

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL SECURITY

QUARANTINE INTAKE FORM

DATE: 10/15/10

GENDER/SEX (choose one):

☐ MALE

☐ FEMALE

☐ GAY

1. ARE YOU SICK OF THE SYSTEM?
MARK WHERE IT HURTS. →

2. WHAT IS THE NATURE
OF YOUR PROBLEM?

(choose one)

☐ MENTAL

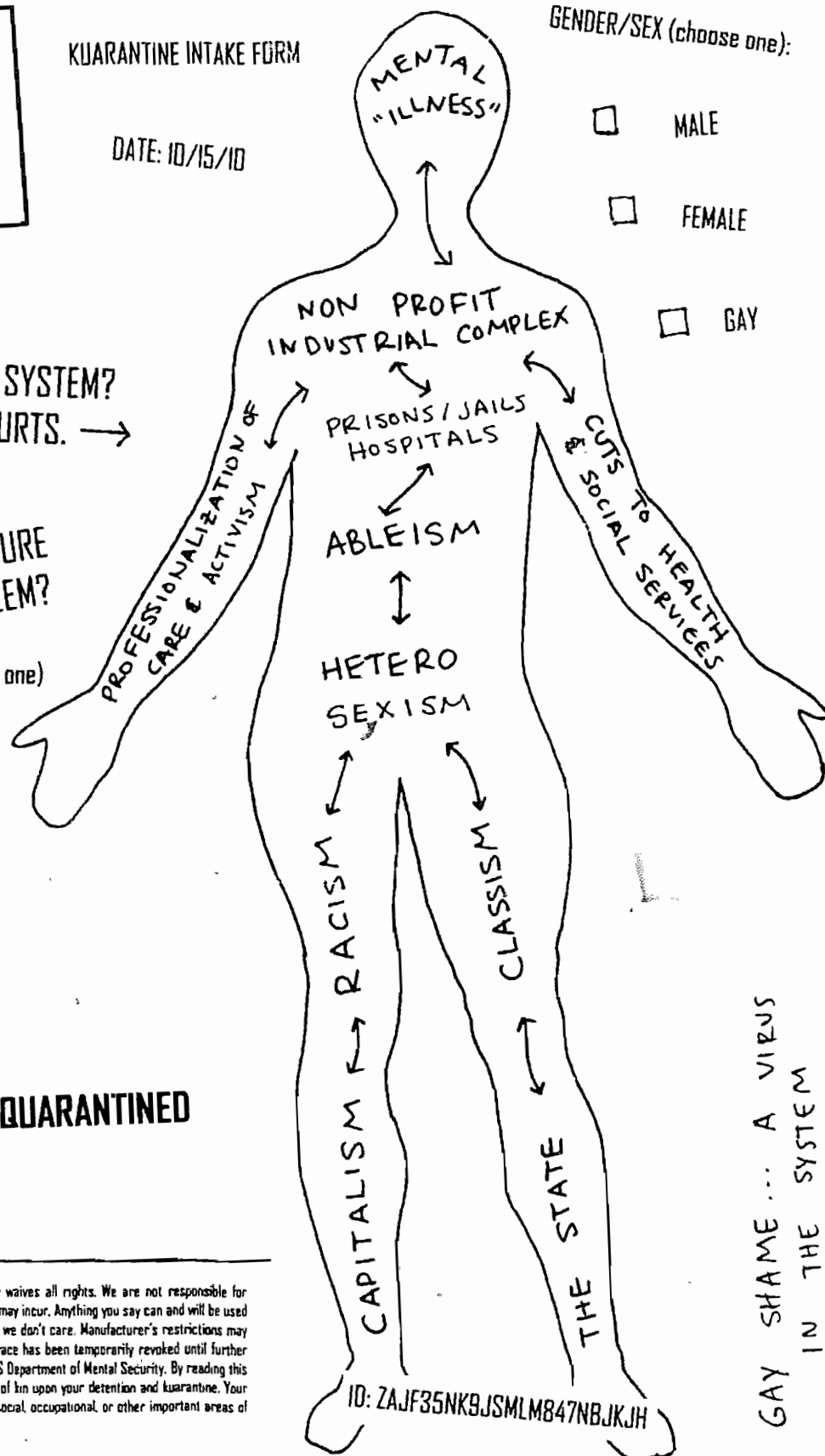
☐ PHYSICAL

☐ I AM NORMAL

3. YOU WILL BE QUARANTINED

SIGN HERE x _____

Null and void where prohibited. By signing entity waives all rights. We are not responsible for anything that happens to you or any damages you may incur. Anything you say can and will be used against you in the court of law. You're fucked and we don't care. Manufacturer's restrictions may apply. Your status of the member of the human race has been temporarily revoked until further notice by the court ruling in the positive by the US Department of Mental Security. By reading this warning you hereby waive the right to notify next of kin upon your detention and quarantine. Your symptoms cause clinically significant distress in social, occupational, or other important areas of functioning.



ID: ZAJF35NK9JSMLMB47NBKJH

GAY SHAME ... A VIRUS
IN THE SYSTEM
GAYSHAMESF.ORG

Society is toxic and it's making everyone sick! The non-profit and public health sectors have already been contaminated, and the infection is spreading. The closure of New Leaf LGBTQ counseling center is just one symptom in the Social Identity Crisis Kontamination (SICK).

New Leaf offered mental health and substance abuse services for low income queer and trans folks for the last 35 years. If you've been on the waiting list for 10 years¹, too bad! New Leaf will close today after a unanimous decision by its own board of directors, mostly a group of corporate hacks with openly listed affiliations to Genetech, Wells Fargo, Gap and Macy's². The ED swears they made the decision only after "we explored *every possible way* that we could to have the organization continue"³. Did they mean laying off workers and breaking union contracts last August? Or defunding their program for seniors⁴? And meanwhile, executive director Thom Lynch is still pulling down \$104,000 working only part time⁵. Eliminating his position would have eliminated ¼ of the \$400,000 deficit New Leaf received from the city this year. The top-down model of the non-profit proves itself unsustainable again and again.

