



Boston
Globe
Friday, Feb. 11, 2001

Eli Stickgold, 12, handing a flier to Serg Mathieu on a Red Line train headed to Boston from Central Square. Stickgold and other students were protesting last month's attack on a Boston high school student.

GLOBE STAFF PHOTO / PAT GREENHOUSE

Spurred by subway attack, students rally against hate

By Kirsten Andelman
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

CAMBRIDGE - At a brick kiosk in Central Square, near a spot where social activists used to rage against perceived injustices, about 40 middle-school students yesterday demanded an end to what they said was the hatred that led to an attack on a Boston high school student at a subway stop last month.

"Say no to hate! Say no to hate!" they chanted as they boarded a Red Line car bound for Park Street station in Boston, stopping to hand out leaflets and gather signatures on a petition condemning the attack.

The protest by seventh- and eighth-graders from the city's Graham and Parks School was aimed at the Jan. 28 assault on a Boston High School student at the New England Medical Center subway stop, who had been seen holding hands with another girl at school.

Officials are investigating whether antigay sentiments were involved. It was later reported that the victim was from Morocco and grew up in a culture where hand-holding among schoolgirls is customary. Three students have been charged in the attack.

After reading about the attack in a humanities course, part of a section

After reading about the attack last month against a Boston high school student who was seen holding hands with another girl, seventh- and eighth-graders from the Graham and Parks School in Cambridge began organizing the Ride Against Hate.

called Justice and Dissent, students began organizing the Ride Against Hate. They spent the last week printing leaflets, writing press releases, contacting public safety officials and politicians and painting signs with slogans like "No More Bystanders" and "If I Was Gay Would You Come and Beat Me?"

"We learned how in the Holocaust people didn't do anything, that they said they didn't know what was going on," said seventh-grader Rosa

Gilmore as she rode toward Kendall Square. "Well, we see what's going on and we want to do something."

The protesters had been studying the Holocaust and hate crimes in the United States, and a new class has been scheduled on the Civil Rights movement.

"We had read a lot of articles about hate crimes, and we were sort of ticked off," said seventh-grader George Krebbs, who said he missed a lot of recesses to write press releases and fine-tune the speech he read in Central Square and again outside of the Park Street subway station.

Seventh-grader Sam Francois, who organized the protest, said the lesson from the Holocaust is that individuals must stand up to protect others in their community, and that silence is the voice of complicity.

"I think if you let the little stuff go by, then you let the big stuff go by," he said as he passed out leaflets to subway riders.

Also at the rally was Representative Jarrett Barrios, a Cambridge Democrat.

"It's an extraordinary realization for seventh and eighth-graders to see that anti-Semitism in the 30s is at bottom like homophobia in the new millennium," Barrios said.

STUDENTS AGAINST VIOLENCE



GLOBE STAFF PHOTO / PAT GREENHOUSE

Students (from left) Sherline Morgan, Nina Ward, and Zoe French held hands and sang yesterday at a Red Line platform. A group of 40 students rallied to protest an attack on a Boston student last month. B3.

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Staff photo by Kate Flock

Students from the Graham and Parks School demonstrate at the Park Street Station against hate crimes. The rally, which started at Central Square, was organized after a young girl was assaulted on the T in Boston by teens because they thought she was gay.

...ride against hate

Graham and Parks students protest hate crime on T

BY LEIGH HORNBECK
Chronicle Staff

Sam François had only one reaction when he read that a girl was beaten up by a group of teens on a Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority train after they saw her holding hands with another girl.

"It came off the top of my head, I said 'We should go down and ride the train,'" François recalled.

Last week, he and a dozen of his classmates from the Graham and Parks school took to the subways carrying signs that read: "Take A Stand, Hold A Hand," and "Are you gonna beat me up because I am different from you?"

The group rallied in Central Square last Thursday, giving speeches while standing between two columns that are part of "Multicultural Manifesto." The monument was created by a Central Square artist who polled residents, asking them to write down their wishes and dreams. Many wished

PROTEST, page 9

Future bright for

Singing in the new year



A ride against hate on the T

PROTEST, from page 1

for peace; the word "dream" appears in 46 languages engraved on glass panels of the monument's three cylinders.

The students urged passers-by to sign petitions signaling their outrage over the girl's beating, and declaring to the city of Cambridge that they would not be silent bystanders of hate crimes. After the rally, they boarded the Red Line and carried their message to Park Street.

