

**Out of Control
Committee to Shut Down Lexington Control Unit for Women
3543 18th Street, Box 30
San Francisco, California 94110**

7 December 1987

Dear Friends:

We are 'Out of Control', a group of lesbian and straight women. For the past 11 months we have been working to educate and agitate towards the goal of shutting down the Lexington (Kentucky) Control Unit for Women, "... a living tomb for women who are assigned to it". (National Prison Project, ACLU, August 1987)

Our work has been diverse and includes: selling tee-shirts at Gay Day and local street fairs to raise the issue of the Women's Control Unit; giving out literature; collecting 1000 letters of protest; and marching with our banners at many demonstrations. We also have a guerrilla theater piece which we have performed at several events and we plan to place articles in several local newspapers.

The National Campaign to Abolish the Lexington Control Unit for Women was formed over the summer and has many projects planned. We are working with women from Chicago, New York, and Lexington to place full page Ads of Protest in the February, 1988 issues of Gay Community News (Boston, Mass.) and Off Our Backs (Washington D.C.). These ads would be signed by individuals and women's and gay and lesbian organizations. We must spread the word in our own communities about this breach of human rights.

We have enclosed an information sheet from the national campaign and a copy of the protest letter we have been circulating. We are asking you to please read and discuss these materials with your group. If you are interested we can send you more detailed information including reports of recent investigations of the unit. As women, lesbians, and gay men, we must work together to close down the Women's Control Unit permanently and return all the women to the general prison population.

Here are some of the ways you can join us in working towards shutting down the Control Unit: circulating protest letters; inviting us to speak to your group; contributing money and/or signing our ad. We will be calling you soon to discuss these options and soliciting your endorsement. Thank you for your time and support.

Sincerely,

Out of Control Committee