



Equally Speaking

Your Morning GLBT News from the Human Rights Campaign



Wednesday, March 15, 2006

Good morning and welcome to Equally Speaking – your morning dose of GLBT news for Wednesday, March 15th. I'm Robin Rooks.

And I'm Brad Luna. First up, a subtle, yet important change to national security clearance rules.

In 1997 under the Clinton Administration, guidelines for granting national security clearances were revised to remove sexual orientation as a disqualifying factor. Now it appears that modifications may have been made to the policy. This would be rolling back the clock on the most basic of protections that were granted by the last administration, continuing to call into question this administrations commitment to fairness and equality. Subtle changes can have drastic consequences for gay Americans looking to serve their country with honor and courage.

We've been reporting about the Boston Catholic Archdiocese attempt to skirt anti-discrimination laws when it comes to adoption. Now Catholic Charities of San Francisco is considering a similar policy. San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom has cancelled a trip to the Vatican in protest of the move to discriminate.

This week is national lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender health week. The Human Rights Campaign has teamed up the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association, the Mautner Project and the National Coalition for LGBT Health to release several new resources this week. Visit our homepage at hrc.org for tips about coming out to your health care professional.

GLBT themes weren't just big in American cinema this year. This week, the Canadian version of the Oscars – The Genie Awards – handed out 10 prizes to Crazy, a French-language gay coming of age story. The film won best picture and took home the award for the highest box office gross last year.

And finally, several popular sites that make planning a wedding for same-sex couples easier just joined together. TwoBrides.com, TwoGrooms.com and GayWeddings.com have joined forces to make planning your special day that much easier.

Great news for anyone out there planning a spring wedding. Well, that's all for us today.

Thanks for watching Equally Speaking. We'll see you tomorrow.