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NEA Supports Hillary in 2000

NEW ORLEANS, LA—First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton addressed a rapturous crowd of 15,000 at the annual assembly of National Education Association (NEA) delegates. Mrs. Clinton hawked her health plan, which she described as a matter of life and death for thousands of America's children.

"Health care is not a political issue," she proclaimed on Sunday morning of the seven-day assembly. "There is a lot of talk this year about our values," she said. "We hear all kinds of people promoting their own version of what it means to be an American." She went on to suggest that many children are without health insurance because people with such values, "who have a lot of money and a loud voice," are unconcerned about the dispossessed in our country.

The First Lady continued with strong pitches for the billions to fund this year's federal education programs including Head Start, Goals 2000, Chapter One, and the Elementary and Secondary Education Act—all legislation supported by NEA philosophy and PAC money. Mrs. Clinton also touted her husband's School To Work Opportunities Act, which will use tax money to employ jobless high school graduates.

As the First Lady basked in applause, oversized screens displayed projected images of her with messages from the NEA: "Hillary in '96" and "Hillary in 2000." □

Gay & Lesbian Caucus Targets Youth First Graders Must be Taught Tolerance

NEW ORLEANS, LA—The NEA's Gay and Lesbian Caucus (NEA-GLC) members were prominent at this year's convention, identifiable by the bright pink GLC ribbons they wore on their delegate passes. Some of the most prominent leaders on the floor of the 10,000-delegate Representative Assembly were GLC members.

Targeting the youth, especially primary schoolchildren, was the main concern of the caucus, as evidenced by the many resolutions and new business items adopted to introduce more radical homosexual curricula into the school system. The NEA-GLC's handbook on how to "support" gay and lesbian students is *Making Schools Safe For Gay And Lesbian Youth*, a report commissioned by Massachusetts Governor William Weld's Commission on Gay and Lesbian Youth. The report is a benefit of GLC membership (See box).

The NEA-GLC proposed a bylaws amendment for a caucus name change to "the Sexual Minority Caucus," with the following rationale: "The term sexual minority is used extensively in addressing issues of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender youth and is becoming common as a designation of our community."

GLC nominee, Jerry Newberry, was the



NEA to Oust Michigan Governor MEA Assesses \$90 Fee to Spiff Up Image

NEW ORLEANS, LA—The Michigan Education Association (MEA) was the biggest caucus at this year's convention, and ousting Republican Governor John Engler was the goal shared by most NEA national delegates. Every morning for five days, the Michigan Education Association plotted to dismantle the education reforms pioneered by Gov. Engler, whom they accuse of being "anti-education."

The NEA Representative Assembly exhibited solidarity with the MEA affiliate and passed New Business Item 22 which condemns Gov. Engler and the state legislature "for gutting the public school employees' bargaining power. Delegates wore "Out With Engler" buttons and collected tens of thousands of dollars from other state caucuses to support their candidates including Democratic gubernatorial primary candidate, Larry

recipient of the 1994 Creative Leadership in Human Civil Rights Award at the NEA Awards dinner in New Orleans. Newberry, an educator from Fairfax County, VA, was featured in the June 1994 issue of Caucus Connections, the GLC newsletter. He has worked with Joseph Fernandez, former New York City chancellor who was fired after he tried to introduce homosexual books into the elementary schools. (See Dec. 1992, Feb. 1992 and June 1993 *Education Reporters*). Newberry was also hailed for his success in bringing gay and lesbian issues to the public schools in Virginia.

GLC also endorses a new book, *Coming Out Of The Classroom Closet*, edited by Karen Harbeck, a Massachusetts attorney whose specialty is "making schools safe for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender youth and adults," and litigation to "mandate equal treatment on the basis of sexual orientation in the workplace." Harbeck's partner, Al Ferreira, is a co-chair of Gov. Weld's Commission on Gay and Lesbian Youth.

The NEA-GLC brochure says "the Caucus does its most intense work at the NEA Convention." It proposed resolutions and new business items covering diversity of sexual orientation in Family Life Education,

See *Gays*, page 4

Prez Mocks Religious Conservatives

NEW ORLEANS, LA—NEA president Keith Geiger's address to the representative assembly of the 2.4 million-member union was full of contempt for views held by conservatives and Christians. He addressed all the standard NEA anxieties: school restructuring (outcome-based education) versus the threat of the "far right," private schooling and school vouchers, bigotry and oppression of blacks, gays and lesbians, and



Keith Geiger
NEA President

the Brady bill versus the Second Amendment.

