

**A History of Hate Motivated Violence
Against Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Communities in Southern Arizona**

**a report by the Wingspan Anti-Violence Project
July 30, 2006**

The Wingspan Anti-Violence Project is a social change and social service program that works to address and end violence in the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people. We provide free and confidential 24-hour crisis intervention, information, support, referrals, emergency shelter, and advocacy to LGBT victim/survivors of violence. Additionally, we offer extensive outreach and education programs.



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Hate crimes are violent and harassing acts against people, property, or organizations because of the group to which they belong or identify with. The federal government states that a hate crime is any crime committed that is proven to be motivated by ‘race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, gender, disability, or sexual orientation.’ Hate crimes are intentional acts of violence and have a far reaching impact upon our communities. In addition, evidence indicates that hate crimes are underreported or misreported (NCAVP 2004). Despite this underreporting, statistics show that more than 7,649 hate crimes were reported to the FBI in 2004. Race-related hate crimes were by far the most common, followed by hate crimes based on religious beliefs. Tucson Police Department Detective Tim Rupel stated at a January 2005 community forum at Wingspan that there are “an average of 8,000 hate crimes every year in the US. Number one is the black community. Here, it’s the gay community. Here at Wingspan there’s a push to report. Only one in every 8 hate crimes is reported.”¹ The FBI does not track hate crimes based on gender expression or transgender identity.

Each year, the FBI's statistics fall dramatically short of the number of incidents tracked in the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Projects (NCAVP) annual reports on hate violence. The NCAVP is a private organization that tracks bias incidents against lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people. "The fact that the FBI's statistics continue to significantly undercount anti-LGBT hate crimes is something that should give us all pause," stated Clarence Patton, NCAVP's Director. "For NCAVP, which clearly has far fewer resources than the federal government, to consistently report more and more detailed information on hate crimes against LGBT people should truly be a source of embarrassment for the FBI" (NCAVP 2002). For instance, the NCAVP documented 1,792 incidents of anti-LGBT violence in 2004 (including crimes based on gender expression and transgender identity), as compared to 1,197 incidents reported by the FBI involving hate crimes based on sexual orientation reported by the FBI.

¹ AVP Staff notes and minutes of January 2005 community forum on hate crimes at Wingspan GLBT community center.

Community Response to Anti-LGBT Violence in Tucson

Tucson as a community has a long history of speaking out against hate motivated violence against the LGBT community. Support has increasingly come from allies outside the LGBT community, including city government and community organizations. One such instance of a unified response to an act of anti-LGBT violence came about with the hate motivated murder of a young gay man in the mid 1970s. Community action was motivated not only by the hate motivated violence, but by the outrage over a local judge's sentencing of the perpetrators of the crime.

In June of 1976, Richard Heakin, a young gay man from Nebraska was visiting Tucson. On the evening of June 5th, he spent his last night of his visit with friends at the Stonewall Tavern, a gay bar on the North Side of Tucson. As he was leaving the bar that night, four teenagers, age 15 to 17, attacked him and beat him to death in the parking lot. Heakin's killers later testified that they had had gone to the tavern to "hassle some queers." The four young attackers were charged with involuntary manslaughter and placed on probation until their 21st birthdays. Tucsonans responded with outrage to what they considered to be an appallingly light sentence. In a letter to the editor of the Arizona Daily Star, Robert J. Hart said that the sentence wasn't even a slap on the wrist, but more like a pat on the back.

Heakin's death became a rallying point for the local and national gay rights movement. For instance, the Richard Heakin Memorial Butterfly Brigade², a group of gay men and lesbian women was organized to stop violent attacks against gays and lesbians in San Francisco. LGBT people in Tucson reacted by speaking out against the bigotry underlying Richard Heakin's death and the judge's sentence, and began organizing. In the process, many of them came out publicly for the first time.

With the support of straight allies, their efforts transformed the tragedy of Richard Heakin's killing into positive change for all lesbian, gay and bisexual Tucsonans. On February 7, 1977, the city council passed Ordinance No. 4616, amending Chapter 17, Article II of the Tucson Code reads "It is the policy of the city to eliminate prejudice and discrimination due to... sexual orientation... in places of public accommodation, in employment, and in housing." Tucson

² http://www.glbthistory.org/archives/catalogs/collections_list.lasso?&skip=520

joined a record number of cities who passed laws banning anti-gay discrimination in 1977, including Wichita, KS; Iowa City, IA; Champaign, IL; and Aspen, CO.

Another community response to the crime involved the creation of the Tucson Gay Newsletter (a predecessor of the Weekly Observer), the first Gay newspaper in the state, which helped give the Tucson community a voice in local, state and national debates such as changing the anti-gay Arizona criminal code and the Anita Bryant crusade against gay rights in the 1970s, the Moral Majority and Jerry Fallwell anti-gay campaigns in the 1980s. The T.G.N. and its predecessors also acted as a community warning system in regards to rising anti-LGBT violence and as an early response mechanism in the dissemination of AIDS knowledge and prevention in the early 1980s, a time when mainstream media ignored or misrepresented LGBT concerns.

Because of Richard Heakin, and the hard work of brave individuals, Tucsonans today are still protected from discrimination on the basis of their sexual orientation. In 1999, the city council passed Ordinance No. 9199 to prohibit discrimination because of gender identity.³ The Tucson community commemorated the 30th anniversary of Richard Heakin's death on June 6th, 2006. A ceremony was held at the Heakin Memorial at Sunset Park outside city hall. The memorial, organized and funded by local LGBT community members, was dedicated in 2002.

