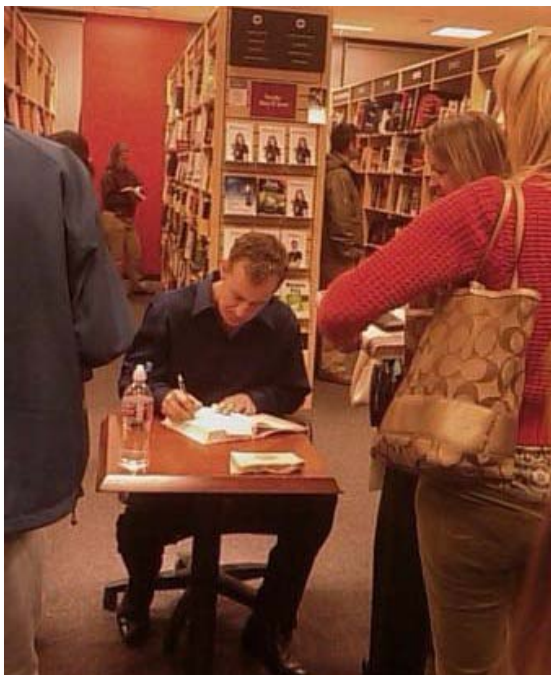


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A FORUM MEMBER'S REVIEW



Dave Cullen signing his book at Borders bookstore in Boulder, CO.

LoveEmBoys posted her account over on the **The DC Chronicles** thread.

"One thing really got me at the [*Columbine*] signing -- I had not anticipated that Dave would bring his photocopies of Eric and Dylan's journals. These documents obviously play a huge role in the book, and it was incredibly eerie to thumb through the pages and pages of hand written notes and drawings. Dave's copies were highlighted and dog eared, so it was easy to flip through and find the many sections that he's quoted or discussed in the book. It gave me chills.

"The story is horrific, heartbreaking, and maddening. The book is seamless, clear, and a comprehensive view never before presented."

Read [more](#).

Columbine Available In Other Formats

Available now for instant download: **e-book format (Kindle Edition)**

Available in 2 or 3 months: **Various audio: CD, cassette or MP3**

Available in 2 or 3 months: **Audiobook from audible.com**



Ain't no reins on this one...

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FALSE HOPE - LGBT RIGHTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST



"Execution, public humiliation and imprisonment have long plagued the lives of the LGBT community in the Middle Eastern world. It is a well-known fact that "LGBT individuals are at a constant struggle," notes the Imaan secretariat (an organisation dedicated to the wellbeing of gay Muslims, based in Britain).

"[They] must [fight] for the right to be LGBT...[and] for the freedom to love somebody of the same sex," he argues further.

"Brian Whitaker, of the Guardian, who authored the book *Unspeakable Love*, notes that the subject of homosexuality is as unmentionable in the Middle East as it was in the UK 60 years ago.

"This tension can be attributed largely to Islamic conservatism. In 2006, it was reported that radical Islamic militias were attacking homosexuals in Iraq;

and it was only a year later that Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad claimed that there were "no homosexuals in Iran".

"Ironically, Ahmadinejad's remarks and the laughter from his audience probably did a lot to bring [the issue] out in the open," Whitaker told us. Indeed, soon after, filmmaker Tanaz Eshaghian released a documentary entitled *Be Like Others*. The film revealed that the government had been paying for homosexual men to have sex-change operations. Arguably, this was the Iranian administration's humane ultimatum to the death sentence, which is bestowed on any two men who wish to engage in a homosexual relationship."

Read [more](#).

Source: pinknews.co.uk

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MORE DIVERSITY ON THE WHITE HOUSE LAWN

By Marge_Innavera

The White House Easter Egg Roll has been an annual tradition since 1878. In 2006 a group of same-sex couples and their children became the first gay-headed families to attend, leading to accusations that they were "crashing" an event that should be off-limits to them. The White House had expressed no objections, although the families complained that they were **shut out of the opening ceremonies** and the corresponding media coverage.



White House Easter Egg Roll, 2006

This year, President Obama has taken steps to encourage gay-headed families to attend, the White House distributed tickets to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender organizations, with the Family Equality Council, Human Rights Campaign, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force confirming that they had received them. **Family Equality** organized the first group of gay and lesbian parents who brought their children to the event in 2006. Executive Director Jennifer Chrisler commended Obama for emphasizing to gay-headed families that they would be welcome. Leah McElrath Renna, who attended in both 2006 and 2007 with partner Cathy McElrath Renna and daughter Rosemary, recalled that on those occasions they felt a little like they were "crashing their own party" but the atmosphere was quite different this year.