The NEA president sent "special greetings" to the NEA affiliate in Virginia Beach who "prevented a far right takeover of the school board in Pat

Robertson's hometown."

He described "battles with the profiteers" of free market economy solutions to education, including Chris Whittle's Edison Project and Education Alternatives, both targeted also in NEA resolutions.

Parents and legislators who support school improvement through privatization are "money hungry" and "merchants of greed." In contrast, Geiger had "special thanks" to the Milwaukee Teachers Education Association who have been working "to keep public education public."

"Today, women in America remain a mangled, mistreated, and abused majority," lamented the NEA president. Since the Women's Caucus is controlled by lesbians in union with the Gay & Lesbian Caucus, he complained of "the callous treatment of gays and lesbians."

Geiger spent much of his speech praising the newly-elected president of South Africa, Nelson Mandela, linking his election with the 1944 Allied landing at Normandy and the 1964 U.S. Civil Rights Act. He went on to proclaim that "inequality of wealth makes a mockery of equality of opportunity." Geiger suggested a "rededication to the struggle against bigotry and oppression," by addressing "school funding inequities" and "economic injustice."

Geiger had many kind words for the Reverend Jesse Jackson who supports values education, "not just I.Q. education." He spoke a great deal about Cesar Chavez as an exemplar of courage for the cause of "human rights." □

Owen.

On August 2, Owen, who was funded by a MEA spending blitz of more than \$800,000, came in third in a field of four. Union-backed Michigan state house and senate candidates lost all but one of the 148 seats in the same election. Earlier, the MEA spent \$1 million to oppose a school tax measure which voters overwhelmingly approved in March.

MEA's row with Gov. Engler began last year when Engler initiated enterprising reforms to manage and fund public schools in Michigan. MEA union leaders lost some of their gridlock power in the state and "Michigan's Plight" is feared by NEA leaders as the beginning of a nationwide undoing of union control of education policy in America.

Michigan union leaders have suffered many political losses since the popular Governor took office four years ago, including MEA misappropriation scandals uncovered by the Engler administration (See September and October 1993 *Education Reporters*). The MEA recently assessed its members a \$90 annual fee in an effort to spiff up its image in the face of rising voter resentment. The new image crisis fund, which would generate \$15 million in three years, has backfired as the MEA rank and file threaten a mass exodus of dues-paying members. □

Gay Caucus Dictates Massachusetts Schools Curricula

BOSTON, MA—Gov. Weld's report, *Making Schools Safe for Gay and Lesbian Youth: Breaking the Silence in Schools And In Families*, contains 56 pages of education policy written to reflect the NEA's Gay and Lesbian caucus (GLC) agenda. The Governor's Commission on Gay And Lesbian Youth is co-chaired by Al Ferreira, M.Ed., a teacher of 20 years and a member of the NEA's GLC.

A February 1992 executive order signed by Weld "to provide services to gay and lesbian youth" declares that "Massachusetts ... continues to be in the forefront of the national movement to end discrimination ... directed at gays and lesbians."

The report recommends that the state develop "resource books" as well as a "yellow pages resource book" on gay issues for school libraries. Also recommended by the Commission is legislation

to fund prosecution of complaints about gay "discrimination" in the schools and "diversity programs" curricula for the classroom.

In January 1994 the Massachusetts program published two manuals entitled *Safe Schools Regional Workshop* to serve as guidelines for supporting gay youth in the public schools. The recommended policies include a punishment of 10 days suspension if a youth verbally harasses another student, the same punishment used for physical harassment. The *Safe Schools* books contain reprinted articles, questions and answers, and gay culture definitions to help teachers and administrators develop sensitivity to gays and help students determine their sexual orientation.

Copies of Gov. Weld's report and the *Safe Schools* books can be ordered by calling the Massachusetts Dept. of Education, 617/388-3300, x389.

