This Week in the Trans Gazebo (3/14 - 3/20)

1 view

You need the content moderator permission to join conversations

Gwendolyn Ann Smith
to

Mar 16, 2000, 3:00:00 AM

This week in the Transgender Gazebo: "And don't forget to check out the chats!"

http://www.onq.com/transgender_gazebo.html

Featured:

Today, with the internet, it can be easy to find information about being transgendered. But where could you find it growing up as a child in the 1970s? Transgender Gazebo hostess Gwendolyn Ann Smith shares one of her early, and more unusual, sources of trans education -- porn magazines.

This Week's Poll:

Which of these movies comes closest to your experiences?

Quotable:

"Roz," from the book "Men In Frocks"

Also:

Japanese TS gets a second shot at school,

The secret behind the movie "Boys Don't Cry,"

Colorado transwoman fights for her name change,

Plus, of course, the always present 'more!"

Check it out, 'n' gimme a hollar sometime. :-)

http://www.onq.com/transgender_gazebo.html

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/\:\/\: Gwendolyn Ann Smith * onQ Community Host, TCF
> () < Board Member, GEA * Webmistress, TransBay
\/()\/ Webmistress, SCCatI * Webmistress,TSMCCenter
"I want this to be a harmony of voices" - Lauren D. Wilson
**Posts may not reflect the views of the above organizations

Dianic007
to

Mar 16, 2000, 3:00:00 AM

Subj: Magazine Does Not Reflect the Gay or Transgendered Communities
Date: 3/16/00 4:30:14 PM Eastern Standard Time
From: Dianic007
To: gwen,...@gay.com

Dear Gwen:

This is an honest and rather serious question: Do you honestly believe that your publication can honestly represent the gay or transgendered communities and virtually exclude people of color -- not only from the content of the publication but also through most of its links and advertisers?

We live in a country that is 1/3 nonwhite. Frankly, whether its directed towards the gay community, the transgendered community or the straight community, it's offensive to find a publication that virtually ignores 1/3 of the US population.

I'm an African American writer. I write for TG Forum and for several other gender-oriented publications. I just wanted you to know that I'm not only alive but that I and other like me also exist.

Sincerely,

Roberta Angela Dee

Paulinev01
to

Mar 17, 2000, 3:00:00 AM

>dian...@aol.com

RAD, you have a good question there. But as I have never notice color mentioned in any story here or in any particular magazine I dont know.

I guess I never related Ts with a color. only TS/TG. Dumb I guess.

Come to think of it does anyone know my race.? Is it important?

I guess that what I think is important is who you are. m2f, f2m. cd spouce of one of us. the unimportant stuff. I believe that I have only seen race mention once int the last 18 months and that was that one of the girls like her spouce and mentions he is black. I dont even know why she mentioned that.

Well Gwen have you over looked minority people or have you also never given race a thought in the mater.?

WHEN ITS TIME ITS TIME

the hardest step of any journey is the first, the most satisfying is the last.

Now go take on the day

PAULINE/Paula

Gwendolyn Ann Smith
to

Mar 17, 2000, 3:00:00 AM

In article <20000316163202...@ng-fh1.aol.com>, Roberta Angela Dee <dian...@aol.com> wrote:

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> and virtually exclude people of color -- not only from the content of the
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> the US population.
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> I'm an African American writer. I write for TG Forum and for several other
> gender-oriented publications. I just wanted you to know that I'm not only
> alive but that I and other like me also exist.

First off, I do find it interesting that you first sent this to me via private e-mail, then opted to publish this openly on the usenet. As you have opted for this, I'll gladly give an open response. At the least, it opens further discussion on this topic beyond that which I can provide.

I should first start out with indicating that Trans Gazebo is a website, not a "magazine" or "publication," nor have we framed ourselves as one. Not a bad idea to do so, granted, but it's not exactly what we've been doing.

Anyway -- do I honestely believe that it can represent our communities? Yes, I do.

Do I feel that we have *exluded* anyone? Certainly not intentionally.

Most of the content, however, is currently member driven, through the use of the message boards or chat rooms. There is one advertiser at current, and one volunteer writer (me). Hard to get complete diversity -- in any direction, racial or otherwise -- with one voice.

Will that change down the line? Of course. I do hope to eventually provide a larger number of content providers and/or writers onsite, including people of colour.

Of course, in a perfect situation, I'd prefer to have a host of individuals representing not only a number of races, but also nationalities (it is the *World* Wide Web, after all, not just the "USA Wide Web"), forms of trans expression, and representatives of the HIV/AIDS communities... amongst others.

And yes, I certainly know that you are alive and out there. There are also a great many other non-white trans-activists that I am both an admirer of and friend to; including Dawn Wilson, Yoseino Lewis, Marisa Richmond, and others whose names are less well known (and who I'll save from posting to a public forum). Yet, I should add here that I have never admired them simply because of their race, but because of their actions. I only point it out here in light of your note.

Anyway - back onto Trans Gazebo. I took a look over the feature articles that we have had on site over the last few months, just to see if I was making sure to represent POCs on site. Amongst those which I have featured have been a number of non-caucasian individuals, and many which I have not, honestely, any knowledge of their racial makeup. I will, of course, endeavour (as I have in the past) to provide as diverse a site as I can, especially as the site increases in size and content.

I certainly hope this answers your question, and would be pleased to follow-up with you on this note, either at my gwen,...@gay.com address, or on my personal account at gw...@gwensmith.com .

Cheers,
Gwen Smith

`***`

Gwendolyn Ann Smith
to

Mar 17, 2000, 3:00:00 AM

In article <20000316233605...@ng-fg1.news.cs.com>, Paulinev01 <pauli...@cs.com> wrote:

> Well Gwen have you over looked minority people or have you also never given

> race a thought in the mater?

That pretty much sounds like the same thing, Pauline.

I feel I've pretty much summed it up in the previous note, though I would also be more than welcome to go over this further with you. if desired. I've certainly got nothing to hide on this issue.

`***`

Paulinev01
to

Mar 17, 2000, 3:00:00 AM

>Gwen

thats what I thought, when RAD brought it up it was not something I had even thought of. So I figured that you might feel the same way.

Race is the last thing on my mind when it comes to SRS and Womanhood.

RAD's been around a long time Cant figure why it is now a point. Nice thing about cyber space, not race, no religion or idenity unless you make it a point to point one out.

And if a man (or woman) were nice to me and I found them atractive, that is all that would matter for that too.

`***`

Suzan Cooke
to

Mar 17, 2000, 3:00:00 AM

Dianic007 wrote:

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> Sincerely,
>
> Roberta Angela Dee

Dear Roberta,

I have been aware of the problems surrounding the issue you bring up for a number of years.

It has been an issue in the Gay and Lesbian community as well.

In the last decade or so what has developed in the Los Angeles G/L community are minority publications serving the African American G/L community as well as Latino/a publications.

Many of these publications have wonderfully talented writers, voicing concerns about divisions within their own communities which outsiders would probably fail to see. Matters such as family dynamics, relationships with religion and the issues of being a minory member.

There has been (in L.A.) a rapid growth of organizations serving the many various communities.

I've come to believe that our various communities can get together on the global issues such as equal rights, access to health care and the like but that perhaps the local issuse arny need to be addressed among our own.

Because of this Iwould love to see not only minority sisters participating in the community as a whole but also in ways and publications paper or E which address the specific problems of being a minority with in a minority.

I know I would also read those publications so I wouldn't feel so ignorant when certain issues are raised.

Love
Suzan