

I have disassociated myself from b.s.a. due to these policies. As the Meridian District Cub Scout camp director three years running, I was trained to respect all religions ...as well as those who have not declared a religion.

Christ does not teach us to reject or turn away from non-believers, or judge those whose personal and quite private lifestyles we don't ascribe to. Rather, he extends his love to all - especially those who have lost their way. He begs us to do the same.

If this organization must pronounce their devotion to God then perhaps they can follow Christ's unconditional love for all brothers whether believers or non-believer's.

What you're doing by rejecting these boys is intolerable. You bring them in before they know about their own sexual orientation or have truly developed into their own religious skin, and then after their lifelong commitment to b.s.a. and their profound dedication to their community you pass judgement on them that only God is qualified to pass - and you destroy their souls with such intense rejection at such an immensely vulnerable time in their lives.

And you mourn those teenaged boys who suicide?

Until B.S.A. changes its policies on this issue I will no longer volunteer or support the organization on any level whatsoever. It's time someone spoke for these boys. Until they die they will always know God's love through me.

Mary Lark