EDUCATION BRIEFS

The financial sponsorship of "Extreme Right organizations" by Coors Beer was the theme of NEA new business item 95. Designed to send a clear boycott message to all NEA members and local affiliates, the item was referred to NEA's executive committee on the last day of the conference.

The NEA adopted a new business item (NBI 99) to "utilize the Fine Arts as preventative education against drug and alcohol abuse." The rationale for the item, introduced by Peggy Dunlap of Illinois, is that "the battle against drug and alcohol abuse is missing the vital component of aesthetic and creative alternatives."

The Illinois and Missouri NEA state caucuses voted to oppose Illinois Republican Governor Jim Edgar in his 1994 re-election campaign and to support Democrat Dawn Clarke Netsch. While the state NEA affiliates believe Edgar to be "pro-education," he is not a Democrat and he "refuses to take a position against school choice and charter schools." Many of Edgar's conservative supporters feel he betrayed them by supporting liberal education programs such as the home-intrusive Parents As Teachers program.

The NEA's ideological leaders — those who dictate how the PAC millions are spent — meet year-round and then caucus daily at the national conference each year. These NEA caucus leaders also determine the ideology and platform of the Democratic Party; there are more delegates to the Democratic National Convention from the NEA ranks than any other union or special-interest group in the nation.

High Interest - Low Vocabulary - Creative Writing" is the subtitle of the American Leaders Coloring Book, which was distributed in multicultural arenas at the NEA. The book features dumbed-down propagandistic biographies of 34 "great Americans," apparently written to support devotion to public education, unions, multiculturalism, oppressed women, and illegal immigration. The last page, devoted to Elvis Presley, is followed by an assignment for the child to write a story about his favorite American leader.

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NEA Rails Against Rush and the Right "The CRISIS in Education is Manufactured!"

NEW ORLEANS, LA - "The worst thing that ever happened to education is the radio talk show," said NEA "Friend of Education" award recipient, David Berliner, in his July 4 remarks to a crowd of 10,000 NEA delegates.

Berliner's proclamation was a show of solidarity with President Clinton. Just days earlier, the President had made a dramatic phone call from Air Force One to St. Louis radio station KMOX to complain that there was no "truth detector" to measure statements by his bellicose critic, Rush Limbaugh. The famous phone call gave Limbaugh more grist for his mill when he roared in response, "I am the truth," on his nationwide radio program.

Following Berliner's speech, the NEA delegates voted to boycott Florida's Citrus industry if they didn't cancel their \$1 million contract with Limbaugh. Their rationale, they claimed, is that "Rush Limbaugh is anti-public education and anti-human and civil rights for all."

Berliner's speech was a rousing summary of all the NEA's favorite doctrines punctuated with the recurring refrain, "The CRISIS in education is manufactured!" "Critics" who say that money is unrelated to school achievement are "silly," said the NEA Friend. He excoriated supporters of private and parochial schools and declared that "evidence of the great drop in SAT scores" in public schools is "trivial."

"There is no private school advantage on achievement test scores!" Berliner exclaimed in his speech. "Critics in the business world" who say that high school graduates need remedial training in basic academic skills are making statements that are "simply nonsense!"

