Tel-a-Friend (01 - 710608)

We should be pleased to talk to you about T.A.F. and our work.

A speaker can be provided for meetings and conferences.

Further copies of this leaflet are available on request.

Tel - A - Friend can be contacted by writing to:-

The Director,
Tel - A - Friend,
10 Fownes Street,
Dublin 2.

Our services operate:-

Sun-Fri — 8.00 - 10.00 pm.

Saturday — 3.30 - 6.00 pm.

Affiliated to the N.G.F.

30070

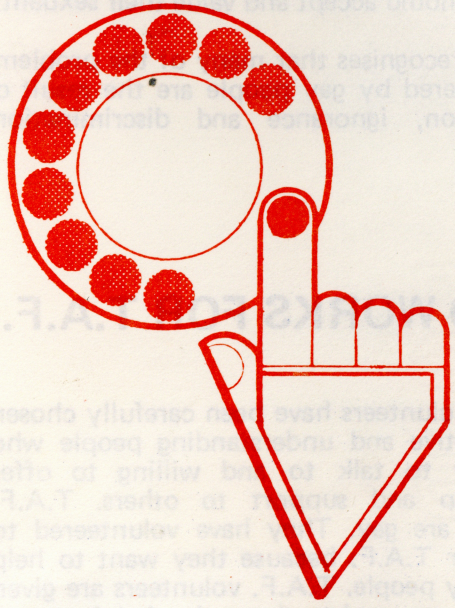
Jim Sheehan
Child Guidance
Clinic

Mater Hospital

T.A.F.

Tel-a-Friend

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION AND BEFRIENDING SERVICE FOR GAY PEOPLE



01 - 710608

Sun - Fri. 8 - 10 pm. Sat. 3.30 - 6.00 pm.

2017.21.2.1535

WHAT IS T.A.F.?

T.A.F. is a gay befriending and information service. We exist to help homosexual and bisexual women and men.

Thousands of people a year contact T.A.F. – young and old, married and single. Many have been so distressed that it has taken them weeks or months to find enough courage even to telephone us. They have had no-one to turn to.

We first began our service in 1974. We now have a staff of twenty and operate every day of the week.

Our services are free and confidential.

In principle, we believe that all sexual orientations are of equal worth and that people should accept and value their sexuality

T.A.F. recognises that many of the problems encountered by gay people are the result of oppression, ignorance and discrimination.

WHO WORKS FOR T.A.F.?

T.A.F. volunteers have been carefully chosen as receptive and understanding people who are easy to talk to and willing to offer friendship and support to others. T.A.F. workers are gay. They have volunteered to work for T.A.F. because they want to help other gay people. T.A.F. volunteers are given training to assist them in helping and supporting people. They have the back up where necessary of specialists – doctors, priests, solicitors and others.

WHAT ARE THE PROBLEMS?

*Loneliness, isolation and similar problems.

*Learning to accept oneself as gay in a frequently hostile world.

*The special problems faced by homosexual and bi-sexual married people.

*Relationship difficulties in a homosexual context.

*The special problems of transvestite and transexual people who may not necessarily be gay but have found T.A.F. a source of help.

*Anxieties of friends and family; and the fear of parents that their child may be gay.

*Ignorance about and fear of personal and sexual relationships.

*Conflicts which may arise between religious beliefs and sexual orientations.

*People's feelings of uncertainty and doubt about their sexuality, being unsure whether or not they are gay.

*Distress following the breakup of a relationship.

*People's dread of being 'found out' as gay.

*Grief and loneliness following the death of a loved one.

HOW CAN T.A.F. HELP?

As a responsible collective of people we have the experience and commitment to help people help themselves. We receive 2,000 calls a year and where appropriate we can put callers in contact with sympathetic professional people. We are especially keen to extend our services to gay people who are disabled.

T.A.F. is not a dating service but T.A.F. volunteers are often able to offer friendship and support to people and where appropriate we help people to mix and socialise with other gay people. We are an autonomous group but liase with Parents Enquiry and other organisations which provide facilities for gay people.

T.A.F.

Tel-a-Friend

01 - 710608