



Gays, lesbians trip GAYDAR

What is it about that woman in aisle B that lets me know she's a lesbian?

She's not wearing flannel, she didn't get out of a pick-up, and she doesn't look like k.d. lang. I know this is the health food co-op, but hey, straight women eat tofu too!

The thing scooting my boot over to the organic tomato paste section is an insistent bleep... bleep... bleep. Yes! Ms. Let-Me-Sec; fresh tuna, cat food, farm eggs and herbal tea — has flipped my GAYDAR.

I must admit most gays and lesbians are pretty talented, but the only real, and I do mean "born with it" gift, is the thrilling ability to pick out the "family," the "members of the Church," the "friends of Dorothy." You know, the "Queers" who are in any crowd, such as a GOP convention.

This sweet past-time is idiomatically known as GAYDAR. It's an acronym just like radar, scuba, missile, and schizophrenia; when the letters from GAY D(etecting) A(nd) R(ecognizing) are put together they spell GAYDAR.

What is GAYDAR and how does it work? Practically every man with an ancient Greek heritage or a woman of Sapphic origins gives off little homing signals.

Centuries of careful evolution

allow even your average Queer Jo(e) to send subsonic signals such as the even, low-toned "Get a load of these straights," the incessant, high pitched "Lesbian-feminist seeks same to argue with," and, of course, the self-explanatory "Hey Baby!"

Some researchers argue against the PSSSST (People Sending Sub-Sonic Signals Theory) citing the minute cultural details that filter into every facet of "The Life."

Support for the "Cultural View" comes in a variety of forms. Straight people who insist on wearing queer clothing (and guess what, my dear heterofriends, that's incredibly common) have been known to trip GAYDAR.

But I've heard that one in every 586,000 gays and lesbians has infallible GAYDAR.

I think the saddest evolutionary mutation is the person of the heterosexual persuasion who, by some freak accident, has acquired GAYDAR. We all know some guy or gal who continually falls for that person of another sexual orientation.

Long before I was out, a male friend of mine with that crossover skill insisted I tripped his GAYDAR. At least he knew what was going on. So many thusly afflicted straights never get what's up with their tragic

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By Gwen Fischer
Diversions Contributor

love life.

Wait, I've got to find that attractive vegetarian. There she is at check-out.

She's a dyke, I know it. It's not her jewelry, it's not her hair style, or her shoes that's getting to me.

She doesn't have to give that woman waiting by the door a look of utter adoration. Her air of freedom and self-confidence is all the ID required.

I know that if I walk out behind them, we'll exchange a smile as they climb into a mini-van full of kids.

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