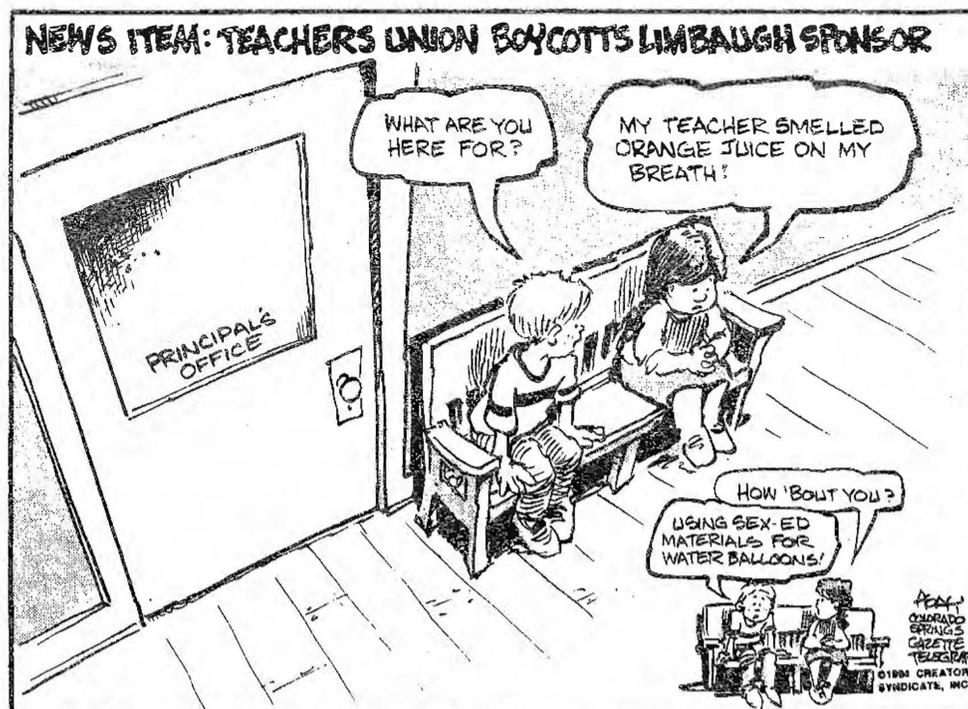
"Like Mrs. Clinton said to us, I believe the truth ultimately will be heard." Berliner said he wanted to help destroy myths. "Critics, including U.S. Presidents and Secretaries of Education who have said we spend more money than other nations on education, have lied! Blatantly!"

Berliner ridiculed the "critics" who "worry that our schools ... promote immorality" in textbooks. It's "simply not true," he declared.

Berliner preached at length about the NEA's "long-range strategy" of getting more involved in "community and family rebuilding."

NEA-friendly pre-school programs such as Parents As Teachers and Head Start, in which family life is monitored by social workers, has many parents concerned. Some parents have been reported as child abusers for spanking their children.

Berliner enjoined his reform-minded listeners to "engage in reform and reculturing ... out of pride... [because] the record of the American public schools is remarkably good!"



Caucus Boosts Male Role Models Feminists Opposed to Men's Issues

NEW ORLEANS, LA — The NEA's newest caucus, Men's Issues (MIC), was formed out of frustration by male teachers who say they are oppressed by the feminization of the American education system. The MIC, founded "to address issues of concern for men in today's schools" and to "promote men as important to a child's development," had its kick-off meetings at this year's NEA convention.

MIC members explain that every minority has long been represented at NEA, and male teachers are becoming a rare and persecuted species. In 1961, 31.3% of teachers were male. By 1991, that figure had dropped to 27.9%.

Many women delegates, including members of the lesbian-laden Women's Caucus, did not want to give the caucus certification. MIC members complain that many women NEA delegates call heterosexual men "male chauvinists." Men tell how some female delegates even take over the men's restrooms at the national convention.

One serious concern to male teachers is that of increasing vulnerability to bogus child molestation charges. "Male teachers' careers can be ruined for simply patting a child on the shoulder or head," said one member. They explain that the lack of father figures in an increasing number of American families makes their jobs ever more difficult as children are desperate for male role-model attention. "Children who accuse men of molestation often don't know what this means. Increased talk about sexual harassment and unwanted touching is very confusing in a child's mind," said one white, male, heterosexual teacher.

Molestation charges are complicated by the fact that known pedophile members of the North American Man/Boy Love Association (NAMBLA) teach in public schools.

One NAMBLA member turned out to be a former public school psychologist. Two other teachers from New York's city schools were convicted of sex offenses. (See Oct. 11, 1993, *U.S. News & World Report*)

NAMBLA is a member of the International Lesbian and Gay Association, which calls on members "to treat all sexual minorities with respect." This includes pedophiles. Like NAMBLA, NEA's policy is not to discriminate against any "sexual minority." In order to survive politically as an NEA caucus, the MIC must accept men of all persuasions.



Feminists took over men's restroom at NEA convention.

The caucus, which began in 1988 as the Male Caucus of Elementary Educators, appears to be in an ideological struggle between those NEA delegates with a feminist equity-homosexual agenda and men who simply want to address issues of concern common to all male teachers.

