



## Next Meeting

PFLAG Brisbane's next meeting will be on **Saturday 23rd May, 2009**.

**Time:** 1.30pm

**Place:** 30 Helen Street, Newstead

Our guest speaker will be Paul Martin our resident psychologist. Paul comes along once a year to talk and answer the many questions that we as parents are never quite sure who to ask.

If you only come to one meeting a year, this is the meeting you should be attending.

## LGBT Youth Study

Many thanks to Angela Dwyer, a Lecturer in Social Justice at QUT, for coming along to give us a briefing on the outcome of a study that PFLAG subsidized late last year.

The study was about policing issues and LGBT youth at risk. The findings weren't surprising, but can now be used as a tool to encourage police to be more understanding and sensitive regarding the issues these young people have to deal with on a daily basis.

Angela is keen to see a difference is made for this marginalised group in a minority community. We wish her well with this project.

## Previous Meeting

Our meeting was very well attended with several new families attending and a few of the "older" faces coming along. It was heart warming to see one particular new family who attended. We had met their son earlier in the year and he was most concerned about his families reaction because of their culture.

It was inspiring to see the love and support this young man received from his parents. If only all families could be this accepting we wouldn't need PFLAG.

## Indigenous PFLAG Pack

These packs are now complete and in the process of being distributed to various groups throughout Queensland and Northern New South Wales. They have been produced in collaboration with the Indigenous section of QAHC called Two Spirits. The pack consists of a booklet, brochure and cards. A CD will be produced later in the year.

We believe this is the first time any support like this has been offered to indigenous families, and are very excited about the project, as it's something we have wanted to do for a number of years.

## International PFLAG Groups

We have had some contact with PFLAG Canada and PFLAG USA recently, with an aim to swapping ideas and resources. which is helpful to all concerned. It seems regardless of the country we live in, we all have similar issues and it is our hope to be able to use some of their ideas here in Queensland.

## Political Issues

We would never encourage families to vote for any particular political party, but PFLAG Brisbane Convener Shelley was particularly pleased to see the Labor Party returned to government. This means that we can now continue where we left off prior to the call of the election. If the election had gone the other way we would have had to start at the beginning again!

Many of you may have seen the 24 advertisements on Channel 7, heard the 100 advertisements on 4BC and

4BH and read the many quarter-page adverts we placed in the Courier Mail over the last 7 weeks. We think the politicians now know we mean business and want equality for our sons and daughters!

We have some plans in mind to keep the fight for rights for our sons and daughters going however, if you would like to be involved or have contacts or ideas we would love to hear from you.

### Parents of Transgender & Intersex Meeting

Our next meeting for parents of transgender and intersex will be held on the 16th of May, 2009 (commencing at 1:00pm).

### PFLAG Shirts

We now have PFLAG shirts! They are black polo shirts with a white trim along the seams and the Brisbane PFLAG logo embroidered on the top left side; they look great.

We'd like to say a big thank-you to Gail for doing the measuring, ordering and general running around to complete this project.

### Volunteers Pride Fair Day - 13th June 2009

If you're out and proud, please keep this day clear if possible! This is a great fun day and it's a day that gives us an opportunity to show our sons and daughters we are accepting and proud of them.

PFLAG has, for the past 11 years, had a presence at Pride Fair and it's an opportunity to talk to young ones who are not so accepted by their families, hand out information for themselves, their families and generally be supportive.

Many parents also like to march in the parade. The rally usually starts at 10am at Queens Park and finishes at Musgrave Park. If you would rather not march but just be part of the PFLAG stall this is fine, no pressure. Please get in touch with us if you'd like to help us out on the day at the PFLAG stall.

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# pflag

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## PFLAG Brisbane Annual Membership Form

Please complete the form below and return to PFLAG. You can also pay online, via [www.pflagbrisbane.org.au](http://www.pflagbrisbane.org.au). Larger donations are always welcome. Thanks for your support!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Family (\$25 annually - I have included a cheque or Australia Post Money Order)

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**Mail to:** PO Box 1372 Eagle Farm BC, QLD 4009 , or...

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**Pay online at:** [www.pflagbrisbane.org.au](http://www.pflagbrisbane.org.au), or into our account (*Bank of Qld / BSB: 124-001 / Acct: 2023-8607*).

Thank you!