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Denison University Sponsors Visibility Week

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Date: Tue, 08 Oct 1996 14:46:32 -0400 (EDT)
Date-warning: Date header was inserted by CC.DENISON.EDU
From: ball@CC.DENISON.EDU (Dave Ball)
Subject: Visibility Week skit
X-Sender: ball@max.cc.denison.edu
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The Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual student organization at Denison University is sponsoring Visibility Week on campus 10/13-10/19. I'm not sure whether other campuses are doing this, but just in case some of you might also be planning worship, we're having a special service on Oct. 13: "Christian Compassion and Sexual Orientation: 'Love Your Neighbor as Yourself.'" The scripture is the Good Samaritan story (Lk. 10:25-37). I've written the following skit for the service. You are welcome to use and modify it. I get the blame for any shortcomings that it may have. May God bless our faithful efforts to deal with this controversy.

Dave Ball
Director of Religious Life
Denison University

CHRISTIAN COMPASSION & SEXUAL ORIENTATION:
"LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF"
Creative Christian Worship
October 13, 1996
Denison University

Skit: "I Think My Grandmother Would Approve"
(based on the Parable of the Good Samaritan, Luke 10: 25-37)
Setting: stage/performance area; no props
Cast: Maggie, student
Tim, another student
Maggie's Grandma
Joe, another student

Act One: (two students talking quietly in hospital hallway)

Maggie: "You know, I'm really glad I signed up to volunteer as a nurse's aide this semester. I get a lot out of it. But, you know, some things I just can't deal with. I heard that the guy in that room has AIDS."
(pointing toward room)

Tim: "I know what you mean! I really have a problem with that. The Bible says that..."
(gets interrupted)

Maggie: "Oh, hi Grandma! What are you doing here?"

Grandma: "I'm a volunteer. Are you a volunteer too?"

Maggie: "Yes -- oh -- this is my friend Tim. We're both volunteers."

Grandma: "That's wonderful. How do you like it?"

Maggie: "We love it! But sometimes it's hard to find the time, especially during exams."

Grandma: "Well, it's great that you do what you can! Speaking of busy, I'd better be getting to work." (Grandma gestures in direction that Maggie had pointed toward)

Maggie: "Hey, Grandma, I don't know if you know, but... I heard that the guy in that room has AIDS." (pointing to same place)

Grandma: (Smiling) "Yes, I know. 'That guy' is a friend of mine. In fact, you know him, too. Do you remember Jim, who used to live next door to me when you were growing up? And his housemate George? Well, you probably

wouldn't recognize him, but that's Jim. George died of AIDS a couple of years ago; that's when I found out that Jim was HIV-positive. Jim said such wonderful things about how this hospital treated George that I decided to volunteer here. Now Jim has developed AIDS. He's pretty sick; you might not recognize him. Would you like to say hello?"

Maggie: Oh, uh, I don't think I can. Tim and I were just saying that we have to get going."

Grandma: "All right. I'll tell him you said 'hi.'"

Maggie: "Thanks, Grandma. Bye!"

Tim: "Nice to meet you."

Grandma: "Nice to meet you, too."

Maggie: (Walking away) "Boy, I can't believe my Grandma. I mean, she's such a strong Christian. How can she deal with that? I can't imagine that she approves of homosexuality!"

Act Two: (Maggie and Tim run into Joe on campus)

Maggie: "Hi, Joe! How's it going?"

Joe: "Fine, except I've got a German quiz coming up that I didn't study for. And a bunch of other stuff. I'm so behind! I can't wait for the weekend!"

Maggie: "Me, too! Hey, do you know Tim?"

Joe: "I guess I've seen you around."

Tim: "Yeah, hi!"

Maggie: "Say, what's going on this weekend? Anything fun?"

Joe: "Well, the highlight will definitely be going to the Sting concert! I've got great tickets. You know, I have two extra that I have to get rid of. Would you guys like to go?"

Tim: "Well, I'm not sure what I'm doing this weekend. I might have to have my wisdom teeth pulled."

Maggie: "Oh, Tim, let's go! Tell you what, Joe, I'll take both tickets and find someone else to come if Tim doesn't, o.k.?"

Joe: "Sure! (Joe hands Maggie tickets) Do you want a ride with Sam and me?"

Maggie: "Sounds good! I'll e-mail you!"

Joe: "Great! Well, I'll see ya later. Hope you can come, Tim!" (walking off)

Tim: "Uh, yeah, thanks!"

Maggie: "I'm just so psyched! I've seen Sting a bunch of times, but never from up close!"

Tim: "Well, yeah, I'm not sure... I mean... You know, I think Joe's gay. He and Sam spend a lot of time together. And I think they were involved in Visibility Week last year."

Maggie: "You may be right, but so what? We're just going to the concert with them! Haven't you ever double-dated with a gay couple before?"

(smiling)

Tim: "No, have you?"

Maggie: "No, but I think my Grandma would approve."

(Both walk off)

THE END

By Dave Ball
Director of Religious Life
Denison University