The pre-conference Men's Issues Meeting featured diversity and equity expert Joan Steinau Lester, who sarcastically wondered "what place there would be for heterosexual white men who currently hold more than 90% of the political, economic, and cultural directorship seats?" Ms. Lester went on to say that she had been married twice; the first, an interracial marriage, was unsuccessful and she hoped that her present marriage to a woman would last the rest of her life.

One listener stood up to say he couldn't understand what Lester's talk had to do with the new caucus's concerns. Most MIC members agreed that "cultural diversity," i.e. homosexuality, was not one of the issues they wanted to address. They applauded NEA Vice President Bob Chase who expressed concern about the increasing vulnerability of male teachers who would touch a child only in supportive concern.

1994 National Education Association Resolutions

* An asterisk indicates that the full text of the resolution has not changed since 1993 and there is a fuller version of that resolution in the August 1993 edition of the *Education Reporter*. In some cases, the numbers assigned to resolutions may have changed. We advise also looking for the resolution under its NEA-assigned title.

+ The August 1993 *Education Reporter* can be obtained for \$4 from Eagle Forum, Alton IL, 62002.

Text in italics indicates 1994 additions to resolutions.

A-8.* Public School Buildings. NEA believes that closed public school buildings should be sold or leased only to those organizations that... are not in direct competition with public schools.

A-11. Federal Financial Support for Education. NEA believes that federally funded instructional programs ... must be implemented at the local level only after the involvement and approval of the recognized bargaining agent.... Advisory committees... should ... maintain a gender balance to ensure accountability and equity.... Categorical funding ... must be assured [for] English as a second language....

A-13. Basic Financial Support of Public Education. Funds must be provided for programs to alleviate race, gender, and sexual orientation stereotypes in the public schools. Public funds shall not be expended ... to promote race, gender, or sexual orientation stereotypes and/or bias.

A-26. Charter and Nontraditional Public School Options. NEA supports innovation in public education. NEA believes that when ... charter schools and other non-traditional school options are proposed, all school employees must be directly involved in the design, implementation, and governance of these programs.... Plans must not negatively impact the regular public school system.

A-27.* Deleterious Programs. NEA believes that the following programs and practices are detrimental to public education and must be eliminated: performance contracting, ... voucher plans, ... and evaluations by private, profit-making groups.

A-28. Federally or State Mandated Choice/Parental Option Plans. NEA opposes federally or state-mandated choice or parental option plans....

A-29.* Tuition Tax Credits. NEA believes ... tuition tax credits [are] detrimental to the public interest and urges its affiliates to work for the defeat of such legislation.

A-30.* Voucher Plans. NEA believes that legislation designed to establish ... voucher plans is detrimental to the public interest and calls upon its affiliates to work for the defeat of such legislation.

B-1.* Early Childhood Education. NEA

supports early childhood education programs in the public schools for children from birth through age eight.... early childhood education programs should include ... child care ... diversity-based curricula... and appropriate bias-free screening devices.... These programs should ... include mandatory kindergarten....

B-5. Class Size. NEA urges ... an optimum class size of 15 students.

B-6.* Sexism in Education. NEA urges educators to use instructional materials that portray various careers ... as acceptable ... for all individuals. The Association endorses the use of nonsexist language ... [and] believes that sexism and sex discrimination must be eliminated....

B-13. Equal Opportunities Through Mathematics and Science. NEA believes that mathematics and science education are means of helping women and minorities enjoy equal opportunity and equitable treatment ... in our society. *NEA encourages the recruitment of females and minorities ... to become professionals in those fields.*

B-15.* Education of Migrants. NEA advocates ... bilingual/bicultural and remedial instructional programs [for] migrant students ... regardless of the availability of federal and state funds to support such programs.

B-21.* Adolescent Pregnancy and Parenting. NEA recommends that special adolescent programs be implemented to ... establish on-site child care services.

B-26.* Multicultural/Global Education. NEA urges its affiliates to develop ... educator training programs for multicultural/global education and to work [for] legislation that would provide adequate funding for effective implementation....

B-29.* Career Education. NEA [believes that] the career education concept must be interwoven into the total educational system ... to include programs in gender-free career awareness....

B-33.* Sex Education. NEA believes that the public school must assume an increasingly important role.... Teachers and health professionals must be ... legally protected from censorship and lawsuits.