More recently, two other incidents of violence prompted wide-spread community action in Tucson. On February 6, 2000 a University of Arizona was stabbed outside of an LGBT owned coffee shop on 4th Ave. More than a thousand community members came together to show their support for the survivor and to speak out against the violence. Community members, including representatives from Tucson city government responded by holding a march through downtown Tucson culminating in a rally at the UofA campus. The survivor of the violence spoke out publicly and many community members supported each other and also spoke out about their own experiences with anti-LGBT harassment and violence.

Another hate motivated murder of a young gay man occurred on June 12, 2002. Philip Walsted, a 24-year-old gay man was brutally beaten to death with a baseball bat near his home in central Tucson by another young man who espoused neo-Nazi beliefs and a hatred of gay people. Walsted's death galvanized the LGBT community and prompted the Wingspan Anti-Violence Project to expand its services beyond domestic violence to include support and referrals for survivors of hate crimes and anti-LGBT harassment and discrimination. A memorial was

³ Press Release, June 12, 2002, http://www.wingspan.org/content/news_2002_jun12.php

dedicated to Walsted's memory in Catalina Park, near Walsted's former West University neighborhood.⁴

In January of 2004, another young gay man, Mark Fontes was found beaten hours after leaving a local gay bar on 4th Avenue. Days later, hundreds of community members gathered for a candlelight vigil near the spot where he was found. A local newspaper reported that the prevalent feeling among many people was that "Mark Fontes was attacked for one reason: He's gay."⁵ As with the other crimes mentioned above, community response to the Fontes attack was swift. Having learned more directly about community needs in a time of crisis after the Walsted killing, the Wingspan Anti-Violence Project was better able to provide the support to the community needed after such a violent attack on an individual and the LGBT community at large. The Anti-Violence Project is a program of Wingspan, Southern Arizona's LGBT Community Center located in Tucson.

As mentioned above, hate crimes have a far reaching impact on our communities. Their intent and effect is to send a message to a group in society, not just to the individuals who are beaten, harassed, raped, stabbed, shot and murdered. Another community response within Tucson by LGBT and allied supporters has been to advocate for changes in the way hate crimes are tracked at the state, local and federal level. This has also included the passage of legislation that allows for harsher sentencing in cases of bias motivated crimes. "Arizona has no hate crime classification, but judges can take the police designation into account for sentencing."⁶ Below are some important AZ and federal statutes that impact how bias / hate crime data is collected.

Hate Crimes in Arizona

Congress passed the Hate Crime Statistics Act in 1990. This made the Justice Department responsible for tabulating data on crimes, which "manifest prejudice based on race, religion, sexual orientation, or ethnicity." The act held the Federal Bureau of Investigation responsible for compiling data on crimes motivated by sexual orientation but it did not create any law against it. This meant that if the police determined that a crime was motivated because of someone's sexual orientation, it became a statistic and nothing more.

⁴ Gay, Gerald. "Park gets memorial to gay slain man, dedication today, bench, stone in Catalina Park," Arizona Daily Star, June 18, 2005 [online edition], <http://www.azstarnet.com/dailystar/relatedarticles/80088.php>

⁵ Burns, Saxon. "We will survive: After an attack on a local gay man, citizens call for action to prevent hate," in Tucson Weekly, January 22, 2004. <http://www.tucsonweekly.com/gbase/currents/Content?oid=oid:52929>

⁶ "Gay man says he's victim of 2nd hate crime," Tucson Citizen, Saturday June 19, 2004 [online]

In 1994, the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act were passed. This allowed judges to impose longer sentences and added physical and mental disability as a provision. Other pieces of legislation have since been introduced. These amendments and laws help shape how crimes are reported and sentencing recommendations.

AZ followed in the federal government's footsteps and passed its own versions of hate crime legislation. However, the "investigating officer is generally responsible for determining whether bias motivated the crime.....there are no uniform guidelines police follow. Arizona law mandates that all law enforcement agencies provide training in the identification of bias motivated offenses. But not every officer has been trained."⁷ The following are Arizona Hate Crimes Statutes:

ARS 13-702A- Sentencing enhancement for a first conviction of felonies.

ARS 13-702C14- Evidence that the defendant committed the crime out of malice toward a victim because of the victim's identity in a group listed in section 41-1750, subsection A, paragraph 3 or because of the defendant's perception of the victim's identity in a group listed in section 41-1750, subsection A, paragraph 3.

ARS 41-1750A3- Collect information concerning criminal offenses that manifest evidence of prejudice based on race, color religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, or disability.

Tucson City Code 11-30 - Intimidation. A person is guilty of intimidation if, by reason of the actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, age, or disability of another individual or group of individuals, he/she causes that individual or group to suffer physical injury or loss or damage to such individual's or group's personal property. (Ord. No. 8506 5-22-95)

⁷ Rybka, Ted. "Inside the hate: Breaking down the elements of hate crime acts, laws and numbers," in Echo, April 7, 2005, p43

State and Local Research:

Prevalence of Anti-LGBT Harassment, Violence and Discrimination

As mentioned previously, anti-LGBT violence is often under or mis-reported by government agencies. At issue as well, is the lack of reporting on the behalf of the survivors of such incidents. To understand this lack of reporting on the part of survivors, one must understand the normalization of anti-LGBT beliefs within Arizona and the country as a whole, the anti-LGBT climate within secondary educational settings, and the fear that police and government agencies may in turn harass, discriminate or act violently toward LGBT survivors, in essence fear of re-victimization.

In order to get at the everyday experiences of LGBT people with harassment, violence and discrimination a growing body of local and national research has been undertaken in recent years. One such local project, involved a survey⁸ administered to over 1600 individuals on October 12, 2002, at the annual OutoberFest event, a gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender festival in Reid Park in Tucson, Arizona. The purpose of the survey was to assess the social climate for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons in the Tucson area.

