

# Lesbians, gays, pals in 22d parade

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ACT-UP and Queer Nation were in the ranks. So was the Anti-Sexist Men's Action Network. So were the American Gay Atheists. So were Dykes On Bikes, the Pink Panther Patrol and Transsexuals For Change.

So were The Farm Dykes, crusading for lesbian agriculture rights; a group of sequined-gowned transvestites; a guy in a tutu brandishing a whip; a lone costumed woman with a sign identifying herself as a Veggie Animal Rights Dyke; a bare-breasted woman in a wheelchair, and a group called Lesbians for Patsy Cline.

The streets were alive with lavender and a rainbow of various political agendas yesterday as 70,000 marchers turned out for the city's 22d annual Lesbian and Gay Pride Parade.

### Phil and Marlo, too

Mayor Dinkins, busy with the budget, didn't show up. But there were other local pols and a contingent of celebrities that included actress Marlo Thomas and her husband, TV talk-show host Phil Donahue.

At St. Patrick's Cathedral, hundreds of members of ACT-UP dropped to the ground in symbolic AIDS deaths, protesting what the group perceives to be

**'Everybody's got a right to be what they want to be.'**

— *Diana Rapp, a bystander*

the Catholic Church's anti-gay inclinations. Delegates of the Gay Men's Health Crisis chanted, "Shame, shame, shame," as they passed the cathedral.

A small contingent of anti-gay demonstrators posted themselves across Fifth Ave. from the cathedral, waving signs proclaiming "Sodomy Equals Death" and "Homosexuals, Act Right."

The sidewalks in front of St. Patrick's were cordoned off and lined by several dozen uniformed officers. Spectator Rex Wasserman, of E. Ninth St., was charged with disorderly conduct at 50th St. and Fifth Ave. at 1:50 p.m. after quarreling with an anti-gay demonstrator, police said.

The traditional trappings of gay liberation — purple feathers, blue wigs, black platform heels — were in ample supply as the wildly animated marchers made their way from Columbus Circle to Washington Square Park.

### 'A wonderful parade'

But there were more militant undercurrents, signified by Queer Nation's in-your-face battle cry — "We're Here, We're Queer, Get Used To It" — and signs proclaiming "Silence = Death" with the pink triangle that Na-



**LEOPARD LEOTARD** is signature of a happy marcher. **GERALD HERBERT DAILY NEWS**



**LEATHER & LIFESTYLES:** Two members of lesbian group called Dykes on Bikes participate in yesterday's extravaganza. **GERALD HERBERT DAILY NEWS**



**OUT ON THE TOWN** for a parade yesterday are walkers, watchers and bikers. **GERALD HERBERT DAILY NEWS**

zis used to mark homosexuals. Other signs proclaimed, "Fight Religious Arrogance" and "Crucifixion is Not for Everyone."

"It's a wonderful parade and an important occasion to remind people that it's time to end bias crime in this state," said Manhattan Borough President Ruth Messinger, who joined the march.

"Everybody's got a right to be what they want to be," agreed Diana Rapp, one of about 200,000 spectators who lined Fifth Ave.

"The most important part is just seeing the entire gay community of New York lining the streets," said GMHC member Milahn Sahs, who was marching for the first time this year. "You realize there's a community of people who care."



**PARADE** is anything but a drag for man of costume and conviction in Village yesterday. **GERALD HERBERT DAILY NEWS**



**SPOTTED** on Fifth Ave. in Village, marching to own drummer. **GERALD HERBERT DAILY NEWS**