



3753 22nd Street  
San Francisco, CA 94114 USA  
28 May 1992

Sr. Patricio Aylwin Azocar  
Presidente de la República  
Palacio de la Moneda  
Santiago CHILE

Re: Repeal of first sentence, Article 365, Section 6, Book 2, Title VII of Penal Code

Estimado Sr. Presidente:

I strongly urge you to repeal the first sentence of Article 365, Section 6, Title VII, Book 2 which reads: "Del estupro, incesto, corrupción de menores y otros actos deshonestos." This law is often used unjustly against your gay and lesbian citizens to criminalize them. It is also used as a basis for unfair legal and social discrimination.

In many democracies around the world, such "sodomy laws" are viewed as archaic and are being repealed. For example, in Europe the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe requires that all Europe's democracies rewrite their laws so that they do not discriminate against lesbians and gay men. In the United States, over one-half of the states have abolished their sodomy laws, and other states are quickly following.

The lesbian and gay citizens of Chile and the rest of the world are law abiding taxpayers who deserve freedom from discrimination and equal protection under the law.

Repeal of the above sentence in Article 365 will bring Chile's law into line with the world's democracies. I strongly urge you to repeal this immediately.

Very truly yours,

Tim Sally

cc: International Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission