

Exhibit W

SOUTH BAY NEWS

Vandals strike Prop 8 homes in SJ

Monday, October 27, 2008 | 12:09 PM

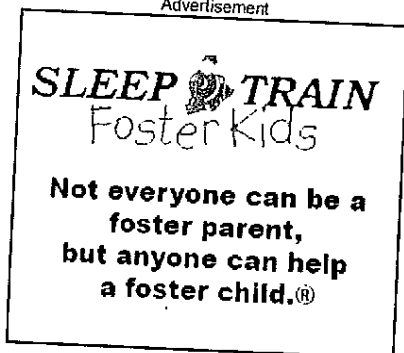
SAN JOSE, CA (KGO) -- Vandals struck overnight in San Jose at two homes where the owners put out signs in support of Proposition 8.

A "Yes on 8" sign was painted over, and the garage doors on each of the two homes were sprayed with "No on 8."

One of their cars was also vandalized. Prop 8 would change the state constitution to outlaw same-sex marriage. One of the homeowners says she was mad at first, but is now trying to think about what was going through the vandal's mind.

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"Why would you, instead of just giving us a pamphlet, or wanting to talk to us, instead coming in and trying to destroy something we really worked hard for because we're very opened minded we're very open minded people. We're willing to talk to people," said Kelly Byrne, "Proposition 8" supporter.

Police took a report on the vandalism, but the homeowners say there's probably little that can be done to catch the culprit given the fact they have no suspect description.

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Oct 28, 2008 8:58 am US/Pacific

Vandals Target Prop 8 Supporters In NorCal

Measure Proposes Ban On Same-Sex Marriage

Voter Guide: Compare Candidates, Measures
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SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — San Jose police are investigating another case of vandalism targeting supporters of a gay marriage ban in California.

Police were called to a house in South San Jose earlier this week after homeowners reported their garage was spray-painted with "No on 8" messages. Proposition 8 would take away the right of same-sex couples to wed.

The homeowners had signs supporting the measure on their lawn.

Sgt. Mike Sullivan said the department has not tracked incidents of political sign vandalism, but he does know there have been at least four reported incidents involving Proposition 8.

The campaign to defeat the measure issued a statement saying it condemns vandalism and activities of this kind.

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Vandals targeted supporters of a gay marriage ban in California by spray-painting their garage.
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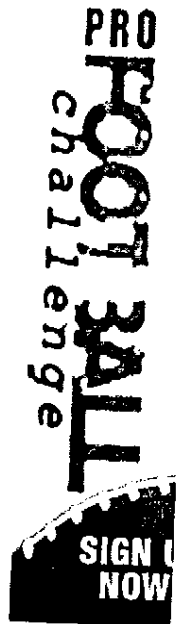
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Exhibit Y

Tuesday, October 21, 2008

Five held on suspicion of stealing "Yes" on Prop. 8 signs

Suspects tell police they were angry after attending a rally at a Fullerton bar.

By **BARBARA GIASONE**

The Orange County Register

FULLERTON - Five people were arrested early today on suspicion of participating in a sign-stealing spree the suspects said originated in a downtown bar, Sgt. Mike MacDonald said.

A police officer patrolling the area near Chapman and Pomona avenues at 1:30 a.m. saw a passenger jump from a car and place a campaign sign on the corner.

When the officer approached the driver, she noticed three "No on Prop 8" signs in the vehicle. She also located 10 torn-up "Yes on 8" signs on the front floorboard with three McCain-Palin signs.

The "Yes on 8" signs were allegedly stolen and the "No on Prop 8" signs were not, police said.

When questioned, the suspects said they had just come from a "No on 8" rally at a downtown business and were angry, MacDonald said.

Based on their statements, all five were arrested on suspicion of possession of stolen property.

Taken to city jail were Jonathan Barrett, 19, of Fullerton; Jennifer Berry, 23, Covina; Emanuel Muro, 23, Artesia; Daniel Palacios, 23, Lakewood; and Eric Gutierrez, 23, Fullerton.

MacDonald said all five admitted taking the signs.

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Exhibit Z

Last published: Monday November 24 2008

Mostly sunny. Patchy fog in the morning. Highs 60 to 66.

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// Prop 8 supporters face sign theft, vandalism

Prop 8 supporters face sign theft, vandalism

Freedom of speech is at stake, supporters say

Written by AARON BRUNER
Published October 29, 2008

In a community that values free speech and open debate, recent political sign thefts have outraged some community members.

