

# **Exhibit AT**

THE SACRAMENTO BEE

This story is taken from Sacbee / Capitol and California

## Prop. 8 victors upset by personal attacks

[jgarza@sacbee.com](mailto:jgarza@sacbee.com)

Published Wednesday, Nov. 12, 2008

Supporters of Proposition 8 won the election but now are frustrated because they are still fighting for their cause.

A week after a majority of voters passed the controversial measure to ban same-sex marriage, the conflict continues – in the courts, at protests and in personal attacks.

"I'm frustrated by what's going on," said Dave Leatherby, owner of the Leatherby Family Creamery in Sacramento, commenting on the protests and court battles.

"Let's move on. I always told my children that once a rule was made, you have to abide by it. I think it should be the same in this circumstance."

Leatherby and his family donated about \$20,000 for the passage of Proposition 8. A devout Catholic and father of 10, Leatherby supported the measure for religious reasons. He said his business has been targeted by bloggers as a result, and that he is particularly confused because his business has participated in the annual gay pride Rainbow Festival.

"It saddens me that all this is happening," he said.

The battle over same-sex marriage will not end anytime soon. This week, 44 state legislators filed a friend-of-the-court brief on behalf of opponents of the gay-marriage ban. They maintain the initiative process was used improperly. The California Supreme Court could rule as early as this week on a lawsuit that seeks to invalidate Proposition 8, said court spokeswoman Lynn Holton.

Proposition 8 opponents said they will continue to fight for their civil rights.

"For them to say the voters have spoken and no one should question it is a bit disingenuous," said West Sacramento Mayor Christopher Cabaldon. He cited repeated attempts to pass other initiatives. "They believe in the justice of their causes, that's why they return over and over again with the same proposal on parental notification."

Cabaldon was referring to Proposition 4, which would have required parental notification before a minor could have an abortion. It was defeated for the third time last week.

Since the election, thousands have protested on the steps of the state Capitol and in some cities at temples of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and other sites. The Sacramento temple has not been targeted.

"Protesting is a time-honored American tradition," said Ned Dolejsi, executive director of the California Catholic Conference. Catholic leaders were active in the Yes on 8 campaign. "But it's unfortunate when it steps over into religious bigotry or harassment."

Some Proposition 8 supporters say a minority of protesters have gone too far by targeting individuals. Opponents of the measure have called for a boycott of the California Musical Theatre after revelations that artistic director Scott Eckern, a Mormon, donated \$1,000 to the Yes on 8 Campaign. Members of his church played a significant role in the campaign.

"It's disheartening that he is being singled out," said Lisa West, spokeswoman for the church in the Sacramento area. "We had hoped there would be more tolerance for different viewpoints."

Others who supported Proposition 8 said they have also been targeted. Scott Purves, of Purves & Associates, a Davis insurance company, said a protester carrying a sign reading "Purves Family Supports Homophobia" picketed his business Monday.

"If this had gone the other way, I can't imagine the backlash if people protested and called the other side names," said Purves. "People would be angry and rightfully so. ... It makes me sad that this would happen when a majority of people supported this measure."

Opponents of Proposition 8 issued a statement last week asking those disheartened by the passage of the initiative not to target those who voted the other way. "We achieve nothing if we isolate the people who did not stand with us in this fight," the statement said. "... We know people of all faiths, races and backgrounds stand with us in our fight to end discrimination, and will continue to do so."

Other ballot initiatives that have been approved by voters have faced legal challenges.

"When it comes to social initiatives, it can become very emotional," said Douglas Kmiec, professor of constitutional law at Pepperdine University.

He cited two initiatives that were approved by voters and later challenged in the courts. One was Proposition 209, the 1996 ballot measure that eliminated racial preferences at California agencies and public institutions; the other was Proposition 187, the 1994 measure that proposed barring undocumented children from schools and most health care.

"Although there were bumps along the way, Prop. 209 eventually passed, but 187 was ultimately invalidated," said Kmiec.

For now, Leatherby said, Proposition 8 should stand. "If they want to win me over," he said, "that's not how to do it."

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*Call the Bee's Jennifer Garza, (916) 321-1133.*

# **Exhibit AU**

Friday, November 14, 2008

# Prop. 8 leaders accuse foes of harassment, intimidation

## Opponents of the gay marriage ban counter that boycotts are fair game; but some agree that other "nutcase" tactics have gone too far.

By **MARTIN WISCKOL**

The Orange County Register

SANTA ANA - Proposition 8 leaders gathered Friday to denounce their opponents' post-election tactics as harassment, intimidation and - in the case of white powder sent to two Mormon temples - "domestic terrorism."

Ten days after the Prop. 8 ban on gay marriage was approved by voters, protests and lawsuits by gay marriage proponents show no signs of abating. Indeed, several dozen protesters were

on hand outside the Santa Ana hotel where the pro-Prop. 8 press conference was held, and at least two more Orange County protests are planned for the weekend.

Prop. 8 leaders were quick to acknowledge that demonstrations and lawsuits were the right of protesters - but other tactics that were out of bounds.

"What they don't have the right to do is harass and intimidate people," said Frank Schubert, director of the Prop. 8 campaign. "They don't have a right to blacklist and boycott our supporters."

Schubert listed three businesses that had been boycotted or threatened with boycotts by Prop. 8 foes. Newspaper accounts have specified at least three more. Cinemark Theatres, which has cinemas in Orange County, has also been mentioned as a possible target.

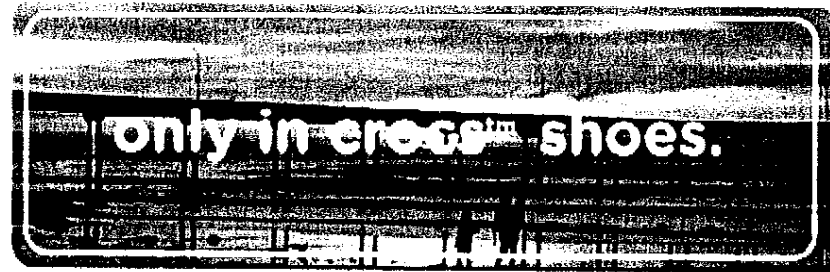
Leaders of the battle against Prop. 8 and protesters interviewed outside today's press conference condemned the use of violence, threats of physical harm, and the mailing of an unidentified white powder to two temples of the Mormons, who contributed significantly to the Prop. 8 campaign.

"That's some nutcase," protester Angelo Vassos said of the white powder. "That's just dumb."

Vassos and other Prop. 8 opponents say they generally support the boycott approach. But Vassos - who still doesn't eat Carl's Jr. hamburgers because of the politics of the late Carl Karcher - said he isn't sure he endorses all of the current targets.

Among those is El Coyote restaurant in Los Angeles, which is being boycotted because the

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owner's daughter contributed \$100 to the Yes on 8 campaign. Another is the California Musical Theatre, which was threatened with a boycott because its artistic director gave \$1,000 to the campaign. The director then resigned.

"If it's the head of the company who's giving money, I'd say I wasn't going there," said Vassos, a retired school teacher from Irvine who, along with his wife, is a longtime political activist. "But if it's the daughter of the owner or an employee, I'm not so sure."

Inside the ballroom of the Doubletree Hotel, Yes on 8 leaders filled the room with more than 400 backers, who frequently interrupted speeches with cheers and gave the press conference the festivity of a rally or political convention. About 30 of the leaders shared the stage, with evangelical Christians and Muslims from throughout Southern California accounting for more than half.

They called gay marriage an assault on the family, and labeled Prop. 8 foes as hypocrites for calling the measure hateful and intolerant.

"They have shown their own intolerance and hatred," said Ron Prentice, chairman of the Protect Marriage Coalition.

Leaders said democracy had been exercised -- and it was time to acknowledge that.

"I come here with a wholly righteous, God-given anger at what's happening in our state," Jim Garlow, a Sand Diego pastor, said of his opponents' activities. He also complained about unfair treatment by the media, and was enthusiastically cheered. "The bigotry must come to an end."

But the battle is likely to continue through a

legal challenge and future ballot measures.

"Just because it was on the ballot doesn't mean it was constitutional," said Irvine's Mitch Goldstone, a gay man who married his longtime partner in June.

Goldstone was among protesters outside the hotel holding signs and periodically breaking into chants -- including, "It's not over. It's not over." There was a mix of gays, lesbians and straights, like Vassos.

"We have two great gay friends," said Vassos, 76. "I said, 'I have to go over there for Kelly and Joe.'"

