000 in Church Donations, Anti-Gay
Group Fails in Drive to Repeal Human Rights Law**

(continued from the front page)

Ministries of the Calvary Chapel funnelled \$99,000 dollars into the campaign.

The Center for Reclaiming America even secretly commissioned and paid thousands of dollars for the drive’s pre-petition poll, conducted in December 2000 by Cherry Communications. This funding method was needed because ERNSR was not officially registered as a political committee until January 2001, and could not raise funds.

Although the December poll showed that the petition drive would likely fail, the anti-gay forces decided to go forward anyway, cloaking their efforts in the guise of a county-wide campaign ‘to protect the Boy Scouts from a loss of public funding.’

“From the outset,” Bodiford noted, “They have been using deceptive tactics to

deceive the public.”

Allegations of unethical and illegal behavior have dogged the anti-gay petition drive from the outset. The State Attorney’s Office is still actively investigating allegations that ERNSR not only used misleading tactics to gather signatures, but knowingly submitted petitions with forged signatures.

After their defeat, an ERNSR spokesperson opined to the *Sun-Sentinel* that the group would now explore all options, including the possibility of bringing legal action in court to challenge the disqualification of some of the petitions. Based upon past examples, that tactic is highly unlikely to reverse the outcome of the disqualified petition drive because the margin of failure was not close.