



2007 Indianapolis City-County Council Election Questionnaire

As a candidate for City-County Council, we would like to know your knowledge, opinion and position on issues that are important to gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered citizens of Marion County.

Please take a few minutes to thoughtfully answer this short questionnaire and return it. The results of this questionnaire will be shared with members of the GLBT community.

Question 1 - A 2005 Indiana Poll developed by IUPUI political science professor Ellen Ann Andersen in consultation with the Indiana University Center for Survey Research found that respondents overwhelmingly agree (79 percent) that gay and lesbian Hoosiers should have the same civil rights protections as others. Support for equal treatment is bipartisan: 86 percent of Democrats, 75 percent of Republicans, and 82 percent of Independents support civil rights protections for gay and lesbians.

The cities of Bloomington (1993), Fort Wayne (2002), Lafayette (1993), Indianapolis (2005), and Michigan City (2003) prohibit discrimination in private and public employment. Thirty major Indiana employers have non-discrimination policies that include sexual orientation, including Anthem Insurance, Conesco, Cummins, Methodist Hospital, Biomet, Allied Van Lines and American United Life Insurance.

Would you support revisions to the Indianapolis Human Rights Ordinance for Indianapolis that would delete “sexual orientation/gender identity” from the categories that are protected?
(please circle your choice)

Definitely *Probably* *Possibly* *Probably Not* *Definitely Not*

Comments: _____

Question 2 - Employee compensation includes more than just wages and salary. Normally, it also includes benefits, such as health insurance and dental care, family and bereavement leave.

Do you believe that Gay and Lesbian employees of the City of Indianapolis deserve to be compensated the same as their non-GLBT counterparts? *(please circle your choice)*

Definitely *Probably* *Possibly* *Probably Not* *Definitely Not*

Comments: _____

Question 3 - Many major Indiana-based employers offer domestic partner health benefits, including: Anthem Insurance, Cummins, Purdue University, Ball State University, Butler University, Indiana University, the NCAA, Conseco, Universal Music Group, Baker and Daniels, Eli Lilly & Co, Wellpoint, Guidant Corp. and the City of Bloomington.

Would you support an ordinance that would make available the same compensation and benefits, especially health care, for domestic partners of City/County employees? *(please circle your choice)*

Definitely *Probably* *Possibly* *Probably Not* *Definitely Not*

Comments: _____

Question 4 - Would you sponsor such an ordinance? *(please circle your choice)* *Yes* *No*

Question 5 - Some cities and businesses have expanded benefits to domestic partners of same-sex couples, but not to opposite-sex couples, the reasoning being that opposite sex couples have the opportunity to legally marry. Other cities and businesses have included the domestic partner regardless the sex.

Do you believe that domestic partnership benefits should be offered to all non-married couples? *(please circle your choice)*

Definitely *Probably* *Possibly* *Probably Not* *Definitely Not*

Comments: _____

Question 6 - A survey conducted in 2005 by Harris Interactive titled “From Teasing to Torment: School Climate in America, A Survey of Students and Teachers” found that the second most common reason for frequent harassment is sexual orientation. One-third (33%) of teens report that students are frequently harassed because they are or are perceived to be lesbian, gay or bisexual.

The survey finds that Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender (GLBT) students are three times as likely as non-GLBT students to say that they do not feel safe at school (22% vs. 7%) and 90% of GLBT students (vs. 62% of non-GLBT teens) have been harassed or assaulted during the past year.

Would you support any initiatives within the authority of the City-County Council to work with the Charter Schools, IPS, or township schools to provide a safe environment for lesbian and gay youth at schools? *(please circle your choice)*

Definitely *Probably* *Possibly* *Probably Not* *Definitely Not*

Comments: _____

Question 7 - Would you sponsor such an initiative? *(please circle your choice)* **Yes** **No**

Question 8 - A definition of "Domestic Partner" frequently used is: two individuals who are in a long-term committed relationship and are responsible for each other's financial and emotional well-being.

Companies that offer Domestic Partnership Benefits often require proof of a relationship. Would you support a City/County registration for domestic partners that would assist in providing a relationship status? (please circle your choice)

Definitely *Probably* *Possibly* *Probably Not* *Definitely Not*

Comments: _____

Question 9 - Would you sponsor such an initiative? (please circle your choice) **Yes** **No**

Question 10 - Please mark any of these greater Indianapolis GLBT organizations that you are familiar with?

- Jesus Metropolitan Community Church (MCC)
- Dignity
- Stonewall Democrats
- Log Cabin Republicans
- Ind. Transgendered Rights Advocacy Alliance
- Indy Rainbow Chamber of Commerce
- Other(s) please list: _____
- Indiana Youth Group (YIG)
- Indiana Equality
- Human Rights Campaign
- Lambda Legal Defense Fund
- Indiana Black Pride
- IndyChoruses

Question 11 - Are there any other issues that you feel you would like to address regarding GLBT individuals in Indianapolis?

Signature _____

Printed Name _____ **District #** _____

Phone Number _____ **e-mail** _____

Would you like to meet with an IFN representative from your district? Yes No

We would appreciate your responses by 9/30/07. Thank you!

Indiana Fairness Network c/o 625 N. East Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202