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ACLU NEWS

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THE GRAND JURY AND THE HONOR CAMPS

NOVEMBER ACLU MEETING TO FEATURE OFFICIAL CRITICIZED BY COUNTY GRAND JURY

Last month the county grand jury issued a report charging "gross mismanagement in operations" of the county honor camp system. The grand jury charged that the honor camp administration "has moved away from reality and gone into fantasy" and demanded the immediate firing of four top employees including Richard Spike, treatment services superviser. Spike will speak at an ACLU meeting November 28th.

The grand jury report is generally considered to be an attack on the reform policies of the honor camp administration. The grand jury charged that the honor camp administration "is attempting to subvert the discipline of the staff in a mistaken effort to placate the inmates. Expressing this philosophy another way it amounts to 'let's not be disliked by our inmates."

Besides urging the firing of Spike and three other top officials the grand jury recommended 16 other changes in the administration of the five county honor camps. Approximately 500 persons convicted of misdemeanors are housed in the camps.

Spike will respond to the grand jury report and discuss the rehabilitation programs he has helped institute with ACLU members at this month's meeting. ACLU meetings are open to the public.

WHEN: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH AT 7:30PM

WHERE: THE HOME OF MR. AND MRS. HIRSCH GOTTSCHALK
4637 EL CERRITO DR.
(CROSSES EL CAJON BLVD. AT THE 5800 BLOCK)

COURT ACTION PLANNED ON PROPOSITIONS

California's voters sustained the ACLU's opinion on four of the seven ballot propositions on which the organization took a position. Two initiative measures which the ACLU opposed were adopted and the organization plans legal action to invalidate the election results.

The ACLU actively opposed the passage of Propositions 17 and 21. Both of these measures passed by wide margins. Proposition 17 reinstated the death penalty in California for crimes in which the death penalty is mandatory. Statewide and locally almost 68 percent of the voters favored the retention of the death penalty. The ACLU of Southern California, in co-operation with the ACLU of Northern California and other groups, actively campaigned against the passage of Prop. 17. The ACLU attempted to have the measure removed from the ballot earlier this year. The ACLU of Northern California, on behalf of itself and the ACLU of Southern California, will file suit to have the measure declared unconstitutional. The ACLU contends that the measure is in conflict with a U.S. Supreme Court decision handed down earlier this year which invalidated most death penalty statutes.

Proposition 21, the Student School Assignment Initiative, was also passed November 7th. The adopted law forbids the assignment of students to particular schools on the basis of "race, creed, or color." The initiative also repealed all state laws designed to achieve racial balance in the public schools. The ACLU of Southern California has already initiated legal action to invalidate the new law. The ACLU has filed a brief in the state supreme court contending that the new law would prevent the implementation of an integration plan in the Santa Barbara public schools. The ACLU position is that the new law will prevent the desegregation of California's schools.

Although the ACLU suffered two major defeats at the polls there were victories which should offer encouragement to civil libertarians. California voter's, through Proposition 11, added the right of privacy to the "inalienable rights" enjoyed by the state's residents. Almost 64 percent of the voters favored Prop. 11.

Proposition 18, the anti-obscenity initiative, was soundly defeated. Over 66 percent of the electorate voted against the measure. Prop. 18 would have provided for stringent controls over material deemed "obscene."

Farm workers retained their right to organize into unions with the defeat of Proposition 22. Despite a massive advertising campaign by farm groups urging its passage the initiative was voted down by 57 percent of the state's voters.

California voters did not agree with the ACLU on another measure. Proposition 19 would have legalized the personal use of marijuana. The proposition was voted down by 68 percent of the voters.

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DON'T FORGET TO LOOK AT THE FLYER ENCLOSED WITH THIS NEWSLETTER DESCRIBING THIS YEAR'S BILL OF RIGHTS CELEBRATION. GONE IS THE FORMALITY OF A BANQUET AT A HOTEL SERVING LOUSY FOOD. THANKING YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT, THE ACLU HAS SOMETHING BETTER IN MIND.

