

Scouts for Equality - Golden Gate

Scout Parents and Leaders against discrimination

President
Gay Straight Alliance

Dear Sir or Madam:

As you may have heard the Boy Scouts of America is going to vote on revising their membership policy in May. The current policy excludes open or avowed homosexuals. Many of us in scouting feel that this policy must be changed. We are concerned that those voting on the proposal are older volunteers who, in some cases, have not worked with youth for several decades. We don't think that the National Association has fully reached out to those most affected by this policy - the scouts and their peers.

We would like your help. We would like you and your friends to write letters about how this policy, and similar policies, have affected you. We'd like you to share your stories with the scout leaders in your area, the scout leaders at national, and with us.

The Local Boy Scout Council will be sending a delegation to vote at the meeting in May. You may find out which council represents your area by going to this site:

<http://www.scouting.org/LocalCouncilLocator.aspx>

You will be asked to enter your zip code. This will provide you with the address and phone number of the council for your area. It is important to write to the council because they are sending a delegation that will vote on this issue.

The National organization can be reached at:

National BSA Headquarters	
Mr. Wayne Brock Chief Scout Executive BSA National Headquarters P.O. Box 152079 Irving, Texas 75015-2079 972-580-2000	Mr. Wayne Perry President BSA National Headquarters P.O. Box 152079 Irving, Texas 75015-2079 972-580-2000

You may also leave comments at:

<http://www.scouting.org/ContactUs.aspx>

Please also provide us with a copy of your letter at:

wendell@able-baker.com

When writing to the Boy Scout leaders please remember to be respectful. Everyone involved with the Boy Scouts, professional or volunteer, started out wanting to help youth. If any scouts share their stories please warn them not to “out” themselves. The policy is still in effect and if National decides to exclude them there is nothing that the council or their unit can do to help. This would be a tragedy for both the scout and his adult leaders. Any gay scouts should identify themselves with just their first initial, and should not include any information about their troop or crew.

The Boy Scouts is a great organization and we look forward to reaching out to you once this policy is changed. I hope we will be able to work together to develop an anti-bullying program that will protect all youth.

Thank you for all you do to promote diversity and tolerance. You are our future.

Best Regards,

Wendell Baker
SFE-Golden Gate

Additional On-line Reference Material:

www.Scoutsforequality.com

http://www.moragascouting.org/SFE_in.pdf

<http://www.diablog.com/Diablo-Magazine/January-2013/Excluded/>