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# **Exhibit AV**



## Activists Target Mormons for Gay-Marriage Ban's Success in California

Monday, December 01, 2008

FOX NEWS

In the nearly four weeks since Election Day, gay activists and thousands of their supporters have rallied outside Mormon temples around the country, protesting the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints' support for California's Proposition 8, the ballot initiative to make same-sex marriage illegal in the Golden State.

There have been calls to boycott the annual Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah; some activists have called for a boycott of the entire state of Utah. Protesters have defaced some church buildings, and in Arapaho County, Colo., the Sheriff's Office is investigating a possible hate crime — the torching of the Book of Mormon on a church's doorstep.

Even the state of California itself has announced that it is investigating the church's involvement in Proposition 8, which was approved by a vote of 52 percent to 48 percent and, barring a Supreme Court overturn, will ban gay marriage in the state.

There have been no other reports of backlash against other groups that supported Prop 8, notably African-Americans and other churches and religious denominations that turned out in heavy numbers to push through the ban.

Exit polls after the Nov. 4 vote showed that 70 percent of black voters and more than half of Latino voters voted yes on Prop 8. About two-thirds of self-identified Christians supported the ban, and married voters and parents also showed strong support. The Knights of Columbus, the Catholic Church and evangelical groups in the state also urged for a ban on gay marriage.

So why is the Mormon Church the only target?

It's because of the money, says Evan Wolfe, executive director of Freedom to Marry, a New York-based group that supports same-sex marriage.

"The Mormon Church hierarchy led the way on this attack on gay families and the California constitution," Wolfe said. "They provided more than half of the funding. They provided the ground troops and were a major political force in a way that no other group was.

"It's not like there's one centralized voice telling everyone whom to protest. People have their own reactions to what they see with their own eyes, and what they saw here was a \$40 million deceptive campaign to take away rights, led by the Mormon Church hierarchy."

Lorri Jean, CEO of the L.A. Gay and Lesbian Center, wrote on the organization's Web site that she doesn't blame African-Americans or minority groups for the passage of Prop. 8.

"We have been critical of all of the out-of-state conservative religious groups that made significant contributions to the campaign, including the Knights of Columbus National Headquarters in Connecticut and Focus on the Family in Colorado. But the truth is that the LDS church leadership in Utah specifically directed its membership to get involved with the Yes campaign in an unprecedented way — both in terms of volunteer time and dollars," Jean wrote.

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"The campaign they funded was one of lies and deceit, clearly in violation of the religious tenet of "thou shalt not lie."

Ron Buckmire, president of the Barbara Jordan/Bayard Rustin Coalition, an organization that organizes African-Americans for gay rights in Southern California, said fewer African-Americans supported the gay-marriage ban than was originally reported -- 57 percent instead of 70.

"People were emotional after Obama being elected and recognizing the ideal that the African American and LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender) community were part of one large progressive alliance that were going to enact change ... was not necessarily true," Buckmire said.

"Once they realized that, and that some of the data is not exactly correct and they were actually being hateful to some African-Americans, I think they then focused on the Mormons, the religious people and some Republicans as well."

Rev. Roland Stringfellow, coordinator of the Bay Area Coalition of Welcoming Congregations, a network of gay-friendly religious, said that he has heard of African American individuals being harassed for the passage of Prop 8, but that many are using the Mormon Church as a scapegoat for their anger.

"Many gays and lesbians have been hurt by the church and they see the Mormons as a way of taking out that aggression, not only on the Prop 8 position, but on their life in general," he told FOXNews.com.

"I think simply it comes down to everyone needing a scapegoat. I think we're seeing that with the Republican Party, where people are pointing fingers at Sarah Palin as to why John McCain lost."

Back in June, soon after the California Supreme Court ruled that a ban on gay marriage was unconstitutional in the state, the Mormon Church sent a letter to members announcing its support of Prop 8, which was designed to overturn the ruling. The church's members subsequently donated millions of dollars to support the Yes on 8 campaign.

According to Californians Against Hate, which lobbied to defeat Prop 8, Mormons gave \$25 million of the almost \$40 million that groups supporting the initiative spent on advertising and get-out-the-vote efforts.

"They did the slickest commercials you've ever seen, and they mostly do it to convince younger people why its OK to be opposed to same sex marriage," Californians Against Hate founder Frank Karger told FOXNews.com.

Mormon voters themselves had little effect on the ballot initiative's outcome, simply because the Mormon population is small in California. There are only about 750,000 Mormons in the state, about 2 percent of its 38 million residents.

But over 59,000 Mormon families contributed to the Yes on 8 effort, Karger said. "Without the Mormon money it would have been a very different campaign."

Mormons also donated time — walking through California neighborhoods to get voters talking about Prop 8, he said.

In the weeks after Nov. 4, of Gay activist John Aravosis, editor of Americablog.com, called on Hollywood to shun the Sundance Film Festival, held just a few hours' drive from Salt Lake City.

"Anyone who attends Sundance is quite literally funding the enemy," he wrote. Aravosis also called for a boycott of tourism and skiing in the "Hate State of Utah."

California Musical Theatre Artistic Director Scott Eckern, a Mormon and graduate of Brigham Young University, resigned from his position with the Sacramento theater group on Nov. 12 after undergoing pressure from artists who scorned his decision to give \$1,000 to the Yes on 8 campaign.

And last week, Californians Against Hate filed a complaint with the state Fair Political Practices Commission alleging that the Mormon Church did not report all of its non-monetary contributions to the campaign.

"I just want to make sure that when they involve themselves in California elections that they play by the rules," Karger said.

"They bused people into California the last three weekends going door to door and out with signs on the major intersects and major highways. It's a common California roadside activity, but they did it with hundreds and hundreds of people," Karger said.

On Friday, the commission said it would investigate the complaint.

Californians Against Hate also has called on gay-marriage supporters to boycott A-1 Storage facilities around the

state because the business's owner gave more than \$700,000 to the Yes on 8 cause.

On Nov. 14, Mormon Church leaders issued a statement criticizing the backlash.

"Since the people of California voted to reaffirm the sanctity of traditional marriage between a man and a woman on November 4, 2008, places of worship have been targeted by opponents of Proposition 8 with demonstrations and, in some cases, vandalism," the church's First Presidency wrote.

"Attacks on churches and intimidation of people of faith have no place in civil discourse over controversial issues. People of faith have a democratic right to express their views in the public square without fear of reprisal. Efforts to force citizens out of public discussion should be deplored by people of goodwill everywhere."

But gay activists say they are right to single out the Mormons for the success of California's ballot initiative.

"What is clear in any case is that we did not lose this election because of African Americans," Lorri Jean wrote.

"Even if African Americans had voted for and against Prop 8 in the same proportion as white voters, we still would have lost."

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# **Exhibit AW**

**SFGate**.com  
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## Mormons face flak for backing Prop. 8

Matthai Kuruwila, Chronicle Religion Writer  
Monday, October 27, 2008



**(10-26) 14:40 PDT OAKLAND --** Christine

Alonso's body trembled and her lips quivered as she walked up and spoke to a few of the 50 protesters in front of the Mormon Temple in Oakland on Sunday.

"Don't think they're all against you," said Alonso, 27, explaining that she was Mormon and that despite her religious leaders' support of a ballot measure banning same-sex marriage, she was actively opposed.

As she walked away, she said, "I'm afraid that a gay or lesbian friend might hear that I'm Mormon and think that I want to tear their marriage apart."

Alonso's solitary act came as the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and its members are increasingly under fire for their support of Proposition 8, which would take away the right of gays and lesbians to marry. In addition to increased protests, online campaigns seek to identify and embarrass Mormons who support the ballot measure.

<< Database: Look up Prop. 8 contributors >>

The church largely stays out of politics. But in this case, the Salt Lake City-based church has sent letters, held video conferences and in church meetings asked for volunteers to support the campaign. In response, some church members have poured in their savings and undertaken what may be an unprecedented grassroots mobilization for the effort.

Prop. 8 is on pace to be the costliest race in the nation, except for the billion-dollar presidential election. The Yes on 8 campaign estimates that up to 40 percent of its donations come from Mormons. Some others estimate that Mormons account for over 70 percent of donations from individuals.

All of California's Catholic bishops have all come out in favor of the measure. So have many evangelical Christians and Orthodox Jews. Yet it is Mormons, who account for 2 percent of the state population, who are catching the most heat.

"We seem to be the symbol of the Yes on 8 campaign," said Rand King, 60, a Walnut Creek resident who is Mormon and who was watching Sunday's protest from inside the temple's gates.