Some key findings included:

- Verbal harassment or threats were reported by close to half (43-48%) of the gay, lesbian and bisexual respondents
- Verbal or physical abuse by a family member was reported by 16-28% of the gay, lesbian and bisexual respondents
- Verbal harassment or threats were reported by 56% of transgender respondents
- Having objects being thrown at them was reported by 10-16% of the gay, lesbian and bisexual respondents
- Physical assault was reported by 11% of the transgender respondents and by 5-8% of the gay, lesbian and bisexual respondents

⁸ City of Tucson Commission on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) Issues Community Survey 2002

A more recent study published by GLSEN, or the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network⁹ entitled, “From Teasing to Torment: A Profile of School Climate in Arizona,” was released on June 14, 2006 details student experiences with bullying and harassment in Arizona schools. The results are based on Arizona students who were surveyed as part of a national study of secondary school students and teachers.

Key findings from the report include:

Bullying, name-calling, and harassment are serious problems in Arizona schools

- Less than half (46%) of students surveyed reported feeling very safe at school, while 44% reported bullying, name calling and harassment to be serious problems in their school.
- A majority of students reported that people at their school were harassed or bullied at least sometimes because of their actual or perceived sexual orientation (67%), their looks or body size (67%) or because of how they expressed their gender (63%).

Biased language was frequently heard in Arizona schools

- Sexist remarks and negative remarks about a person’s gender expression, such as a boy acting “too feminine,” were frequently heard in Arizona schools. Three-quarters (74%) of students reported hearing sexist remarks and over half (57%) heard negative remarks about gender expression from other students.
- A majority of Arizona students reported hearing homophobic remarks, such as “that’s so gay” (80%) or derogatory terms such as “faggot” or “dyke” (72%), from students in their school.
- Intervention by school authorities when hearing biased language from students was not as common as should be expected. Only a third of Arizona students reported that teachers or other school staff frequently intervened when hearing sexist or racist remarks and less than a quarter (21%) frequently intervened when homophobic remarks were made.

Incidents of harassment and assault were often not reported nor acted upon

- Among Arizona students who experienced harassment or assault in school, the majority (57%) said that they never reported the incident(s) to a teacher, principal or other school staff person. Of the students who did not report the incident to school authorities, about a quarter (24%) said that they did not report it because they felt that nothing would be done to address the situation.

⁹ GLSEN press release *From Teasing to Torment Documents Student Experiences of Bullying and Harassment in Arizona Schools*, June 14, 2006. <http://www.glsen.org/cgi-bin/iowa/all/news/record/1936.html>

Comprehensive policies in Arizona schools are lacking

- Only half (52%) of Arizona students reported that they were protected by a comprehensive anti-harassment policy that specifically mentioned sexual orientation or gender identity/expression.
- Having a comprehensive anti-harassment policy in place makes a difference. Students from schools without a comprehensive anti-harassment policy were more likely than students from schools with such policies to report verbal harassment. For example, students from schools without comprehensive policies were two times as likely to report being verbally harassed because of their sexual orientation and gender expression, and were 49% more likely to report harassment because of their looks or body size.

Of those surveyed, close to a tenth (9%) of students in Arizona identified as LGBT, which was higher than the 6% of students in the national sample.

“The results of this study indicate that there is a lot of work to be done in Arizona to ensure that all students can learn in a safe environment,” said Kevin Jennings, Founder and Executive Director of GLSEN. “State-level safe school legislation that provides for specific categories must be adopted in Arizona, and teachers and other school staff must go through appropriate training to assess and respond to incidents of verbal or physical harassment.”

On a local level GLSEN of Tucson recently sponsored the creation and distribution of a video entitled, “Voices of GLBT Youth” that features interviews of local, Tucson youth telling their stories about being out about their sexual orientation or gender identity in high school. A copy of the video was sent to every high school in Tucson. Another community response both nationally and locally has been the rise of Gay Straight Alliances in public schools. GSAs are groups created by students for students of all sexual orientations and gender identities. In addition to GSAs in Tucson, the EON Youth Lounge has a facility that serves the needs of 13-23 year-old lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning youth. The work of GSAs, GLSEN and EON Youth Lounge are especially important in Arizona where a state law prohibits homosexuality from being discussed in a “positive light” within public schools. Work with youth is particularly important when you consider the number of youth who are either the victims or perpetrators of hate crimes.

Time Line – Anti-LGBT Violence in Arizona

The following include a selection of public reports of anti-LGBT violence in Arizona as reported in Arizona and national news sources since 1974.

1974, August 30 – Frank A. Zedar was beaten to death, his body was set on fire, found by a police officer near North Campbell Ave and E. Fort Lowell.¹⁰

1975 – A gay man was beaten to death by South Tucson Teenagers after he allegedly flirted with them in a bar.¹¹

1976 – A University of Arizona student was strangled and beaten to death and his body mutilated by William T. Crouch, while in a Pima County Jail cell. Crouch was found innocent by reason of insanity; he apparently killed the student out of his fear of a homosexual advance while detained.¹²

1976, June 5 – Richard Heakin, a 21-year-old visiting from Nebraska, was beaten to death outside went to the Stonewall Tavern, a gay bar on the North Side of Tucson, for a night of drinking with his friends on the last night of his visit here. As he was leaving the bar after midnight, four teenagers, age 15 to 17, attacked him and beat him to death in the parking lot. Heakin's killers later testified that they had gotten bored of cruising Speedway Boulevard that night and had gone to the tavern to "hassle some queers." Though initially charged with premeditated murder, the charges were reduced to involuntary manslaughter and the four attackers were eventually placed on probation until their 21st birthdays. Heakin's death spurred the Tucson City Council to pass a law prohibiting hiring and housing discrimination on the basis of someone's sexual orientation.¹³

1976, September – The Tucson Gay Newsletter reports that “a member of the Gay Community was badly beaten on ‘A’ Mountain....The two would be murderers who attacked our Gay brother...about 22..[and] 24.” Police were notified.¹⁴

¹⁰ Arizona Gay News, “Suspect held in Illinois in ’74 Tucson slaying,” October 14, 1977, v. 2, Issue 41 and “Confession gets slayer 5-10 years,” October 23, 1977, v.2, issue 51, pg. 2.

