

Overall Comments - ABC7 Listens Poll -- S.F. Mayor Gavin Newsom [Note - The following includes comments from all Bay Area residents. The tabulated survey results are based only on the responses of San Francisco residents]

I think it's a shame that Mr. Newsom betrayed a friend.

I really like what Gavin Newsome has done as mayor of SF. I think his quick-"Stand up" apology about the affair was classy and definitely the way to go. I would hate to think that this would affect his future in politics.

I think it's a shame what happened and I applaud the mayor for fessing up. I think it is indicative of some much deeper issues that need to be dealt with before he runs again or for higher office. He has broken trust- at a great cost.

By now- people in public office need to get a clue --- they must use better judgement. More is expected of them.

There's a cocaine addict and alcoholic in the White House- so Newsom doesn't have anything to worry about.

I am sick and tired of the media's coverage of the private lives of those who choose to serve the public either in political office or in the military- i.e. the astronaut who obviously is suffering mental stress. Their sexual lives should be private.

This guy does more playing around- drinking- and shmoozing in front of the media than is acceptable...Maybe he should concentrate on his job more!!!!

Men will be men and forgiven in any sex scandal...its the ole boys law!!

Mayor Newsome engaged in an ill advised- but consensual relationship. So what?

This is exactly the kind of crap you should not be focusing on. Geez- move on.

He is not the only Mayor in this (Bay) area with issues- personal or otherwise.

Where is the story of the Sunnyvale hero who saved folks from a fire???????????????

We now live in a world where there are no morals in politics or corporations. No where is it written that this is a requirement. We used to think this was a given in these areas but we have learned otherwise. It's unfortunate and regrettable. Now live in.

What he does in his bed is not our business- I don't think it should affect his political ambitions- but the right wing republicans will make a big deal of it.

I heard about this and I have been traveling in Cleveland- OH and Ft Lauderdale- FL. I think it's a temporary set back but he'd better be an angel from now on.

At least Gavin Newsom slept with woman- unlike most other perverts that run this city. We all know he is an extremely good looking man and most guys envy him for that but they will give anything to be in his shoes!

Newsome is young and he is taking a holistic approach to resolving his problems. He will probably be a better civil servant due to this situation.

it seems men who have affairs with women get things done while in office. the repubs- on the other hand- molest children and destroy our country. As stated in Good Morning Viet Nam- Bush and Co. all need a good blow job.

Newsom mishandled the interview and incident of the beating of the Yale students- blaming the victims. He did great with gay marriage but hasn't done much since then. I liked him- voted for him- but am disappointed.

people make stupid mistakes. he's human- he apologized and is paying for what he did. anyone else life would go on as usual. unfortunately being in the public eye has it's draw backs.

A persons ability to do his or her job should have nothing to do with personal actions- such as this- when considering his or her ability to do their job! I would find drunkenness or drug use much worse!

One of the rule of manhood is: You never sleep with the wife of your friend.

This Mayor is the first in my life to do something about all the homeless on the streets of S.F.

Prior to his being elected mayor- I thought he was a jerk & still do. The problem belongs to the good people of San Francisco - let them decide.

As long as there is no evidence that Newsom used his position as mayor to coerce someone into a sexual relationship- the issue should be dropped.

I really think the media feeding frenzy about this makes the media look worse than the Mayor.

Mayor Newsom messed as a man- not as a Mayor. He remains- he is half to blame. Leave it alone- there are more important issues than his personal life to be concerned.

San Francisco politics and attempts at government are always a wonderful source of entertainment.

We need to get over the need to villify politicians for personal behavior which is none of our business. While many may have moral and/or religious issues with this behavior we are a nation that is to strive to separate church and state.

I feel that there were 2 people who were involved and that the woman who was involved should not have dumped her mistake on her husband just because she didn't want to feel guilty.

Mayor Newsom has only shown how human he is. His crime is not the affair; his crime is getting caught. This behavior is not new for the male speices and is certainly not new for politicians. He has done a good job and will continue to do so.