Prop. 8 opponents are increasingly narrowing their focus on Mormons, harnessing technology and open-records laws in their efforts. One Web site run by a Prop. 8 opponent, [Mormonsfor8.com](http://Mormonsfor8.com), identifies the name and hometown of every Mormon donor. On the Daily Kos, the nation's most popular liberal blog, there is a campaign to use that information to look into the lives of Mormons who financially support Prop. 8.

It has led some Mormons to question why other religious groups in the coalition aren't being targeted.

"I don't think it's politically expedient to point the finger at the Catholic Church," said Dave Christensen, 52, a Mormon and an Alamo resident who donated \$30,000 to the Yes on 8 campaign. "You don't get the mileage criticizing a church that has more clout."

Nadine Hansen, who runs [Mormonsfor8.com](http://Mormonsfor8.com), said the church decided to enter politics and can't excuse itself for the ramifications.

"Any group that gets involved in the political arena has to be treated like a political action committee," said Hansen, 61, a Mormon who lives in Cedar City, Utah, and has stopped going to church. "You can't get involved in politics and say, 'Treat me as a church.'" Hansen said she focused on Mormons because she is one. She said Mormons have contacted her to shut the site, saying it was being used by the Daily Kos campaign in a "witch hunt."

"I didn't think there were any witches on the list, so I wasn't worried," said Hansen, whose site is "neutral" on its views, though she is opposed because she views it as "divisive."

The person who initiated the Daily Kos campaign to look into the lives of Mormon donors is Dante Atkins, an elected delegate to the state Democratic convention who said he's the vice president of the Los Angeles County Young Democrats.

Atkins said his goal was to "embarrass the opposition by pointing out and publicizing any contributors they may have." He said focusing on Mormons made sense. "If one religious group is putting close to the majority of the money and the effort into passing this proposition, it is fair to single them out."

The Mormon church hasn't taken the same level of interest in Arizona or Florida, which also have constitutional amendments banning same-sex marriage.

But California is a bellwether, said LDS spokesman Mike Otterson. "If same-gender marriage is approved in California... other states will follow suit."

Several Bay Area Mormons said they would support the right of gay and lesbian unions to have all the rights of married couples. But the word marriage was sacred, pivotal to their concept of

families, who can be "eternally united" in the afterlife. A key church document - "The Family: A Proclamation to the World" - says that "marriage between man and a woman is essential to His eternal plan." They also believe that children are entitled to be raised by a father and a mother.

Those words speak for Michele Sundstrom, 47, of San Jose, who has been married for 18 years and has five children.

She and her husband gave \$30,000 to the Yes on 8 campaign and put a sign on their home. But in response, two women parked an SUV in front of their home, with the words "Bigots live here" painted on the windshield.

Sundstrom believes such responses must come from deep places of pain - and that gays and lesbians are entitled to the same rights as heterosexuals, just not the word marriage. Any animosity toward gays or lesbians is wrong, she said.

"There must be such deep, deep, deep hurt; otherwise there couldn't be so much opposition," she said. "They've lived with this. I guess we're getting a taste of where they live."

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<http://sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2008/10/27/BAP113OIRD.DTL>

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# **Exhibit AX**

**SFGate**  
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## Same-sex marriage backers hit Capitol, churches

John Wildermuth, Demian Bulwa, Chronicle Staff Writers  
Monday, November 10, 2008



More...

The backlash against the state's new ban on gay and lesbian marriage intensified over the weekend, with thousands of people gathering around the Bay Area and California during mostly peaceful protests.

Supporters of same-sex marriage questioned whether they had done enough before Tuesday's vote on Proposition 8 and expressed hope that it would be tossed out by the state Supreme Court. They also promised to take the issue back to the ballot.

<<Related story: Catholics, Mormons allied to pass Prop. 8.>>

About 2,500 people gathered on the Capitol steps Sunday afternoon after a noisy, three-hour rally against the marriage ban. About 400 assembled outside Oakland's Mormon Temple, forcing Highway Patrol officers to temporarily close two Highway 13 ramps to protect the marchers.

"I didn't see it coming," said Joe West, who traveled from San Francisco for the Sacramento demonstration. "It was like a punch in the gut. We worked so hard to bring change in this election, and then this happens."

"If I'd known it was going to be so close, I would have made more phone calls," added Brendan Bishop of Sacramento.

The weekend of protests started Friday evening in San Francisco when about 1,000 people gathered, some clogging rush-hour traffic. The state's largest event was held in San Diego with about 10,000 protesters Saturday. On Sunday, hundreds gathered outside Saddleback Church in Lake Forest (Orange County), an evangelical megachurch that had pushed for the ban, which was approved by 52 percent of voters.

### Covering state capitol steps

At the Sacramento protest, the crowd covered the Capitol steps and spilled into the surrounding park. Dozens of rainbow gay pride banners waved, along with hundreds of the blue and white "Vote No on Prop. 8" signs left over from the campaign.



There were hundreds more homemade signs, broadcasting the feelings of those left shocked and disappointed by the election results. "Hatred is Not a Family Value," one said. "Love Will Prevail," another added. "I'm Embarrassed to be a Californian," a third read.

Opponents of the same-sex marriage ban have filed a challenge to the new constitutional amendment with the California Supreme Court, arguing that the rights guaranteed by the court in a May decision overturning a 2000 same-sex marriage ban can't be overturned by a simple ballot measure.

Republican Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, an opponent of Prop. 8, expressed support for the court challenge on CNN's "Late Edition" Sunday, calling the measure's passage "unfortunate."

"But it is not the end because I think this will go back into the courts," the governor said. "It's the same as in the 1948 (California) case when blacks and whites were not allowed to marry. This falls into the same category."

Supporters of Prop. 8 argue that the legal challenge is little more than a desperate attempt to overturn the will of California voters.

It's more than that, said Dennis Mangers, a former Orange County legislator who will take over next month as chief of staff to state Sen. Darrell Steinberg, D-Sacramento.

"It's very clear we're not going to take no for an answer," said Mangers, who married his longtime partner this year. "If necessary, we'll go back to the ballot ... and give the voters of California another chance."

In Oakland, the loud and peaceful protest outside the Mormon Temple included dozens of gay and lesbian couples whose marriages are in limbo. They said they wanted to openly display their anguish to people who pushed to ban same-sex marriage.

Inside the gates of the huge temple, church officials asked protesters to accept the will of the voters. But the anger over Prop. 8 only seems to be growing.

"I don't think people thought it was going to pass," said Carrie Blanche, 52, an Alameda schoolteacher who got married Oct. 29.

Blanche and others said they were focusing anger on the church because of its endorsement of Prop. 8 and the subsequent rush of campaign donations by members.

Some of those who gathered advocated for a boycott of travel to Utah, the home of the Mormon church, and of Mormon-owned businesses.

### **Mormons feel singled out**

Tim DeBenedictis, a protest organizer from San Francisco, said the actions were warranted, even though he noted that some Mormons support same-sex marriage and not all Utah residents are

church members. "To affect large social change, you have to make difficult decisions," he said.

A spokesman for the church, which moved some of its services to other locations Sunday because of the protest, said Mormons have been unfairly singled out.

"We don't normally get involved in anything political," said Don Eaton, who directs public affairs for the church in most of the Bay Area. "However, on certain things that are considered moral issues, we do get involved."

Eaton said calls for boycotts amounted to discrimination and doubted such a strategy would be tolerated if it was aimed at another major religion. "We're an easy target," he said.

The Associated Press contributed to this report. E-mail the writers at [jwildermuth@sfehronicle.com](mailto:jwildermuth@sfehronicle.com) and [dbulwa@sfehronicle.com](mailto:dbulwa@sfehronicle.com).

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# **Exhibit AY**

Sunday, September 7, 2008

# Local donors give \$1.6 million for ban on gay marriage

## Local Proposition 8 supporters contribute 30 times more than opponents.

By ERIN CARLYLE

THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

Orange County, where Republicans dominate politics and tens of thousands pour into evangelical megachurches each weekend, has become a funding powerhouse in the effort to ban gay marriage in California.

Orange County donors have contributed \$1.6 million for Proposition 8, a November ballot initiative that would amend the state constitution to define marriage as between a man and a woman, eliminating the right of same-sex couples to marry.

Donations from here to support Prop. 8 constitute 24 percent of the \$6.8 million raised statewide, according to campaign finance records filed with the California Secretary of State through Aug. 28. Orange County's portion accounts for 15 percent of the \$10.9 million that

had been raised nationwide in support of Prop. 8.