American Civil Liberties Union
San Diego Chapter
invites you to reaffirm the
BILL OF RIGHTS

BY ATTENDING THE 1972 BILL OF RIGHTS POTLUCK SUPPER
Saturday , December 9 at 6:00 P.M. at the home of
Dr. and Mrs. James T. Thickstun
7270 Carrizo Drive, La Jolla (Map enclosed)

The guest speaker will be Anthony Russo
Sixth Annual Civil Libertarian Award will be presented.
We'll provide the hams, turkeys, wine and coffee, if you'll provide the desserts and trimmings. A no-host bar will be available. Join us in celebrating our constitutional rights.
If your last name begins with the following, please bring (in your own serving dishes, labelled with your name):

A-G Salad for 15 people
H-M Dips and chips or relishes for 15
N-T Dessert for 12
U-Z Bread or rolls for 15

Please send reservation and check to the ACLU, Box 6233, San Diego, before December 1. For further information call 454-4794 or 223-3863

Name_____

Address_____ Phone_____

No. of reservations for Sponsoring Member @ $10.00 each_____

Regular Member @ $ 5.00 each_____

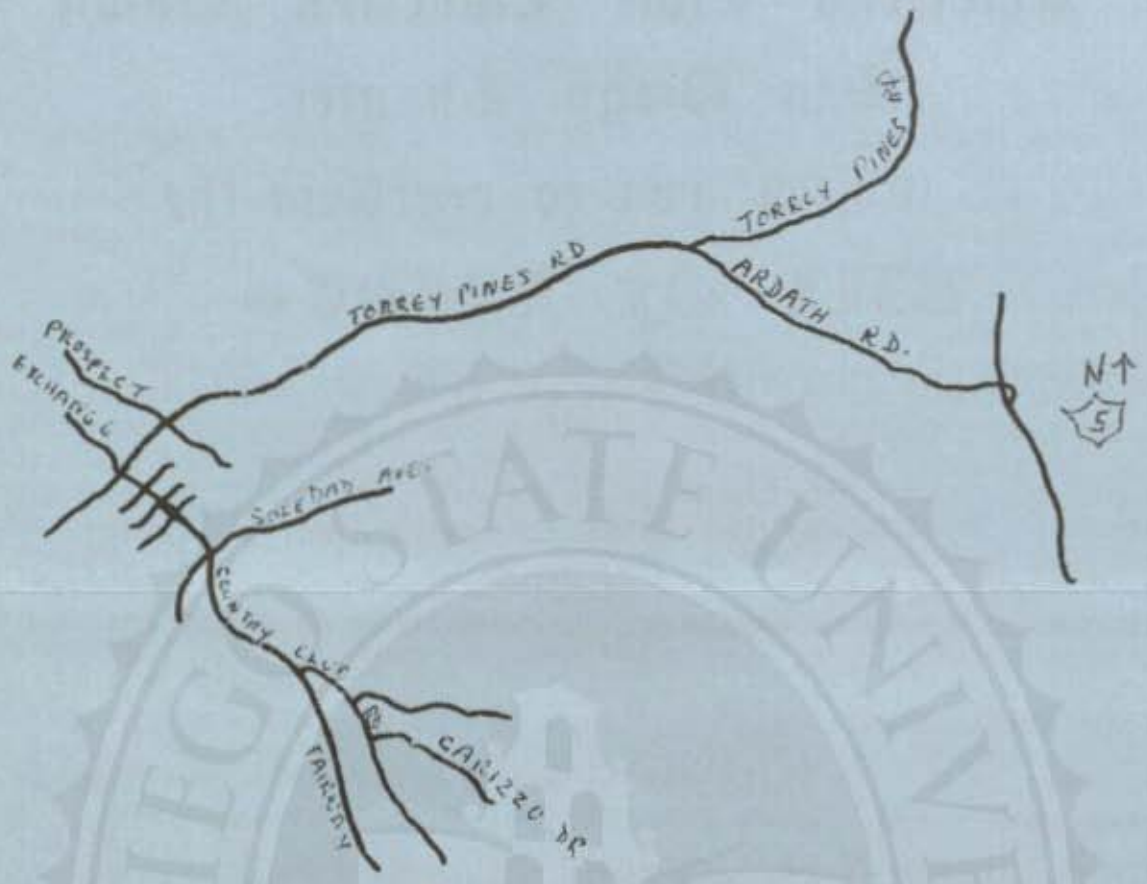
Student Member @ $ 3.00 each_____

I cannot attend. I'd like to be a Sponsor,
with my name in program @ $ 5.00 each_____