The attack, which has been classified as a hate crime by Boston police, happened when a group of six students boarded an Orange Line train in Boston and saw the girl, who was alone at the time. Boston police sources reportedly said the alleged attackers had seen the 16-year-old holding hands with other girls at school. The victim, who is Moroccan, comes from a culture where handholding between school girls is both common and accepted, according to published reports.

The attackers, most of them female juveniles, tore at the victim's clothing, molested and taunted her, accusing her of being a lesbian.

Susan McCray, a teacher at the Graham and Parks School, said her students were stunned and deeply moved when they read the news articles she gave them in class. After a homework assignment to write and reflect on the event, the students discussed it in small groups. The news of the attack came during the time the class was studying the Holocaust.

It was in a unguided discussion

that François spoke up, and his classmates soon followed with similar enthusiastic suggestions.

The students were joined on the "Ride Against Hate" by Rep. Jarrett Barrios (D-Cambridge), School Committee member Alice Turkel, teachers and parents.

"We stand here in support of the girl and against hate crimes across the nation," said seventh-grader

*"If a crime like this
can happen, we have
to stand up. In the
Holocaust lots of little
crimes were
committed and no one
stood up."*

Laura Blum-Smith, student

George Krebbs, addressing the crowd.

In his speech, François used the quote engraved on the Holocaust Memorial in Boston: "In Germany they first came for the Communists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Communist. Then they came for the Jews, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Jew. Then they came for the trade unionists and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a trade unionist. Then they came for the Catholics and I didn't speak up because I was a Protestant. Then they came for me, and by that time no was left to

speak up."

The students got off the train at each stop along the way to Park Street, approaching other passengers and people waiting for the train.

When they arrived at Boston Common, the students gave their speeches again, and then joined hands and sang "Amazing Grace."

"If a crime like this can happen, we have to stand up," said seventh-grader Laura Blum-Smith. "In the Holocaust, lots of little crimes were committed and no one stood up."

Blum-Smith said she was at the rally for two reasons. She has two cousins in mind who are lesbians, and because she isn't sure she would be able to do anything if she witnessed a similar attack.

"I'd like to say I would, but if not, this is my way of making up for it," she said.

When the Moroccan girl was attacked, no one came to her aid until one male attacker pulled a knife, when a man stood up and barely escaped being slashed when the boy lunged at him. Published reports also state that the girl was beaten so badly she lost consciousness briefly before escaping at one of the stops.

Bonnie Zimmer, a Cambridge parent and passenger on the T Thursday, said she wished her kindergarten-aged son was with her to see the rally.

"A lot of people just felt passive disgust about that beating," Zimmer said. "It's inspiring to see kids expressing outrage over an event that usually marginalizes kids. Rallies like this are too rare."

THE



CAMBRIDGE SLANT

PAGE 8

PERSPECTIVE, COMMENTARY AND COMMUNITY VOICES

LETTERS



FEBRUARY 16, 2000

Proud of Graham and Parks students

I'm writing to express my profound gratitude to and pride in the seventh- and eighth-grade students from Graham and Parks who recently organized a "Say no to hate!" demonstration in response to the attack on a Boston high school student. On Jan. 28, classmates of the female student, after observing her holding hands with another girl on the subway, viciously attacked her because they perceived her to be a lesbian.

In the midst of the uproar about the state of the Cambridge public school system, from proposed mergers to high school restructuring to poor ratings by state auditors, it is refreshing to see that there actually is some meaningful learning going on. In the Boston Globe article ("Spurred by subway attack, students rally against hate," Friday, Feb. 11), the Graham and Parks students eloquently and articulately explain their actions.

"We learned how in the Holocaust people didn't do anything, that they said they didn't know what was going on," said Rosa Gilmore. "Well, we see what's going on and we want to do something."

Out of the mouth of babes.

JOYCE KAUFFMAN
Reed Street

5
Sherrin

**WE THE UNDERSIGNED PUBLIC CITIZENS UNITE
IN GETTING RID OF VIOLENCE AND HATE.**

IN RECOGNITION of the atrocious attack of January 28,2000 by six high school-age students upon a 16 year old female student of the same school, a girl of north African origin; an attack which took place on a MBTA Orange Line train, and which took place in reaction to her gesture of common hand-holding with a female classmate:

WE ARE AGAINST violence and hate of ethnic minorities of any nationality,
WE ARE AGAINST violence against women and girls,
WE ARE AGAINST violence against gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered people,
WE ARE AGAINST any and all individual actions taken to make our public places unsafe.

WE CALL ON our fellow citizens and travelers in public ways to be alert and to respond together to public incidents:and

WE CALL ON our municipal, state and national legislatures to proclaim their objection to public violence;

WE CALL ON our public institutions to take continued action to counteract the national climate of violence among young people.