Orange County is home not only to numerous individual Prop. 8 supporters, but also to the state's most generous donor and a major Prop. 8 fundraising committee. The National Organization for Marriage-California, a political committee that has collected \$2.8 million of the \$10.9 million total to fuel the fight, is headquartered in Santa Ana. The biggest donation in California comes from a local billionaire's Irvine-based foundation.

Local donations against Prop. 8 total \$50,000, making up 1 percent of the \$4.7 million state total and an almost negligible portion of the \$9.6 million raised nationally.

### WHO'S GIVING?

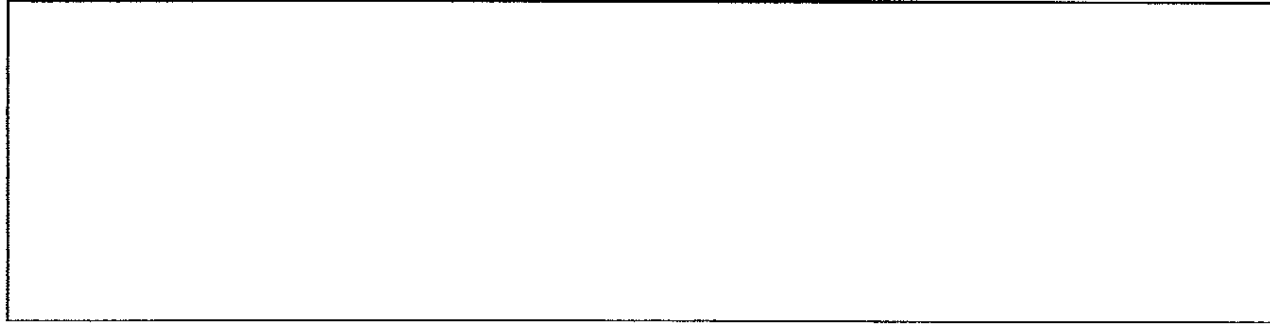
The strongest opposition to gay marriage comes from people 55 or older, said Catherine Bolzendahl, a UC Irvine sociologist who studies public opinion on same-sex relationships. People 35 to 55 have a mix of opinions, while people 18 to 35 tend to support gay marriage, Bolzendahl said. Women are more supportive than men of gay marriage.

People in favor of Prop. 8 tend to be older, more politically conservative and religiously devout, according to political analysts.

"Republicans and conservatives tend to support it more," said Sherry Bebitch Jeffe, a political analyst at USC, about the initiative. "Hispanics are a potential group of supporters. Democrats tend not to. Moderates and liberals tend not to. Independents are more receptive to the idea of single-sex marriage."

Mark Hobbins of Trabuco Canyon supports the measure. He donated \$25,000 toward the gay-

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marriage ban.

"If the traditional definition of marriage is not upheld, it has what I believe to be extremely negative consequences in our society, and for families and children," said Hobbins, a Mormon and founder of [www.familyiq.com](http://www.familyiq.com), a Web site that offers e-learning courses designed to strengthen families.

Laguna Beach resident Sandra Hartness, owner of Asset Services Inc., sees things differently. She donated \$2,500 to defeat Prop. 8.

"I think this issue rises beyond a gay-straight issue," said Hartness, who is gay and serves on the board of the Human Rights Campaign, which has raised about \$325,000 against Prop. 8. "I decided to donate primarily because I don't believe in discrimination of any sort. Equal rights are the basis of our country, and so why they wouldn't be extended to all citizens is an anathema to me."

Larry Shultz of Placentia gave \$80 to support the ban. He doesn't see same-sex marriage as an issue of equal rights but one of religious morality.

"I don't donate to a lot of campaigns but I thought this issue was very important, so I did," said Shultz, 68. "I believe in the Bible and I think that the Bible clearly states that marriage should be between a man and a woman, and homosexuality is wrong."

Major Prop. 8 supporters in Orange County include Irvine-based Fieldstead & Co., the personal foundation of Home Savings heir Howard Fieldstead Ahmanson and his wife, Roberta Green Ahmanson, which gave \$500,000.

Donald G. Laws and Steve Samuelian donated

\$100,000 each. Laws is a Laguna Beach resident and health care executive who has contributed to Republican presidential candidates. Samuelian works for Generations Healthcare, according to his political donation record, and has been a bishop of the Laguna Beach ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Former state senator Robert Hurtt Jr. donated \$25,000 in his name, and \$25,000 was donated through his company, Container Supply Co.

#### PUBLIC OPINION

Though nationwide fundraising for and against the measure is fairly evenly matched, attitudes toward gay marriage appear to be shifting somewhat in California.

Eight years ago, 61 percent of California voters approved a same-sex marriage ban.

In 2004, 11 other states passed anti-gay marriage initiatives.

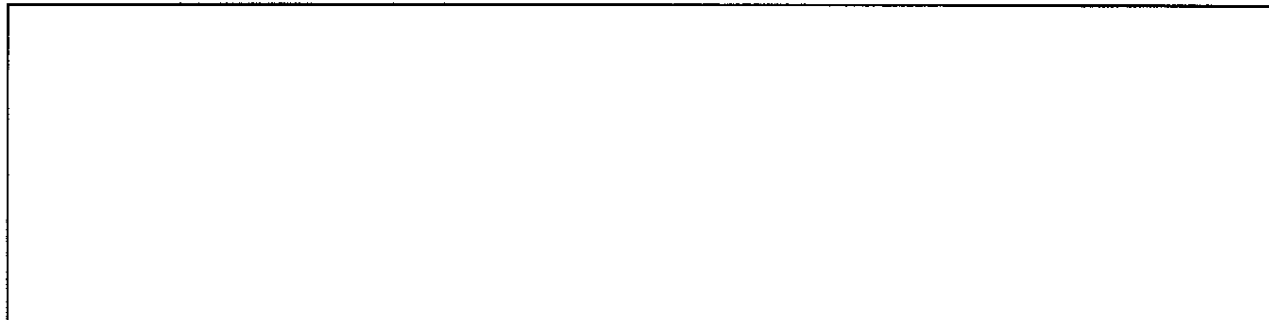
Then in May, the California Supreme Court ruled that denying same-sex couples the right to marry is unconstitutional. A recent Public Policy Institute of California survey found that 47 percent of likely California voters are against letting gay couples marry, while 47 percent are in favor.

"Clearly attitudes have shifted since that (2000) election," said Mark Baldassare, PPIC president and chief executive.

To pass Prop. 8, same-sex marriage opponents must persuade a narrow margin of undecided voters in California – 6 percent – to support their cause.

They'll also have to persuade their philosophical

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allies to support the measure.

Though 47 percent of likely voters oppose gay marriage, only 40 percent say they favor the ballot proposition.

The gap between philosophical support and likely voters may be related to the initiative's language. Set by state Attorney General Jerry Brown, Prop. 8 is called the "Eliminates Right of Same-Sex Couples to Marry Initiative Constitutional Amendment."

"Now we have a ballot measure that seeks to eliminate a right that already exists," Baldassare noted.

Shifting demographics also might be behind changing attitudes.

"People who are more supportive, or at least less opposed, are increasing in the U.S.," Bolzendahl said. "As older cohorts die out ... there's not going to be the same kind of strong opposition in the general population."

Still, the issue clearly resonates with small donors in Orange County and across the country. Nearly half of the donations – 45 percent – are from people who gave \$500 or less.

Staff writer Ronald Campbell contributed to this report

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# **Exhibit AZ**

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## Gay-rights activists protest Prop. 8 at Capitol

John Wildermuth, Chronicle Staff Writer

Sunday, November 23, 2008



More...



**(11-23) 04:00 PST Sacramento - --**

Opponents of Proposition 8 might have to go back to the ballot to reverse the ban on same-sex marriage, speakers told a crowd of about 5,000 at a loud and enthusiastic gay-rights rally in front of the state Capitol on Saturday.

Although the state Supreme Court has agreed to hear a challenge to Prop. 8 early next year, preparations already are being made to fight the battle for marriage rights all over again if the court doesn't overturn the constitutional amendment passed by voters in November, said Geoff Kors, executive director of Equality California.

"We can't just sit around until June and see what (the justices) do," he said. "We will take this back to the ballot if we have to and get our rights back."

More than 100,000 people already have pledged to carry petitions for a new ballot measure, which could come as early as the 2010 election, said Kors, whose group was one of the leaders of the "No on Prop. 8" effort.

"So we lost," said Robin Tyler, one of the plaintiffs in a case the state Supreme Court used in May to overturn Proposition 22, a statutory marriage ban approved in 2000. "It's only a battle and this is a war. And we'll win the war."