I will bring_____

I will volunteer for the clean-up crew_____

ACLU, Box 6233, San Diego, California 92106



7270 CARIZZO DRIVE
LA JOLLA, CALIF.

LEGAL DOCKET

Below are some of the legal cases currently being pursued by the San Diego chapter of the ACLU:

Hickman--This case involves a woman who faces dismissal from employment at the Navy Hospital for failing to deny homosexual tendencies. She had been discharged from the Navy for refusing to deny allegations of homosexual tendencies. Hickman is now a federal civil service employee at the Navy Hospital and has been ordered to appear at a civil service hearing concerned with her discharge from the Navy. An ACLU attorney will appear at her hearing and will follow up with an appeal in Federal court should she be dismissed.

Adcock vs. Board of Education--This case involving a teacher who was tranferred from Clairemont High School because of parent complaints about his political views has been accepted for review by the California Supreme Court. Adcock lost in the state appeals court after winning reinstatement from a San Diego Superior Court.

The ACLU will file a friend-of-the-court brief in a suit attempting to help court appointed attorneys recover legal fees in cases on appeal. Currently, attorneys are paid only for lower court appearances. Court appointed attorneys are not paid for expenses incurred when appealing convictions. The ACLU feels that attorneys are less likely to give adequate representation if they are not paid for appeals.

The Legal Panel is investigating reports that the Sheriff's office is violating a court decision barring officers from opening and reading attorney-client mail received by jail inmates.

ACLU AND QUOTAS

The national ACLU is currently considering several proposals designed to increase the participation of women in the organization. At its September meeting the ACLU of Southern California Board of Directors adopted a resolution "recommending that women be given preference for all available jobs in affiliate and national offices." The resolution further urges the national Board of Directors to add six at-large seats which are to be occupied by women until the National Board is composed of 50 percent women. At the same time the affiliate board authorized an affirmative action committee to draw up proposals to increase the number of women on the affiliate level.

The issue of how to increase participation of women and other groups in the ACLU is a long way from being resolved. The San Diego chapter Board of Directors adopted a resolution last month placing the chapter on record as "being unalterably opposed to quotas and affirms its belief that all Board members should be chosen on the basis of ability and interest." Thus, there is as much a divergence of opinion on the use of quotas within the ACLU as there is in the public forum.

VISITING THE ACLU

Various individuals and groups come to the ACLU for support and assistance. Below are examples of some of the persons who have attended Board of Directors meetings of the local chapter:

***W. Wesley Whetstone of the Model Neighborhood Community Relations Board described that group's work to the ACLU Board at its meeting last month. The CRB is funded from Model Cities funds and seeks to "encourage and facilitate participation by community residents in the policies, practices, and programs in law and justice activities." The CRB was formed by the City of San Diego in 1971 to serve as a consulting and advisory board to those persons and groups within the criminal justice system whose activities affect the residents of the Model Neighborhood (southeast San Diego). The ACLU has expressed its support for the efforts of the Community Relations Board.

***Rev. John Hose of the Metropolitan Community Church discussed the problems faced by homosexuals in San Diego. Hose asked the ACLU to aid in educating the public to the fact that "most constituted authorities have reached the conclusion that homosexuality is a life style that is still being handled as a legal problem when it might best be handled by agencies such as the home, school, and the church." The ACLU expressed its concern about the problem of required registration of homosexuals. The Board approved a test case to challenge the law requiring registration.

***Alex Landon of the Prisoners' Rights and Re-entry Project described the purpose of that project and asked for ACLU support. The project consists of a staff of attorneys who represent prisoners and ex-offenders having legal problems related to their special status. The San Diego chapter of ACLU adopted a resolution calling on the affiliate to give strong consideration to including the Re-entry Project in a specially funded prisoner rights project now being organized by the ACLU's of Northern and Southern California.

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