¹¹ Arizona Daily Star. “Justice not Served,” staff editorial, October 23, 1976, 10/1. and “Sentence protested by gay group,” October 24, 1976, 1 / 2.

¹² Arizona Daily Star. “Justice not Served,” staff editorial, October 23, 1976, 10/1. and “Sentence protested by gay group,” October 24, 1976, 1 / 2

¹³ OSCAR ABEYTA, Registry mostly symbolic; that's OK with many, in Tucson Citizen, Wednesday, December 10, 2003

¹⁴ Tucson Gay Newsletter, “Bad News,” September 29, 1976, v.1, Issue 1, pg2., the newsletter encouraged others to contact them with similar bad experiences to ‘save one of your friends a similar experience’

1977, April – Associated Students of University of Arizona makes a formal apology to the Gay Student Organization for “prejudicial and derogatory remarks” made against a recognized student organization. G.S.O. had requested \$660 for a peer counseling program and public relations. On April 22, a student senator said that “I think we ought to take the \$660, buy guns and shoot all the queers.”¹⁵

1977, October 23 – MCC of Phoenix victim of arson after the congregation had left Sunday evening services.¹⁶

1980, Spring – Stepps bar in Tucson was vandalized with anti-gay graffiti (“Gays go Home”), they responded by erecting a sign that stated “We are home.”¹⁷

1980, March – The Phoenix private residence of the Secretary of the Citizens for Constitutional Rights (CCR) the Gay Line answering machine and other office equipment was stolen and the home was vandalized with anti-gay graffiti.¹⁸

1981, June – Larry Mantz, Phoenix, was beaten, strangled and robbed in what the Arizona Gay News called a “queer bashing”. The paper listed a description of the assailant and announced a community fundraiser to cover doctor’s expenses.¹⁹

1984, September – Homo-Tel, a vacant two-story motel adjacent to The Fineline gay bar was set on fire September 22nd.²⁰

1984, October – Charles Bush, an openly gay man of 34 who resided in St. David was robbed, stabbed to death and dumped in some shrubs near the Fourth Street rest area in Benson by two teenage boys he had picked up hitchhiking. The teens alleged Bush had made sexual advances toward them.²¹

1984, October 28 – A man named Derrick was attacked and robbed by a group of men in the parking lot of the Fineline.²²

1984, December – Debbie, Fineline bartender, and Desiree, bartender at Colette’s West, were physically assaulted by a man in the Fineline parking lot. Debbie required stitches on the lower forehead, and sustained a broken nose and two black eyes. Desiree sustained a broken cheek bone. The attacker received a citation.²³

¹⁵ Arizona Gay News. “Semmens apologizes but GSO calls on him to resign due to bias,” May 5, 1977, v. 5, issue 10, pg.1. see also Arizona Daily Wildcat, April 26.

¹⁶ Arizona Gay News, “MCC Church – Phoenix, Victim of Arson,” October 20, 1977, v. 2, Issue 43, pg. 3. “The church has been subject to vandalism in the past with thefts of the church organ and all its chairs as well as the usual harassment of broken windows and obscene phone calls from time to time.”

¹⁷ Arizona Gay News, March 8, 1980, v.5, Issue 10, pg. 5

¹⁸ Arizona Gay News, “CRC’s Gay Line Vandalized,” March 8, 1980, v.5, Issue 10, pg. 5

¹⁹ Arizona Gay News, “Phoenix Man in Queer Bashing,” June 19, 1981, v. 6, Issue 24, pg. 2.

²⁰ The Weekly Observer, “Arson Fire at Homo-Tel”, September 26, 1984, v. 1, issue 11, pg. 1.

²¹ The Weekly Observer, “Gay Related Murder in Benson,” November 21, 1984, pg. 1.

²² The Weekly Observer, “Benefit for Attack Victim Saturday,” December 12, 1984, pg. 2

²³ The Weekly Observer, “Tucson Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee Report, v.1, Issue 20, December 5, 1984, pg. 1.

1985, June 10 – Johnny Collins, identified by police and local media as a bisexual transvestite, was last seen alive on May 31, 1985. His bludgeoned body was found near La Cholla Road in Northwest Tucson.²⁴

1989 – A young gay man attacked and beaten outside of a gay bar on Grant in the early evening by Pima College students.²⁵

1992 – Elton Naswood, a Navajo man from Window Rock was beaten and pounded with a rock by four men outside a gay bar in Phoenix, he did not go to the hospital or report to the police²⁶

1993 – Candido Sanavria was strangled and stabbed to death.²⁷

1993 – Michael Anthony Senecal, was beaten with a machete and left for dead by a carload of young men in Phoenix.²⁸ Font.

