

Corrections Needed On Wikipedia

The following letter was sent to Wikipedia in March 2007:

Dear Wikipedia Reviewer:

It was brought to our attention recently that your article about the National Association for Research and Therapy of Homosexuality (NARTH) has numerous factual errors in it. In an attempt to correct this misinformation, our editorial director redacted attempted to make corrections to the article. He attempted this two times. Each time he made the corrections, they were immediately changed back by someone else.

In investigating who was making the changes, he found the name of Joie de Vivre, who is a lesbian socio-political activist and a member of the WikiProject LGBT studies. (The WikiProject site describes itself as "a group of editors who aim to improve the general quality and range of Wikipedia articles on LGBT and Queer studies topics.")

Vivre says --with obvious pride!-- on her Wikipedia web site that she regularly changes the wording and rewrites articles dealing with gay and lesbian issues. It is dangerous for your credibility to have political activists slanting articles to fit their own political objectives.

NARTH must have the right to post corrections to an article about itself without having a lesbian activist distort the site by reposting

inaccurate statements about the history and goals of NARTH.

We insist that Vivre be prohibited from making future changes on the NARTH site - and that whatever corrections NARTH chooses to post on the site will remain there without being deleted by political activists.

There can certainly be disagreements about the purpose of NARTH, but to have a lesbian activist defining what NARTH is or is not is unethical and unprofessional. Every organization has the unqualified right to have its mission accurately described in Wikipedia. The credibility of your online service is gravely jeopardized if you have activists regularly posting inaccuracies on web sites dealing with gay and lesbian issues.

We ask that you permanently ban Joie de Vivre from changing content on the NARTH site and ban any further individuals from posting things that are false or misleading on this site. Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,
Joseph Nicolosi, Ph.D.
President, NARTH

Spring 2007

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