

BACKGROUND

Covert Network of GOP Homosexuals Seen as 'the Real Scandal' in D.C.

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The revelations of a homosexual prostitution ring patronized by Reagan and Bush administration officials have focused attention on what conservatives say is a secret network of homosexual Republicans that has influenced public policy.

Conservative columnist and commentator Robert Novak said that "one of the real scandals" in Washington has been "the secret homosexuals in the Republican Party."

He credited *The Washington Times* with breaking the story wide open.

Rep. William Dannemeyer, R-Calif., has said the current investigations

prompted by the *Times* stories may shed light on how officials in both the Reagan and Bush administrations have worked to "advance the influence of the homosexual movement in public policy."

The congressman, in a June 29 letter to President Bush calling for his "personal attention" to the scandal, cited several examples:

- Federal funding through the National Endowment for the Arts of the Robert Mapplethorpe photography exhibit of homosexual masochism.
- A U.S. Postal Service postmark celebrating the beginning of the "gay rights" movement 20 years ago when

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the Stonewall Inn homosexual bar in New York City was raided by police, sparking a riot.

● A proposal by the National Institutes of Health for a multimillion-dollar sex study, whose principal researcher "has a long list of credits favoring homosexual behavior, including pedophilia." The designer of the study, Dannemeyer said, is the chairman of the Gay Caucus of the American Sociological Association.

● The use of tax dollars by the National Research Council to promote the social acceptance of homosexuality.

● President Bush's support of legislation against "hate crimes," a bill Dannemeyer sees as a "precursor" to amending the 1964 Civil Rights Act to prohibit discrimination on the basis of "sexual orientation."

● The failure by the U.S. Government to treat AIDS like other communicable diseases, utilizing confidential reporting and contact tracing.

Dannemeyer also questioned whether the officials in the Office of Personnel

Management who drafted AIDS anti-discrimination regulations were homosexuals.

The congressman said the president could eliminate federal funding of homosexual groups and promotion of the homosexual lifestyle by signing an executive order reaffirming "the traditional family and the heterosexual ethic."

He said such an order would "also send a strong message to 'sexual scandals in the making' that criminal behavior will not be tolerated."

Dannemeyer's comments on AIDS policy were echoed by Paul Weyrich, president of Coalitions for America, who told *The Washington Times* that the revelations of officials using the homosexual prostitution ring, if true, "explain a certain resistance to pro-family policies on the part of the Reagan administration."

He said such policies included treating AIDS like any other public health issue, and mandatory testing for the disease.

Howard Phillips, chairman of the Conservative Caucus, also believes that

homosexuals influenced the policies of the Reagan administration on AIDS.

"There had to be a reason why Reagan was pouring out hundreds of millions of dollars to homosexual groups," he told the *New York City Tribune*. "The floodgates opened under Reagan and, in the name of fighting AIDS and [in the name of] AIDS education, a fortune went from the public treasury into the hands of militant homosexual organizations."

He said homosexuals influenced the first family.

"It was common knowledge throughout the Reagan administration that there was unusual influence by homosexuals on the first family — people who were in the president's and first lady's circle of friends," Phillips said.

Phillips said there were widely discussed reports that a "friend of the first family" who was socially prominent was caught in a compromising situation with an under-age male in the presidential limousine on Inauguration Day.

"I don't know if it was true, but it was widely assumed to be and widely discussed," Phillips said.