



April 27, 2011

## **NCAVP stands in solidarity with Chrissy Lee Polis and condemns anti-trans violence**

The National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs (NCAVP) is outraged at the brutal attack against Chrissy Lee Polis by two patrons in a Baltimore, Maryland McDonald's. Chrissy, a 22-year-old transgender woman, reported that the two suspects physically attacked her, yelling anti-transgender slurs, after she used the women's bathroom. A videotape allegedly recorded by a McDonald's employee and uploaded to the Internet, reportedly shows Chrissy having an epileptic seizure after being brutally beaten, while employees of the restaurant watched, but did not intervene. The employees present at the incident allegedly advised the suspects to flee when another patron intervened on Chrissy's behalf, and called the police.

Baltimore County police have reported that a 14-year old girl has been arrested and charged as a juvenile and an 18-year old woman faces an assault charge in the case. Chrissy has spoken out about her belief that she was targeted based on her gender identity. She has called for the suspects to face hate crime charges in addition to other charges related to the assault. McDonald's has recently issued a statement condemning the violence, stating that the employees no longer work for McDonald's.

NCAVP knows that on a daily basis, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) people experience violence based on their sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression. While most LGBTQ people face some form of violence, it disproportionately impacts LGBTQ people of color, transgender, and gender non-conforming people. NCAVP believes that everyone has the responsibility to end the culture of violence that allowed Chrissy Lee Polis to be brutally beaten. Together, all of us can make our country a safe place for all communities.

[NCAVP](#), a coalition of 43 anti-violence organizations, actively works to build safety, power and resources for LGBTQ communities. NCAVP has offered support to local Maryland organizations as a part of its ongoing efforts to document, respond to, and, ultimately, to end anti-LGBTQ violence.

### **ACTION STEPS**

- **Report Violence:** NCAVP encourages anyone who has experienced violence to contact a local anti-violence program. For help locating an anti-violence program in your area, please [contact us](#).
- **Get involved:** Join NCAVP in our efforts to prevent and respond to anti-LGBTQ violence. [Contact us](#) to learn more.

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*This release is a product of the [National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs](#) (NCAVP), a coalition of 43 anti-violence organizations that monitor, respond to, and work to end hate, domestic and sexual violence, HIV-related violence, and other forms of violence affecting LGBTQ communities. NCAVP is a program of the New York City Anti-Violence Project.*