The **Christian Broadcasting Network** website commented that these tickets should not be necessary. "It would be different if there were some force preventing them from attending the event and receiving tickets alongside everybody else, but that's not exactly the situation," wrote Laura Robinson, adding that singling out a particular group was inappropriate if the changes in the process were intended to make it more equitable. *CBN* did acknowledge that blocks of tickets had also been set aside for military families, families of Administration members and District of Columbia schoolchildren but did not express any opposition to these, acknowledging that the number of tickets issued to LGBT organization was small compared with the 2,000 allotted to DC schools. However, "symbolically, it speaks volumes."

The White House had changed the procedure for getting tickets. Formerly, tickets were issued on the Ellipse at the Washington Mall the weekend before the event, making long waits in line necessary; but this year they were available online for the first time, and each household is limited to six tickets. As before, tickets specify a two-hour time frame, making it possible to accommodate many more visitors. This year's events will also feature games, cooking classes, live musical events and storytelling.

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FREEDOM TO MARRY IN VERMONT

By Marge_Innavera

The decision in Vermont last week to legalize same-sex marriages, the first in the US enacted by a legislature, was the result of years of patient and persistent work by civil rights organizations in the state, particularly the Vermont Freedom To Marry group. In a statement this week, VFTM commended the people of Vermont for involvement in this issue, "with as much civility and respect as possible given the intensity of the heartfelt views many of us -- across the spectrum -- brought into this debate." Their efforts had included contacting legislators, both in writing and in person at the Statehouse, gathering supporters for petitions and making phone calls. The site provided a complete list of [a list of supporters](#) including clergy, businesses, **Lawyers** and parents.



VFTM's website also offers helpful information including a last of [frequently-asked questions](#) and answers for couples planning to marry in Vermont, and the [full text of the new law](#).

Visit the [Vermont Freedom to Marry website](#).

GAY RIGHTS GROUPS CELEBRATE VICTORIES IN MARRIAGE PUSH



"Gay-rights groups say that momentum from back-to-back victories on same-sex marriage in Vermont and Iowa could spill into other states, particularly since at least nine other legislatures are considering measures this year to allow marriage between gay couples.

"The Vermont Legislature on Tuesday overrode Gov. Jim Douglas's veto of a bill allowing gay couples to marry, mustering one more vote than needed to preserve the measure.

"The step makes Vermont the first state to allow same-sex marriage through legislative action instead of a court ruling,

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and comes less than a week after the Iowa Supreme Court legalized same-sex marriages in that state.

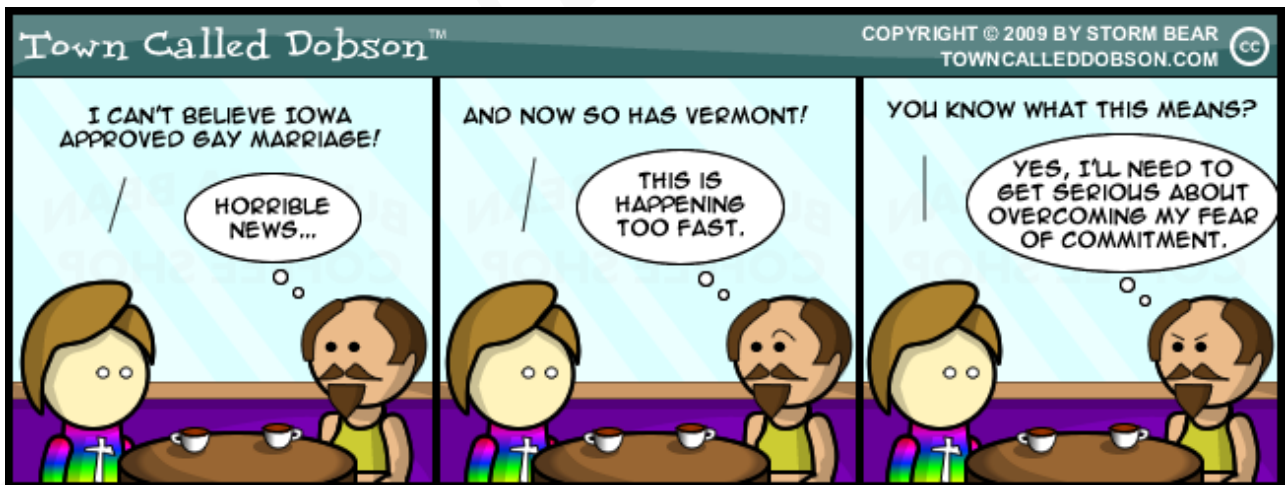
"New York, New Jersey, Maine and New Hampshire are among the states where such proposals have gained legislative support in recent months.

"This is a reminder to those legislatures that they should finish the job," said Evan Wolfson, executive director of Freedom to Marry, a national advocacy group based in New York. "Contrary to the claims made by the opponents of equality, it's not just judges, it's not just the coasts, and it's not just going away."

Of course, this will galvanize some of the opposition. "It's a bad day for the country," said Brian Brown, executive director of the National Organization for Marriage, a group established to fight same-sex marriage. "There is a palpable sense that something has changed and people need to get active."