The controversy over Proposition 8, which would amend the California Constitution to allow marriage between only a man and a woman, has spilled over into petty theft and vandalism of lawn signs.

Yes on 8 supporters say they've been hit especially hard in Davis, where a large number of signs have been defaced or stolen.

Davis resident Jo Lynn Meirovitz had Yes on 8 signs stolen from her front yard last week.

"People preach tolerance but they are very intolerant of other people," Meirovitz said. "They see us protecting marriage as full of hate, bigots ... and are appalled that we would want to help Prop 8 pass. I'm sure the more signs they see the more frustrated they get."

Having left the house for only an hour and a half and not expecting her signs to be taken during the middle of the day, Meirovitz found two lawn signs missing upon her return, she said.

"We believe in freedom of speech for everybody, not just one side of this proposition," Meirovitz said. "Everybody should be able to voice their opinion."

Davis resident and Cedric Papa is involved in Yes on 8 sign distribution and says voters are calling in daily to report that their signs have been stolen.

Papa, who has had 14 signs taken, estimates that 200 or more may have been taken or vandalized in Davis alone.

"I will follow the law, no matter what happens, so I'd like to get my voice out now," Papa said. "We are just trying to keep our individual rights and keep the government out of our lives."

Papa said one group of people went so far as to pretend to support Prop 8 and took 100 signs and dumped them.

Yolo County Republican Party chair Mark Pruner said it has been common in this and previous elections for political signs to be stolen.

"We spend so much money replacing signs, you almost feel violated," he said.

In addition to sign theft in Davis, there have been several incidences of vandalism and theft in Sacramento, and video of at least two incidences have been posted on YouTube, Pruner said.

"Let's face it, stealing of political signs is something that always happens," he said. "We have to budget for paying for more signs."

There is little legal recourse for people who have had their signs stolen or vandalized, and many don't bother to report the crimes. The Davis and Sacramento Police Departments and the Yolo County Sheriff all say no police reports regarding stolen or damaged signs have been filed in their jurisdictions.

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Among other incidents in Davis are keyed cars displaying Yes on 8 bumper stickers, while last week the Yes on 8 table located on the Quad was hit with water balloons by a group of students yelling "you teach hate," according to UC Davis graduate student Casey Meirovitz, who is married to Jo Lynn Meirovitz.

"I think yelling 'you teach hate' and exhibiting hate isn't the coolest thing in the world, especially at a university," he said. "People feel very passionately about Prop 8 and they are letting it get the best of them. Unfortunately they're weakening the stance of their argument by acting hypocritically."

Meirovitz and wife Jo Lynn have since replaced their Yes on 8 signs with a homemade sign made of plywood, attached to a tree in their front yard with a bike lock, a sign that they will not forfeit their right to free speech anytime soon.

Representatives from the No on 8 campaign did not respond to requests for information regarding sign theft or vandalism on their side.

AARON BRUNER can be reached at city@californiaaggie.com.

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Exhibit AA

Thursday, October 30, 2008

Prop. 8 sign-stealing ignites free speech debate

Pro-amendment group says 25,000 'Yes on Prop. 8' signs have been stolen.

By SALVADOR HERNANDEZ

The Orange County Register

He admits he's done it at least 20 times – out of pure anger and frustration – but he said he didn't know it was against the law when he did it. Just don't ask him if he'll stop.

He's done it on his way to work or back home. The feeling was overwhelming, Shankar Singam said, and he would pull over to the side of the road, grab one of the yellow "Yes on Proposition 8" signs and throw it on the back of his truck.

"It's (Prop. 8 is) discrimination in disguise and it infuriates me," said Singam. "It's a civil right."

It's a scene that continues to play out on the streets as the day nears for California voters to decide on Prop. 8, which would amend the state constitution to define marriage as that between a man and a woman – and therefore ban same-

sex marriage. While proponents and opponents of the proposition have raised more than a combined \$21 million to campaign their views, individuals have been pushing their own personal campaigns.

Some of them have done so illegally.

Theft and vandalism of Proposition 8 signs have been reported in Santa Ana, Yorba Linda, Huntington Beach, Fountain Valley, Irvine and Laguna Hills. In Fullerton, five people were taken into custody after police there found 10 torn "Yes on Proposition 8" signs in their car. The suspects told police they had just attended a "No on 8" rally.

