

Nightlife on Halsted Street is being threatened.

(See reverse side for details)



Why should I do anything special?
Why should the special character of Hasted St. be any different than any other street?
People are people—gay, straight, purple or whatever.

Alder(tin)man Bernie Hansen, who has real estate interests in the residential development of North Halsted Street, allowed zoning loopholes to be used to permit the building of various large high-end condo complexes on Halsted Street.

Alder(tin)man Bernie Hansen (44th Ward)

Hasn't he already done something special by serving his own heartless self-interests?

Be a part of keeping Halsted Street alive. Call, attend, be informed, be involved!

Call Bernie Hansen at (312) 744-3073

- Ask if he has not already done something special to get large high-end condo complexes on Halsted St.
- Ask if he is acting out of his heartless self-interest.
- Ask for a full disclosure of his real estate interests.
- Ask how many purple people live in the 44th Ward.

Attend the License Commission and Local Liquor Control Commission hearing concerning issues between Circuit and Dakota residents on Aug. 15, 9 a.m. at 66 W. Washington, Room CL-95.

Become involved in a group that is concerned about the situation.

Queer to the Left

Queer to the Left (Q2L) is a multi-racial group of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer people who fight for racial, economic, gender and sexual justice.

We are committed to forming coalitions with others

to stop gentrification, police brutality, the death penalty, and the racism and growing conservatism of the mainstream lesbian and gay movement.

Q2L meets the first Sunday of every month at 5 p.m. at the COURAJ Office, 4554 N. Broadway #236.
queertotheleft-owner@yahoo.com.

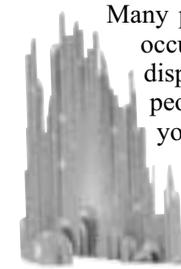
Will Halsted Go the Way of Oz?

Instigated by new high-end condo owners' complaints of noise, garbage, and congestion, Lincoln Park's **Oz Park Festival** was moved from its 17-year home in Oz Park to a lake-front location. After two years at the lake-front, the Oz Park Festival is no more. And in other parts of Chicago such condo-mania has brought about the closing of **Karma** and **Elixer** and is threatening **Crobar**.



On Halsted, Circuit's liquor license is now being threatened by condo owners in the newly built Dakota. There are on-going concerns about **Steamworks** in relation to the large condo complex next to it. Another new condo is being built at Halsted and Cornelia near the long time home of **Little Jim's**, **Manhole**, and the **Ram**. And yet another condo is to be built behind **Cell Block** and **Kit Kat**. These places of entertainment are important parts of the vibrancy of Halsted Street and its special unique character.

Halsted Street condo-mania threatens its nightlife.



Many people find the vibrancy of an urban quality of life appealing. Unfortunately there is a growing occurrence in Chicago (and other cities) of urban life being obliterated by a gentrification trend which displaces or drastically alters such staples of urban life like festivals, nightlife of entrainment strips, and people just walking down public streets—recent complaints have resulted in a police sweep of lgbtq youth off Halsted Street, a place that should be welcoming to them.

Lgbtq people live and socialize in many neighborhoods in Chicago and its suburbs. North Halsted Street is one of those places and is viewed by some to be one of the primary gathering places for lgbtq people. The disruption of the North Halsted Street entertainment strip and its related businesses would result in the loss this special and unique element in Chicago-area lgbtq life.

Not only is nightlife threatened, the struggle against Halsted Street condo-mania is part of a larger struggle against gentrification, which pushes long-term residents out of their neighborhoods. Many people are finding it harder and harder to afford housing in the neighborhoods like Lakeview, Uptown, and Edgewater where they have been living for many years.

For the past 4 years, Queer to the Left (Q2L) has been engaged in this struggle most recently working on low cost housing in Uptown, which is home to the city's largest population of people with AIDS (according to the AIDS Foundation of Chicago, 1/3 of PWAs in the city has experienced homelessness at some point). At the same time Q2L has helped to challenge city subsidies to high-end condos and to a national chain bookstore whose presence will threaten nearby independent bookstores that have long histories of serving lgbtq people (without public subsidies).

Fueled by the appeal of sky-rocketing property values, high-end condos are going up on Halsted Street and the nightlife of the entertainment strip is being threatened because Alder(tin)man Hansen wants it that way. This situation can only change by getting involved. Your individual and collective voices need to be heard.

Be informed. Be involved. Be part of the solution.

See the reverse side of this flyer for details.

Queer to the Left
Getting over the Rainbow for 5 Years