1994, June – Michael Despain, a 24-year-old gay man, who sometimes went by Rolanda, was beaten and then murdered in an arson related hate crime in Phoenix.²⁹

1995, December 2 – John Pinto was last seen leaving a gay bar near University and Stone Ave called The Graduate after 10pm on December 2, 1995, he was found beaten to death the next morning. This crime has not been solved.³⁰

2000, October 31 - Justin Fidelis Enos, 54-year-old gay man, was dragged behind a horse and murdered with a shovel on the Gila River Reservation because he danced “like a girl”³¹

2000, February – Fabian Padilla was called derogatory anti-gay names and beaten outside a Tucson bar by a Tucson Firefighter (Franchot Opela)³²

²⁴ The Weekly Observer, “Homicide Victim,” June 12, 1985, pg. 3.

²⁵ From January 27, 2005 Community Forum notes (Mark was a speaker at the forum), Lori Gershick.

²⁶ Pemberton, Mary. ‘TWO-SPIRIT’: Victims of gay-bashing seek solutions at HIV/AIDS conference,” Associated Press, <http://www.nativeout.com/>, http://www.adn.com/life/native_culture/story/7699692p-7610642c.html

²⁷ Associated Press State & Local Wire, “Man who killed gay gets 20-year prison term,” September 10, 2001.

²⁸ Lacey, Michael, “To the cops, some crimes just seem less important than others,” in Phoenix New Times, July 28, 1994. <http://www.phoenixnewtimes.com/Issues/1994-07-28/news/columns.html>

²⁹ Lacey, Michael. “Why this young man’s death matters,” in Phoenix New Times, August 11, 1994.

http://music.phoenixnewtimes.com/Issues/1994-08-11/news/columns_4.html

Lacey, Michael, “To the cops, some crimes just seem less important than others,” in Phoenix New Times, July 28, 1994. <http://www.phoenixnewtimes.com/Issues/1994-07-28/news/columns.html>

³⁰ AVP records

³¹ Associated Press, “Man pleads guilty to murder of gay man Phoenix,” August 14, 2002 [online]

Dorian C. Brown pleaded guilty Tuesday in federal court to second-degree murder in the death of Justin Fidelis Enos on Halloween 2000.

GPAC. “Plea in Murder of NV Man Killed Because He “Danced Like a Girl”,” August 13, 2002.

<http://www.gpac.org/archive/news/notitle.html?cmd=view&archive=news&msgnum=0423>

³² Associated Press, “Firefighter’s sentence in hate crime deemed light by some,” July 11, 2001 [online]

2000, February 6th – Gay male University of Arizona student stabbed outside a gay establishment in Tucson. More than a thousand community members responded by staging a march through downtown Tucson to the UofA campus.³³

2001, December –An act of anti-gay vandalism (anti-gay slurs) was reported in Bridgeport.³⁴

2002, February 5 – F.C. Martinez a young Arizona born Navajo transgender two-spirit or *nadleehi* 16 year-old was beaten to death by an 18 year-old in Cortes, CO.³⁵

2002, February 16 – Amy Soos, a transgender woman from the Salt River Pima Indian Reservation was found on a Phoenix roadway beaten to death. Excessive violence may indicate that this murder may have been bias/hate motivated.³⁶

2002, March – Alejandro Ray Lucero, a transgender Hopi person was strangled in Phoenix, AZ, excessive violence may indicate that this murder may have been bias/hate motivated.³⁷

2002, June 12th – Philip Walsted, a 24-year-old gay man beaten to death in Tucson by self-proclaimed skin-head David Higdon. Higdon was sentenced to natural life in prison.³⁸

2002, June – Wingspan GLBT Community Center Vandalized in Tucson³⁹

2003, August 27 – A 37 year-old gay man was lured out of a gay bar and attacked by several men.⁴⁰

2003 – A religious group, protested and verbal harassed youth and staff outside the Tucson LGBTQ Youth Center.

³³ at Rainbow Planet Coffee Shop, 606 N. Fourth Ave, Bustamante, Mary. "Gays and Jews Top Targets of Hate Crimes in Tucson," in The Weekly Observer, February 25, 2004, pg. 1

³⁴Associated Press, "Yavapai County Sheriff investigating possible hate crime," December 27, 2001. The victims, new residents to the area, were hosting a party when guests reportedly discovered the road in front of the house had been spray painted with a picture and a slur. The picture had two stick figures within a circle and a slash across the circle plus the words "No Fags."

³⁵ TG Crossroads Staff, "Murphy Pleads Guilty to Murder of F.C. Martinez, Sentencing Set for May 16," TG Crossroads, February 8, 2002, <http://www.tgcrossroads.org/news/archive.asp?aid=168> In a court affidavit, investigators alleged that 18-year-old Shaun Murphy, who apparently did not know Martinez, encountered him on a Cortez street June 16, the night Martinez was last seen alive. According to the affidavit, Murphy was later heard "bragging" to friends that he had "beat up a fag."

³⁶ Southern Poverty Law Center. "for the Record," in Intelligence Report, Winter 2003, pg. 46

³⁷ Southern Poverty Law Center. "for the Record," in Intelligence Report, Winter 2003, pg. 46

³⁸David A. Higdon was sentenced to life in prison (3/28/05) with no chance of parole for beating Philip Walsted to death with a baseball bat, Walsted was found June 12, 2002 on East Fifth Street and North Hoff Avenue, Echo, April 7, 2005, 10 (editor) and Bustamante, Mary. "Gays and Jews Top Targets of Hate Crimes in Tucson," in The Weekly Observer, February 25, 2004, pg. 1

³⁹ Everett-Haynes, LA Monica. "Area's gay community center vandalized," in Tucson Citizen, Wednesday, June 26, 2002.

⁴⁰ Associated Press. "Police investigate possible hate crime," Tucson September 23, 2003.

