

# CSSMM

## CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF SEXUAL MINORITIES IN THE MILITARY

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 3

SPRING 2003

### CSSMM PUBLISHES NEW BOOK ON "DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL"

In February 2003, CSSMM director Aaron Belkin and assistant director **Geoffrey Bateman** published *Don't Ask, Don't Tell: Debating the Gay Ban in the Military* with Lynne Rienner Publishers.

Based on the proceedings of a conference CSSMM sponsored in December 2000 with the Commonwealth Club of California, this book brings together a critical mass of experts of different points of view to debate whether the U.S. military's gay ban is based on military necessity or prejudice. The panel of experts include scholars, military officials, and openly gay service members from the United States, Britain, Israel, Australia, New Zealand.

The book addresses major points of debate that frame the discussion of gays and lesbians in the military. Beginning with a history of U.S. military policies concerning sexual minorities, it then moves to debates on privacy in the shower, unit cohesion, the

### CSSMM RESEARCH CITED

In January 2003, the Human Rights Watch released an report condemning the U.S. military's ban on gay and lesbian service members. Titled "Uniform Discrimination: The 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' Policy of the U.S. Military," the report drew on CSSMM's research on gays and lesbians in foreign militaries.

In February, U.S. Senator Russell Feingold (D-WI) cited CSSMM research, including its study on Australia's decision to lift its gay ban, in a speech on the floor of the U.S. Senate.

### CSSMM WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBER



CSSMM welcomes **Scott Segal**, the newest member of our board. Segal is a partner in the Government Relations and Strategy Section of the law firm of Bracewell and Patterson, LLP. For the last thirteen years, he has focused on environmental and energy policy development in Washington, D.C. He is an adjunct professor at the University of Maryland,

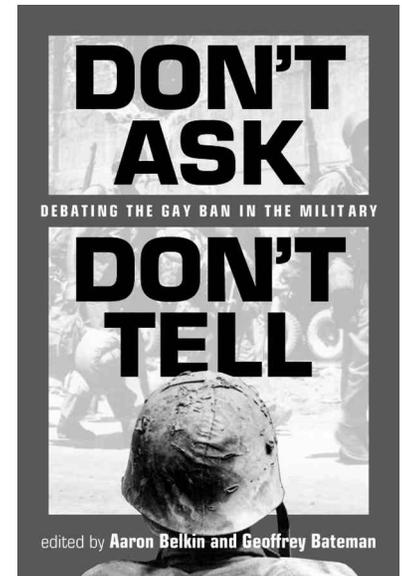
University College, and teaches environmental law and policy development. He has appeared on Fox News, CNN, PBS, NBC, and NPR.

relevance of foreign militaries, and the cost of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." It ends with personal testimony from two openly gay service members and speculation on the future of the ban.

More information on the book can be found on CSSMM's website ([www.gaymilitary.ucsb.edu](http://www.gaymilitary.ucsb.edu)) or at [www.rienner.com](http://www.rienner.com).

### ERRATUM

On page vii of our new book *Don't Ask, Don't Tell: Debating the Gay Ban in the Military*, we should have included the following passage: "seven of the country's leading opponents of gays in the military, from the American Enterprise Institute, the Family Research Council, the Center for Military Readiness, and other organizations, declined invitations to participate. An eighth expert, from the Army Research Institute, was invited as someone who could articulate the arguments that could be used against the integration of gays and lesbians. However this individual also declined to participate." We apologize for the error.



CSSMM thanks **Jeffrey M. Cleghorn**, staff attorney at Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, upon his retirement this month, for his years of generous support to the Center. CSSMM thanks **Rachel Weber** and **Steven Zeeland** for their four years of excellent service on the Center's board.

### FELLOWSHIP NEWS

The CSSMM is proud to award a fellowship to **Laura Sjoberg**, a Ph.D. student in the School of International Relations at the University of Southern California. She plans to study the meanings assigned to women's lives and women's rights in recent national security discourse.

## DEVELOPMENT NEWS

The CSSMM is extremely grateful to announce that the **Evelyn and Walter Haas Jr. Fund** has generously provided a \$40,000 grant, its fourth in four years, and **Henry van Ameringen** has generously donated \$15,000. In addition, the CSSMM is very grateful for a \$5,000 gift from **Andrew Tobias** and **Charles Nolan**; for \$1,000 gifts from **Bruce Presley**; **Scott Segal**; and **Reid Williams**; for \$500 gifts from **Ian Gibson-Smith** and the **IanThom Foundation in memory of Thomas G. (Major) Martin**; **The Lewy Gay Values Fund at the Horizons Foundation** as advised by **Jeffrey Lewy** and **Ed Eishen**; **Rick Jacobs**; **Tom Carpenter** and **Art Andrade**; for a \$300 gift from **Thomas E. Gaynor** and **Steven Linehan**; and for a \$250 gift from **Walter Smalling** and **Ray Rhinehart**.

Also, CSSMM conveys special thanks to **Scott Segal** for hosting a dinner for CSSMM in Washington, D.C.; to **Thomas E. Gaynor** and **Steven Linehan** for hosting a fundraiser in Los Angeles; to **Alastair Gamble** and **Rob Hicks** for generously appearing at fundraisers in Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, and San Francisco; to **Zoe Dunning** for helping to organize a fundraiser in San Francisco; to **Margarethe Cammermeyer** for appearing at the San Francisco fundraiser; and to **Peter Poulos** and **Julie Tagen** for outstanding work organizing events in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Washington, D.C.

Director Aaron Belkin  
Assistant Director Geoffrey Bateman  
Senior Research Associate Nathaniel Frank  
Senior Research Assistant Alastair Gamble  
Public Relations Advisor David Phelps  
Newsletter Designer Karla Milosevich  
Web Designer Shivaun Nestor  
Filmmaker-in-Residence Michele Sieglitz  
Research Assistant Maya Rupert

The Center for the Study of Sexual Minorities in the Military is an official unit of the Institute for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Research at the University of California, Santa Barbara; [www.isber.ucsb.edu](http://www.isber.ucsb.edu). You can reach the Center at (805) 893-5664; fax (805) 893-3309; [belkin@polsci.ucsb.edu](mailto:belkin@polsci.ucsb.edu); or <http://www.gaymilitary.ucsb.edu>.

## CSSMM STUDY TO APPEAR IN U.S. ARMY JOURNAL

The forthcoming issue of *Parameters*, the official journal of the U.S. Army War College, will include a CSSMM study titled, "Is the Gay Ban Based on Military Necessity?" The study presents evidence from Australia, Canada, Israel, and Britain concerning the integration of acknowledged gay and lesbian service members.

Stressing the common features of each country's experience, the study offers three lessons that experts can draw from the four cases. 1) In each case, the lifting of a gay ban had no impact on military performance, readiness, cohesion, recruitment, or rates of HIV infection among the troops. 2) In lifting the bans, each country created new sexual misconduct regulations that held heterosexuals and homosexuals to the same standards of behavior. Experts believe that the emphasis on equal standards was an important element of the success of policies of integration. 3) In none of the cases did the lifting of a gay ban result in a substantial increase in the number of gay and lesbian personnel who revealed their sexual orientation.

The study also addresses the relevance of these cases to the U.S. military, disputing claims that gay and lesbian personnel receive special treatment in foreign militaries, that cultural differences in these countries make them inapplicable to the U.S., and that no known gay and lesbian soldiers serve in combat.

CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF  
SEXUAL MINORITIES IN THE MILITARY  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93106-9420