

Elephants & Donkeys by Kathleen Klenetsky

Dukakis and the sodomites

Democratic presidential front-runner Michael Dukakis picked up endorsements from over 70 prominent homosexual activists in Los Angeles during a campaign swing through California prior to the state's June 7 primary.

Among the endorsers was Jean O'Leary, executive director of the National Gay Rights Advocates, who introduced Dukakis to a group of fellow sodomites with the following panegyric: "We have in Mike Dukakis a candidate who is instinctively supportive, who has a good record on gay rights issues, who wants our support and can win."

Dukakis's record shows that he certainly is supportive of the gay cause, "instinctively" and otherwise. In 1987, the self-described card-carrying member of the American Civil Liberties Union zealously lobbied the Massachusetts legislature to pass a "gay rights" bill.

On top of that, he recently vetoed a measure that would have banned homosexuals from acting as foster parents, a bill that had been introduced in response to a growing number of cases where homosexuals are taking in parentless children for the sole purpose of sexually exploiting them.

Fearing that his veto would demolish his carefully-contrived image as a defender of "family values," Dukakis has tried to cover himself by stating that access to foster children is not a civil right, and that he doesn't

think homosexuals should be the first choice for foster parents.

But, as his son John recently explained, his father does believe that sodomites should be allowed to have foster children, in cases where more traditional homes are not available.

Dukakis has acted equally irresponsibly on the AIDS issue, where, wary of upsetting the large bloc of homosexual voters, he has adamantly opposed mandatory testing, claiming it would infringe on civil rights.

Dukakis economics: tax consumption

A top adviser to Dukakis, Harvard University Prof. Lawrence Summers, has co-authored a study which concludes that taxing consumption, reducing Social Security benefits, and driving the dollar down even further are the prime requirements for reviving the country's manufacturing base.

Commissioned by Eastman Kodak chairman Colby H. Chandler, "The Case for Manufacturing in America's Future" makes the following major recommendations:

"Bringing federal budget deficits under control should be the overriding priority of national economic policy. . . . This will require consideration of spending cuts in previously sacrosanct budget areas, including Social Security, as well as a significant increase in federal tax collections. . . . [F]or the long run, serious consideration should be given to new national consumption taxes. . . .

"Efforts to stabilize exchange rates at current levels are misguided. . . . Policymakers should recognize that a continued dollar decline is both likely and desirable."

Rumor has it that Summers would almost certainly be appointed to a principal economics post in a Dukakis

administration, where he no doubt would be of great assistance in helping the new President lay on the kind of austerity that Dukakis excelled at during his first gubernatorial term.

Where does 'The Duke' really stand on drugs?

Dukakis talks a tough line on drugs, but his credibility on the issue is bound to be shattered when voters learn that his campaign harbors an ardent advocate of drug legalization.

Former Maryland Congressman Michael Barnes, who functions as the Dukakis camp's chief representative to the Democratic Party platform committee, just happens to sit on the board of the Inter-American Dialogue, a group of prominent figures from the United States and Ibero-America, which in 1986, and again in 1988, issued reports recommending the "selective" legalization of dangerous drugs.

Several members of the group dissented specifically from the section on decriminalization—but not Barnes, who also just happens to be close to Baltimore's new mayor, Kurt Schmoke, whose first major act in office was to call for a national debate on the merits of making cocaine, heroin, and marijuana legal substances.

If Dukakis is truly anti-drug, why hasn't he demanded that Barnes either quit the Inter-American Dialogue or resign from the campaign?

The candidate's tolerance of a drug-legalizer in the top echelons of his campaign apparatus shows that those who've called him another Jimmy Carter are right on the mark. It looks as though a Dukakis administration just might complete the notoriously pro-legalization Carter administration's unfinished campaign to end the war on drugs once and for all.