B-49. Standardized Testing of Students. *NEA opposes standardized testing that is mandated by local, state, or national authority [and] also opposes the use of these tests to compare one student, staff member, school or district with another, especially when the threat of loss of prestige, control, or resources is attached.*

B-54. Telecommunications Technology. *NEA believes that the impact of telecommunications on education employees should be subject to local collective bargaining agreements.*

B-60.* Home Schooling. NEA believes that home schooling programs cannot pro-

vide the student comprehensive education experience. Instruction should be by persons who are licensed ... and a curriculum [should be] approved by the state....

First New B. Sexual Orientation Education. NEA supports the development of ... training programs for the education employees for the purpose of identifying and eliminating sexual orientation stereotyping in the educational setting. Such programs should attend to but not be limited to:

a. *Accurate portrayal of the roles and contributions of gay, lesbian, and bisexual people throughout history, with acknowledgement of their sexual orientation.*

b. *The acceptance of diverse sexual orientation and the awareness of sexual stereotyping whenever sexuality and/or tolerance of diversity is taught.*

c. *Elimination of sexual orientation name-calling and jokes in the classroom.*

C-12.* Extremist Groups. NEA condemns the philosophy and practices of extremist groups ... and urges active opposition to all such movements that are inimical to the ideals of the Association.

C-22.* Student Health and Personnel Services. NEA believes that every student should have ... access to health, social, and psychological services within both school and community settings. These services must include: ... school-based, community-funded student health care clinics...

NEA urges that ... these health care services include family-planning counseling and access to birth control methods and instruction in their use.

C-23.* School Counseling Programs. NEA believes that guidance and counseling programs should be integrated into the entire education system, beginning at the prekindergarten level.

C-26.* Student Sexual Orientation. NEA believes that all persons, regardless of sexual orientation, should be afforded equal opportunity within the public education system.... Every school district should provide counseling by trained personnel for students who are struggling with their sexual/gender orientation.

Second New C. Tobacco Products . The NEA believes that... advertising of tobacco products beyond packaging should be banned [and] taxes on tobacco products should be increased.

D-7. Administrator Preparation. NEA believes that administrators and staff ... instructional content and experience should include ... cultural diversity training.

Second New D. Academic Governance in Higher Education. NEA believes that governance in institutions of higher education must be a joint effort among faculty, staff, students, administrators, and governing boards.

E-3.* Selection of Materials and Teach-

ing Techniques. NEA believes that teachers and librarians ... must have the right to select instructional/library materials without censorship or legislative interference.

E-5.* Instructional Materials and Teaching Techniques Challenges. The NEA deplors ... attempts to ban books from the school library/media center and school curriculum.

E-9.* Academic and Professional Freedom. NEA believes that legislation and regulations that mandate or permit the teaching of religious doctrines and/or groups that promote anti-public-education agendas violate both student and teacher rights.

F-1.* Nondiscriminatory Personnel Policies/Affirmative Action. NEA believes that personnel policies and practices must guarantee that no person be ... dismissed, suspended, demoted, transferred, or retired because of ... sexual orientation.

To address societal needs ... NEA urges the development and implementation of affirmative action plans and procedures that will encourage active recruitment and employment of women, minorities, and men in underrepresented education categories. It may be necessary, therefore, to give preference in certain ... women or men to overcome past discrimination.

F-2.* Pay Equity/Comparable Worth. NEA supports all efforts to attain accurate and unbiased forms of job evaluation and to raise the pay of those jobs that are presently undervalued. The "market value" means of establishing pay cannot be the final determinant of pay scales, since it itself too frequently reflects the race and sex bias in our society.

F-6. Collective Bargaining Rights. NEA believes that ... collective bargaining rights are essential to the promotion of education employee and student needs in society. NEA demands that these rights be ... strengthened.

F-8. Strikes. NEA denounces the practice of keeping schools open during a strike.

F-29. Recording Devices in Schools. NEA insists that the recording or electronic surveillance of the work of any educator without that person's permission must be prohibited.

F-36.* Employees with AIDS. NEA believes that education employees shall not be fired, nonrenewed, suspended (with or without pay), transferred ... solely because they have tested positive for (AIDS/HIV)....

H-6.* National Health Care. NEA believes that the federal government should adopt a national health care policy....

