



National Coalition For Men (NCFM)

Since 1977

932 C Street, Suite B, San Diego, CA 92101 / 619-231-1909 / ncfm.org / 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation

May 17, 2014

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Minnesota

Ms. Lisa Bartlett
Mayor
City of Dana Point
33282 Golden Lantern
Dana Point, CA 92629
lbartlett@danapoint.org

Mr. Adam Sedlack
President
UFC Gym Corporate
1241 Dyer Rd., Suite 100
Santa Ana, CA 92705

Re: Free No-Men-Or-Boys-Allowed Self-Defense Class

Dear Ms. Bartlett and Mr. Sedlack:

I am president of the National Coalition For Men (NCFM). NCFM is a nonprofit educational organization that raises awareness about how sex discrimination adversely affects men and women. NCFM is the oldest men's equal rights organization in the world. You can learn more about NCFM by visiting our website at www.ncfm.org.

Men and boys are especially prone to violent attacks. The National Crime Victimization Survey reports men and boys are more than 2½ times more likely to be victims of violent crimes than are women and girls.

So can you imagine the public outcry if the mayor of a Southern California city, as part of his or her political campaign for county supervisor, along with a popular fitness center, hosted a no-women-or-girls-allowed self-defense class to address the disproportionate violent attacks against men and boys? Yet the mayor of Dana Point (and candidate for Orange County Supervisor), along with UFC Gym Rancho Santa Margarita, think nothing of hosting a free, no-men-or-boys-allowed self-defense class on May 24th at the UFC Gym. See the attached email from Mayor Bartlett's campaign for County Supervisor.

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NCFM is troubled by this free, no-men-or-boys-allowed, self-defense class. If you proceed with this no-men-or-boys-allowed self-defense class, or were to host a similar no-women-or-girls-allowed self-defense class, this would violate a host of California anti-discrimination laws. Such a female-exclusive or male-exclusive event violates California Civil Code sections 51 (codification of the Unruh Civil Rights Act), 51.5, and 51.6 (codification of the Gender Tax Repeal Act). Simply advertising self-defense classes for only women and girls, or for only men and boys, may also violate anti-discrimination laws, just as if the City of Dana Point, a real estate brokerage firm, or a fitness center advertised a job opening for a clerk, real estate agent, or fitness instructor being available to only male applicants. See the attached Gambling Establishment Advisory wherein the California Attorney General warned California card rooms that simply advertising women-only poker tournaments, even if men were allowed to play, likely violates the Unruh Civil Rights Act.

Everyone can be a victim of violence, especially men and boys. Therefore, everyone can benefit from free self-defense classes - not just women and girls. Newly-born males do not exit the womb with a black belt in the martial arts. They must be taught these skills - in self-defense classes - just like females.

Boys are especially vulnerable to violence. For example, the many boys who were blindfolded and gagged with semen-tainted cookies or spoons held to their mouths by Miramonte school teacher Mark Bernt likely could have benefitted from self-defense classes. So too would the two boys whom Los Angeles Unified School District teacher Gabriela Cortez sexually assaulted while those young boys were students of Ms. Cortez.

Men are also vulnerable to sexual assaults. For example, 38-year-old Gabriel Campos-Martinez was recently arrested for killing his former lover, 66-year-old Hervey Coronado Medellin of Los Angeles, a former flight attendant, whose severed head was found under the famed Hollywood sign in 2012. Mr. Coronado Medellin might be alive today if he was able to attend free self-defense classes.

Civil Code section 52 provides the remedies for violations of sections 51, 51.5, and 51.6, which include minimum statutory damages of \$4,000 for each and every offense and attorneys' fees to prevailing plaintiffs - and to only prevailing plaintiffs. *Engel v. Worthington* (1997) 60 Cal.App.4th 628 (attorneys' fees award mandatory under Civil Code section 52 for prevailing plaintiff in Unruh Act case); *Turner v. Assoc. of American Medical Colleges* (2011) 193 Cal.App.4th 1047 (prevailing defendants are not entitled to attorneys' fees under Civil Code section 52).

