

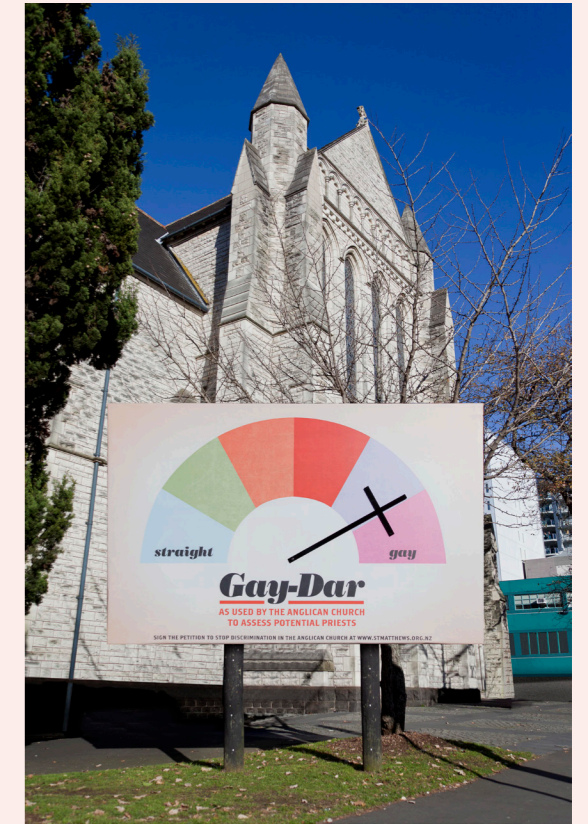
JUDGED BY GOD

PROBLEM

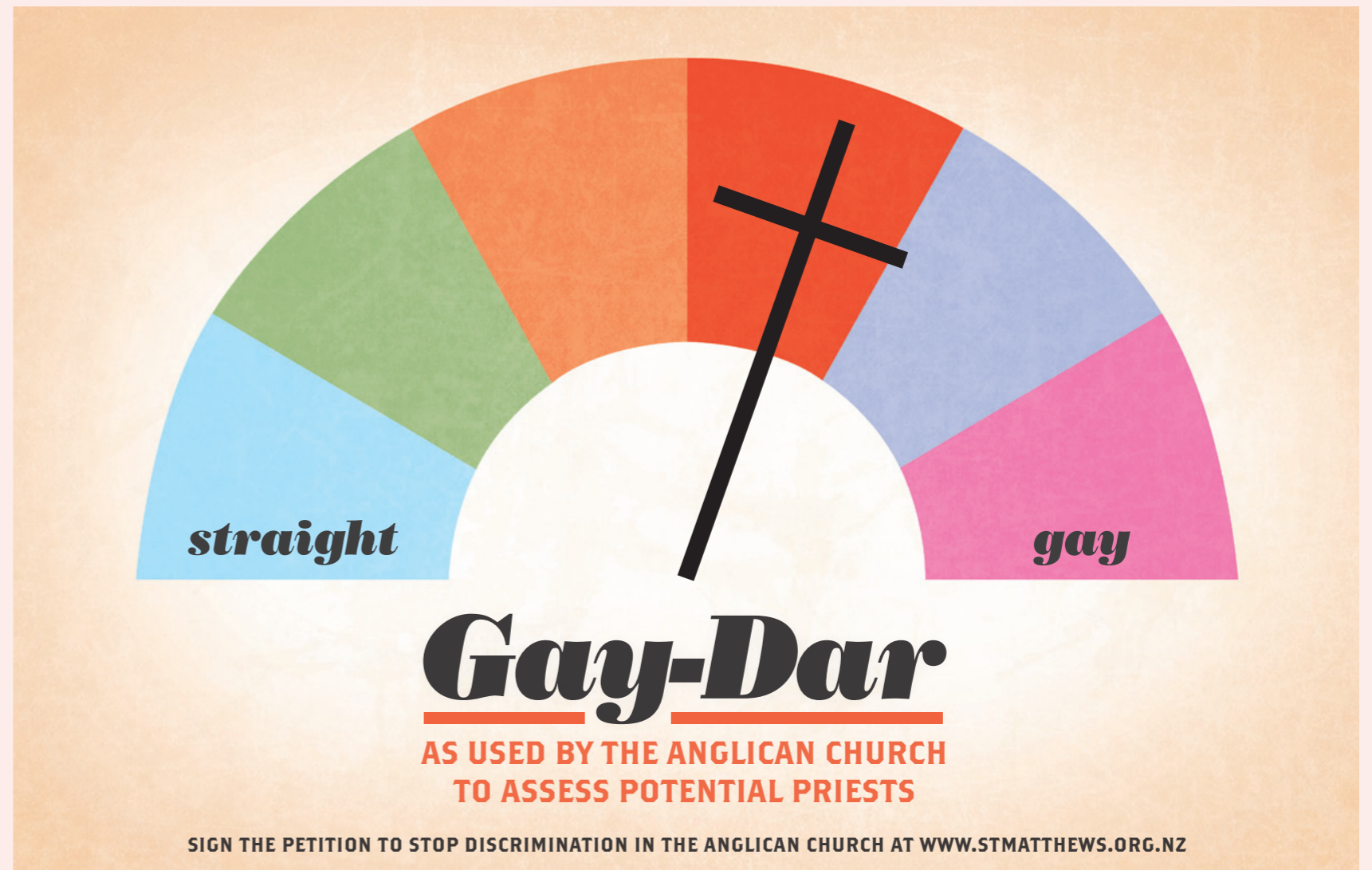
St Matthew's is a progressive Anglican church, who's goal for a diverse and inclusive congregation was being crushed by a homophobic moratorium passed down through the order. It urged New Zealand bishops not to ordain openly gay or lesbian individuals as deacons, priests or bishops. The consequences of this homophobic stance by the Anglican church were dire for St Matthew's, resulting in the resignation of a much loved and respected gay staff member. St Matthew's were disgusted by this discriminatory behaviour shown by the Anglican church, and had one small billboard to start the push for change.

