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Lesbigay Speaking Request

Robyn Ochs

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SEPTEMBER 1994

DEAR Lesbigay group Members,

HAS YOUR GROUP THOUGHT ABOUT HAVING SOMEONE COME AND DO A WORKSHOP OR A TALK ON BISEXUALITY OR OTHER LESBIGAY ISSUES THIS YEAR?

I AM AVAILABLE TO DO WORKSHOPS AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS. MY PRIMARY TOPIC IS BISEXUAL IDENTITY, AND I ALSO DO SPEAKERS' TRAININGS, INTEGROGROUP DIALOGUES (LES-BI-GAY AND STRAIGHT; LESBIAN AND BISEXUAL WOMEN, ETC.), HOMOPHOBIA AND PREJUDICE REDUCTION WORKSHOPS, AND GENERAL ALL-PURPOSE GAY PRIDE SPEECHES.

WHAT ARE MY QUALIFICATIONS? WITH OVER TEN YEARS EXPERIENCE AS A SPEAKER, WRITER, WORKSHOP LEADER AND ACTIVIST, I HAVE TAUGHT (AT MIT AND AT TUFTS UNIVERSITY) THREE OF THE FIVE COURSES EVER OFFERED ON BISEXUAL IDENTITY. I HAVE APPEARED ON NUMEROUS TALK SHOWS, INCLUDING DONOHUE. MY ESSAYS HAVE APPEARED IN FOUR ANTHOLOGIES, WITH TWO MORE FORCLOKING IN 1995.

THIS PAST ACADEMIC YEAR I SPOKE AT: THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, HARVARD UNIVERSITY, THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, OBERLIN COLLEGE, THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK COLLEGES AT BINGHAMTON, STONYBROOK AND PURCHASE, ST. OLAF COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA, WELLESLEY COLLEGE, WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY.

IN ADDITION, I GAVE WORKSHOPS OR TALKS AT THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CELEBRATING BISEXUALITY IN NEW YORK CITY, THE CAMPUS LIFE IN THE LIFE CONFERENCE, A REGIONAL CONFERENCE HELD AT TUFTS UNIVERSITY, AND THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL LESBIAN & GAY ASSOCIATION.

I AM CURRENTLY BOOKING MY 1994-95 CALENDAR, SO IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PURSUING THIS POSSIBILITY FURTHER, PLEASE CALL MY BOOKING AGENT, JODIE NEALLEY, AT (617) 641-1485 (PHONE AND FAX), OR BY ELECTRONIC MAIL AT JNEALLEY@WORLD STD.COM.

Yours in Pride,

Robyn Ochs, Ed M
ROBYN OCHS

Robyn Ochs, Ed.M., has been facilitating workshops and speaking publicly for a decade. She is a co-founder of the Boston Bisexual Women’s Network (1983-) and the East Coast Bisexual Network (1985), and an active member and former Vice President of Boston’s Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Speaker’s Bureau. She has taught three of the four courses ever offered on bisexual identity.

Robyn Ochs is the editor of the International Directory of Bisexual Groups. Her writings have been published in several anthologies including Bi Any Other Name: Bisexuals Speak Out (Kaahumanu & Hutchins, ed.), Bisexuality: A Reader and Sourcebook (Geller, ed.), Homophobia: How We All Pay the Price (Blumenfeld, ed.), and Closer to Home: Bisexuality and Feminism (Weise, ed.).

PRESENTATIONS

All presentations are between 40 and 60 minutes in length and are followed by open discussion. These discussions are often a catalyst for an energetic exchange of ideas.

- “Bisexuality: Myths and Realities”
- “Bisexuality, Feminism, Men and Me”
- “Bisexuality and the Lesbian/Gay Community”
- “What is Bisexual Studies, Anyway?”
- “History of the US Bisexual Movement”
- “What’s Frightening So About Bisexuality?”

WORKSHOPS

All workshops are highly interactive, combining structured exercises with open discussions and involve a large amount of participant involvement.

On Bisexuality:
- Bisexuality 101: Myths and Realities
- Creating a Positive Bisexual Identity
- Unlearning Biphobia
On Coalition Building:
* Lesbians and Bisexual Women: A Dialogue
* Lesbians, Gay Men and Bisexuals: A dialogue Across Difference
* Bring Your Own Straight Friends (B.Y.O.S.F): A Dialogue Between Lesbians, Bisexuals, Gay Men and their Heterosexual Friends
(In this workshop each lesbigay member is encouraged to invite at least one heterosexual friend, roommate or classmate.)

Other Workshops:
* Unlearning Homophobia
* The Care & Feeding of Volunteer Groups
  (designed to fit the needs of your organization)
* Working with Campus Law Enforcement
  (for lesbigay people: how to improve the relationship between campus police and the campus lesbigay community)
* Campus Police & the Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Community “Sit-Downs”
  (a facilitated dialogue between members of these two groups)
* Speakers’ Training for Lesbian, Gay Speakers’ Bureaus

Presentations and workshops on lesbigay issues can be, upon request, tailor made to fit the needs of your organization and address the issues of your campus.

For more information contact:
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