Any new campaign would be very different from the unsuccessful push to stop Prop. 8, the speakers agreed. There will have to be an improved effort to go out and make the case for marriage equality to the religious groups that provided much of the support for the measure.

"There's no road to success that doesn't go through religion-based homophobia," said the Rev. Lindi Ramsden of the Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry. "This is a community that's very good at talking to ourselves. Now we need to talk to others."

The results of the Nov. 4 election shocked many in the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community, who never believed Californians would vote 52 percent to 48 percent to eliminate the right to same-sex marriage. Since the election, rallies and marches against Prop. 8 have brought



hundreds of thousands of people out into the streets across the nation.

Even though the election is over, the protests send an important message to Californians, said Mike Bennett of Sacramento, who was at the rally with his partner and their two children.

"We got complacent, and a lot of us wish we'd done more of this before people went out and voted," he said. "But it just seems completely obvious that our household doesn't affect anyone else's household."

It is important to show California how many people care deeply about the same-sex marriage issue, Kors said.

"To go invisible after having our rights were taken away would have been giving up," he added.

Protesters filled much of the lawn beyond the Capitol steps, carrying homemade signs with messages like "What's so scary about our love?" and "Give tolerance a chance." Vendors walked through the crowd, selling gay-rights buttons and rainbow flags.

The crowd was much smaller than the 15,000 to 30,000 organizers originally had advertised or even the scaled-back 10,000 they hoped for this week. But while the rally was talked up in the days after the election, the actual organizing was done on the fly.

"There was a lot of buzz about this, but no real information," said Keegan Killian of California Outreach, one of the organizers. "Our first planning meeting was little more than a week ago."

The event featured some big-name speakers, such as civil rights attorney Gloria Allred, comedian Margaret Cho and state Sen. Darrell Steinberg, D-Sacramento, who will take over as leader of the state Senate next month.

While the crowd was peaceful and relaxed, there were plenty of hot words from the speakers, many of them aimed at the people and organizations who backed Prop. 8.

Tyler, a longtime activist for lesbian rights, argued that same-sex marriage opponents have no right to complain about any physical and verbal attacks they've encountered since election day.

"Get over it," she said. "It's easier to wash a paint stain off a church than to take off the stain they left on the California Constitution."

Cho, whose comedy routines are anything but G-rated, provided a song she wrote slamming Mormons for their support of the measure, ending with a chorus suggesting that voters not let the Mormons get away with what they did.

As has been the case at almost all the postelection rallies, supporters of Prop. 8 were invisible Saturday, declining to respond to the attacks or stage counterprotests.

"Getting involved in protests would undermine our point that the election is over and we won,"

said Andrew Pugno, an attorney for the Prop. 8 effort. "It seems pretty basic to me."

But for the opponents of Prop. 8, the election might be over but the battle continues.

"Anything worth fighting for oftentimes is a struggle," Steinberg said. "But the arc of history moves forward, it doesn't move backward. Prop. 8 is only a temporary setback."

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<http://sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2008/11/23/BAAR14ACGC.DTL>

This article appeared on page **B - 1** of the San Francisco Chronicle

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# **Exhibit BA**



Los Angeles Times

[http://www.latimes.com/entertainment/news/la-et-shunned23-2008nov23\\_0,3482815\\_story](http://www.latimes.com/entertainment/news/la-et-shunned23-2008nov23_0,3482815_story)

From the Los Angeles Times

## Liberal Hollywood ponders next step in fight for same-sex marriage

After the passage of Proposition 8, some are calling for boycotts and firings. Others worry about free speech rights being trampled.  
By Rachel Abramowitz and Tina Daunt

November 23, 2008

Should there be boycotts, blacklists, firings or de facto shunning of those who supported Proposition 8?

That's the issue consuming many in liberal Hollywood who fought to defeat the initiative banning same-sex marriage and are now reeling with recrimination and dismay. Meanwhile, activists continue to comb donor lists and employ the internet to expose those who donated money to support the ban.

Already out is Scott Eckern, director of the nonprofit California Musical Theatre in Sacramento, who resigned after a flurry of complaints from prominent theater artists, including "Hairspray" composer Marc Shaiman, when word of his contribution to the Yes on 8 campaign surfaced.

Other targets include Film Independent, the nonprofit arts organization that puts on both the Los Angeles Film Festival and the Spirit Awards; the Cinemark theater chain; and the Sundance Film Festival.

In Film Independent's case, the board has defended the continued employment of Richard Raddon, the Mormon director of the L.A. Film Festival who donated \$1,500 to support Proposition 8. Cinemark is under siege because Chief Executive Alan Stock gave \$9,999 to support the same-sex marriage ban. And in a sign of a powerful ripple effect, Sundance, perhaps the American institution that has done the most to support gay filmmakers and gay cinema, is being targeted because it screens films in a Cinemark theater.

For many in Hollywood, the Proposition 8 backlash represents a troubling clash of free speech, religious beliefs and the right to fight intolerance. Many supporters of same-sex marriage view the state constitutional amendment as codified bigotry, a rollback of civil liberties for gays and lesbians.

Raddon has been a particularly polarizing figure because Film Independent's board includes many independent film stalwarts, including Don Cheadle, Forest Whitaker, Fox Searchlight President Peter Rice and Oscar-winning writer Bill Condon. One of the group's explicit missions is to promote diversity.

Last week, Raddon offered to resign. According to one board member, a conference call was hastily arranged, and after much discussion the board voted unanimously to keep him.

Yet the anger continues to stew.

"There is still roiling debate within the organization," says distributor Howard Cohen, an advisor to the film festival who is gay. "Is it OK to let this go? There are a lot of gay people who work at Film Independent. The issue has not been closed."

No one is certain how the current protest will affect Film Independent's Spirit Awards in the spring, a popular event recognizing work that "challenges the status quo." And there are already indications the Los Angeles Film Festival could be affected.

Gregg Araki, director of the critically acclaimed gay cult hit "Mysterious Skin" and an influential figure in "new queer cinema," has said he won't allow his films to be shown there, while others, such as "Milk" producers and gay activists Dan Jinks and Bruce Cohen, say they're going to "study in depth all the facets of our specific situation before making a decision."

Araki says Raddon should step down. "I don't think he should be forcibly removed. The bottom line is if he contributed money to a hateful campaign against black people, or against Jewish people, or any other minority group, there would be much less excusing of him. The terrible irony is that he runs a film festival that is intended to promote tolerance and equality."

Others are leery of punishing free speech, even if they consider it hateful. "I can't quite stomach the notion that you fire somebody because of what they believe. It doesn't feel right to me," says Christine Vachon, a pillar of gay cinema who produced such films as "Boys Don't Cry" and "Far From Heaven."

Raddon declined to comment, but Dawn Hudson, executive director of Film Independent, says, "Are we happy with his donation? No. But he has a right to his religious and personal beliefs."

"The very cornerstone of our organization is diversity, and diversity includes sexual orientation. Rich's actions have always been in accordance with those principles," she said.

Condon, the gay writer-director of "Dreamgirls" and a Film Independent board member, offered this retort to what he calls the "off-with-his-head" crowd: "If you're asking, 'Do we take discrimination against gays as seriously as bigotry against African Americans and Jews?' ... the answer is, 'Of course we do.' But we also believe that some people, including Rich, saw Prop. 8 not as a civil rights issue but a religious one. That is their right. And it is not, in and of itself, proof of bigotry."

Fury is certainly percolating in the gay community, fomented largely through the Web. Younger advocates, not necessarily from Hollywood, have been using Facebook and YouTube to get the word out.

What began as a kind of cyber-venting is mushrooming into a new kind of viral protest movement, including the latest protest of Proposition 8 in Hollywood on Saturday, which was largely publicized via Facebook.

And there remains a distinct contingent of same-sex marriage supporters who are adamant about retribution. One is Chad Griffin, a political advisor to Hollywood executives who says, "A dollar to the yes campaign is a dollar in support of bigotry, homophobia and discrimination. There are going to be consequences. Any individual who has held homophobic views and who has gone public by writing a check, you can expect to be publicly judged. Many can expect to pay a price for a long time to come."

Still, film companies are typically wary of involving themselves in causes, particularly those that advocate boycotts, because they know how vulnerable their products are to similar initiatives by well-organized groups on the religious right. For eight years, the Southern Baptist Convention boycotted the Walt Disney Co. for extending employee benefits to same-sex partners and urged its members not to patronize the theme parks and Disney products. Films with religious subjects — most notably "The Last Temptation of Christ" — have also sparked protests.

