ENGLISH 1311

Date: September 13, 2011

To: 1311 Students

From: Jose Cortez

RE: Gay Rights

Throughout the history of Texas, Gays have been excluded from society. El Paso is going through debates regarding Gay rights. Recently El Paso Texas declined marriage between the same sexes. Governor Perry signed The Texas Defense of Marriage Act in which it does not recognize a marriage or civic union between people of the same sex, regardless of the jurisdiction in which it is crated (Defense of Marriage Act, Governor Perry Website).

The Gill Foundation strives for equality for all Americans, regardless of sexual orientation and gender expression. The Gill Foundation focuses on 5 main points: First of all, nondiscrimination in employment, military and other aspects of life. In addition, relationship recognition of any type of union, partnership or marriages, and benefits to spouses. Thirdly, family recognition, which recognizes any union or marriage and provides equal rights for adoption, foster care, or benefits for LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender) parents. Safe Schools supports the extinction of harassment and violence in any educational institution. Finally, violence reduction in which it targets hate crimes, suicide prevention and domestic violence reduction.

The GILL Foundation uses different media to promote and acquire funds for its Foundation. For example, the newest and most popular way is Facebook and Twitter. By these two popular social networks they are able to reach a broader audience. The website, gillfoundation.org is a way of getting more information about the foundation and its purpose. Donors are contacted by meeting arranged in which they are informed of issues and resolutions about inequality. Information about the foundation is also provided at different professional schools and businesses. This foundation reaches most of its donors by conferences held and these conferences are promoted by LGBT foundations around the nation. When someone becomes a donor, the foundation keeps reaching out to you by setting up meetings and sending you information about future fund raisers.

Many organizations that advocate equality for LGBT have received grants from GILL Foundation. For example, the help provided by this foundation has helped to put in place laws in many states that avoid any type of discrimination or inequality against LGBT. In Texas there few organizations that are working towards this goal, but have not succeeded.

There are different ways of contacting this foundation. You can email the organization or you can submit an application for a grant if needed.