SOLUTION

We took the one of oldest and most recognised symbols in the word, and combined it with popular culture to create Gay-Dar. With a moveable cross, the billboard gained attention and encouraged interaction from passersby. While uncovering the Anglican Church's shameful secret, Gay-Dar fuelled discussion by presenting this very prickly subject in a fun and contemporary way. Through blogs and news reports, Gay-Dar travelled around the world, directing people to sign an online petition. The signatures rolled in and we made believers of many people, showing that even a church can put it's faith in advertising.



Church spokesman Clay Nelson checks out the vandalised Gay Dar billboard outside St Matthews in the City, Auckland. Photo by NZPA



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SAT, 02 JUL 2011 9:45 AM

St Matthew's church in Auckland is again stirring public debate with another controversial billboard.

It's displaying a "Gay-Dar" meter that shows "Straight" on one side and "Gay" on the other and suggests the Anglican Church uses this to assess potential priests.

The church, which offers same-sex blessings among its services, has courted controversy with previous billboards, including one that depicted Mary and Joseph in bed with the caption: "Poor Joseph, God was a hard act to follow".

The latest "Gay-Dar" billboard had been vandalised by midday today with the cross ripped off it.

Reverend Clay Nelson said the damage appeared to be sabotage, which

nzherald.co.nz

Thursday 28 July 2011 12:38 PM NZT

Church billboard 'Gay-Dar' rage

By Nicholas Jones

1:15 PM Saturday Jul 2, 2011

A billboard designed to challenge the Anglican Church's view on gay and lesbian priests has already been vandalised.

An Auckland church known for its edgy billboards has come under another attack from vandals.

