

NCAVP ALERT



National Advocacy
for Local LGBTQH Communities

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 6, 2012

NCAVP Condemns Anti-Gay Hate Speech Calling for Violence by Roland Martin; Calls on CNN to Hold Martin Accountable

The National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs ([NCAVP](#)) condemns the homophobic hate speech calling for violence from CNN's Roland Martin and stands in solidarity with the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation ([GLAAD](#)) and [Change.org](#) in calling on CNN to hold Martin accountable for his actions.

On February 5th, Martin tweeted to nearly 95,000 followers, "If a dude at your Super Bowl party is hyped about David Beckham's H&M underwear ad, smack the ish out of him! #superbowl" in reference to H&M's Super Bowl commercial featuring soccer player David Beckham. Prior to this tweet, Martin posted to his Facebook fan page: "Who the hell was that New England Patriot they just showed in a head to toe pink suit? Oh, he needs a visit from #teamwhipdatass".

Martin's comments support a culture of violence that normalizes violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and HIV-affected (LGBTQH) communities. According to NCAVP's [report](#) *Hate Violence Against Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and HIV-Affected Communities in the United States in 2010*, there was a 13% increase in reports of anti-LGBTQH violence between 2009 and 2010. Additionally, NCAVP documented 27 anti-LGBTQH murders, a 23% increase from the 22 people murdered in 2009.

Public figures like Roland Martin must recognize the way that they contribute to this violence through their words and actions. NCAVP calls on Martin to apologize for his comments and for CNN to hold Roland Martin accountable for inciting violence against LGBTQH people.

CALL TO ACTION

Contact CNN: Tell CNN that homophobic hate speech is unacceptable and that both CNN and Martin should publicly apologize for Martin's comments. To contact CNN, visit <http://www.cnn.com/feedback/>, or comment on their [Facebook](#) page.

Prevent: NCAVP encourages communities to create programs, campaigns, and curricula to prevent anti-LGBTQH harassment and violence and to promote safety. NCAVP is available to provide support and resources to communities for their violence prevention efforts.

Respond: NCAVP recommends increasing support for LGBTQH survivors of violence by increasing funding for services and banning barriers to service and discrimination based on gender identity and sexual orientation.

Report Violence: NCAVP encourages anyone who has experienced violence to contact a local anti-violence program for support and to document this violence.

Get Involved: Join NCAVP in our efforts to prevent and respond to LGBTQH violence. To learn more about our national advocacy, receive technical assistance or support, or locate an anti-violence program in your area, [contact us](#).

NCAVP works to prevent, respond to, and end all forms of violence against and within lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and HIV-affected (LGBTQH) communities. NCAVP is a national coalition of local member programs, affiliate organizations and individuals who create systemic and social change. NCAVP is a program of the [New York City Anti-Violence Project](#).

###