

UPDATE

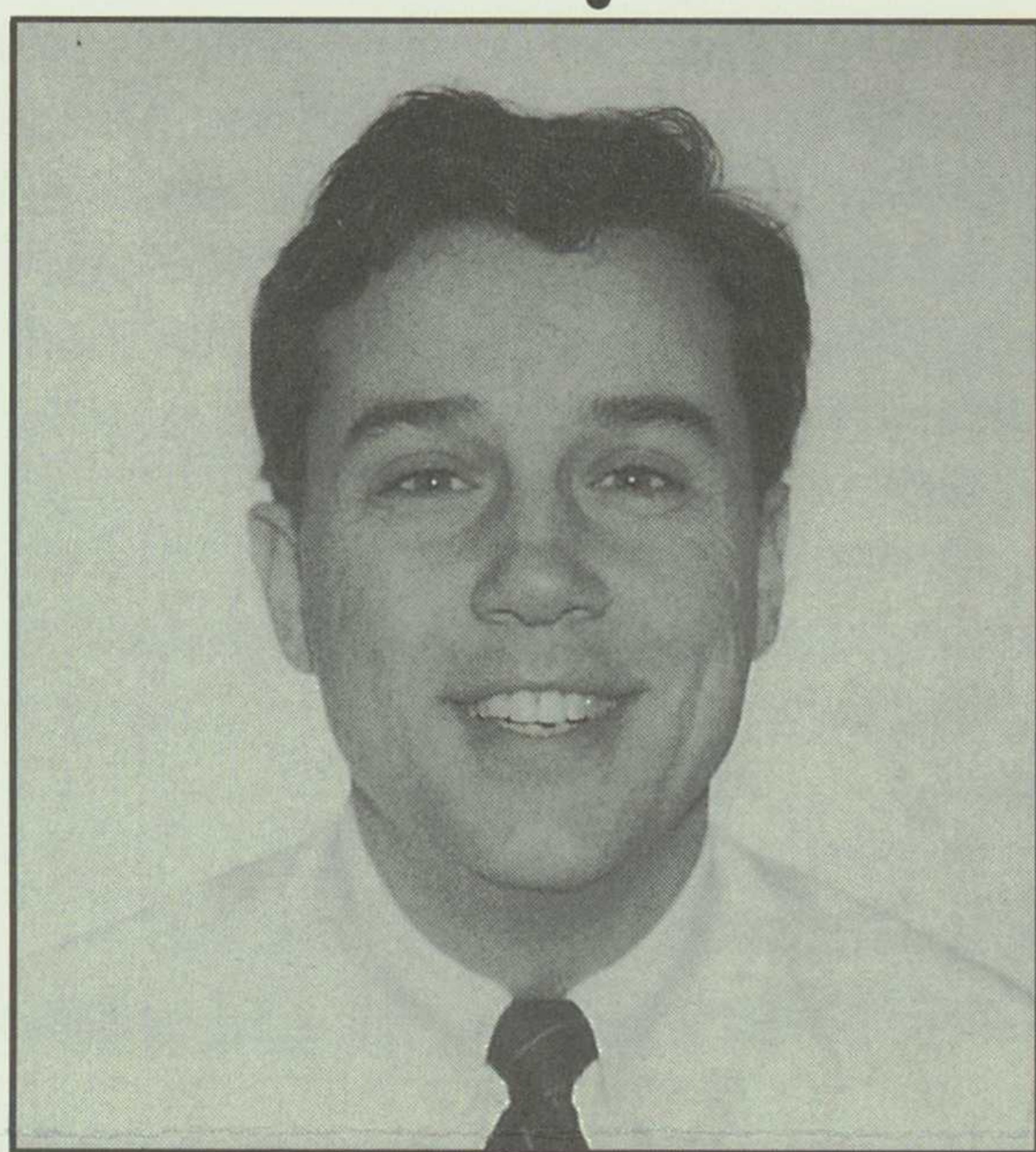
Freedom from
Homosexuality
Through the
Power of
Jesus Christ

EXODUS INTERNATIONAL

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Exodus Leader Forms National Ministry for Gays' Loved Ones

"Parents & Friends of Ex-Gays" (PFOX) provides an alternative to the pro-gay PFLAG organization.



Anthony Falzarano, founder of PFOX, hopes his organization will provide a national voice for family members and friends who love someone gay—but who reject homosexual behavior as sinful.

WASHINGTON, DC—Anthony Falzarano has announced the formation of a national network for family and friends support groups. PFOX (Parents and Friends of Ex-Gays) will be an alternative to the pro-gay PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays). Anthony is director of *Transformation Christian Ministries*, an Exodus referral in Washington, D.C.

PFLAG groups exist nationwide, and offer support to parents and friends with a gay loved one. However, PFLAG members are encouraged to embrace their loved one's homosexuality, rather than encouraging them to seek change.

"No one should reject a family member who is gay," said Bob Knight, Director of Cultural Studies at the Family Research Council in Washington, D.C., who participated in the news conference on October 10 announcing PFOX.

"But love does not require accepting behavior that can hurt or even kill." He was speaking at the National Press Club, a short distance away from the Washington Mall where the gigantic AIDS memorial quilt was on display.

"The [AIDS] quilt symbolizes tragic choices made by many people who were misled into believing they had no other option," Knight said.

Anthony reported later that the press conference was well-attended, with reporters from FOX-

TV, C-SPAN, the national wire services, and several newspapers.

"The lesbian reporter from the Blade (Washington DC's gay newspaper) attacked us during the conference," Anthony told the *Update*. "She tried to imply that we did not have the same standards for heterosexual promiscuity." Anthony was able to quiet her when he told her, "Heterosexual promiscuity is equally sinful [to homosexual promiscuity]." Then he added, "If the Blade is so concerned about the gay community, why don't they take out all of their porno ads?"

Anthony said that PFLAG "was so intimidated [by us] that they held a press conference immediately following ours to try and discredit PFOX."

Since the press conference, Anthony has received calls from "all over the country" for more information on starting a local PFOX chapter.

"We are asking the many Christ-centered support groups that exist already all over the United States that support and pray for their homosexual family members and friends to formally associate with PFOX," Anthony said. "We need to love homosexual strugglers but hate the behavior that they are involved in." Plans are underway for the first annual PFOX National Conference in Washington, D.C. in the early spring of 1997. Four chapters of PFOX already exist; Anthony hopes many more will join in the months ahead.

For more information on forming a local PFOX group or the upcoming PFOX conference, contact: Anthony Falzarano, Transformation Christian Ministries, 1017 12th Street NW, Washington, DC 20005; 202/371-0800.