Bruce Cohen, one of the producers of "Milk" — which lands in theaters next week and traces the life and death of California's first openly gay elected official (San Francisco Supervisor Harvey Milk) — and a leader of the No on 8 campaign in Hollywood, suggests that everyone should proceed with caution.

"You need to draw a very specific distinction between the cases where it's the actual owner of the company who put money into a cause. If it's an employee, it's a different discussion. That becomes a freedom of speech issue," he says. "People should personally always have the right to express their own opinions even if that means getting out their checkbook."

And in fact, Focus Features, which is distributing "Milk," still intends to play the film in Cinemark theaters despite calls for a boycott.

In particular, the notion of boycotting Sundance, which seems to have originated with the liberal Americablog, has picked up little traction thus far within the Hollywood community.

"I don't feel the Sundance Film Festival deserves our ire or our censor," says Howard Cohen. "It's an incredible force for good. I know where they are on the issues, and there's no evidence they supported Yes on 8."

"If there is one festival that has supported queer cinema from the start, it's Sundance," says Marcus Hu, president of Strand Releasing, which has released many gay-themed films. "Sundance has been, first and foremost, people who have been discovering and fostering young gay talent."

In part, Hollywood's distress is a reflection of its guilty conscience about Proposition 8's passage. Many feel that they were asleep at the wheel, preoccupied with Barack Obama's candidacy and winning larger congressional majorities for the Democrats. "Many straight people really don't understand it's a civil rights issue," says Vachon. "We didn't do our job well enough. We need to do it better."

"What the passage of Prop. 8 did is stir the soul of the people in the gay community," says publicist-activist Howard Bragman. "It took what had been a top-down movement and made it a grass-roots movement."

Abramowitz and Daunt are Times staff writers.

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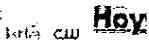
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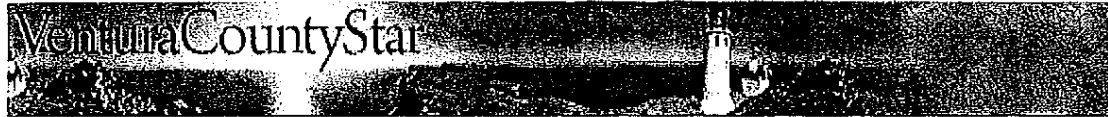
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# **Exhibit BB**



## Prop. 8 foes aim their ire at Lassen's stores

### Owner backed ballot measure

By Kevin Clerici  
Wednesday, November 19, 2008

As a vegetarian, Jessica Pollack frequently turned to Lassen's Natural Foods & Vitamins in Ventura for its organic and dairy-free products.

"It's been a saving grace," she said.

So the 26-year-old lesbian, who got married in August, said she was shocked and angry to learn the store's owner contributed \$27,500 to the campaign for Proposition 8, a state constitutional ban on same-sex marriage approved by voters this month.

"I haven't been back since," said Pollack, who has urged her friends to shop elsewhere. "I couldn't understand why they would be supporting this. It's incredibly disappointing and hurtful."

Although Ventura County's largest gay and lesbian organization has not organized a protest against the store, some activists have independently targeted it. Handmade signs calling for people to boycott Lassen's were on display at a rally of some 600 people Saturday in downtown Ventura, and a small group protested Sunday outside the Lassen's store in Thousand Oaks.

Gay activists say the backlash against Lassen's and other businesses that financially supported Proposition 8 is likely to intensify, fueled by text messages, e-mails and calls for action on Web sites such as Facebook and MySpace.

"There is definitely a movement to educate people," said J.J. Wilner of Ventura, who criticized the owner of the Lassen's store in Ventura for promoting a position that he said conflicts with the egalitarian beliefs of many customers.

"People have always seen Lassen's as progressive and forward-thinking," said Wilner, co-founder of Community Organized for Liberty, Opportunity and Respect, or COLOR, a gay-straight alliance. "I know a lot of customers — gay and straight — who felt blindsided."

State campaign finance records show the Ventura store contributed separate checks of \$25,000 and \$2,500 to Proposition 8. The Lassen's in Camarillo also contributed \$3,000 to the proposition, and the store in Simi Valley \$1,000. Election law allows business owners to contribute as much as they want to ballot initiatives.

### Other businesses targeted

In July, gay rights advocates called for a boycott of two San Diego hotels because owner Doug

Manchester contributed \$125,000 to Proposition 8. And since the Nov. 4 election, California has seen an outpouring of demonstrations against passage of Proposition 8.

Sign-waving protesters have massed outside churches and temples, as well as a Los Angeles Mexican restaurant where employees contributed to the proposition. Gay activists have begun publishing lists online of individuals and organizations that donated money to Proposition 8.

Dentists, accountants and veterinarians who gave a few thousand dollars are listed alongside major donors like the Container Supply Co. of Garden Grove, which gave \$250,000. The artistic director at the California Musical Theater, the state's largest nonprofit musical theater company, quit last week amid protests over his \$1,000 donation to the Yes on 8 campaign.

National organizers are planning a Dec. 10 "Day Without a Gay" that encourages supporters to volunteer instead of going to work, and a Jan. 10 coast-to-coast protest.

"A lot of these events are going to be popping up, and many are from individual and grass-roots efforts being born from text-message blasts and the Internet," said Jay Smith, director of the nonprofit Ventura County Rainbow Alliance, a support center for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered and HIV/AIDS-affected individuals.

Smith said he has discouraged people from protesting in front of Lassen's, but some are angry.

"There are a lot of people in our community who have been continuous supporters of Lassen's who were shocked to see that much money going to defeat our civil rights," he said.

### **Word spreads via e-mail**

Kasie Vinson, a longtime patron of Lassen's, sent an e-mail to nearly 200 local Democratic volunteers detailing the store's campaign contributions. Vinson, who is straight, was stunned to learn the contributions were collectively the largest in Ventura County for Proposition 8, according to campaign finance forms.

"I personally do not feel comfortable knowing that I contributed even a penny's worth to writing discrimination into the constitution," she said in the e-mail.

Owner Peter Lassen, who has held a business license for the store since 1986, did not respond to repeated calls seeking comment.

Store manager Scott Parbell said the campaign donations were private contributions and were not tied to store operations, even though the donations were listed under the store's name on the state finance forms.

"We have an extremely diverse staff that do not necessarily share the same views," Parbell said. "We're all about providing good customer service, natural foods and vitamins, and what the owner chooses to do with his money is his choice, and we don't have any say over it."

### **Family defends contributions**

Lassen is a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, which opposes same-sex marriage, and it was well within his rights as owner to put his money behind his beliefs, said his niece



Else Endecott. The store in Simi Valley is the only one of eight with the Lassen name that is not owned by a Lassen family member, said Endecott, who personally contributed \$250 to Proposition 8.

"We have a lot a gay and lesbian customers. We have nothing against them," said Endecott, who manages the Lassen's store in Camarillo, which is owned by her father, John Lassen. "To us, it (same-sex marriage) is a moral issue, not a civil issue."

Business at the Camarillo store has not been affected, she said, although she acknowledged her uncle has received some backlash, which she felt was unfair. She wasn't surprised he has avoided interviews, because the media have unfairly targeted Mormons for their beliefs and advocacy, she said.

"Sadly, people feel like they have to blame somebody," she said. "It's not just Mormons who voted for this. It was passed by a majority of Californians.

"We love our gay and lesbian customers," she said. "If they don't want to shop at our store, then that's their choice. I can respect that, but they should respect my family's beliefs, too. It's pretty sad how mean people can be."

Sonja Eddings Brown of ProtectMarriage.com, a Web site created to support Proposition 8, said boycott threats against business donors have been widespread, and some have reported losses.

### **Approach could backfire**

Beverly Kelley, an author and communications professor at California Lutheran University in Thousand Oaks, said protesting won't likely change Lassen's mind. In fact, it could have the opposite effect, she said.

"The protesters against this need to learn there could be a backlash against them," Kelley said. "Was this \$27,500 contribution what turned the tide? No. It was all the new voters, the minority voters, the African-American voters who came out in record numbers and put Obama over the top and put this initiative over the top."

Same-sex marriage backers, she said, should focus on figuring out why people voted as they did. "You have to respect the other side if you want to convince them," she said.

In the parking lot outside the Ventura store recently, longtime customer Christine Burke said she voted against Proposition 8 and was disappointed to learn of Lassen's support, but it wouldn't change her shopping habits. "I believe he has the right to believe in what he believes in," she said. "It's a complex issue."

