

## A Fanele Publication



### **Pride: Protest and Celebration**

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ISBN: 1-77009-261-7

Price: R145

Sept 2006

## OUT IN TIME FOR THE 2006 PRIDE PARADE ON SUNDAY 30 SEPTEMBER!!!!

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*Pride: Protest and Celebration* is a history of South Africa's gay pride marches and parades over the last 16 years. It brings together a host of valuable and rare material: pictures, documents and personal testimony of activists, organizers and participants of Pride since 1990.

Press clippings are also used in this beautiful collection, to trace how Pride has been reported over the years, helping to form both an historical record and a colourful, enjoyable scrapbook of memories of the most visible face of South Africa's gay and lesbian community.

South Africa's first-ever gay Pride march took place in October 1990, just as the liberation movements including the ANC and the PAC were returning home after decades in exile. That year, Pride pushed for the inclusion of gay rights in the human rights for which South Africans were then fighting. That dream was realised in the Constitution, ratified in 1996, which enshrines protection against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation – a Constitution unique in the world.

Since then, Pride has continually evolved. In 1994 it became a "parade", and in later years it came to include a *mardi gras* and other activities. Its focus moved from its campaigning of the early years to, increasingly, a celebration of freedom and gay/lesbian culture, as much a huge party as anything else. Yet it has been controversial within gay/lesbian circles as well as in the view of the larger society -- and there are still rights (such as gay marriage) for which to fight.

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**We chose to publish *Pride: Protest and Celebration*** because it is important to recognise, acknowledge and record the achievements made by the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered movement in South Africa. The history of the gay pride march in South Africa reflects a microcosm of the history of the gay pride movement in South Africa. The book is a celebration of the achievements made by the movement.

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