Blue Plate Bigotry

South Beach PWA refused service at diner

August 1, 1994

The People with AIDS Coalition of Dade County (Florida) reports that a PWA was twice refused service by the Norton Cafeteria at 816 Alton Road in South Miami Beach. The PWA, who has requested anonymity, reports that he was asked to leave the restaurant because, according to the manager, he was making the other patrons uncomfortable. The PWA later returned to Norton Cafeteria with two case managers, including his own, who ordered lunch for the three of them and was told that the two case managers could stay but that the PWA would have to leave. When asked if the PWA was being denied service because of his appearance of illness, the manager declined to answer but again requested that the PWA leave the restaurant. Local television stations reported on the incident but declined to air the stories when the PWA involved requested anonymity.

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