H-11. Statehood for the District of Columbia. NEA urges its affiliates to support efforts to achieve statehood for the District of Columbia.

continued on page 4

New Business Items Adopted

NBI 1994-A. The Representative Assembly (NEA-RA) directs the President to invite AFT ... to enter into discussions with NEA regarding ... establishment of a unified organization.

NBI 6. NEA shall also develop strategies ... to assist ... affiliates in their efforts against privatization.

NBI 10. NEA shall establish a coalition that promotes and implements strategies that ensure that school environments are free from intimidation and discrimination based on ... sexual/affective orientation ... family structure....

NBI 12. NEA actively support efforts to defeat the California initiative that would deny individuals equal access to a public education and other public services due to the legality of their residency status.

NBI 13. Unless the Florida Department of Citrus cancels its contract with Rush Limbaugh, NEA shall initiate a boycott of Florida orange juice.

NBI 15. That NEA develop a mechanism for rapid response to state and local affiliates that request assistance in combating public school privatization efforts.

NBI 21. That NEA showcase in NEA Today and on Teacher TV successful member programs for high risk public school students that reduce ... hate-related incidents directed toward gay and lesbian students....

NBI 22. That the NEA-RA condemn the action of the Michigan Governor and State Legislature for gutting the public school employees' bargaining law.

NBI 24. NEA shall ... divest from ... for-profit corporations that support and maintain the commercialization and privatization of public schools.

NBI 34. NEA will increase lobbying efforts to ... ratify the United Nations Convention on the rights of the child by ... encourag[ing] teachers to educate students about the U.N. Convention on Rights of the

Child...

NBI 54. NEA shall ... develop materials ... to lobby appropriate governing bodies to infuse public school curricula with respect and tolerance for all.

NBI 62. NEA will develop model language for state-level Gender Equity laws similar to Title IX of the 1972 Education Act ... require pre-service teachers to take course work in gender bias and mandate state departments of education to provide staff development opportunities for certified and classified personnel.

NBI 63. NEA opposes ruling that providing separate facilities for women who wish to attend traditionally all-male, publicly funded military academies is legal.

NBI 69. NEA shall ... study ... domestic partner benefits for public and private sector employees.

NBI 71. NEA shall incorporate diversity training in its standard modules for NEA leaders and NEA staff. Rationale: We must move from cultural awareness to cultural activism.

NBI 83. NEA will work with ... the surgeon general ... [to] prevent unintended pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases.

NBI 85. NEA supports ... the Women and Girls Center for Change for ... addressing the issues of equity for all women and girls.

NBI 90. In the event that public chartered schools are implemented, the NEA ... advocates ... the hiring of licensed/certified counseling personnel.

NBI 92. NEA will ... protes[t] the site of the 1996 Summer Olympics in Cobb County, Georgia. The reason: the Anti-Gay resolution by Cobb County officials.

NBI 93. NEA shall substitute the word "student" for the word "children"....

NBI 100. NEA supports ... systemic restructuring [and is] firmly opposed to the privatization of public schools.

Caucus Talk and Cadre Forces Minority Delegates Dictate Education Policy

NEW ORLEANS, LA — The important goal this year at NEA's caucus meetings was to form "cadres" to advance "progressive" goals.

Cadres were formed to raise women's awareness, to protest sexual harassment, and to advance the concept of equity. Women's Caucus delegates argued with each other, some tearfully, for four days, about whether to have their women's rights demonstration in the air conditioned convention center or outside in the 95-degree heat.

Anticipating optimum media coverage, the feminists staged a high-noon street march. Keith Geiger, NEA president, had predicted they wouldn't get 30 people to follow them into the July heat. In the end, it didn't matter since the angry demonstrators' story was considered newsworthy only by the NEA's convention photographer.

The Black Caucus, which also appeared to be run by radical feminists, worked toward achieving black equality (mostly of females) and sponsored an "African attire" dance. The invitation did not define African attire. The Black Caucus touted a "high interest-low vocabulary" book, *African American Leaders*, which praises former presidential candidate, Shirley Chisholm, for her strong support of "congressional legislation for blacks and women".