SIGNED:

NAME (PRINT)	NAME (SIGNATURE)	CITY OR TOWN
Miles Turner	Miles Turner	Cambridge
Sharon G. Gou	Sharon Gou	Cambridge
Suzanne McCann	Suzanne McCann	Cambridge
Jacqueline King	Jacqueline King	Cambridge
Lorna Sparks	Lorna Sparks	Cambridge
Susan Miller	Susan Miller	Cambridge
Leigh Hornbeck	Leigh Hornbeck	Cambridge Channel
Ruth Anne Johnson	Ruth Anne Johnson	Cambridge, MA
Katherine Burchell	Katherine Burchell	Malden
Kerrie Cavalho	Kerrie Cavalho	Malden
Alaf Hoang	Alaf Hoang	Brookline
Christine Kelly	Christine Kelly	Roxbury
SILVIA PAN	Silvia Pan	ROUS, FRANCE
Toby Church	Toby Church	Revere, MA
Zelma King	Zelma King	Newton, MA
Margarita Loyda	M. Loyda	Readham
Wendy Taylor	Wendy Taylor	Cambridge MA
Anna Konsulova	Anna Konsulova	Cambridge

235 Total Signatures

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SIGNED:

<u>NAME (PRINT)</u>	<u>NAME (SIGNATURE)</u>	<u>CITY OR TOWN</u>
Rosa Gilmore	Rosa Gilmore	Cambridge
Emma Kome	Emma Kome	Cambridge
Nikki Hughes	Nikki Hughes	Cambridge
Max Gharachy Martin	Max Gharachy Martin	Cambridge
Benoit Louis Bellet	Benoit Louis Bellet	Cambridge
Dominica Shearison	Dominica Shearison	Randolph
TOM STANTON	Tom Stanton	Milford MA
Michelle Brown	Michelle Brown	
Michelle Bellet	Michelle Bellet	
Tammy Foster	Tammy Foster	Lynn
Daan Singh	Daan Singh	Boston
Don M. Smith	Don M. Smith	Boston
Tracey Gray	Tracey Gray	Boston
BRITNEY SMITH	Britney Smith	Boston
Alvin King	Alvin King	Boston
James Wilcox	James Wilcox	Boston
Johanna Fernandes	Johanna Fernandes	Boston
Paul Thomas	Paul Thomas	Boston, MA

9.
Ethene Nwachogye

Yvonne Bismarck

Vanessa Golecz

Marisol De La Torre

Stefania Lopez

R. Lopez

Mr. Lopez

Jan Thompson

Carol Kadgins

Katherine Cohen

MA MA

XIA YE

Greg Schwartz

Somerville, MA

Cambridge MA

Somerville MA

Somerville, MA

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Roslind

97. On Ave. 714

Cambridge

Cambridge

with (617) 541 11

same

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SIGNED:

NAME (PRINT)	NAME (SIGNATURE)	CITY OR TOWN
Nina M. Ward	Nina M. Ward	Cambridge
Justin Russell	Justin R. Russell	Cambridge
Amanda Ray	Amanda Ray	Cambridge
Michelle Tobin	Michelle Tobin	Cambridge
Joe Stahlman	Joe Stahlman	Cambridge
Joe S. S. S.	Joe S. S. S.	Cambridge
Don Smith	Don Smith	Cambridge
Eli H. H.	Eli H. H.	Cambridge
SARAH GELTON	Sarah Gelton	Cambridge
Alice T. T.	Alice T. T.	Cambridge
KODA	KODA	Cambridge
F. T.	F. T.	Cambridge
Wendy T.	Wendy T.	Cambridge
Kate Holahan	Kate Holahan	Medford
Chris Cao	Chris Cao	Medford
Sarah Brasslett	Sarah Brasslett	Medford
GAIL Williams	GAIL Williams	Amesbury
JOHN M. EDMOND	John M. Edmond	BOSTON

