Statement presented on Friday, January 21, 2005, at [illegible] to the Senate Judiciary Committee in opposition to SB 202 to include sexual orientation in the malicious harassment law, by Jeanette Zentgraf-P.O. Box 1116-Lolo, MT 59847

Judiciary
Exhibit No. 5
Date 1-21-05
SB 202

I oppose Bill 202, which would include sexual orientation in the malicious harassment law, because it will usurp my 1st amendment right to speak freely about an abnormal life style. Thirty years ago N.Y. state included sexual orientation among the list of hate crimes. Immediately, we public school teachers were advised by our administrators to not say a word that would deprecate a homosexual or lesbian. Within 3 months the public school health teachers were presented with a sex education curriculum that stressed homosexuality as a healthy sexual alternative-to be simply described as a different sexual preference. A friend of mine who was the health teacher at Murphy Jr. High School wouldn't teach that because he believed the curriculum was untrue based on his belief in the Bible. I was so thankful, because my son attended his class. Three years later he agreed to teach the curriculum rather than lose his job, and his conscience has bothered him ever since.

As a teacher I have never sought to have a homosexual teacher fired, but I pray that here in MT I would always have the right to report actions to the administration should it become obvious that a homosexual teacher was misleading a student. In N.Y. I lost that privilege, which was a protection for students. Remember homosexual organizations are totally responsible for the firing of Dr. Laura from her TV show and Reggie White from his Campbell soup commercial and a promised job in sports broadcasting. The well financed organizations, such as PRIDE, showered TV sponsors with criticism of Dr. Laura and Reggie White, because of their beliefs and words. Although they said nothing more than, "The Bible says homosexuality is a sin, among many other sins."

Remember here in MT we have laws to protect all people from criminals. Carol Snetsinger believes that had the message that she received on an envelope read "Die Christian" instead of "Die Dyke" the culprits would have been caught already. I doubt that. The perpetrator of arson, who burned Carla Grayson's and her partner's house hasn't been caught yet, but not because there is prejudice against them. The police want to catch whoever committed the arson. That is obvious.

To grant a special status for homosexuals will descriminate against those of us who believe the Bible or Quran to be the Word of God and traditionalists who believe that homosexuality is unnatural and unhealthy.

Please oppose this bill. Thank you.

Yours truly,

Jeanette Zentgraf