NCFM wants men and women to be treated equally, and we work very hard to achieve this goal. In fact, NCFM Vice-President Marc Angelucci represented the plaintiffs in the landmark equal rights case of *Woods v. Horton* (2008) 167 Cal.App.4th 658, which held it was unconstitutional to exclude male victims of domestic violence from victims' services receiving state funding. NCFM Secretary Alfred Rava represented the plaintiffs in the milestone California Supreme Court case of *Angelucci v. Century Supper Club* (2007) 41 Cal.4th 160, which held that discrimination victims did not have to first assert their right to equal treatment in order to have standing for an Unruh Civil Rights Act claim.

Despite this scheduled no-men-or-boys-allowed self-defense class, NCFM hopes Mayor and Orange County Supervisor candidate Lisa Bartlett and UFC Gym also believe that men, boys, women, and girls should be treated equally. Otherwise, you would seem to be engaging in a War On Men And Boys if you go ahead with your plans to host this no-men-or-boys-allowed self-defense class. Also, transgender men, who may be especially vulnerable to violent attacks, will also be excluded from this free, women-only self-defense class. NCFM is troubled that at a campaign event earlier this week, a man told Ms. Bartlett about the sexist nature of this no-men-or-boys-allowed self-defense class, yet she still touts it on her website.

NCFM asks you to treat men, boys, women, and girls equally by not excluding men and boys - or women and girls - from any free, self-defense classes. Therefore, NCFM asks you to do the right thing by making these classes equally available to men and boys, who are especially vulnerable to violent attacks, and by changing all advertisements to reflect that you will be treating men, boys, women, and girls equally by providing a free self-defense class for everyone, no matter their sex, whether it be coed or separate classes for males and females.

The attached article appeared in the April 30, 2014, edition of the Los Angeles Daily News. It reports the City of Glendale, which had sponsored and scheduled several no-men-or-boys-allowed self-defense classes on City of Glendale property, has decided to postpone its female-only self-defense classes and to host classes for men and boys as well as for women and girls. This is especially good news because men and boys are much more susceptible to violence in their daily lives than are women and girls.

NCFM asks you to please, like the City of Glendale, not discriminate against people based on their sex, and advertise and provide your upcoming free, self-defense class to everyone no matter their sex.

Respectfully,



Harry A. Crouch
President, NCFM

cc:
Manager
UFC Gym Rancho Santa Margarita
30102 Santa Margarita Parkway
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688
ranchosantamargaritagm@ufcgym.com

James McQueen, Esq.
President
Orange County Human Relations Commission
1300 South Grand Avenue, Building B
Santa Ana, CA 92705
jmcqueen@mcqueenashman.com

Mr. Rob Curley
Editor
Orange County Register
625 N. Grand Avenue
Santa Ana, CA 92701
rcurley@ocregister.com

Kamala Harris, Esq.
California Attorney General
California Department of Justice
P.O. Box 944255
Sacramento, CA 94244-2550



“Lisa’s outstanding record of public service demonstrates her commitment to the community she serves and evidences her abilities as a leader. I encourage the voters of Orange County to join me in supporting her for Orange County Supervisor.”

- Congressman Darrell Issa

[Click Here to Read More](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Monday, May 12: Cosmo’s Italian Kitchen Meet & Greet (5:30pm - 8pm)
(23411 Aliso Viejo Pkwy, Aliso Viejo, CA 92656) [Click to RSVP](#)

Thursday, May 15: Laguna Hills Fundraiser (5:30pm - 7:30pm)
(RSVP: jpitkin@jpitkin.com)

Sunday, May 18: Kimberly Gardens Meet & Greet (1pm - 3pm)
(24922 Muirlands, Lake Forest, CA 92630) [Click to RSVP](#)

Wednesday, May 21: Kaleidoscope Meet & Greet (5:30pm - 8pm)
(27741 Crown Valley Pkwy, Mission Viejo, CA 92692) [Click to RSVP](#)

Saturday, May 24: Free Women’s Self-Defense Class (10AM - 12Noon)
(UFC Gym RSM | 30102 Santa Margarita Pkwy, RSM, CA 92688) [Click to RSVP](#)

Thursday, May 29: Laguna Beach Fundraiser (5:30pm - 7:30pm)
(RSVP: jpitkin@jpitkin.com)

4 Winners!



- Donate \$10 before May 31st for a chance to be one of two winners for a pair of Rainbow Sandals! (Value \$50 ea.)
- Additionally, the top two volunteers who walk the most precincts for Lisa's campaign before June 1st win a pair of Rainbow Sandals!