St Matthew in the City put up a "Gay-Dar" billboard on Friday, which shows a spectrum from gay to straight, with a cross acting as a gauge.

A message underneath states: "As used by the Anglican Church to assess potential priests."

Church spokesman Clay Nelson said the sign aimed to highlight discrimination in the Anglican Church against members of the gay and lesbian community.

Mr Nelson said he hoped the billboard could be repaired, and he

Otago Daily Times

Christchurch Edition | Thursday, 28 July 2011 | 12:39:57

Church's gay-dar billboard vandalised

Mon, 4 Jul 2011

News: National

An Auckland church known for its edgy billboards has come under another attack from vandals.

St Matthew in the City put up a "Gay-Dar" billboard on Friday, which shows a spectrum from gay to straight, with a cross acting as a gauge.

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TVNZ

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Cross torn from church's 'gay-dar' billboard

Published: 1:57PM Monday July 04, 2011 Source: Fairfax

Email this article Print this article Text size

A controversial central city billboard has lost its "gay-dar".

Over the weekend vandals ripped a cross from the billboard outside St Matthew in the City in a deliberate act of sabotage.

The Auckland church's latest billboard depicts a "gay-dar" showing a spectrum from gay to straight. The cross acted as a gauge.

Church spokesman Ian Pallas said the cross hadn't been replaced but "that's the intention".

The church is known for stirring debate and hopes the sign will highlight discrimination in the Anglican Church against members of the gay and lesbian community.

gaynz.com

Thursday 28 July 2011

"Gay-dar" billboard vandalised overnight

Posted in: New Zealand Daily News

By GayNZ.com Daily News staff - 2nd July 2011

Vandals have ripped a cross from a "Gay-dar" meter billboard outside liberal Auckland church St Matthews-in-the-City and the church believes it's likely to be deliberate sabotage.

St Matthews-in-the-city is using the sign to publicise debate on the issue of discrimination against gay and lesbian people in the Anglican Church.

It's displaying a "Gay-dar" meter that shows "Straight" on one side and "Gay" on the other, suggesting the Church uses this to determine who its potential priests might be.

When GayNZ.com Daily News staff took a picture of the billboard today the cross which acted as a gauge had been removed.

stuff.co.nz

NATIONAL

Church's 'gay-dar' billboard stirs debate

JESSICA TADMAN-JONES

July 4, 2011 3:13 AM

Last updated 16:16 01/07/2011

32 comments | Text Size | Print | Share

An Auckland church known for stirring debate hopes its latest billboard will highlight discrimination in the Anglican Church against members of the gay and lesbian community.

St Matthew in the City's latest billboard depicts a "gay-dar" showing a spectrum from gay to straight with the cross ripped off it.

CHRISTIAN NATIONAL WORLD CULTURE LIFE SOCIETY HEALTH SPORTS SCIENCE EDUCATION

Urban Christian News

Controversial 'Gay-Dar' Billboard by New Zealand Church Vandalised

July 4, 2011 3:13 AM

An Auckland church known for its edgy billboards has come under another attack from vandals.

St Matthew in the City put up a "Gay-dar" billboard on Friday, which shows a spectrum from gay to straight, with a cross acting as a gauge.

A message underneath states: "As used by the Anglican Church to assess potential priests."

Church spokesman Clay Nelson said the sign aimed to highlight discrimination in the Anglican Church against members of the gay and lesbian community.

Mr Nelson told NZPA he hoped the billboard could be repaired, and he was looking into that today.

"I'm not sure what the cost will be. We were able to repair the cross and I think it can be repaired. So if that's the case, it won't cost too much, hopefully."

New Zealand church has 'gay-dar' poster vandalised

Echo Carnell

4 July 2011

A church in Auckland, New Zealand has come under attack for a so-called "Gay-dar" billboard poster.

St. Matthew in The City put up the poster on Friday showing a spectrum from gay to straight using a cross as a gauge. A message underneath stated "As used by the Anglican Church to assess potential priests".

