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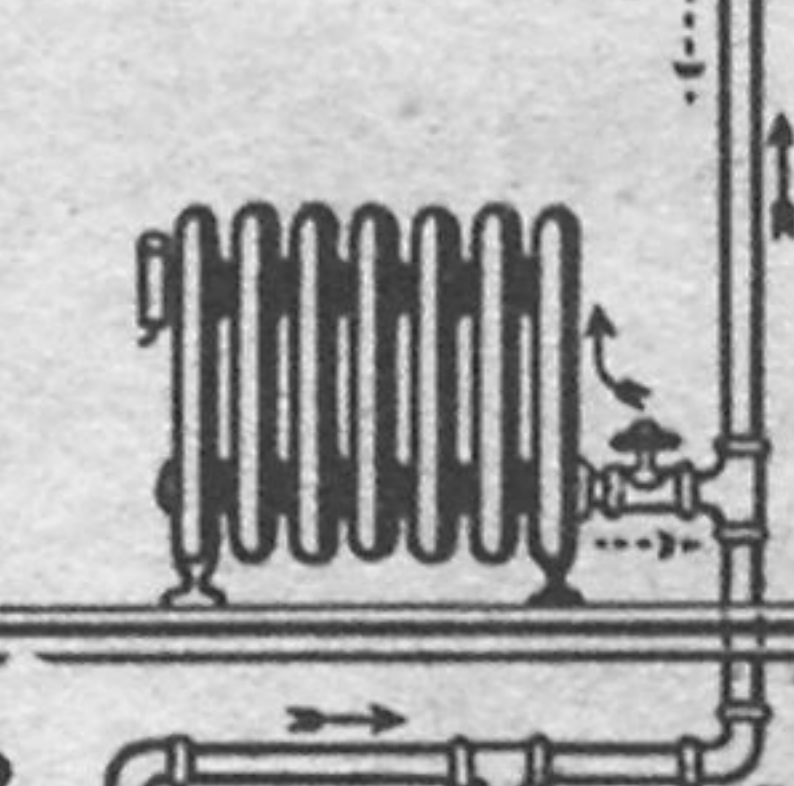


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## Sheriff

Continued from page 1  
lesbianism made her unfit in a job requiring close contact with female prisoners; he was specifically concerned with strip-searching, he told GCN. "I feel inmates have a right not to be put in a position of being searched by a person who has a sexual preference for them."

Kreps complained to the Civil Service Commission, which ruled in March 1980 that Rainey's decision was illegal and that Kreps had the right to be considered for a job on merit rather than on sexual preference.

Rainey appealed to the Superior Court, which rejected his appeal in August.

"They made a big issue out of strip searches," Hitchens told the San Francisco *Chronicle*. "But in a strip search the deputy doesn't touch the prisoner in any way."

"And the research is pretty conclusive that women, whether homosexual or heterosexual do not impose themselves sexually on other people. There just wasn't any reason she would act inappropriately to her position."

Hitchens told the *Chronicle* that "this has certainly been a painful personal ordeal for Kreps — she was not out [of the closet]. This case necessitated dealing with friends, and family as well, about it. They were extremely supportive, but she had never discussed it with them."

Hitchens said that the year's delay in hiring cost Kreps about \$6,000, as she remained in the lower-paid dispatcher's job.

The new agreement calls for no back pay, but it does provide for \$7536 for Kreps' legal fees to be paid by the sheriff's department. Hitchens is an attorney with the San Francisco Lesbian Rights Law Project.

## Houston

Continued from Page 3  
most viewed television personality in the country," she said. "He is second only to Johnny Carson, and that includes Walter Cronkite."

In her opinion, the rapid rise of right wing religious groups came about because of basic grass roots organizing and the use of orientation courses for their membership.

Locally, she said, Jack Fields, who defeated incumbent liberal Bob Eckhardt for the north Houston U.S. Representative seat, was coached at similar training sessions given by the Committee for the Survival of a Free Congress.

Candidates who fall along the Moral Majority lines do not receive funding by groups such as the CSFP unless they go through these training sessions, according to Ciganero.

The forum was sponsored by tegrity/Houston, Inc., an educational organization for Houston's gay and lesbian community, and was held at 3405 Mulberry St. Thirty-five people attended.

## Conference

Continued from Page 3  
us for years. It's not surprising, then, that this building isn't filled up today."

Nevertheless, many women told GCN that they were pleased with the degree of variety among the black lesbians that attended the conference. Smith commented that "the diversity in age and in dress and style was much greater than what you would see in white lesbian and feminist conferences. Black lesbians are much more creative in the ways that they dress — in skirts, braided hair, etc. And having older women there — that makes me feel it's possible to continue, that there are people who've gone before, lived lesbian lives. It makes me feel that we can anticipate getting there ourselves."

Not all manifestations of the diversity of black lesbian community  
Continued on Page 10

Clark, Jil. "Black Lesbians Gather in First Eastern Conference." *Gay Community News*, vol. 8, no. 27, 31 Jan. 1981, pp. [1]+. Archives of Sexuality and Gender, [link.gale.com/apps/doc/LIPQZU586446145/AHSI?u=nypl&sid=bookmark-AHSI](https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/LIPQZU586446145/AHSI?u=nypl&sid=bookmark-AHSI). Accessed 2 Apr. 2023.