

# **KINGSMEAD SUPPORT GROUP**

**Newsletter No.3**

**March 94**

## **The Campaign Continues....**

### **The Keep On Keeping On Show!**

Not to be missed...the enclosed leaflet announces a benefit evening of variety and entertainment which has been organised to show our commitment and solidarity in the face of attacks on equal opportunities.

Tickets are now on sale from the Hackney Empire booking office on 081 085 2424 at £7 and £4 concessions. The benefit is on Thursday 24th March and please book early as demand for tickets will be great. Tell your friends and we'll see you there!

### **The Guardian Advert**

The support group, which has already organised three mass mail-outs of newsletters and petitions, as well as two hugely successful lobbies of Hackney Council outside the Town Hall, had planned to take out a quarter page advertisement in the Guardian.

We are grateful to the many people who sent in signatures for the statement of support, and money, but once we were offered the Hackney Empire, it was decided that it would be more effective to stage the benefit night. In addition, the cost of the Guardian page greatly exceeded the hire of the Empire and therefore funds were redirected.

### **Petitions**

Please continue to send in completed petitions and we enclose another sheet and hope that you can obtain some more names.

## Support

Jane has personally received many hundreds of letters, cards and messages of support. Support has also flooded in to the Support Group base at the HTA office from individuals, organizations, union branches, workplaces and schools. Thank you everyone but keep them coming in and spread the word.

## Update on Jane

The school Governors are now running their own investigation into the issues. The Council continues to discuss details of the case, which should be kept confidential, in the press, through their senior officers in an attempt to justify their position.

Meanwhile Jane has gone into work everyday, despite being subjected to harassment in her personal life by sections of the media and individuals. Last weekend, the school suffered a graffiti attack of homophobic abuse levelled at Jane.

## The Support Group Replies...

Some people have implied that the campaign's criticisms of the Director of Education have racist undertones. We entirely disassociate ourselves from, and condemn, any attacks of a racist nature on the Director of Education. As our benefit letter states... 'an attack on one group is an attack on us all'. We enclose our letter to the press which sets out our views on this issue.

## Thank You

Finally we would like to take this opportunity to say a really big thank you to all those people who have contributed in so many ways. Along with your many messages of support and financial donations, the campaign has been really fortunate that so many people have offered a range of services, skills, and advice and above all, time and commitment.

Keep it up because it's not over yet!

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