Let he who has no sins cast the first stone. The Mayor is human and is subject to the occassional error. Everyone in the situation was a full fledged adult.

He is a media whore. Gavin HOLLYWOOD Newsome espouses popular causes more for his own benefit than for any genuine belief in that cause. My opinion.

His sins were not linked to performance. The only shade of gray was his friend worked in his perview. It was a benign political issue. As a personal issue not admirable- but human. And- she was not a victim in any way or claimed to be.

I'm shocked that people are SO taken aback by Newsom's behavior. They revered and survived Willie Brown who was definitely no saint. He should be judged for his politics- not his bedroom activity and personal hi-jinx.

The morals in this country today are non-existent; therefore- people feel they can do whatever they like - and get away with it. I find it disgusting. I think he's a total slime and not to be trusted.

I think his personal life should have nothing to do with his being a good Mayor or not. What he did is between him and those involved- and should not be the concern of anybody else.

Newsome took the high road- admitted his faults and owned up to the responsibility. He deserves our respect -- and a chance to continue the good work he's been doing.

so Newsome is pond scum in his personal life....I'd care if I was dating him- but I don't really care if he f*cks horses- as long as he does a good job for the people of SF. I suspect that opinions about his inexcusable dalliance will vary by gender....

This developement is just the latest in a long line of events that show he is just not ready for primetime. He is a flash in the pan and will be gone in no time- regardless of getting re-elected or not. Small fish is a big tank.

Living in Napa- It has no effect on the day by day life here.

He follows what Clinton did while in office and got away from any wrong doings. This country has no moral ethnics anymore! Anythings goes and nobody cares.

Please type your response here if it doesnt interfer with his job and he already said he was in the wrong to the public and is sorry the public should close the book and let him go on with his job. He is doing a GREAT job. The girl is in the wrong .

Having an affair with a friend's wife - he went WAY over the line!! I had been following him as a political candidate for California - not any longer!

The sex doesn't bother me at all; getting well laid probably improved his job performance during the divorce hassle. Alcohol- on the other hand- is a problem. Is he really an alcoholic- or did he just he just figure he had to pick some sort of rehab?

Believe these issues are personal issues and the media should drop their obsession with it. Had he kept her on the payroll without doing any work- or some other action such as that- then it would be different. In this casedrop it.

Just as with Bill Clinton- people grasp at straws and blow things out of proportion. What someone does in their private life - that does not directly impact their work life - is just that- PRIVATE. We have politicians outright lying (i.e. Bush & Co).

Let he or she who is without the sin of an extramarital affair shut up until you have had one and then you won't be so jealous of those who have had the opportunity when you didn't. Their only value is using them to crucify a political opponent.

If we got rid of every politician who had a sexual indiscretion of any kind we would have no government. People need to get over it and let Gavin get his treatment and do his job.

Their private life is theirs and the media and the people should stay out of it and focus instead on what these people have accomplished on their jobs and how good they are at doing what they're doing.

I think that Dan Noyes and the I team and the news media are partly responsible for his problems. Noyes has been on his case about everything and the media reports on everything- including personal info that is none of the public's business.

Public elected officials have a responsibility to live their lives such as to be totally respected-

This scenario reminds me of Bill Clinton and his extra marital affairs. Just because someone has a strong libido- it does not mean that he/she can not do their job. Bill Clinton did a lot of good for this country and look what we have now.....Bush.

I might live in Sonoma but I was born in San Francisco and will always feel like a native of that city. The city is known for being different and that no one is perfect. If he can keep San Francisco going - keep in office.

I think it showed courage for Mr. Newsom to admit to his very HUMAN battles. He could have blamed others for his situation- but he didn't. I think he should be given the chance to get his private life in order- before he is given up on.

"There no such thing as bad news" in the political world. I do believe the SF folks will forgive him- though I don't think the state electorate will tolerate it.

If the mayor stays clean and sober then the possibility for re-election is great. People make mistakes- admitting them takes a lot of humility. As the saying goes: Lie to me once- shame on you- lie to me twice- shame on me. I give a chance only once.

