

Gay crisis line offers a choice

By Wayde Wrich

The Gay Crisis and Referral Line, takes calls every night ranging from possible suicides to questions about where to meet other homosexuals.

A coordinator for the line said most of the calls they receive are usually referred to other groups such as the Lesbian Rap Group, the Gay Action Group, the Lincoln Gay A.A. and the Gay Christian Community.

The coordinator, who wished to remain anonymous for reasons of job security, said they receive about five calls a night.

"The calls are totally confidential, we don't use last names and we don't meet with the callers," the coordinator said. "We either talk with them on the phone or refer them to other groups."

The coordinator said the volunteers usually let the callers decide how to deal with their problems.

"What we try to do is talk to the people about the possible options they may have to solve their problems," he said.

Starting in November, the line will be answered by women on Thursday and Friday nights.

"We did this to allow women to talk to other women about their problems," he said.

The line currently has 20 volunteers, eight women and 12 men.

The coordinator said they currently are trying to set up a speaker bureau.

"The bureau would be a group of individuals who would talk to organizations about being gay," he said.

The coordinator said that people should not get the wrong impression from the Gay Crisis and Referral Line.

"Most gays that I know are very happy and living the life they want to," he said. "Most of the calls we get are from gays who wish to meet other gays."

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Selleck residents voice complaints

By Alice Hrnicek

Five students in the graduate section of Selleck Quadrangle voiced complaints about the condition and policies of the building, but officials deny that the complex is treated differently than other UNL residence halls.

The students, who asked to remain anonymous, said they were concerned about fire hazards, noise caused by the proximity of fraternities, the danger of intruders, cafeteria policies, sanitation and discrimination against handicapped students.

"You talk to anyone around here and they accept these things," said one of the students.

"As graduates and residents of Selleck, we feel we are discriminated against compared to other dorms," said a graduate music major.

The major fire hazards, the music student said, are a locked door, which would trap students on the second and third floors of the graduate section, and a lack of fire resistant doors on individual rooms.

Another student, a human development major, said that fire extinguishers are located too high on the walls to be reached by most students.

"IT SHOULD BE down in an area where you can just grab it and go," she said.

Chuck Zimmerman, plans examiner for the state fire marshal, said that residence halls must follow a life safety code. Doors to each room must be 1 1/4 inches thick and be hollow metal or solid-core to be fireproof for 20 minutes.

Zimmerman said he did not know of violations in Selleck.

Selleck Residence Director Doug Oblander said the fire inspector indicated the graduate section was in compliance with fire codes.

"The fire inspector said we didn't need to add fire doors or unlock the door between the floors," he said.

The human development major said she also was upset by the noise from fraternities surrounding the complex.

"Our graduate section is near the noisiest part of the whole place," she said. "This is the first university I've seen that has no control over frats."

STUDENTS ARE ASKED to first contact their student aide with complaints, she said, but the student aide is not always available.

Fraternity members have broken the windows of several Selleck rooms, but administrators won't take action against them, she claimed.

"Our residence director does everything to keep peace with the frats. But there is no peace with the frats," she said.

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