New Leaf provided support and care to over 1,300 LGBTQ people a year⁶. Its model of therapy was based in the psychiatry, but it was still something. Psychiatric diagnoses (like Gender Identity Disorder) isolate and medicalize people, hiding and naturalizing the structural violence (like heterosexism and the gender binary) that produces ill health. Our minds and bodies become the sites of disorders and the targets of regulatory prescriptions, while the greater system remains untreated. Issues that are social, political, and economic in nature become individual psychiatric disorders (like trauma from police brutality), while differences in people's ways of being in the world are criminalized and punished (people w/ mental health "disorders" are institutionalized in jails, prisons, and psych hospitals). To receive care at New Leaf, one had to participate in the medical systems that demonize anything outside of the status quo. Our larger social context is a pathology driven by profit and criminalization, seeking to quarantine us all for our own safety.

This action is a culmination of our many experiences negotiating with mental health institutions, both on the inside and outside of the system, as people who provide and people who receive, as people who attempt and as people who refuse, to access mental health care in the sick system. We'd like to envision mental health support systems that do not pathologize us, that relocate the site of the disorder back onto society and actually eradicate the social, political, and economic violence that makes us "sick".

<3 Dr. Mary

Our action will be followed by an emotional decompression and reflection the following day, at the GAY SHAME meeting: 530pm in the back of Modern Times bookstore @ 888 Valencia between 19th and 20th. All are welcome. Contact us at gayshamesf@yahoo.com and gayshamesf.org.

¹ Members of Gay Shame have been on the New Leaf services waiting list from 2-10 years.

² New Leaf Website

³ Bay Area Reporter "New Leaf Closes its Doors" August 26, 2010

⁴ Bay Area Reporter "New Leaf Under Fire from Union, Clients" August 8, 2010

⁵ Bay Area Reporter "New ED for New Leaf" October 29, 2009

⁶ Bay Area Reporter "New Leaf Closes its Doors" August 26, 2010