2004 - Jheri Davis, a Navajo man from Chinle, Ariz., was attacked with a baseball bat and machete, while being called anti-gay slurs by three other young Navajo men who offered him a ride.⁴¹

2004, January 13th – Mark Fontes, a young gay man, found beaten and unconscious (possible hate crime) in Tucson⁴²

2004, April – Anti-gay graffiti was painted at an abandoned property near Interstate 10 in Tucson.⁴³

2004, April – Julie Melson, 38 and Suzanne King, 32 were beaten by bar patrons, while Kings' dress ripped and pictures taken of exposed breast, patrons yelled anti-gay slurs and crude comments at them outside a Scottsdale bar.⁴⁴

2004, June 18th – Mark Fontes, a young gay man, was threatened by another young man with a gun while anti-gay slurs and remarks were directed toward Fontes in a Tucson residence.⁴⁵

2004, July – Two incidents in mid July in which someone spray-painted an anti-gay slur at a center for GLBT youth center and a swastika at a GLBT-oriented church⁴⁶

2004, August 25th – A 26-year-old man was attacked while being called anti-gay slurs by two acquaintances in the alley behind a coffee shop on Campbell and Grant⁴⁷

2004, October 29th – Army Pfc. Kyle Lawson was assaulted (nose broken) by a fellow soldier because he was gay at an off-base party in Sierra Vista⁴⁸

2005, April 2nd – Prescott Pride Center vandalized on April 2nd⁴⁹

⁴¹Pemberton, Mary. "TWO-SPIRIT: Victims of gay-bashing seek solutions at HIV/AIDS conference," Associated Press, <http://www.nativeout.com/>, http://www.adn.com/life/native_culture/story/7699692p-7610642c.html
"They called me a queer, a faggot," Davis said. "They said I should die."
Davis' wrist was broken, his knee cap smashed and the back of his head split open. He spent two days in a trauma center in Maricopa County, Ariz. When he got out, he looked up the local prosecutor. The perpetrators, ages 16-21, received between one and five years in prison.

⁴² Found on North Hoff Avenue in the same area near its 'Bout Time, a Gay bar at 616 N. Fourth Ave. ["Fontes unable to recall what happened", Bustamante, Mary. "Gays and Jews Top Targets of Hate Crimes in Tucson," in The Weekly Observer, February 25, 2004, pg. 1

⁴³ Swedlund, Eric. "Anti-gay graffiti stirs concern," in Arizona Daily Star, July 21, 2004, B1.

⁴⁴ Laxson, Toni. "Couple claim hate crime," in East Valley Tribune, Saturday, April 17, 2004.

⁴⁵ Swedlund, Eric. "Man may be victim of second hate crime," in Arizona Daily Star, Saturday, June 19, 2004, B4

⁴⁶ Swedlund, Eric. "Anti-gay graffiti stirs concern," in Arizona Daily Star, July 21, 2004, B1.

⁴⁷ AVP files.

⁴⁸ The Associated Press, "Gay soldier leaves Army after assault," in Arizona Daily Star, January 6, 2006 [online]

⁴⁹ Rybka, Ted. "Mile high hate: Prescott's gay community center the target of vandals," in Echo, May 19, 2005, pg. 18 – see pics

2005, May 27th – Amancio Corrales, a 23-year-old gay man who performed as a female impersonator under the name Dalila was found murdered in the Colorado River near Yuma, Arizona. This suspected hate crime has not been solved.⁵⁰

2005, September – Gay man attacked (stabbed in the neck) by two men (one of which he met online and knew for a week)⁵¹

2006, June – A gay man was lured from IBT's and sexually assaulted by three men (letter to community by the survivor, Observer, June 14, 2006)

⁵⁰ <http://www.theamancioproject.org/>

⁵¹ AVP files Public Announcement - 2005, August - John Schmaling had met a man online at www.gay.com. He and this man had dinner one night and coffee another. They had made plans to see each other again on Saturday, September 10th. John's date had told John that he wanted him to meet a friend of his and they drove out to Marana to pick up this friend. The three of them hung out at John's house, talked, enjoyed each other's company and on the way back to Marana the "friend" of John's date reached forward with a knife and began stabbing John as he was driving. He stabbed John several times and then fled the vehicle. John's date fled as soon as the stabbing began. John drove himself to the hospital. He is doing well and recovering quickly. John has identified the man who solicited him on [gay.com](http://www.gay.com). This man had given John a false name leading authorities to believe that the crime was premeditated. The real identity of the man who stabbed John is still unknown at this time. The Pima County Sheriff's Department is handling this case. (community forum, dinner)

Local, State and National Hate Crime Statistics

Wingspan AVP Statistics:

July 2004 – May 31, 2006: 46 bias/hate crime calls

2002: 1 bias/hate crime reported to AVP Feb. 2005

2004: 8 bias/hate crime calls

9 incidents reported as occurring between July 2004 - December 2004

(1 call came in 7 months after incident)

2005: 21 bias/hate crime calls

2006 (Jan. – June): 16 bias/hate crime calls

City of Tucson Hate Crimes (from Det. Rupel)

YTD (May 2006): 7 bias/hate crimes, 4 of which were anti-LGBT

2005: 9 LGBT hate crimes

AZ State Statistics

1998 Bias/Hate Crimes based on Sexual Orientation (FBI):

No FBI data on UofA for 1998

	Incidents
Tucson Sexual Orientation	5
Tucson All Bias/Hate Crimes	30
AZ All Sexual Orientation	53
AZ All Bias/Hate Crimes	283

1999 Bias/Hate Crimes based on Sexual Orientation (FBI):

	Incidents
Tucson Sexual Orientation	6
Tucson All Bias/Hate Crimes	39
UofA	-
UofA All Bias/Hate Crimes	7
AZ All Sexual Orientation	42
AZ All Bias/Hate Crimes	252

