



# Live sex group gets city bucks

This year, city council will spend \$1.2 million to refurbish a downtown building in order to provide a home for Buddies in Bad Times, a gay/lesbian theatre group.

In addition, Buddies also gets big bucks from the city by way of "cultural" grants. And that's why the theatre's contribution to the upcoming month-long "Queerculture" festival is causing concern at City Hall.

According to the Queerculture guide, Buddies will present sado-masochism seminars as well as a "female ejaculation Pajama Party."

The SM seminar, says the guide, will be a "hands-on, pants down approach to SM techniques and safety," and will feature live demonstrations.

One seminar promises "live demonstrations on creative bondage, sensory deprivation, implements, (e.g. floggers, paddles, canes) and their use and brute force."

Another seminar will discuss "abduction, anal fisting, guns, knives, forced confinement, bloodsports, rape play, etc." It also features demonstrations on temporary piercing, cutting and breath control.

Oh, good. Just what we need. A taxpayer supported theatre that shows violence and perversion.

Here we have a city that has cut back to once a week garbage collection and reduced services to children in schools. It's even banned exotic animals in circuses. Flog humans, sure. But don't touch that elephant.

## **\$58,908 grant**

Yet this year Buddies has managed to increase its funding. They will get \$58,908 in grants from the city.

Buddies vice-president is a very rude young man by the name of Sky Gilbert. When I asked if this kind of production is appropriate for a theatre that receives so much city funding, he wanted to know if I like sex. Later he wanted to know my sexual preference. Heck, I hardly even know the guy.

Gilbert says sado masochists have always had a "positive attitude towards sex ... Different people have different things they like to do in bed. Some people like to do SM." But, he cautions, SM shouldn't be confused with violence.

"Violence is when it isn't consensual."

Well, excuse me for being confused. But why would anyone use guns, knives, floggers and paddles in a relationship if there is no violence? Talk about hypocrisy! The safe city committee spends half a million dollars fighting violence. And yet the city spends \$1.2 million to house Buddies and their garbage and ups their grant to close to \$60,000 a year.

The female ejaculation party invites "girls," (not women, interestingly) to "bring sex toys, your pillows, your girlfriends and your sisters to a hands-on, girls-only party and learn to ejaculate."

Tom Jakobek, who fought spending \$1.2 million to house the theatre says it's outrageous taxpayers should fund such trash.

"This group doesn't speak for the gay community, only for a small, radical element within the gay community," Jakobek says. Small, radical. But very vocal.

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