Soon after being put up the billboard was vandalised by an unknown member of the public and the cross was ripped off.

A spokesperson for St. Matthew in The City, Reverend Clay Nelson, explained to the New Zealand Press Association that the sign was "aimed to highlight the discrimination in the Anglican Church against members of the gay and lesbian community."

The church has become known for its controversial billboards and says it is not surprised when they are vandalised. Rev. Nelson hopes that the attention garnered from the vandalism has got people talking about the issue.

An online petition has been launched by Nelson, which asks the Anglican Church to stop refusing ordination to anyone from the queer community or those in committed relationships.

151 Comments

1 - 10 of 151 First Page Previous Next Last Page

Post your comment

Rey 06:30m Saturday 02nd July 2011 NZST | Report Abuse

no support for poopheads here, I often wonder if homosexuals ever get sick of picking sh1t out of their eyes.

16 Replies

Mika Newport 08:41m Saturday 02nd July 2011 NZST | Report Abuse

It seems the more tolerant we are of "different" folk the more they come out and the more they want just by a little harder at being normal and fitting in freaks instead of trying to get the worlds to accept your abnormality!!! in or off

3 Replies

Rey 06:51pm Saturday 02nd July 2011 NZST | Report Abuse

My bible tells me that sodomy is a sin, what the heck does their bible say? "Go forth and fudge!" Just doesn't sound right to me. Then there's the bit about not casting seed upon barren ground. What would you call it? This church is an abomination, close it down before the poison being spread by it gets out of hand!

10 Replies

Professional Beneficiary 07:02m Saturday 02nd July 2011 NZST | Report Abuse

I would be horrified if one of my kids had this disease. The only cure is extermination!

5 Replies

Razorlips81 07:03m Saturday 02nd July 2011 NZST | Report Abuse

God created AIDS. What are the high risk communities? I read my case!

11 Replies

Ricardo 07:05m Saturday 02nd July 2011 NZST | Report Abuse

YAHOO..... either do the job properly or get out of this country!!!!!! Where is the picture of the billboard????????? Your reporting is absolutely bloody awful..... Your reporters can't even spell..... And your grammar is as good as pig style.....

2 Replies

32 comments

Timin #22 06:38 pm Jul 01 2011

Well put Paul! #2 & Scott #6. How about a real news story...

Rob #31 06:38 pm Jul 01 2011

I don't see how nature vs choice is the issue here. You can't control your desires, but what does that matter? I'm naturally prone to laziness and probably always will be - I think it's at least partly genetic much like orientation. Does that mean that a job description requiring workaholic is discriminatory? Of course not. Organisations should never be forced to hire people that disagree with their core organisational values.

Amanda #30 06:37 pm Jul 01 2011

Paul! "If a person makes the choice to become gay, they are simultaneously making the choice not to become a priest"

Are you insinuating that being gay is a simple choice?

Michael #29 06:35 pm Jul 01 2011

I wonder how the Anglican church can possibly decide whether homosexuality is a sin? Unless maybe loss a coin, have a vote, do some leading, or hear's an idea "READ THE BIBLE!". Maybe God has an opinion. As a church that is supposed to represent God's views, not human opinion, that would seem the place to start. It would seem obvious that you work for the Lord then you need to accept his view. If you don't accept his view then you forfeit the right to represent him. I wouldn't apply for a job representing a gay rights group if I don't believe in their views. I am sure they would discriminate against me being a straight Bible-believing Christian. I think the real problem here is not discrimination, but it is the apostasy of many in the so-called church. If you reject the Bible then you reject God! 2 Chronicles 7:14 is a very good verse to quote Karol Kev. Good one!

Ari #28 06:35 pm Jul 01 2011

If you believe in the bible then you shouldn't be able to be a priest if you are "actively" gay. It's against the scriptures you see your life by. On the other hand, it's just a book. I wonder if a few thousand years if we're all being our lives according to Lord of the Rings and start discriminating against Ocs.