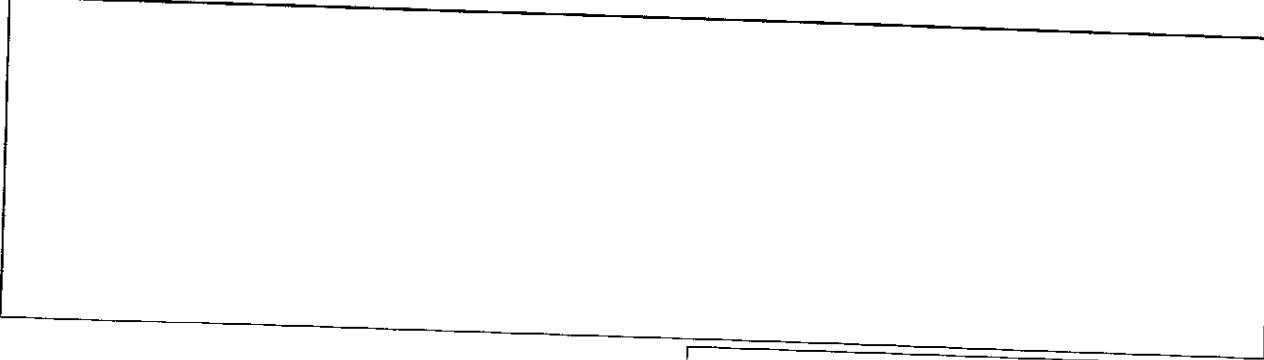
In Irvine, two citizen arrests have been reported of people stealing or vandalizing "Yes" signs and on Tuesday, three students were stopped by a police officer in an area where several signs had the word "No" spray-painted over several "Yes" signs. Two of them, a 17- and an 18-year-old were found to be in possession of spray cans. The minor was released to her parents, said Lt. Rick Handfield of the Irvine Police. Police are investigating the case involving the 18-year-old, who was not taken into custody.

Singam said he feels that at stake are the civil rights of thousands of people, equating it to the past prohibition of interracial marrying.

But 58-year-old Robert Thompson, who said he has had 14 "Yes" signs stolen from his front lawn, said his right to express himself is being hindered.

"Everyone has a right to voice their opinion," he said. "Why can't they get their own signs? I'm not going to be offended if they put up their own signs."

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It's a common occurrence, said Damon Micallizi, spokesman for the Orange County Sheriff's Department. As political signs go up, reports of stolen or vandalized signs surface, although the sheriff's department does not keep track of the numbers. They're listed along with other incidents thefts and vandalism. Taking signs from private yards and public areas is against the law, but the sheriff's department has not seen spike in incidents.

"We've had continued reports on both sides," Handfield said. "It's not just Prop. 8 signs, although that's one issue that seems to be polarizing."

Mike Erickson, a community organizer for "Yes on Proposition 8" said the campaign estimates about 25,000 signs have been stolen or vandalized in California, about one-third of the signs distributed.

"It is epidemic," he said. "It leads us down a dangerous road when you say you don't have a right to your speech."

In three weeks, Erickson said he has received about 670 emails from people reporting missing signs in the county. He said he believes the reason why so many signs have been reported stolen on both sides of the isle is because the issue at hand is something very personal.

"This is a sensitive issue," he said "It's about people's families and that's the most cherished relationships and passions are high on both sides."

Singam said he never took signs from people's yards and thought taking them from public spots was legal.

"I'm not gay but that doesn't mean I can't stand

for equal rights," Singam said. "Their right to free speech is to put it up. Mine is to take it down."

Stolen signs might hurt the campaign's visibility, but it has also pushed some supporters of the proposition, Erickson said. One Orange County resident picked up signs after finding out his neighbor's sign was stolen.

In Fullerton, one resident posted more than 40 signs in her front lawn after several were stolen.

"Is it helping? I don't think so," Singam said about his opposition to the constitutional amendment. "I think by taking down the signs I'm letting them know people won't stand for it."

In the end, Erickson said, the discussion will continue in the poll box.

"I just ask they be respectful of my rights and participate in the political process," he said.

Contact the writer: shermandez@ocregister.com or 949-454-7361

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Exhibit AB

Friday, October 31, 2008

Dana Point man will keep replacing downed signs favoring Prop. 8

By CHRIS DAINES

The Orange County Register

William Vogeler calls Proposition 8 sign-placement feuds the "battle of the signs" – but he says he's not giving up posting signs promoting the initiative until Tuesday's election is over.

"Virtually every sign I have put up from Santa Ana through Irvine, San Juan to Dana Point has been taken down," Vogeler said.

Proposition 8 is a ballot proposal to amend the California Constitution to define marriage as between a man and a woman. It would effectively end same-sex marriage in the state.

