

!!! GAYS FOR SALE !!!

We are here to sell ourselves ! But only to really rich companies, mind you. To the representatives of banks, insurance companies, travel agencies, marriage companies, clothing chains, investment bankers etc. And we are really really proud of it. Proud of having become the Pink Market, proud of affirming our identity from it and of accepting what we are - a market. But only the gay guys, though. Lesbians (and women in general) dont earn as much as men, and of course transsexuals arent exactly being submerged in job offers. Since they dont have that much money to spend, they won't be on sale here.

'Gays for Sale' is to highlight what Gay Pride is turning into. Gay Pride had its origins in the Stonewall riots, and has traditionally been about lgbt rights. It is about affirming our identities as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, queer, etc, openly and publicly. It is to remember how far we have come in our struggle for rights as well as our contribution to a radical reshaping of social, emotional and sexual mores. It is also increasingly about sharing this affirmation with our supportive friends and the public at large. And it is a damn good party !

Gay Pride is become increasingly commercialized. It is all about corporate sponsors, about telling them how they can reach a captive gay market, about renting out space for boats, and about advertising. We welcome public and private institutions who are here to affirm their commitment to lgbt rights, but not as the dominant feature of Pride.

We would like to see Amsterdam Gay Pride to have far more space for non commercial activities, space to talk about lgbt rights and issues faced by lgbt people, in Netherlands, in Europe and around the world. We want to see an inclusive space for all kinds of queer people, a lot more lesbians, a lot more transsexuals and gender queers. We want to talk about violence against lgbt people, gay asylum laws in Europe and migration laws and underemployment. After all, if not here at Gay Pride, where else can we talk about all this ?

And yes, we also want a great party !

QueerNL is an autonomous non-funded collective of queers and queerfriendlies. We unabashedly wish to make The Netherlands queer, to make the mainstream gay community engage with its commercialisation and exclusion, and to work with activist groups on race, gender and class.

Contact us at queernl@gmail.com for more information.