

# GALOP

1986

**Gay London Police Monitoring Group  
38 Mount Pleasant WC1X 0AP 278 6215**

PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE USE

## GALOP LAUNCHES "QUEERBASHING" CAMPAIGN

*Time out*

The Gay London Police Monitoring Group - GALOP - has launched a major new campaign to fight the increasing number of violent attacks on gay men.

The first stage of the campaign is a full-page advertisement in the pre-Christmas issue of "Capital Gay". It is hoped that, in this way, as many gay men as possible will be reached, and informed about so-called "queerbashing" and ways in which it can be challenged.

The main thrust of the campaign is to alert gay men of the possibility of being the victim of an attack. The ad. outlines the options available to gay men who have been "queerbashed", and gives advice on what to do in the event of an attack.

The services that GALOP offers are briefly outlined. The ad. details the advice, support and information that GALOP provides on a whole gamut of issues, ranging from information on police practices and court procedure, through to complaints against the police and criminal injuries compensation. Basic precautions are also given on ways in which the risks of being attacked can be minimized; for example, by leaving pubs and clubs in groups, or joining self-defence courses run by and for gay men.

MORE.

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GALOP hopes that this campaign will equip gay men with the information and knowledge required to deal effectively with "queer-bashing", and no longer be seen as passive "victims". Dorian Jabri, from GALOP, says:

"It's about time that gay men organized to fight queer-bashing collectively. That is why GALOP stresses the importance of reporting all incidents to the police, and insisting they be recorded as anti-gay assaults, as well as insisting that charges are brought against attackers. Only through such a collective pressure can we force the police to respond to our demands for adequate protection that is our right and their duty to provide."

For more information about this campaign, and GALOP's work generally, contact GALOP on 278-6215/9829.

END.