

COMMUNITY ALERT



March 15, 2011

AVP mourns the death of Anthony Collao; 4 men arraigned on manslaughter and assault charges

Anthony Collao, 18, died yesterday from injuries sustained in a vicious attack on Saturday night. He was attending a party in Woodhaven, Queens, when a group shouting anti-gay slurs crashed the party. Collao attempted to flee the party and was chased down the street and brutally beaten by four assailants. Those four young men, all age 17 and under, were arraigned in Queens Criminal Court yesterday on manslaughter and assault charges. AVP extends our condolences to Anthony's friends and family.

Anthony Collao is not known to be gay, however, this did not stop his assailants from making an assumption about his identity and targeting him for violence. At AVP we believe that any violence predicated on the hatred of someone because of their race, ethnicity, sexual orientation or gender identity – whether actual or perceived – cannot be tolerated. AVP is reaching out to the NYPD and partner organizations in Queens and will keep our community members informed of any developments.

AVP encourages you to report any anti-LGBTQ bias, including hate speech, bullying, harassment, and physical violence, to our **24-hour bilingual (English/Spanish) hotline at 212-714-1141** where you can speak with a trained counselor or online on our [secure reporting form](#).

Find out more about the New York City Anti-Violence Project at our [website](#) and [Facebook page](#).