*For every \$10 donation the donor gets another entry in the contest

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Paid for by Lisa Bartlett for Supervisor 2014 FPPC #1359658

[Website](#)





BUREAU OF GAMBLING CONTROL

EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
Attorney General

Mathew J. Campoy
Acting Bureau Chief

NUMBER 8

GAMBLING ESTABLISHMENT ADVISORY

January 18, 2008

“LADIES ONLY TOURNAMENTS”

It has come to the attention of the Bureau of Gambling Control that some gambling establishments conduct “ladies only” poker tournaments that exclude men from participating, or admit them on different terms from those accorded to women. It is the Bureau’s view that such tournaments may violate California’s anti-discrimination laws.

Under the Unruh Civil Rights Act (Civil Code sections 51 and 51.5), businesses may not discriminate in admittance, prices, or services offered to customers based on the customers’ sex, race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, disability, medical condition, marital status, or sexual orientation. “Ladies only” tournaments or any other promotional events that fail to admit men and women to advertised activities on an equal basis regardless of sex are unlawful. It may also be unlawful under the Unruh Act to advertise tournaments as “ladies only” even if men are in fact admitted.

The Bureau will approve only those events that include the following features: the event will be open to all customers, the promotional gifts will be given equally to all event participants, the fees and prices will be the same for all event participants, any discounts will not be based on gender or another personal characteristic protected by the Unruh Act, and the event’s promotional materials do not advertise gender-based discounts or imply a gender-based entrance policy or any other unlawful discriminatory practice.

Gambling establishments should take notice that pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.6, violations of the Unruh Act are cause for discipline under the Gambling Control Act.

For more information regarding this advisory, contact the California Department of Justice, Bureau of Gambling Control at (916) 263-3408.

Glendale City Council adds all-male self-defense class amid sexism claims

By Adam Poulisse, Los Angeles Daily News
Wednesday, April 30, 2014

DailyNews.com

LA Daily News (<http://www.dailynews.com>)

Glendale City Council adds all-male self-defense class amid sexism claims

The Glendale City Council on Tuesday unanimously approved an all-male self-defense class after allegations that the city's previous women-only programs were sexist.

The separate men's and women's self-defense classes will be hosted at a date still to be determined.

On March 17, the National Coalition for Men, a San Diego-based nonprofit, sent a letter to the city, SHIELD Self-Defense — which provides the instructors — and the Commission for the Status of Women, claiming the female classes being held in March for Sexual Assault Awareness Month were discriminatory because the same services were not offered to males.

The two April classes were postponed to allow City Attorney Mike Garcia to review the allegations.

"It's only \$400 a year to provide those classes," Garcia said at Tuesday's meeting. "(With) the risk of losing a challenge versus just providing that separate class, I think the council should consider that and weigh that in making their decision."

National Coalition for Men President Harry Crouch, who penned the original letter to the city, said he was pleased with the city's decision.

"We made the case that boys and men should be treated equally, and somebody heard it," Crouch said. "We're very thankful they came to that conclusion, and honestly, we didn't expect that."

Crouch said it didn't matter if the male and female classes were taught together or separately, "as long as it's done equitably."

In the comments portion of the meeting, women stood up to argue in favor of the all-female classes.

"In talking with the girls pre and post, and being part of (the class), I can tell you that if there were boys or men in there, it wouldn't have been successful," said Lisa Raggio, senior director of Community Services, Development and Communications of YWCA Glendale.

Councilman Frank Quintero, after taking jabs at the sheer need for a National Coalition for Men, also supported the separate classes.

"There's no way you should do a self-defense cross-gender," Quintero said. "We can try one class to see if there's any interest, and that will absolve us from any lawsuits."

“All in all, I think this National Coalition for Men is a joke, quite frankly.”

Councilman Ara Najarian wondered if the city should also examine Camp Rosie, a summer camp created by Glendale’s Commission on the Status of Women to empower girls.

“I think we’re running into trouble there,” Najarian said. “It’s no surprise to me that no boy or man is going to sign up for a camp called Camp Rosie. It sort of implies a camp for women and girls.”

URL:

<http://www.dailynews.com/social-affairs/20140430/glendale-city-council-adds-all-male-self-defense-c>

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