

ABOUT WAYNE BESEN



Wayne Besen is the founder and executive director of Truth Wins Out, a non profit organization that counters the ex-gay industry (truthwinsout.org) and right wing misinformation campaigns. He is the author of Lambda Literary Award nominated *Anything But Straight: Unmasking the Scandals and Lies Behind the Ex-Gay Myth* and *Bashing Back: Wayne Besen on GLBT People, Politics and Culture*. Besen's weekly column appears in several national on-line and print publications. He has spoken at various universities, churches, community centers, non-profit organizations, and business groups throughout the United States.

Besen made international news when he photographed "ex-gay" poster boy John Paulk in a Washington, D.C gay bar. He is a former spokesperson for the Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest gay and lesbian advocacy group.

Besen has appeared as a guest on leading news and political talk shows including: The Daily Show with Jon Stewart, NBC Nightly News, CNN's Talk Back Live and The Point, Fox's O'Reilly Factor, Hannity and Colmes, and MSNBC News. He has also been featured in several documentaries, including: "Fish Can't Fly," "Chasing the Devil," "Sad to be Gay," "Abomination" and "For Such a Time as This."

The Advocate magazine recognized Besen in 2001 as one of the GLBT movement's top "innovators." He was again honored by *The Advocate's* 2007 "People of the Year" edition, which called him the "anti-ex-gay."

HOW CAN I BOOK WAYNE FOR AN EVENT?

Wayne Besen can be scheduled for speaking events, lectures, seminars, and book readings. To inquire about details and contract information you can reach Wayne at wbesen@gmail.com

WEBSITES: www.WayneBesen.com
www.TruthWinsOut.org

E-MAIL: wbesen@gmail.com

PHONE: 917.691.5118

Besen has authored two books *Bashing Back* and *Anything But Straight*



CAN GAYS GO STRAIGHT?

DO SO-CALLED "EX-GAY" MINISTRIES WORK?

Explore one of the most controversial and explosive topics of our time with author, columnist and nationally known GLBT advocate Wayne Besen. In his original, entertaining, and compelling presentation, Wayne will take you on a one-hour journey where you will discover:

- The history of the ex-gay industry
- The failed ex-gay poster boys
- The bizarre techniques used by ex-gay organizations
- The political powers funding the ex-gay industry
- What the mental health experts really say about these groups
- The engaging talk includes a DVD and slide presentation. There will also be an interactive Q&A

TESTIMONIALS

“Besen’s engaging presentation enlightened the audience and informed us of the harm done by the ex-gay ministries. His lecture was knowledgeable and compelling.”

–Morrie Hartman, Twin Cities Federal Club of the Human Rights Campaign, Minneapolis

“Captivating! Compelling! There’s no better way to learn about this historically relevant subject than to relive the perversion of the ex-gay ministries with Wayne Besen as your guide.”

–Kelley Doherty, President of the Charlotte Business Guild, Charlotte, NC

“The most common response by the audience: ‘I know ten other people who need to hear this--it was great!’”

–Warren Redman-Gress, Alliance for Full Acceptance, Charleston SC

“Wayne Besen is an engaging, articulate speaker whose warmth and intelligence make his presentations compelling and persuasive. Guests should be encouraged to invite skeptics and doubters -- Besen easily handles tough questions and tougher critics.”

–Nathaniel Batchelder, President ex-officio, Church of the Open Arms, UCC, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

“Wayne’s presentation was a blessing to our community, reminding us of how damaging these so called “ex-gay” movements can be to us. His facts, combined with his passion to bring truth into the light was an extremely powerful combination in his presentation.”

–Rev. Mark G. Bidwell, Sr. Pastor, Metropolitan Community Church of Detroit

“In his speech Wayne used a unique blend of fact and humor while delivering his powerful message.”

–Joe Antonelli, President, Gainesville Community Alliance, Gainesville, Florida

“Living in the heart of Focus on the Family country, Wayne’s presentation was a powerful counterpoint to the incessant rantings of the Religious Right. He was a great help to the many GLBT young people in our organization. We are most appreciative of his help.”

–Michael M. Coats, Director, Black Hills Gay & Lesbian Youth Support & Resource Center, Rapid City, South Dakota

ADVOCACY GROUPS

- Alliance for Fairness and Full Acceptance (Charleston, SC)
- Chicago Anti-Bashing Network (Chicago, IL)
- Gainesville Community Alliance (Gainesville, FL)
- Human Rights Campaign Federal Club Minneapolis (Minneapolis, MN)
- Human Rights Campaign Federal Club Chicago (Chicago, IL)
- Interfaith Diversity and Equality Alliance (Oklahoma City, OK)
- PFLAG Houston (Houston, TX)
- PFLAG Salt Lake City (Salt Lake City, Utah)
- Rio Grande Adelante (El Paso, TX)

ART GALLERIES

- Ramsden Morrison Gallery (San Diego, CA)

BUSINESS GROUPS

- Charlotte Business Guild (Charlotte, NC)
- Face to Face (Fort Lauderdale, FL)
- Triad Business Guild (Greensboro, NC)

HOUSES OF WORSHIP

- Cathedral of Hope (Dallas, TX)
- Church of the Open Arms (Oklahoma City, OK)
- Church of the Trinity (Sarasota, FL)
- Gentle Shepard MCC (Phoenix, AZ)
- King Avenue United Methodist Church (Columbus, OH)
- King of Peace (St. Petersburg, FL)
- MCC Cleveland (Cleveland, OH)
- MCC of Detroit (Detroit, MI)
- MCC Key West (Key West, FL)
- MCC Los Angeles (Los Angeles, CA)
- MCC Portland (Portland, OR)
- MCC of the Rockies (Denver, CO)
- MCC San Francisco (San Francisco, CA)
- New Spirit MCC (Oak Park, IL)

- MCC Two Rivers (Eugene, OR)
- Sunshine Cathedral (Fort Lauderdale, FL)

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

- Colorado State University (Ft. Collins, CO)
- Duke University (Durham, NC)
- Harvard University Law School (Cambridge, MA)
- Illinois Wesleyan University (Bloomington, IL)
- Indiana University (Bloomington, IN)
- James Madison University (Harrisonburg, VA)
- Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, MD)
- Ohio State University (Columbus, OH)
- University of Florida (Gainesville, FL)
- University of Mississippi (Oxford, MS)
- University of Northern Arizona (Flagstaff, AZ)
- University of Oregon (Eugene, OR)
- University of South Carolina (Columbia, SC)
- Vanderbilt University (Nashville, TN)
- University of Delaware (Newark, DE)
- University of Connecticut (Storrs, CT)

CONFERENCES

- Midwest Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Resource Conference (Rapid City, SD)
- Heinrich Boll Foundation, Panel on Hate Crimes (Berlin, Germany)

GLBT COMMUNITY CENTERS

- Gay Community Center of Greater Cleveland (Cleveland, OH)
- Center on Halstead (Chicago, IL)
- Gay and Lesbian Community Center (San Francisco, CA)
- Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Greater Fort Lauderdale (Fort Lauderdale, FL)
- Lesbian and Gay Community Center of Greater Kansas City (Kansas City, MO)
- Seattle LGBT Community Center (Seattle, WA)