

MCH91-19-1-15

ABIGALE

Association of Bisexuals, Gays and Lesbians

African National Congress
Regional Executive Committee

FOR ATTENTION ALBIE SACHS

20 January 1993

Dear Albie

Abigale is a new organisation established early last year to bring together lesbian, gay and bisexual people with an emphasis on those living in the townships.

Although Abigale has a broad approach with the emphasis on social issues, there is growing awareness of the need to organise to win the non-discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation clause in the bill of rights to be included in the new South African constitution.

As a focus for this mood to publically discuss the oppression of lesbians and gays, we are hosting a public commemoration meeting for gays and lesbians murdered in the death camps during the second world war. The occasion is the anti-fascist marches being held internationally (and particularly in Berlin) on the 60th anniversary of Hitler's coming to power on the 30 January.

We hope that gays and lesbians and people supporting the cause of homosexual equality from all organisations will attend.

The meeting will be on the Sunday 31st January at the Trade Union library at Community House. We would like to invite you to be a speaker at this meeting. Other speakers are Funeka Soldaat and Zackie Achmat from Abigale and possibly Gertrude Fester from ANC Women's League and a speaker from Olga.

Please contact me on 448 5704 to discuss this as soon as possible.

OR 24 1532

Yours sincerely

*David Marinus P.P.**see attached memo letter*

David Marinus

MCH91-19-1-15

151
16 January 1993**Invitation to meeting commemorating gay and lesbian and bisexual victims of fascism.**

*May they never be forgotten,
these multitudes of dead,
our anonymous, immortal martyrs.*

30 JANUARY 1933. Hitler and the Nazis came to power sixty years ago. Over a period of twelve years they murdered:

- * 40 million people in the second world war
- * 6 million Jews
- * 1 million gays, lesbians, bisexuals and gypsies, socialists and communists, disabled and aged people.

The brutal murder and attacks on Turks and all people of colour in Germany and throughout Europe today, once again raises the spectre of fascism. The persecution of lesbians, gay men and bisexuals remains a part of our daily lives.

The ASSOCIATION OF BISEXUALS, GAYS AND LESBIANS invites all people to a commemorative meeting for the victims of Nazism and particularly those hundreds of thousands of lesbians and gay men who were forced to wear the pink or black triangles in the death camps.

As part of international struggles for democratic rights and social equality, we call for full democratic rights for all South Africans. We insist that these rights cannot enjoy their full meaning without the outlawing of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

The meeting is due to be held on Sunday 31 January 1993. The time and venue will be finalised shortly.

SUPPORTED BY:

PLEASE APPEND YOUR NAME OR THAT OF YOUR ORGANISATION:

Abigale

4485704.

→ Wayne

Abigail

Anti-fascist (1 pm - 6 pm)

31/1/93.

2 hrs

Speaker.

10-15 mins

Barry won't be available - busy filming.
Will speak to filmmakers

- if it fits in

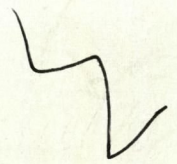
might be able to have brief 4.

If not, would they like short message.

128-11-17-1-16

***** -JOURNAL- ***** DATE 28-JAN-1993 ***** TIME 16:26 *****

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TELEPHONE NO. = T 4485646
RECEIVED ID = 27 21 4485646
RESOLUTION = STANDARD

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1002 NBS Waldorf
80 St George's Mall
P O Box 3684
CAPE TOWN 8000

FAX COVER SHEET

DATE : 28 JANUARY 1993

TO : ANC WESTERN CAPE
FAX NO 448 5646

ATTENTION : SUE DE VILLIERS
DIP

SUBJECT : ABIGALE

FROM : SUSAN RABINOWITZ
ASSISTANT TO ALBIE SACHS

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING THIS PAGE): 3

Dear Sue

As discussed I attach a copy of Albie's letter and message of support to Abigale.

Regards.


SUSAN

Fax (021) 222626
Tel (021) 222424

1002 NBS Waldorf
80 St George's Mall
P O Box 3684
CAPE TOWN 8000

FAX COVER SHEET

DATE : 28 JANUARY 1993

TO : ABIGALE
FAX NO :241532

SUBJECT : INVITATION TO MEETING COMMEMORATING GAY AND
LESBIAN AND BISEXUAL VICTIMS OF FASCISM - 31/1/93

FROM : ALBIE SACHS


TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING THIS PAGE): 2

Dear Abigale

I do not think that I can attend your meeting on the 31st January. I am involved in making a film and have to be available full time. The only chance would be if the filmmakers wanted to include the meeting in the film and that would have to be decided when the filmmakers arrive on the 30th.

So I am sending you the enclosed message.

With best wishes.

 ALBIE SACHS

MESSAGE :

Dear Abigale

This is to express my support for the meeting commemorating the deaths of gays and lesbians in the death camps during the Second World War. Homophobia is always bad and when it leads to murder it is particularly tragic.

Your struggle against oppression and discrimination is part and parcel of a broad struggle for human rights in South Africa. One of the most fundamental rights is the right of people to be themselves. This was a right which apartheid denied in every form. Apartheid told people who they were and how they had to be. It denied the basic principles of respect for the human being. It humiliated people on the grounds of their appearance, their language and their personality.

A new Bill of Rights must guarantee to all South Africans the right not to be discriminated against on the grounds of sexual preference. It is important that gays, lesbians and bisexuals across the political spectrum (and those who regard themselves as non-political) come together on this issue and affirm their basic rights. Our society needs openness and honesty in every sphere.

It is a matter of principle and one which should engage the attention of the whole community. Do we want a country where everybody is poking their noses into everybody else's business or do we want a country where people feel free and comfortable within themselves as they are?

The issue is primarily one for the gay, lesbian and bisexual community but it also touches on the whole nature of our country and whether it will be repressive and intolerant or whether it will be free and respectful of diversity.

Sincerely

ALBIE SACHS