Bane #27 06:31 pm Jul 01 2011

Why do mainstream news articles always seem to try to poke holes in organised religion? Why are the stories we read in newspapers about the various faiths of the world focus solely on the negatives and how few in people believing in something? It seems every story that gets published is either about child molestation,

Kiwi church gets Gay-Dar

A gay-friendly church in Auckland is courting controversy with its eye-catching new Gay-Dar billboard.

St. Matthew-in-the-City, which has for decades been home to local LGBTI-accepting church meetings, erected its big billboard (pictured) last Friday.

The cross represents where someone is on a "Gay-Dar" scale from "straight" to "gay". The sign says: "Gay-Dar. As used by the Anglican Church to assess potential priests."

But over the weekend, the cross disappeared. Priest Associate Reverend Clay Nelson told GayNZ.com he has no idea where it went, but other gay-friendly billboards had been defaced in the past so he wouldn't be surprised if that was the case again.

The billboard was installed to get people thinking about homophobia in the Anglican church, he said, expressing amazement that "in this day and age, with all the information and science available to us that 'the church' can still argue that sexual orientation is a matter of willfulness.

"It appears that justice is being held hostage by ignorance," he concludes. "We call on the bishops to enlighten the church and end this discrimination."

Related Articles

- Gay? Measure me to find out
- Gay marriage opens up polygamy, incest - Archbishop
- Gay Christian group marks 5 years
- "Not gay anymore" guy preaches in Oz
- Anole - Bin the 'gay cure' aol!

New Zealand church protest over anti-gay discrimination beckons

Logan Nation

Monday, July 4, 2011

A church in Auckland, New Zealand, has come under attack from vandals after it put up a "Gay-dar" billboard on Friday depicting a spectrum from gay to straight, with a cross acting as a gauge.

But on Saturday, someone ripped the cross from the billboard.

The church, St Matthew in The City, is known for stirring debate, and had hoped the billboard would call attention to discrimination in the Anglican Church against members of the gay and lesbian community.

A caption at the bottom of the billboard states: "As used by the Anglican Church to assess potential priests."

New Zealand Anglican bishops refuse to consider any candidate for ordination who is gay or lesbian and in a committed relationship.

St Matthew's is raising an online petition asking the Anglican Church to stop this practice.

An online petition has been launched by Rev. Clay Nelson, which asks the Anglican Church to stop refusing ordination to anyone from the LGBT community or those in committed relationships.

Sign up to see what your friends recommend.

Church's Gay-Dar Billboard - What Do You Think?

In this billboard just a bit of fun or is a crossing the line for St Matthew's church to have a billboard of a "Gay-dar" for publicity? Are they trying to break the mould? It is interesting to raise debate, but a bit off-put for a church, what do you think?

An Auckland church known for stirring debate hopes its latest billboard will highlight discrimination in the Anglican Church against members of the gay and lesbian community.

St Matthew in the City's latest billboard depicts a "gay-dar" showing a spectrum from gay to straight with a cross acting as a meter.

An explanatory caption on the board states: "As used by the Anglican Church to assess potential priests."

Currently New Zealand Anglican bishops refuse to consider any candidate for ordination who is gay or lesbian and in a committed relationship.

The billboard aims to draw attention to St. Matthew's online petition asking the Anglican Church to end this practice.

Bishop Philip Richardson of Taranaki says until the Anglican Church can agree whether homosexuality is a consequence of "natural human sexuality" or an "expression of God-given diversity" sexual orientation will continue to be a deciding factor in determining potential priests.

But Priest Associate of St Matthew's the Reverend Clay Nelson says he is amazed that with all the information and science available to us that "the church" can still argue that sexual orientation is a matter of willfulness.

ONLINE RESPONSE

Gay-Dar proved to be a blogger's dream, sparking debate and heated discussions across the web.