Though the signs around Vogeler's Dana Point home have been undisturbed, signs along the stretch of Pacific Coast Highway between Niguel Road and Harbor Drive are being removed almost as fast as he can put them up, he said.

"I put them out wherever I go for my work or otherwise, and when I go past where I've been, they are gone," Vogeler said.

Such sign removal has been rampant across Orange County and has ignited many discussions of free speech. Regardless of one's position on Prop. 8, Vogeler – who practices general law but specializes in media rights – says he wishes there could be more respect between the two sides.

"We live in a society where people have the right to say their piece," he said. "Taking down a sign is not saying your piece, that's vandalism."

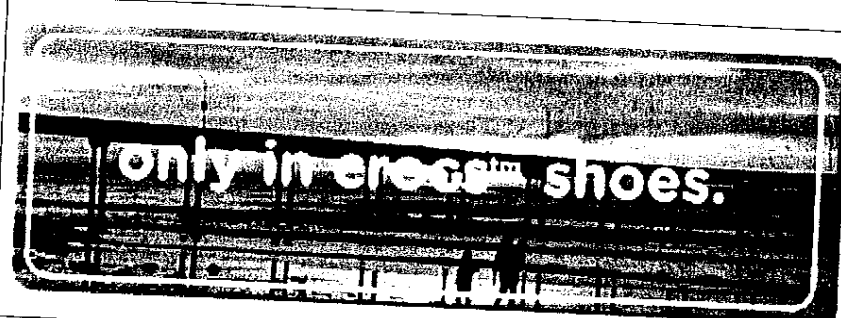
Vogeler, who has been placing signs favoring Prop. 8 for several months in south Orange County, often receives looks and honks from passing motorists but said he can't tell whether they're friendly. He has taken cell-phone photos of people he thought were acting suspiciously around the signs, but he can't be sure whether they are removing them.

After a 7-foot-tall wooden Prop. 8 sign was removed a day after he placed it at the intersection of Alicia Parkway and Aliso Creek Road, Vogeler decided a steel sign would be harder to take down, and he put one up Thursday morning. He said Friday that he hadn't driven past the site yet, but he said someone would need a hacksaw to take it down.

"(If) I drive by and my sign is gone, I'll put another one up. I'll put a new one up the day after if it is gone, and again on Monday if I need to – the election is Tuesday."

Contact the writer: 949-492-5135 or cdaines@ocregister.com

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Exhibit AC

KCRA.com

Sheriff: Prop. 8 Signs Being Stolen, Burned

Both Sides Of Gay-Marriage Initiative See Signs Destroyed

POSTED: 9:31 pm PDT October 19, 2008
UPDATED: 12:08 am PDT October 20, 2008

SACRAMENTO, Calif. -- As the days leading up to Election Day dwindle down, signs on both sides of the gay-marriage initiative are being stolen, and in some cases even burned, sheriff's officials said.

Hector Lluen said that a "Yes" on Prop. 8 sign nailed to the front of his Fair Oaks home door was stolen in the middle of the night.

"My family and I strongly believe that their acts are cowardly," Lluen said. "It is not going to intimidate my family. We will continue to put up 'yes' on Prop. 8 signs."

Some supporters of the vote "No" on Prop. 8 campaign said those stealing signs are just hurting their own cause.

"If someone is doing it on our side it needs to stop, and if someone is doing it on their side that needs to stop as well," said David Cano, who supports the "No" on Prop. 8 campaign.

Some voters who have had their signs stolen said it feels like getting mugged.

"I feel disenfranchised," said Linda Subramanian, who had her political sign stolen. "That was my sign. That was my political expression."

In Midtown, voters are coming together to urge those breaking the law to have a better approach.

"You got to vote, that's where you make your opinion count," said voter Megan Evans.

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From the Los Angeles Times

A life thrown into turmoil by \$100 donation for Prop. 8

Steve Lopez

December 14, 2008

Margie Christoffersen didn't make it very far into our conversation before she cracked. Chest heaving, tears streaming, she reached for her husband Wayne's hand and then mine, squeezing as if she'd never let go.

"I've almost had a nervous breakdown. It's been the worst thing that's ever happened to me," she sobbed as curious patrons at a Farmers Market coffee shop looked on, wondering what calamity had visited this poor woman who's an honest 6 feet tall, with hair as blond as the sun.

Weil, Christoffersen was a manager at El Coyote, the Beverly Boulevard landmark restaurant that's always had throngs of customers waiting to get inside. Many of them were gay, and Christoffersen, a devout Mormon, donated \$100 in support of Proposition 8, the successful November ballot initiative that banned gay marriage.