Shopper Chris Hoover, a Ventura contractor, agreed. "I don't support his point of view," he said, "but I think he has a right to it."



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# **Exhibit BC**



## Your letters: November 28, 2008

Friday, November 28, 2008

### Something fishy with gas price

Something is not being said in the latest astonishing round of gas-price reductions. It is hard for me to believe that almost a 50 percent reduction in gas prices has been caused by a 4.4 percent reduction of miles driven in September; even if this happened in each of the following months. It seems to me there's something not being said about the record billions of profit the U.S. oil industry has made.

What is it the American public must do to protect our national security from the likes of these oil profiteers who could give a damn about the long-term effects of their greed or the future interests of our country? We need to secure our shores and make our land safe from the whims of those who jack up prices whenever the sheep need to be sheared. My call is to once and for all take these corporations into our hands before they take us into theirs for the last big dive into financial destruction while providing for themselves a golden parachute. We cannot allow something volatile and manipulated like the subprime-loan scandal to repeat itself in the oil industry.

My advice: Fleece them before they fleece us. The business community has thoroughly proved it cannot be trusted and will not act in the best interests of our nation. Never has it been clearer to me what the cause of the war in Iraq was and is. Never has it been clearer that we as a country must control the industry that has such a strategic effect on our lives, our economy and our national interests. Never again can we allow the greed and power lust of a wealthy few make so vulnerable our lives, our futures, and our freedom.

— Barclay Totten, Oxnard

### Prison won't be a hospital

If you missed the so-called prison-hospital meeting at the Camarillo Community Center on Nov. 13, it's not a hospital. It's a healthcare facility.

Hospitals have a medical staff to assure quality medical care and peer review. Hospitals have adequate nurse-patient ratios for acute care. The proposed prison facility is more like a nursing home. Only a fraction of the 1,500 beds will have any healthcare license.

That license — correctional treatment center — is a special invention of the prison system and requires local contracts for transfer to acute hospitals.

Currently, there are three prison hospitals with fewer than 400 acute beds between them. Last year, the administration at the largest hospital, Vacaville (300 beds), announced plans to downgrade its license to correctional treatment center — a move quickly opposed by the California Medical Association and the California Psychiatric Association.

Nov. 13, panelists from the office of receiver J. Clark Kelso estimated that only 1 percent of facility inmates would require transfer to local acute hospitals in any given month. This seems a low number and suggests either the facility intends to manage acute care beyond its license and medical capacity or, in the alternative, we in the local community may see larger numbers of transfers. Even more troubling is the assertion that no psychiatric transfers are anticipated, despite plans to house 750 mentally ill inmates at the facility.

Given there are thousands of mentally ill people in the prison system and fewer than 400 acute prison hospital beds, we must conclude most acutely ill inmates will be managed in substandard, subacute facilities or we will need local contracting for acute psychiatric care.

The Ventura County Medical Association is opposed to the prison healthcare facility pending clarification and/or correction of these issues.

— Ronald C. Thurston, M.D., Somis

*(The writer is president of the Ventura County Medical Association located in Camarillo. — Editor)*

### **Big Three demise would hurt**

Re: Joe R. Howry's Nov. 23 essay "Riding out the storm":

Many top economists estimate 3 million jobs would be lost in the first year if the Big Three automakers go under. Their demise would cause major impacts on the economy in terms of lost wages, reductions in Social Security receipts and personal income taxes paid.

I agree the leaders of GM, Chrysler and Ford are responsible for their current crises due to arrogance and greed. They virtually ignored demands for fuel-efficiency and rewarded executive staff with extravagant salaries, bonuses and perks, despite falling profits.

I am reassured President-elect Barack Obama and the Democratic Congress clearly see the myriad problems they are inheriting and are pressing forward to select the most qualified Cabinet secretaries and committee chairs who can make the right decisions to get us out of this mess.

Does Howry believe the only thing that will bring this country to its knees is a lack of confidence? That the 1.2 million people who have lost their jobs this year just need to be confident and everything will magically turn around? It's apparent he thinks it's easy for people to be confident, even though they don't know where their next paycheck will come from or how they will pay rent or mortgage or buy groceries, let alone Christmas presents for their children.

Professor Paul Krugman, 2008 Nobel laureate, offered this regarding the automakers' bailout, "If this was 1999, and we had 4 percent unemployment, I'd say let it fail, let the bankruptcy do its work, but this is not a good time to be having a really major industry turn belly-up."

— Joy Putinta, Camarillo

### **Logical-sounding illogic**

Re: Richard Larsen's Nov. 25 essay, "The republic must stand":

How can one person have such faulty logic but be able to make it sound so logical? Sounding logical and actually being that way are two different things.

One of his faulty analogies is to put in another name where "gay" is currently inserted. He says that to insert black or Jewish or Catholic would prove how wrong and prejudiced we are toward the gays. He omits putting in dogs or children as no one would insert them there either.

Larsen says we violate the rights of others with the passage of Proposition 8. In doing so, he intimates we have done so against a faction of our community that should have those rights. Perhaps there is a legitimate question there. I must leave that long discussion for another day.

One other fault of Larsen is that he makes the assumption that one person's religious faith is not true. If it were true, no one would reasonably argue with it. Larsen makes the error when he says a personal conviction should not be imposed on others. Yet, when a law is true, I think that even he would not argue with it even if he wished to violate it himself.

I contend there is enough evidence for the God of the Christian Bible and sufficient evidence to take that God out of the realm of personal belief. Let us look at the facts that prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Jesus is, in fact, the one and only God.

I will be glad to show this evidence to any who wishes it. I promise you, Larsen and others would not be so cavalier in their denouncement of such understanding once they saw the evidence.

— Frank Bland, Simi Valley

### **Jogger's death a waste**

Re: your Nov. 19 article, "Driver pleads guilty in death of jogger":

Imagine you in the prime of your life. You are alive — a vibrant productive person, loved by all and a well-respected member of the community. You awoke one bright, sunny morning to go out and take that jog. You wave at your neighbors who see you as a person whose lust for life bounds with every step you take. They smile at you, and they are happy for you that you can enjoy something like a jog.

Then you are struck and killed. Your neighbors are shocked, your family is grief-stricken. You are taken away by a 23-year-old who, at 6:30 in the morning, was driving his motor vehicle intoxicated. His life was so miserable that he had to be drinking at 6 in the morning.

Now you are dead, and the person who struck and killed you is in court, and his attorney tells the judge that his client has no "meaningful" record and that he should not be sentenced to 10 years in prison.

No "meaningful" record.

When I read about the tragic death of Karey Marsh, I was saddened and immediately said to myself, "What a waste." I did not know the woman, but I have seen the type. There are so many Karey Marshes running and enjoying life, and they should be protected. We hurry to forgive the people who cause these unspeakable acts of stupidity and forget about the two women who earlier this year were cut down in the same fashion. They lived, but they will never run again.

Karey Marsh needs justice. Her family needs justice. Her friends need justice. The word atonement is

appropriate in this situation.

There is no doubt that Nicholas Robert Lagrotta feels remorse. Ten years of remorse should be sufficient.

But Karey Marsh will not be running anymore. And that is sad.

— **Chris Biller**, Moorpark

### **Customers boost for Lassen's**

Re: your Nov. 19 article, "Prop. 8 foes aim their ire at Lassen's stores":

What a shame angry people believe another person's protected and private vote in a public election should fuel an attack on a person's business, employees and customers. Last I checked, we have private elections for a reason, so that people can vote their conscience without the fear of intimidation or threat. Apparently, not so in this last election. Thanks to our state's election finance laws, those who make legal, larger gifts to support their opinions, beliefs, candidates and issues open themselves up to attacks by radical-minded people.

That a local merchant's business and employee's job security is threatened by a boycott for the owner's personal exercise of democratic rights is not just a shame, it demands public condemnation. Our freedoms require all of disagreements, even over highly controversial issues, be tolerated, debated and ultimately solved through our votes. In this case, Proposition 22 was carried with 4 million supporters eight years ago and now Proposition 8 was carried with 6.7 million supporters.

This silly but hurtful boycott and others like it are very likely to backfire on its foolish sponsors. Our family and hundreds of others like ours will go out of our way to buy groceries and fresh meals from Lassen's because we love its products and services, and don't want to see those values lost to the actions of bullies. We will make it a point to get our neighbors and friends to do the same.

There are of thousands of freedom-loving people who will be motivated to shop at Lassen's or shop more at Lassen's just to support them, while a handful of existing angry customers might leave in protest. Hopefully, this will be a huge boost to this important local merchant.