2000 Bias/Hate Crimes based on Sexual Orientation (FBI):

	Incidents
Tucson Sexual Orientation	9
Tucson All Bias/Hate Crimes	23
UofA	1
UofA All Bias/Hate Crimes	5
AZ All Sexual Orientation	44
AZ All Bias/Hate Crimes	240

2001 Bias/Hate Crimes based on Sexual Orientation (FBI):

	Incidents
Tucson Sexual Orientation	3
Tucson All Bias/Hate Crimes	51
UofA	1
UofA All Bias/Hate Crimes	7
AZ All Sexual Orientation	42
AZ All Bias/Hate Crimes	384

2002 Bias/Hate Crimes based on Sexual Orientation (AZ Dept. of Public Safety* and FBI):

	Incidents
Anti-Male Homosexual*	38*
Anti-Female Homosexual*	6*
Anti-Homosexual*	8*
Anti-Heterosexual*	-
Anti-Bisexual*	-
Tucson Sexual Orientation	13
Tucson All Bias/Hate Crimes	23
UofA	2
UofA All Bias/Hate Crimes	5
All Sexual Orientation	52* / 51
All Bias/Hate Crimes	246* / 238
% Sexual Orientation	21.1*

2003 Bias/Hate Crimes based on Sexual Orientation:

	Incidents
Anti-Male Homosexual*	32*
Anti-Female Homosexual*	1*
Anti-Homosexual*	5*
Anti-Heterosexual*	-*
Anti-Bisexual*	-*
Tucson Sexual Orientation	8
Tucson All Bias/Hate Crimes	28 / 34**
UofA	-
UofA All Bias/Hate Crimes	-
All Sexual Orientation	38* / 37
All Bias/Hate Crimes	254* / 246
% Sexual Orientation	15*

****TPD – Det. Rupel**

2004 Bias/Hate Crimes based on Sexual Orientation:

	Incidents
Anti-Male Homosexual	19*
Anti-Female Homosexual	6*
Anti-Homosexual	8*
Anti-Heterosexual	-*
Anti-Bisexual	-*
Tucson Sexual Orientation	8
Tucson All Bias/Hate Crimes	22 / 43**
UofA	-
UofA All Bias/Hate Crimes	9
All Sexual Orientation	33*/33
All Bias/Hate Crimes	229*/224
% Sexual Orientation	14.4*

****TPD – Det. Rupel**

FBI Statistics for Nation and Arizona

1995 Bias/Hate Crimes based on Sexual Orientation:

	Incidents	Offenses	Victims	Known Offenders
Anti-Male Homosexual	735	915	937	1,031
Anti-Female Homosexual	146	189	191	131
Anti-Homosexual	103	125	182	80
Anti-Heterosexual	17	19	19	13
Anti-Bisexual	18	18	18	18
All Sexual Orientation	1,019	1,266	1,347	1,273
NCAVP All LGBT	2,212	4,634	2,964	3,967
All Bias/Hate Crimes	7,947	9,895	10,469	8,433

1996 Bias/Hate Crimes based on Sexual Orientation:

	Incidents	Offenses	Victims	Known Offenders
Anti-Male Homosexual	757	927	940	925
Anti-Female Homosexual	150	185	192	150
Anti-Homosexual	84	94	99	93
Anti-Heterosexual	15	38	38	4
Anti-Bisexual	10	12	12	8
NCAVP All LGBT	2,529	5,587	3,105	4,160
All Sexual Orientation	1,016	1,256	1,281	1,180
All Bias/Hate Crimes	8,759	10,706	11,039	8,935

1997 Bias/Hate Crimes based on Sexual Orientation:

	Incidents	Offenses	Victims	Known Offenders
Anti-Male Homosexual	760	912	927	1,032
Anti-Female Homosexual	188	229	236	158
Anti-Homosexual	133	210	214	103
Anti-Heterosexual	12	14	14	14
Anti-Bisexual	9	10	10	8
All Sexual Orientation	1,102	1,375	1,401	1,315
NCAVP All LGBT	2,445	5,338	2,930	4,080
All Bias/Hate Crimes	8,049	9,861	10,255	8,474

1998 Bias/Hate Crimes based on Sexual Orientation:

	Incidents	Offenses	Victims	Known Offenders
Anti-Male Homosexual	850	972	1,005	1,048
Anti-Female Homosexual	223	265	270	207
Anti-Homosexual	158	170	177	129
Anti-Heterosexual	12	13	17	7
Anti-Bisexual	17	19	19	17
All Sexual Orientation	1,260	1,439	1,488	1,408
NCAVP All LGBT	2,552	4,528	2,896	4,552
All Bias/Hate Crimes	7,755	9,235	9,722	7,489

1999 Bias/Hate Crimes based on Sexual Orientation:

	Incidents	Offenses	Victims	Known Offenders
Anti-Male Homosexual	915	1,025	1,070	1,043
Anti-Female Homosexual	187	216	231	150
Anti-Homosexual	178	205	216	154
Anti-Heterosexual	14	16	16	15
Anti-Bisexual	23	25	25	14
All Sexual Orientation	1,317	1,487	1,558	1,376
NCAVP All LGBT	1,960	3,410	2,234	3,262
All Bias/Hate Crimes	7,876	9,301	9,802	7,271

2000 Bias/Hate Crimes based on Sexual Orientation:

	Incidents	Offenses	Victims	Known Offenders
Anti-Male Homosexual	896	1,023	1,060	1,088
Anti-Female Homosexual	179	211	228	169
Anti-Homosexual	182	210	226	153
Anti-Heterosexual	22	22	24	18
Anti-Bisexual	20	20	20	15
All Sexual Orientation	1,299	1,486	1,558	1,443
NCAVP All LGBT	2,151	4,087	2,475	3,344
All Bias/Hate Crimes	8,063	9,430	9,924	7,530