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<u>NAME (PRINT)</u>	<u>NAME (SIGNATURE)</u>	<u>CITY OR TOWN</u>
Julia Smith	<i>Julia Smith</i>	Cambridge
Brie Goldberg	<i>Brianna M. Goldberg</i>	Cambridge
Ben Berdon	<i>Ben Berdon</i>	Cambridge
Graham Conway	<i>Graham Conway</i>	Cambridge
Alison Maurer	<i>Alison Maurer</i>	Cambridge
Clara Hendricks	<i>Clara E. Hendricks</i>	Cambridge
Michelle Fox	<i>Michelle Fox</i>	Cambridge
Alex Lella	<i>Alex Lella</i>	Walden
Hector Ortiz	<i>Hector Ortiz</i>	Dorchester
Jack Campbell	<i>Jack Campbell</i>	ARLINGTON
K. Janson	<i>K. Janson</i>	WILLISTON VT
Jamie Thompson	<i>Jamie Thompson</i>	Somerville
John Chavertans	<i>John Chavertans</i>	Maplehead
Lyn P. Brown	<i>Lyn P. Brown</i>	Jamaica Plain
P. Rubin	<i>P. Rubin</i>	Westport
Mildred Wells	<i>Boston Mildred Wells</i>	Boston
Konstantin	<i>Kupsik</i>	Malden

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<u>NAME (PRINT)</u>	<u>NAME (SIGNATURE)</u>	<u>CITY OR TOWN</u>
Justin Buswell	Justin Buswell	Cambridge
Caitie MacLeod	Caitie MacLeod	Cambridge
George Krebs	George A. Krebs	Camb.
Kristen Andelman		Cambridge
Laura Blom-Smith	Laura Blom-Smith	Cambridge
Ron Yin		Cambridge
Kathy Greeley	Kathy Greeley	Cambridge
Jack Carder	JACK CARDER	Hull MA
Annette Dexter	ANNETTE DEXTER	Somerville
CHEECH BRADY	Cheech Brady	CAMBRIDGE
Aditi Mehta	Aditi Mehta	Cambridge
DAVID M MORGAN	David Morgan	Blairton MA
Greg Barkerville	Greg Barkerville	Revere MA
Mike Dempsey	Mike Dempsey	Boston
Angela Goad	ANGELA GOAD	Boston, MA
Peter R. MacFarlane	Peter R. MacFarlane	McKeesport, Pa.
ERIC DERRILL		PROVIDENCE, RI
LADY MERCADO	Lady Mercado	Lexington

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31

NAME (PRINT)	NAME (SIGNATURE)	CITY OR TOWN
Lizandre Lamont	Lizandre Lamont	Cambridge
Daphney Jean	Daphney Jean	Cambridge
Jordan Clark	Jordan Clark	Cambridge
Zoe Greeley French	Zoe French	Cambridge
Jarret Barrios	Jarret Barrios	Cambridge
Decia Goodwin	Decia Goodwin	Cambridge
GRIAN EATON	Grian Eaton	Cambridge
WALAKA MUSES	Walaka Muses	Cambridge
Dan Canale	Dan Canale	Cambridge
Linda C. Morrison	Linda C. Morrison	Newton, MA
Phil Coutreau	Phil Coutreau	Cambridge
Angela Lussier	Angela Lussier	Woburn
MARK DAUNTON	Mark Daunton	N. Conway
GIORGIO SARRAMARÀ	Giorgio Sarramarà	N. Conway
Pat Hart	Pat Hart	Concord
Michelle Krimmel	Michelle Krimmel	Revere
Patrick Cochran	Patrick Cochran	Malden
Camilla Duffy	Camilla Duffy	Dorchester
MARK VELASQUEZ	Mark Velasquez	Dorchester

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40

NAME (PRINT)	NAME (SIGNATURE)	CITY OR TOWN
Liza Littenberg-Brown	Liza Littenberg-Brown	Cambridge
Gabriela New	Gabriela New	Cambridge
Dara Bayer	Dara Bayer	Cambridge
Sherline Marsa	Sherline Marsom	Cambridge
Emily Boyes-Watson	Emily Boyes Watson	Cambridge
Martina Elankki	Ms	Boston, MA
Amosun Oshazhi	Amosun	
Samuel Velshkis	Samuel Velshkis	Somerville
GUY TEARTREE	Guy A Teartree	J.P. MA
KASA HAYNES	Kasa Haynes	Cambridge, MA
Ken Reene	Ken Reene	Cambridge
DONALD THOMAS	Donald Thomas	Boston
Jame Sculbrong	Jame Sculbrong	Cambridge
Barbara Killeen	Barbara Killeen	Cambridge
Le Pham	Le Pham	Dorchester
Kayty Himmels ten	Kayty Himmels ten	Cambridge
Jenny Jordan	Jenny Jordan	
Robert C. Rockwell	Robert C Rockwell	Barrington, RI
Amy McLaugh	Amy McLaugh	Petal Beach, CA

