



March 16, 2001

Letter to Democratic Elected Officials:

Dear Elected Official:

On behalf of the 275 members of the Cleveland Stonewall Democrats, I am writing to introduce our new political caucus. We are working for Democrats who support issues important to the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (GLBT) community.

Founded last year, our organization focused on the "get out the vote" efforts during Election 2000. We hired two full-time consultants to staff both of the Cuyahoga County Democratic Coordinated Campaign offices during the final sixty days of the campaign. Our representatives coordinated the following activities with the Cleveland Stonewall Democrats volunteer base:

- Phone Banks: 80 volunteers; 450 hours; and 40,000 calls made
- Literature Drops: 120 volunteers; 720 hours; and 20,500 households reached
- GLBT Community Outreach: 30 volunteers; 180 hours; and 5,000 constituents contacted
- Fundraising: thousands of dollars for local, state, and federal candidates

Nationwide, the GLBT community voted in record numbers in Election 2000. An impressive 4% of the electorate self-identified as gay or lesbian. 70% of self-identified gays and lesbians voted for Al Gore on a national level -- this marks the third highest Democratic turnout within any social group in Election 2000 (African Americans: 91%; Jewish Americans: 79%).

Looking forward, we wish to continue our successes with the following initiatives:

- Work to elect GLBT-positive candidates in municipal, county, statewide, and federal races;
- Involvement with ward, municipal, and county Democratic organizations across the region;
- Collaborate with the Cuyahoga County Democratic Party to become actively involved as members of the Central and Executive Committees; and,
- Groom GLBT leaders to run for elective offices.

Not only do we seek your support in our endeavors, but we would like to invite you to speak at a future meeting. Please contact me at 216.647.7437 to make arrangements.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick Shepherd
Founder

The Cleveland Stonewall Democrats is an affiliate of the National Stonewall Democrats.

The National Stonewall Democrats is committed to improving the record of the Democratic Party and educating voters about the vast difference that exists between the two major parties on issues of importance to our gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community.

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