los Angeles Times

TOM J

Ruling on Gays

I find it very curious that the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia has justified banning gays and lesbians from the Navy because homosexuality has been "traditionally condemned" in American society (Times, Aug. 18). This sounds like a 19th-Century justification for the continuance of slavery!

Not only that, but according to recent Gallup polls, two-thirds of Americans are in favor of equal rights for gays.

To further aggravate the ruling, Judge Robert Bork added that homosexuals have "no constitutional right to engage in homosexual conduct." Whatever happened to the right to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness"? Or is this only if you think and feel in the same manner that the judges do?

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Thanks go to the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia for so splendidly reconfirming that wonderful old American maxim that some citizens are created more equal than others.

Outrageous and shameful! GLEN W. REDMAN

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^{*}See definitions on attached sheet.