— **Denny Weinberg**, Camarillo



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# **Exhibit BD**

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## Gay rights groups to boycott Manchester Grand Hyatt

### Owner donated to Proposition 8

By **Bill Ainsworth**  
U-T SACRAMENTO BUREAU

July 10, 2008

Gay rights supporters and their union allies plan to launch a boycott of the Manchester Grand Hyatt because its owner, Doug Manchester, contributed \$125,000 to Proposition 8, an amendment to ban same-sex marriage on the November ballot.

Organizers of the campaign, which is expected to be announced at a news conference today, say they believe it is the first time that gay rights supporters have boycotted a business whose owner seeks to ban same-sex marriage.

Leaders will urge the public to avoid the downtown hotel because they say that support for Proposition 8 amounts to unfair treatment of gays and lesbians.

"Manchester's contribution to this anti-marriage initiative is discrimination plain and simple," said Brigette Browning, president of Unite Here Local 30, which represents 4,500 hotel and restaurant workers.

The Manchester Grand Hyatt is not unionized.

Manchester and campaign officials from Proposition 8 did not return phone calls seeking comment.

In an interview earlier this year, Manchester said that he decided to donate to Proposition 8 because he had heard that schools that teach that marriage is between a man and a woman could be sued for discriminating against gays.

In addition, he said, he was motivated by his strong Catholic faith to believe that marriage is between a man and a woman.

But, he said, that he welcomes gays and lesbians to his hotels and restaurants.

Gay rights leaders say they are not targeting the Hyatt Corp. – which operates the Manchester Grand Hyatt – because the company has a good record in hiring and supporting gays and lesbians. But they are singling out the Manchester property.

In May, California became the second state in the nation to allow same-sex marriage after the state Supreme Court ruled that laws banning it violate the right to marry in the state constitution. A court ruling in Massachusetts legalized same-sex marriage in that state four years ago.

In November, voters will get a chance to overturn the California ruling, if they vote for a constitutional ban under Proposition 8.



Manchester is one of several San Diegans whose large contributions helped put the initiative on the ballot. Others include Mission Valley developer Terry Caster, who gave \$162,500, and Robert Hoehn, owner of Hoehn Motors in Carlsbad, who has given \$25,000.

Fred Karger, who is helping to organize the boycott and is running an organization opposed to Proposition 8, said he is also urging the public to boycott Manchester's other hotel, the Grand Del Mar.

"This is someone who is giving an exorbitant amount of money to write discrimination into the constitution for the very first time," he said.

Karger said he hopes the boycott will send a message to other potential contributors to the Proposition 8 campaign.

"Our goal is to create a business loss for people who contribute," he said. "We want to make it a little uncomfortable."

The results of the boycott could be watched closely.

In the battle over Proposition 8, both sides will be trying to raise huge amounts of money, nearly \$15 million each, to make their case to voters. In 2000, 61 percent of California voters approved Proposition 22, enacting a statutory ban on same-sex marriages. But in late May of this year after the court ruling, the nonpartisan Field Poll found a majority of California voters opposed a constitutional ban and by a slimmer majority for the first time supported same-sex marriage.

Backers of Proposition 8 have predicted that any boycott efforts would fail.

"Support for traditional marriage is a mainstream view," said Andrew Pugno, an attorney for protectmarriage.com, which supports Proposition 8. "I can't imagine that efforts to boycott businesses with mainstream views are going to be successful."

In April, once Manchester's contribution became widely known, two gay rights organizations, the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation and PlanetOut Inc., moved events they had scheduled at the Manchester Grand Hyatt.

**Find this article at:**

<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/metro/20080710-9999-1m10boycott.html>

Check the box to include the list of links referenced in the article.

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**San Diego | LGBTI / Queer**

**Rally Against Prop H8: Manchester Grand Hyatt**

by Tony Cochran ( [tcochran \[at\] unitehere.org](mailto:tcochran@unitehere.org) )  
*Tuesday Nov 18th, 2008 5:02 PM*

**Rally Agalst Hate!**

Doug Manchester is one of the leading funders (\$125,000) of Proposition 8, a California ballot initiative that discriminates against LGBT couples. While Hyatt may officially disavow Manchester's contributions to Proposition 8 as a personal choice, the fact remains that their multi-million dollar LGBT marketing efforts must be seen as little more than sheer hypocrisy when the revenue this marketing attracts is then funneled into efforts that bite the hand which feeds them. In such a situation, we always have the ability to choose not to feed them any longer.

**RALLY @ MANCHESTER HYATT**  
**NOVEMBER 22TH -5:00 P.M.**  
**1 Market Place, San Diego, CA 92101**

On July 10th, 2008, a coalition led by the San Diego labor movement and the LGBT community called for a boycott of the Manchester Grand Hyatt, the host site for AERA's 2009 Conference. Manchester's Hyatt has brought the LGBT community UNITE HERE together to fight for equality for gay and lesbian couples and justice for the workers at his Hyatt hotel. Doug Manchester has a history working against both:

- Equality for lesbian and gay couples. Doug Manchester is one of the leading funders (\$125,000) of Proposition 8, a California ballot initiative that discriminates against LGBT couples. The California LGBT community faces an extremely difficult fight to prevent an outright ban on their civil right to have legal recognition for same sex couples and equal protection for their families. While Hyatt may officially disavow Manchester's contributions to Proposition 8 as a personal choice, the fact remains that their multi-million dollar LGBT marketing efforts must be seen as little more than sheer hypocrisy when the revenue this marketing attracts is then funneled into efforts that bite the hand which feeds them. In such a situation, we always have the ability to choose not to feed them any longer.

- Justice for Manchester Hyatt workers. Manchester's Hyatt allegedly forces housekeepers to clean more rooms than housekeepers at other Hyatt hotels, including the other Hyatt hotel in San Diego. In 2006, housekeepers began lunch hour protests against working conditions in the hotel, saying that their daily room quota had been increased from 17 to 30 rooms per shift! We have no reason to believe that Manchester has made any workload reductions to address these protests. Across the hotel industry, increasing workloads have put a greater strain on housekeepers; work speedups have led to increasing injury rates. According to the Department of Labor, injury rates for hotel workers are 40% higher than the service sector average. Hotel housekeeper injuries are debilitating. Back injuries, housemaids' knee (bursitis), and shoulder pain can lead to permanent disability. Numerous studies have shown that unreasonable workloads are a serious occupational health issue; here are a few facts that highlight the severity of that problem:

In a recent survey of more than 600 hotel housekeepers in the U.S. and Canada, 91% said that they have suffered work-related pain. Of those who reported workplace pain:

- \_ 77% said their workplace pain interfered with routine activities.
  - \_ Two out of every three workers visited their doctor to deal with workplace pain.
  - \_ 66% took pain medication just to get through their daily quota.
- (UNITE HERE survey results)

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Jan 7, 2009

A Note From the Editors

It is not the policy of *Synapse* to run opinion articles anonymously, but we have broken that rule to publish the accompanying article on Proposition 8.

We do so because we think it is important for all shades of opinion within the campus community to be heard. We do so because we have printed many articles from those opposing Prop 8, but hadn't received any from the other side.

Efforts were made to get the writer to agree to use his name, but he refused, citing fear of harassment. While we devoutly hope that would not be the case, we were sobered by a column on November 23 by the *San Francisco Chronicle's* Editorial Page Editor John Diaz. He wrote:

*A supporter of Proposition 8, fed up with what he believed was the gay community's and "liberal media's" refusal to accept the voters' verdict, fired off a letter to the editor. "Please show respect for democracy," he wrote, in a letter we published. What he encountered instead was an utter lack of respect for free speech. Within hours, the intimidation game was on. Because his real name and city were listed - a condition for publication of letters to The Chronicle - opponents of Prop. 8 used Internet search engines to find the letter writer's small business, his Web site (which included the names of his children and dog), his phone number and his clients. And they posted that information in the "Comments" section of SFGate.com - urging, in ugly language, retribution against the author's business and its identified clients.*

We at *Synapse* would like to think that this would never happen at UCSF, but finally decided to let the accompanying article run anonymously, to spare the writer of any of the harassment that has occurred since the passage of Prop 8.

In this democracy, the way to rectify errors at the polls is to convince a majority at a future election of the rightness of your cause. No matter how passionately one feels about an issue, it is important to maintain a civil dialogue and a reasoned debate.

We welcome any and all comments from the campus community. Email them to us at [synapse@ucsf.edu](mailto:synapse@ucsf.edu)

The Editors

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