

Student use as homo 'bait' hit in Florida

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chosen homosexuality as a way to express his sexual desires; no homosexual need feel at a loss when homosexuality is discussed: he will be able, if he masters Benson's work, to discuss intelligently every meaningful facet of homosexuality.

James Forrester

Student Use as Homo 'Bait' Hit in Florida

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (UPI)—State and Florida State University officials blasted police Tuesday for hiring college students to act as bait and informers in a crackdown on homosexuals.

University Dean of students Harry Day said the use of students here as police informers in morals cases was «altogether wrong» and should be stopped.

Gov. Haydon Burns and university Board of Regents Chairman Chester Ferguson also deplored the practice.

The officials' reaction was sparked when Police Chief Frank Stoutamire confirmed reports that FSU students were hired to loiter at local bus stations and tip police when they were approached and propositioned by sexual deviates.

«As great as the need may be to expose sexual deviates, the procedure of involving college students in the process seems altogether wrong,» Day said. «It is hoped the practice will not be continued.»

Assistant Police Chief Robert Maige, who said students are paid \$10 for each homosexual who is convicted, defended the program.

«It's like buying bootleg,» Maige said. «You've got to have somebody to get the evidence, and homosexuals will proposition young college students.»

Ferguson said the program should have been cleared with the university administration, which has a program of helping students find part-time jobs.

«I am sympathetic with the elimination of homosexuals from educational institutions,» Ferguson said. «But it should be done with the full approbation and approval of the administrative authorities of the university involved.»

Maige said most of the student informers were over 21 years of age and were sound, mature and trustworthy. He added that many of them are studying criminology at Florida State.

The assistant chief said only «two or three» student informers work at one time and their main beat is the local bus stations, which are favorite hangouts of homosexuals in Tallahassee.

from: Hollywood Citizen-News / 29 December 1965

Three Letters to the Sunday Times, London, Dec. 1965

Sir,—Mr William Shepherd, M P, complains of emotion, propaganda and lack of knowledge of homosexuality in discussions about law reform.

These attributes have indeed been much in evidence in utterances by opponents of the Wolfenden proposals—nor least those of Mr Shepherd himself. Among his past statements are the following:—

«Incest is a much more natural act than homosexuality.»

«Every homosexual is a potential danger to young persons.»

«I want to discourage the homosexual by the discouragement of the law because the homosexual in society has a very difficult place indeed . . . The more