She never advertised her politics or religion in the restaurant, but last month her donation showed up on lists of "for" and "against" donors. And El Coyote became a target. A boycott was organized on the Internet, with activists trashing El Coyote on restaurant review sites. Then came throngs of protesters, some of them shouting "shame on you" at customers. The police arrived in not gear one night to quell the angry mob.

The mob left, but so did the customers.

Sections of the restaurant have been closed, a manager told me Friday during a very quiet lunch hour. Some of the 89 employees, many of them gay, have had their hours cut, and layoffs are looming. And Christoffersen, who has taken a voluntary leave of absence, is wondering whether she'll ever again be able to work at the restaurant, which opened in 1931 (at 1st and La Brea) and is owned by her 92-year-old mother.

"It's been so hard," she said, breaking down again.

A lot of customers saw Christoffersen as the face of the restaurant. She was the hostess who roamed from table to table with a pitcher of water, refilling glasses and schmoozing with friends.

Christoffersen, raised Mormon by her late father, told me she has no problem with gay people.

"I love them like everybody else."

But she supports her church's position that marriage is between a man and a woman.

I, on the other hand, opposed Prop. 8. And as I wrote more than once, I think organized Christian religion reached new levels of hypocrisy in using the Bible to preach discrimination and promote the initiative.

As for the Mormons, I have trouble taking any cues on social mores from a group whose founder and early leaders believed they were acting on directives from on high when they took enough wives -- many in their teens -- to fill every booth in the cavernous El Coyote.

But I didn't like what I was hearing about the vilification of Margie Christoffersen and others in California being targeted for the crime of voting their conscience.

"I agree with you on this," said Fred Karger. On his Californians Against Hate website, Karger has been outing Prop. 8 supporters, but he thinks Christoffersen's small personal donation didn't warrant such a backlash against El Coyote. Karger also spoke out against the resignation of a Sacramento theater director who gave \$1,000 to Yes on 8 and happens to be Mormon.

The focus should be on the Mormon Church, Karger said, and on people and businesses that gave hundreds of thousands of dollars to Yes on 8. Wayne Christoffersen, who is also a manager at El Coyote, is not a Mormon, and he said he doesn't care who marries whom. But he doesn't think it's right that he and other employees at the restaurant are seeing their livelihoods threatened. Should Apple be boycotted by Yes on 8 people, he asked, simply because the computer company donated \$100,000 to the No on 8 campaign?

El Coyote has never been known for gourmet cuisine. But the warm, kitschy vibe and cool patio scene have always been a hit with customers willing to wait in long lines under the distinctive neon sign.

Now business is off about 30%, Wayne said. Margie wants to blame it on the economy, because she can't deal with the alternative. But Wayne insisted the low-priced restaurant is largely recession-proof, and it's the controversy that has stemmed the flow of margaritas.

Margie tried to smooth things over last month by inviting gay clients to a free lunch to talk it over, but she left in tears when asked if she would write a check to the group challenging Prop. 8.

She blubbered all over again as she thought back on the last month. She has been a nightly fixture at El Coyote for two decades, walking to work from her home just a few doors away. It's been her life, she said. And she can't stand that it's been taken away.

On the other side, thousands of gay people can't stand that their recent marriages could be taken away, and thousands more feel as though their civil rights have been violated. So even if Margie returns to work at El Coyote, her husband said, "she will never, ever be back here on a Thursday night."

Thursdays, as tradition had it, the place was mobbed with gay customers.

I had lunch at El Coyote on Thursday, and most of the tables were empty.

Margie was off in a dark corner of the restaurant -- at the table where Sharon Tate had her last meal -- exchanging Christmas presents with friends and her mother. I sat on the patio with Wayne and two other El Coyote managers -- Arnold Archila and Bill Schoeppner -- who happen to be gay.

"We always joked around with Margie," said Schoeppner, who's been on the job 26 years. "I'm a Democrat and voted for Obama; she probably voted for McCain -- so what? If she were a bigot or a homophobe, you wouldn't have had all these gay people" working at the restaurant or eating at it.

Besides, the donation was personal.

"She didn't cut a check from the restaurant," added Archila, a 28-year employee. "The restaurant didn't have anything to do with it."

Archila said he and other employees voted no on Prop. 8 and gave money to the legal challenge. As someone who came to the U.S. 30 years ago from El Salvador, Archila said, he's always cherished this country's right of free speech and the diversity of opinion.

"You can express yourself as a citizen," said Archila. "Not everyone has to believe the same things."

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