

## **M**essage From the Director,

Greetings to all current and former members of our Human Rights Squads. It's almost that time again. Our 11th Annual Human Rights Squad Forum is just around the corner and you should be well into the completion of your projects. We have several schools who are certain they have a chance to win this year so make sure you push your squad not to quit just yet. Remember if you need any help or assistance with your projects please contact one of our staff members. We are officially announcing the topic for this year's forum. You have overwhelmingly selected "Hate Crimes" as the issue you would most like to discuss. We here at Sport in Society are excited as well, and we are diligently working to bring in some fantastic guests and a few surprises. Although you should have a lot of fun meeting fellow members and visiting our great Northeastern campus, we hope you can help us bring greater awareness to a very serious issue.

– **Susan Leitao**

Director, Project TEAMWORK



Lynn Tech Human rights squad members served drinks at their "international night" where over 300 members of the community came to enjoy a night of international food and entertainment.



West Roxbury High School Human Rights Squad members conduct a TEAMWORK training for fifth graders at the Ohrenburger School.

## **White Privilege**

Do people with white skin enjoy special privileges, which other Americans do not have? Is America set up so that one race can be more successful than other races? If you want to learn about White Privilege, come to Northeastern University and listen to a lecture on this important issue. On April 29, 2002, Project TEAMWORK will host a lecture on White Privilege at Northeastern University. Project TEAMWORK is fortunate enough to have Robert Jensen, Professor of Journalism at the University of Texas, to come and speak on this controversial topic. Jensen has been in the forefront of addressing White Privilege in the United States and how Americans can be actively anti-racist. All Human Rights Squad members and advisors that are interested in attending this lecture can contact Amy Bowen at (617) 373-8948 for further information.

### **Upcoming Events for Spring 2002**

- April 23** Martin Luther King MS hosts Bigelow MS
- April 27** Northeastern University Service Day
- April 29** White Privilege Seminar w/ Robert Jensen
- April 30** National Student-Athlete Day
- May 8** Human Rights Squad Forum
- May 9** MIAA Wellness Summit
- June 4** MVP Leadership Event



Human Rights Squad members from Martin Luther King Middle School in Dorchester will host Bigelow Middle School (of Newton) Human Rights Squad members for one of their projects.

## Going Global

In our end of the year evaluation last spring, one student wrote: "Project TEAMWORK should go global." We are excited to announce that our curriculum is soon to be implemented in Dublin Ireland. In February, we received a visit from Michael Boyd, the Community Relations Director of the Irish Football Association, at Northeastern University's Center for the Study of Sport in the United States to see different outreach programs related to sports, Michael visited several professional sports teams. Michael left our office excited about the prospect of bringing some of Project TEAMWORK's exercises to Northern Ireland. Soccer (or Football in Europe) is huge in Ireland, and Michael has visions of using professional soccer players to help change the minds of Northern Ireland's young people around the ideas of diversity. In Ireland, students will be discussing the same scenarios HRS members have addressed here in the States.



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### Advisor's Corner

- ◆ Thanks for all your hard work so far this year.
- ◆ Make sure you fax in your registration and nominations forms for this year's forum.
- ◆ If your Human Rights Squad is involved in an event, please let us know so we can plan to be there or help you get press to cover the event.

### 2002 HRS FORUM THEME: HATE CRIMES

Why is stopping hate crimes so important? Here are some important statistics about Hate Crimes in the United States in 2000.

- ◆ 4,337 Hate Crimes were committed due to a person's Race
- ◆ 1,472 Hate Crimes were committed due to a person's Religion
- ◆ 1,299 Hate Crimes were committed due to a person's Sexual Orientation
- ◆ 911 Hate Crimes were committed due to a person's National Origin
- ◆ 36 Hate Crimes were committed due to a person's Disability
- ◆ In total, 8,063 Hate Crimes were committed during 2000

\* Statistics were taken from The Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting Program.

For more information about Hate Crimes  
Check out these web sites

A Tribute to Matthew Shepard  
[www.mattshepard.org](http://www.mattshepard.org)

Anti-Defamation League: Stop Hate  
[www.adl.org](http://www.adl.org)

Governor's Task Force on Hate Crimes  
[www.stopthehate.org](http://www.stopthehate.org)

USA Networks: Erase the Hate Campaign  
<http://www.usanetwork.com/functions/nohate/erasehate.html>

Hate Crime Documentation Network  
[www.hate-crime.org](http://www.hate-crime.org)

American Civil Liberties Union  
[www.aclu.org](http://www.aclu.org)