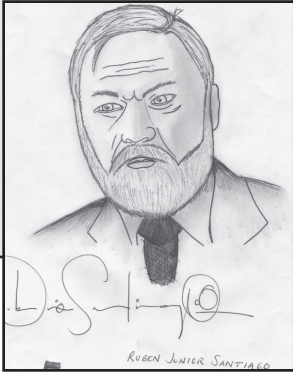


Stop the Hate:

A Message from Occupy Springfield

An anti-gay minister in Springfield?

What does this have to do with us?



Scott Lively came to Springfield in 2008. Since then, as president of the Abiding Truth Ministries (classified as a hate group by the Southern Poverty Law Center) he has been running the Holy Grounds Coffee House on State Street right near Commerce High School.

- Lively is known as the author of anti gay books such as *The Pink Swastika: Homosexuality and the Nazi Party* and *Why and How to Defeat the "Gay" Movement*. Now from his base in Springfield he travels the world spreading hate.

- In 2009 Lively went to Uganda with two other evangelicals to speak out against homosexuality. The events associated with his visit fueled anti gay actions in Uganda. Soon after this visit Uganda's government began discussion of anti gay legislation that would make homosexuality a capital crime punishable by hanging. Lively now denies support of the legislation's death penalty provision but called the effort to criminalise homosexuality a step in the right direction.

- On January 26 2011, a young gay activist named David Kato was brutally beaten to death in broad daylight at his home in Uganda. After Kato's murder Lively claimed that revolutionists of Sodom are intent on destroying Christianity in Uganda but also claimed that he was through with anti gay activism

- In February 2011, Lively flew to Moldova at the request of a pro family group there to speak against a European Union anti discrimination bill on sexual orientation that he said would have dire consequences for their young country. During his visit Lively said that this bill would be the first step towards homosexualization of society. ***"It is not wrong to speak against homosexuality any more than it is wrong to speak against other behavioral disorders such as alcoholism and bulimia or other sexual sins such as adultery and polygamy."***--Scott Lively 2011

What can we do?

We deplore hateful messages that harm the lives of all people. We believe it's time for all of us to send a different message in Springfield:

- 1.** We must educate ourselves and others about the terrible burden homophobia places on Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgendered (LGBT) people.
- 2.** Along with our neighbors friends co workers clergy and family we must speak out against homophobia wherever it is perpetrated.
- 3.** We call on Scott Lively to make a public apology for any actions he has taken that may have contributed to incitement of violence and publicly denounce discrimination against members of the LGBT community. Scott Lively (413) 250-0984 email: info@RedemptionGate.org