

Outnotes

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NO name-calling week

January 26-30, 2009

Developed by the Gay Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN) and inspired by the James Howe book, *The Misfits*. The book tells the story of four best friends trying to survive the seventh grade in the face of all too frequent taunts based on their weight, height, intelligence, and sexual orientation/gender expression. Motivated by the inequities they see around them, the "Gang of Five" (as they are known) creates a new political party during student council elections and run on a platform aimed at wiping out name-calling of all kinds. Though they lose the election, they win the support of the school's principal for their cause and their idea for a "No Name-Calling Day" at school.

Inspired by this simple idea, No Name-Calling Week seeks to call national attention to the issue of name-calling in schools and to provide students and educators with the tools and inspiration to launch an ongoing dialogue about ways to eliminate name-calling in their communities. The week is targeted primarily at grades five through eight and uses Howe's book as a springboard for talking about social awkwardness, racism, sexism and homophobia.

In 2005 the Saint Paul School District was a pilot site for this project and it has been operating in a variety of forms throughout our schools. For more information or resources visit: www.nonamecallingweek.org

OFE Awarded Phillips Foundation Grant!

Out for Equity is excited to announce that we have been awarded a \$25,000 grant from the Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation to continue the Middle School Project.

For Students

GSAs Unite!

GSA Network - Friday, December 19th
7pm, Hancock Recreation Center

(corner of Snelling and Hubbard - 1601 Hubbard Ave, St. Paul)

Come join students from GSAs all over the Twin Cities to:

- Meet new friends
- Plan joint activities and share ideas
- Participate in a "Secret Holiday Fairy" gift exchange
- Have fun with other GLBTQA students from all over the metro area!

To participate in the holiday fairy gift exchange, please bring a homemade, recycled, or purchased (under \$3) gift.

Be creative!



Connect

Share

Celebrate

For Adults

OFE Happy Hour

Please join us for our next social gathering:
Thursday, Dec. 18th at CAMP Bar (490 N Robert) in St. Paul from 4-6pm

Two-for-one beverages!

An Evening OUT' at

Hancock Recreation Center
A Friday night teen center for LGBT youth and friends (ages 13-18)

Dance & listen to music • Meet new friends • Watch movies • Play ping-pong, foosball, and electronic games • Shoot hoops, play dodgeball or volleyball in the gym • Homework help • Computer lab

Co-sponsored by Out for Equity and the City of Saint Paul
Division of Parks and Recreation

Out for Equity is Program of the Office of Educational Equity with the Saint Paul Public Schools
For More Information Call: (651) 603-4972 or visit <http://outforequity.spps.org/>

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