2001 Bias/Hate Crimes based on Sexual Orientation:

	Incidents	Offenses	Victims	Known Offenders
Anti-Male Homosexual	980	1,103	1,152	1,196
Anti-Female Homosexual	205	245	257	170
Anti-Homosexual	173	207	217	179
Anti-Heterosexual	18	20	21	17
Anti-Bisexual	17	17	17	18
All Sexual Orientation	1,393	1,592	1,664	1,580
NCAVP All LGBT	1,887	2,935	2,232	2,935
All Bias/Hate Crimes	9,730	11,451	12,020	9,239

2002 Bias/Hate Crimes based on Sexual Orientation:

	Incidents	Offenses	Victims	Known Offenders
Anti-Male Homosexual	825	957	984	1,022
Anti-Female Homosexual	172	207	221	172
Anti-Homosexual	222	259	267	225
Anti-Heterosexual	10	26	26	6
Anti-Bisexual	15	15	15	13
All Sexual Orientation	1,244	1,464	1,513	1,438
NCAVP All LGBT	1,968	3,555	2,254	2,810
All Bias/Hate Crimes	7,462	8,832	9,222	7,314

2003 Bias/Hate Crimes based on Sexual Orientation:

	Incidents	Offenses	Victims	Known Offenders
Anti-Male Homosexual	783	881	910	863
Anti-Female Homosexual	187	220	230	167
Anti-Homosexual	247	305	314	257
Anti-Heterosexual	14	15	15	10
Anti-Bisexual	8	9	10	16
All Sexual Orientation	1,239	1,430	1,479	1,313
NCAVP All LGBT	1,720	3,787	2,042	2,467
All Bias/Hate Crimes	7,489	8,715	9,100	6,934

2004 Bias/Hate Crimes based on Sexual Orientation:

	Incidents	Offenses	Victims	Known Offenders
Anti-Male Homosexual	738	855	902	832
Anti-Female Homosexual	164	201	212	163
Anti-Homosexual	245	297	314	224
Anti-Heterosexual	33	35	36	22
Anti-Bisexual	17	18	18	17
All Sexual Orientation	1,197	1,406	1,482	1,258
NCAVP All LGBT	1,792	3,666	2,131	2,637
All Bias/Hate Crimes	7,649	9,035	9,528	7,145

2005 NCAVP DATA (preliminary, FBI report not yet available)

	Incidents	Offenses	Victims	Known Offenders
NCAVP All LGBT	1,985	4,585	2,306	3,245

Additional Resources on Anti-GLBT violence in Tucson, AZ

The **Wingspan Anti-Violence Project** is a social change and social service program that works to address and end violence in the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people. We provide free and confidential 24-hour crisis intervention, information, support, referrals, emergency shelter, and advocacy to LGBT victim/survivors of violence. Additionally, we offer extensive outreach and education programs.

The Wingspan AVP 24-hour Crisis Line

The Wingspan AVP's Crisis Line is available 24 hours-a-day, 7 days-a-week, 365 days-a-year. Our staff and trained volunteers offer emotional and practical support to victim/survivors of violence. Support is available in both English and Spanish. All calls are confidential, and callers may remain anonymous.

Hate / Bias Crimes

Bias crimes - ranging from harassment to murder - are committed against people because of who they are or how they are perceived. Our crisis line provides immediate crisis intervention and support to callers. In addition, staff and trained volunteers provide assistance in filing a report, court accompaniment, and help filing claims for victim assistance benefits.

Domestic Violence

Domestic violence occurs in LGBT relationships at the same rate as heterosexual/non-transgender relationships. LGBT survivors of domestic violence suffer from a range of abuse, including physical violence as well as intimidation, isolation, and emotional abuse. We provide crisis intervention, support, advocacy, and other assistance to hundreds of survivors of domestic violence every year. We help people create safety plans, consider their options, and locate emergency shelter options.

Community Organizing

AVP organizes the community to respond to acts of violence occurring around Southern Arizona. If a bias crime is committed and police or media response is slow or absent, AVP raises its voice to demand a thorough investigation. We organize the community to speak out against prejudice and bigotry, insisting on equal rights for the LGBT community.

Education and Training

AVP works to raise awareness of the realities of violence against and within the LGBT community. By educating the broader community about LGBT lives the AVP works to change public attitudes that tolerate or instigate hate-motivated violence. If your agency or organization is interested in a presentation or training, call the Wingspan business line for more information: 520-624-1779.

AVP Volunteers

AVP is always in need of volunteers. The 16-hour crisis line training takes place over the course of a two-week period. Training topics include: the LGBT community, domestic violence, hate crimes, and suicide. For more information, please call 520-624-1779 and ask for the volunteer coordinator.

NCAVP

The Wingspan AVP is a member of the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs

(NCAVP). The NCAVP addresses the pervasive problem of violence committed against and within the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) and HIV-positive communities. NCAVP is a coalition of programs that document and advocate for victims of anti-LGBT violence/harassment, domestic violence, sexual assault, police misconduct and other forms of victimization. NCAVP is dedicated to creating a national response to the violence plaguing these communities. For more information on the NCAVP, please visit www.avp.org.

How to contact us

Please email or call us to make an appointment. We can be reached at the main Wingspan number, 520-624-1779 or at avp@wingspan.org.

In an emergency, please call our crisis line
520-624-0348 or 800-553-9387

<http://www.wingspan.org>

National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV)

<http://www.ncadv.org/>

Anti-Defamation League

<http://www.adl.org/>