Read [more](#).

Source: nytimes.com



Source: towncalleddobson.com

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Forum Footnotes

THE REVIEWS KEEP STREAMING IN

"Cullen's book is a nerve-wracking, methodical and panoramic account . . . COLUMBINE has its terrifying sections, particularly during Cullen's minute-by-minute rendering of the chaotic 49-minute assault. He puts us inside and outside the building, and he captures the disbelief viewers experienced in 'almost witnessing mass murder' live on television."

-- Cleveland Plain Dealer, April 5th, 2009

Read [more](#).

[Buy](#) Columbine.

Check out the *Columbine* trailer on [YouTube](#).

Keep abreast of what's happening at [The DC Chronicles](#).



RULE REMINDER

A gentle but firm reminder regarding the posting of articles when discussing topics in any thread on the forum:

Do not post articles in their entirety. "Fair Use" copyright law allows you to quote a few paragraphs that convey the nature of the article. Always provide a link to the entire article.

It's listed in the [Forum Rules](#), where you can find a complete list of the rules of our forum, as well as notes on their use.



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SCHEDULE OF DAVE CULLEN'S APPEARANCES FOR *COLUMBINE*

For more information, visit his [facebook](#) page, which offers details on each specific appearance, and enables you to RSVP if you can attend one of the events.

- ~~Wednesday, April 15, 2009 at 7:00pm, Politics & Prose, NW, Washington, DC~~ **CANCELLED**
- Thursday, April 16, 2009 at 8:00pm, Books & Books, 265 Aragon Ave., Coral Gables, FL
- Friday, April 17, 2009 at 12:00pm, Books & Books, 265 Aragon Ave., Coral Gables, FL

- Tuesday, April 21, 2009 at 7:00pm, Borders, 2120 Southgate Rd., Colorado Springs, CO
- Saturday, April 25, 2009 at 3:30pm, LA Times Festival of Books, UCLA campus, Westwood, CA
Dave will discuss his new book on stage with LA Times Books Editor David Ulin.

- Monday, April 27, 2009 at 7:00pm, University Bookstore, 4326 University Way, NE, Seattle, WA
- Wednesday, April 29, 2009 at 7:30pm, Books Inc., 301 Castro St., Mountain View, CA

*Schedule subject to change; please check with venues to confirm.
Radio and TV appearances will be posted in a later issue.*

FUN QUESTION OF THE WEEK

This week's Question: What car sold more than one million units in Northern America in 1965, setting a record for the sale of a single year model, that still stands today?

Let us know the answer on the [response thread](#).

Last question and answer: Who are these people?
Leonard, Minnie, Herbert, Simon, Arthur, Milton,
Manfred, and Julius



Congratulations to **Ennis Del Mark** for knowing that these folks are all members of the Marx family—Leonard is Chico's real name, Minnie - their mother, Herbert is Zeppo's real name, Simon was their father (called Sam), Arthur was Harpo, Milton - Gummo, Manfred was the firstborn Marx son, who died when he was a toddler, and last but not least, Julius, who was none other than Groucho!

Thanks to **Killersmom**, **Miaisland**, and **dback** for joining the fun!

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POST OF THE DAY



Drinking Bunnies ~ Picture from Flickr

From [Le Bar](#), Sid401k asks: Is that anything like fishin bunnies? 🐰

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The most successful marriages, gay or straight, even if they begin in romantic love, often become friendships. It's the ones that become the friendships that last."

~ *Andrew Sullivan* ~

Ain't no reins on this one...
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PHOTOCAPTION OF THE DAY

By HR in [Photo Captioning Fun 4](#)



*In a clearing stands a boxer,
A fighter by his trade,*



*And he carries the reminders
Of every glove that laid him down
Or cut him
'Til he cried out, in his anger and his shame:
"I am leaving. I am leaving."*

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But the fighter still remains.

The Boxer
Paul Simon

Contributors: **BayCityJohn, killersmom, dejavu, Marge_Innavera, Stilllearning Sid401k, HR**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

If you have ideas about initiating a gathering, go to **Start Your Own Threads** and get the ball rolling to plan a get-together near you.

Man Dance Company
San Francisco - July 10-12, 2009

Let us know of any events you'd like listed here.

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The Daily Sheet is a production of The Ultimate Brokeback Forum
at www.davecullen.com/forum.

Editors emeritae: CactusGal, Marge_Innavera, tellyouwhat, Stilllearning,
MissYouSoMuch

Researchers: BayCityJohn, BrokenOkie, Killersmom, Kittyhawk,
Marge_Innavera, Stilllearning

Formatters: denim girl, gnash

Today's edition formatted by **gnash**

We count on you to send us your news items, questions, and nominations for
posts of the day.

If you have items you'd like to see published, send them
to tds@davecullen.com.

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