



**National  
Gay  
Rights  
Coalition**

**Coalition  
Nationale pour les  
Droits des  
Homosexuels**

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NGRC/CNDH C.P. 2919, Succursale D, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1P 5W9 (613) 233-0152

Our File - N-Fed Govt

13 May 1977

Hon. Francis Fox  
Solicitor General  
House of Commons  
OTTAWA, Ontario  
K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. Fox

We have been studying very carefully your letter of 11 February 1977 concerning the employment of homosexuals in the public service.

The letter was obviously very carefully written, each word meticulously chosen. As a result, several important principles are suggested but nothing is actually made clear. In your second paragraph, you suggest that sexual orientation is not a factor in employment but is a factor in security clearances if a person might be exploited or compromised as a result of his or her sexual orientation.

In your third paragraph you say that being an overt or public homosexual would in no way prevent a person from being employed in the public service. Since you already said in your second paragraph that sexual orientation is not a factor, does the reference in the third paragraph also apply to security clearances? But security clearances are not mentioned in the third paragraph where you talk about overt or public homosexuals. Yet I personally am a homosexual and I do have a security clearance. What are we to conclude?

Is homosexuality only a factor in employment AND security clearances when a homosexual tries to hide his or her sexual orientation? Does being open about it automatically guarantee a security clearance, all other factors being positive? Is sexual orientation never a factor in jobs which do not require security clearances? Would an open homosexual be able to get a job in the Canadian Armed Forces? Is the government prepared to guarantee that homosexuals won't be discriminated against in the public service by including sexual orientation in the Canadian Human Rights Act?

We would appreciate a clear statement from the government in response to these questions.

Yours sincerely,

*David Garmaise*  
David Garmaise  
Coordinating Office

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SOL. GEN. CANADA  
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