Caucuses formed coalitions to start a new "NEA Diversity Training Cadre". The new cadre includes members from the "minority caucuses": Women's, Gay & Lesbian, Hispanic, Black, and Asian/Pacific Islander caucuses (APIC). They are determined to work and train with another corps, the Minority Leadership Training Cadre, to "become more involved in NEA," said APIC Vice-Chair Diane Welhaven. APIC's main concern is discrimination against teachers who have "minority accents".

Cadres were formed to dispose of

policymakers who are "anti-education," i.e., opposed to outcome-based education. "Our state is trying to unseat the current governor," said Kathleen Krumm, a school counselor quoted in the NEA-RA newspaper. "There's a lot of teacher bashing going on in Michigan. It's just horrible."

"We're real concerned with the far right groups," noted Sheryl Harris who teaches kindergarten. "We think it's just a matter of time before they hit us in Dallas." Kentucky caucus delegates also fear the "extreme right," especially Eagle Forum president Phyllis Schlafly, whom they believe has a "data base" responsible for a recent congressional upset in Kentucky's second district.

Cadres were formed to propose resolutions to boycott Politically Incorrect industries and businesses: Florida citrus (for their contract with Rush Limbaugh, Coors beer and Marriott Inns (for being anti-union), Whittle Communications and Education Alternatives, Inc. (for managing schools for profit), Dole Fruit Co. (for laying off migrant workers), and Crazy Horse Malt Liquor; the NEA says the beer's name is insensitive to Native Americans.

American Indian/Alaska Native Caucus leader Malcolm Bailey, a Sioux Indian and lawyer, talked about renewing an effort to compile statistics for the Native American race category. Such data, he said, must be assembled to determine entitlements to achieve equity with Whites and Asian/Pacific Islanders. □



Angry NEA Members March for Equality

National Education Association Resolutions (Continued)

I-11. Civil Rights. NEA is committed to the achievement of a totally integrated society and calls upon Americans to eliminate — by statute and practice — barriers of race, color, national origin, religion, philosophical beliefs, political beliefs, gender, sexual orientation....

I-13. Family Planning. NEA supports family planning, including the right to reproductive freedom. NEA urges the government to give high priority to making available all methods of family planning to women and men unable to take advantage of private facilities. NEA further urges the implementation of community-operated, school-based family planning clinics that will provide intensive counseling by trained personnel.

I-18. Immigration. NEA supports efforts to improve the immigration process ... including ... timely legalization without regard to national origin.

I-22. * Freedom of Creative Expression. NEA supports freedom of expression in the creative arts and therefore deplores any efforts by government to suppress ... such

expression. NEA supports ... publicly funded agencies ... in the awarding of grants to individuals and organizations.

I-41. Hate-Motivated Violence. NEA deplores incidents of hate-motivated physical and verbal attacks ... because of race ... gender, sexual orientation ... marital status....

I-45. * English as the Official Language. NEA believes that ... efforts to legislate English as the official language disregard cultural pluralism ... and must be challenged.

I-47. Sexual Harassment. NEA recognizes that sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination or abuse. NEA encourages its affiliates to ...: Develop a grievance procedure that encourages the reporting of incidents of sexual harassment....

I-48. * Equal Opportunity for Women. NEA insists that all persons, regardless of gender, be given equal opportunity for employment, promotion, compensation ... and leadership in all activities. NEA supports the proposed Equal Rights Amendment.... NEA believes that the Equal Employment Opportunity

Commission must have cease-and-desist authority to act in all cases of discrimination based on ... sexual orientation, and gender. NEA ... endorses the use of nonsexist language.

New I. People Living With HIV/AIDS. NEA believes people living with HIV/AIDS should be ensured fair and equitable treatment allowing equal access to education, employment, living conditions, and all rights guaranteed by law. □



Gays

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counseling for students struggling with sexual/gender orientation, medical insurance for school employees' domestic partners, and funding for NEA-published school curricula that are sensitive to sexual orientation.

One new business item proposed by the GLC calls for the NEA "to require convention exhibitors and advertisers in NEA publications to adhere to NEA's policies of non-discrimination." NBI 69 focuses on insurance benefits for "domestic partners," and NBI 10 promotes strategies to ensure that schools are "free from intimidation" based on "sexual/affective orientation." □