NAME (PRINTED)	NAME (SIGNATURE)	CITY OR TOWN
Angela Warren	Angela Warren	Dorchester
BRETTAN SAMONS	Brettan Samons	Cambridge
Teresa Gwynn	Teresa Gwynn	Stoughton
Spencer		
Jefferson Sander	Judy H. Johnson	Paris-
DAVID BEGGS	David Beggs	Somerville
Debra M. Kennedy	Debra M. Kennedy	Collington
Michael P. [unclear]	Michael P. [unclear]	Cambridge
Bonnie Zinner		
Claudette Marshall		
Alecia Fuller	Alecia Fuller	Somerville
Eun McKenna	Eun McKenna	Brighton

Scott Cunningham - ~~London~~ Cambridge
Anna Kissa - ~~London~~ Cambridge
Frank J. Farrell - Frankfort, MA
Stacey Weston - ~~London~~ Cambridge, MA
Campbell - ~~London~~ Cambridge, MA

SIGN(PRINT)

SIGNATURE

HOME CITY/TOWN

Koch, A.A.

~~Signature~~

Billerica, MA

Pyruk

Signature

BROCKTON, MA

THOMAS F. GOOD

Signature

Somerville, MA

Melissa Guathree

Signature

LEXINGTON MA

Carol Margaral

Signature

Somerville, MA

Ema Williams

Signature

~~Signature~~

~~Signature~~

~~Signature~~

Print Name

MOA Hayes

NARGIS NASRIN

Signature

MOA Hayes
Nargis Nasrin

Town or City

Lincoln

Dexington

Amy Michelle Stout	Amy Michelle Stout	Beverly, MA
Tristram Hewitt	Tristram Hewitt	Cambridge, MA
Sean Mathias		So Boston, MA
Jose E Capella		
Vanessa Nguyen	Vanessa	Boston
Erin O. Doyle	ERIN DOYLE	Dorchester
Erin O. Doyle		Q. J. W. C.
Erin O. Doyle		
Malinda		
Paul Gaus	P.O. box 39149	Cambridge, MA 02139
John Headley		Somerville, MA
Elizabeth		Arlington, MA 02476
Wanda		Ashmont
Liala		Boston
Mya Jenkins		
Andrea Pitt		Somerville
RUSSID ABDE RAMAN		
John Headley - Soto	John Headley - Soto	Cambridge
Katie Johnson	Katie Johnson	Cambridge

NAME (PRINTED)	NAME (SIGNATURE)	CITY OR TOWN
Angela Warren	Angela Warren	Dorchester
BRETTAN SAMONS	Brettan Samons	Cambridge
Teresha Gwynn	Teresha Gwynn	Stoughton
Shad		
Judson Sunde	Judson Sunde	Paris
DAVID BECKS	David Beck	Somerville
Seth H. Gandy	Seth H. Gandy	Andover
Michael C. Ford	Michael C. Ford	Cambridge
Bonnie Zinner		
Claudette Marshall		
Alecia Fuller	Alecia Fuller	Somerville
Erin McKenna	Erin McKenna	Brighton

CITY COUNCIL OFFICE
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

February 18, 2000

Dear Council Members,

We are writing because we are upset and concerned about the attack that happened on the orange line on January 28th, 2000. As you may have read in the Boston Globe, we held a "Ride Against Hate" last week to get people's attention and show our support for the Boston High student who was beaten by six teenagers.

We held the rally and ride for two reasons. The first is that we read that the girl was beaten because the other students thought she was gay. We have been studying the Holocaust in school and are upset to see hate crimes are still happening in the year 2000. We wanted to stand up against this act of discrimination.

The other reason we held the "Ride Against Hate" was because during our Holocaust studies we learned that there were many bystanders who claimed that they did not know what was happening, people who did nothing to stop the violence against the Jews. We learned that the most important thing a person can do to prevent something like the Holocaust from happening again is to take action.

Enclosed please find a copy of our petition that was signed by us as well as people we spoke to while we were doing our "Ride Against Hate" on the T. We have also included copies of articles that were written about our rally in the Boston Globe and the Cambridge Chronicle.

We hope that you will take a stand against hate crimes and other violence in our society.

Sincerely,

The Middle School Students
Graham and Parks Middle School
15 Upton Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

RECEIVED
CITY COUNCIL OFFICE
FEB 22 2000

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Consent Communication #13

A communciation was received from the Middle School Students, Graham and Parks Middle School, transmitting a signed petition and newspaper articles relative to their "Ride Against Hate" that the students participated in on the Red Line against hate crimes and other violence in our society.

S-48

In City Council March 6, 2000

PLACED ON FILE