I really don't see why his sexual activities have anything to do with his job as mayor. Like Queen Victoria- I say- as long he doesn't do it in the streets and frightens the horses.

There is really important news in the world. I'm sick of the media always jumping on the latest tabloid type story - sex scandels- runaway astronauts- dead playmates. Lets pay attention to political corruption- war- global warming- etc.

Most mayors of San Fransisco are corrupt- because of the entrenched nature of CA politics. But this is a private issue and should be an issue only to those affected.

He's not the first to do this- nor will he be the last. I think most politicians have things like this hidden in their closets. Just move along.

He will remain in office for a precedent has been set. Bill Clinton set it. "anything goes and its ok" seems to be the way America is going. I for one am ashamed of the Mayor and do not think he should be in a place of leadership.

I think this shows poor judgement on his part and I would now question the decisions he makes.

How about a poll on the proposed early presidential primary for California? I believe that it a costly folly.

Gavin is just like Bill Clinton. He will weather the storm. Good guy. I know how I felt about San Jose's mayor being involved with someone else - but really have no opinion re SF's mayor - it's more their public's business- not mine.

The person that the mayor hurt most was his friend. It was poor judgement on his part but hardly a crime. He didn't try to hide it when he was confronted. He admitted it so let's move on. If he had raped someone or had sex with a minor then that would

As usual to much fuss-let Newsome get on with his job.

Another hypocritical liberal bites the dust. Where is the miracle of this idiot? What has he actually done for the City?

The scandle will go no where because Californians have no moral standard. Just look at how much they love Bill Clinton after his deplorable behavior in office.

With his 'best friends' wife???How trustworthy can anyone be who would do that? Can anyone who would screw his 'best friends' wife be trusted with ANY moral decisions...I don't think so! No-I'm NOT Republican- Yes I AM a Democrat- Newsom's simply a sleeze!

Although I'm disappointed that Newsome displayed very poor judgement in his personal life- I hope that he's learned important lessons from the experience. I also hope that he will re-emerge as a strong- vibrant leader who will regain solid public support.

I stopped watching your channel and using your site for several days because of the carnival like atmosphere ABC 7 portrayed surrounding the Mayors problems. I began to wonder if someone at the station had a personal vendetta against the Mayor

I think the media is spending way too much time on this matter. This has no impact on the average SF resident and is a personal issue for the mayor. This survey was much ado about very little!

The mayor's public image has been badly damaged. Regardless of how he performs his official duties- there will be an aura of distrust about his honesty and integrity.

The Mayor made bad personal decision. But so have a lot of politicians. None of them are as bad as the political ones made by our President and no one is holding him accountable. We should spend our energy there because it effects the world more.

Although one wishes for Saints in office- his private life is his (same as Clinton's) and it does not affect his ability to perform his duties. I wish he'd change his awful- awful hair.

About the "affair" - - -"Let he (or She) who has not sinned cast the first stone."

This latest revelation regarding Mayor Newsom further shows the immaturity of the man and his total disregard for the office he has been entrusted to perform.

He committed the ultimate man's no no... boffing a friend's wife.

I think that one's personal life is just that-personal. If the mayor or anyone performs their job as required then their personal life should not play a role in judging how they do their job. Nobody is perfect. Similar actions with average people-too

I think what the Mayor did was wrong but it is now time to let the story die and to move on to more important stories.

Although I believe a person's personal life should remain just that - personal- I also believe that Mayor Newsom showed a serious lack of judgment and/or self-control in this case. This will damage his career- but he could still be an effective mayor.

I believe Gavin lost a lot of trust with his constituents because he lied to his best friend. Gavin showed a lot of weakness here and it is really too bad because he is a pretty effective mayor.

I was born and raised in the City. The Mayor is doing a good job and should continue. We all have problems and make mistakes. It is time to move on.

He made a mistake that many have made. Matier & Ross rightly broke the story; that should have been sufficient. The local media have turned into muckrakers- IMHO.

As usual- the media has been catering to the prurient interests of the slime-minded audience. There is no need for further discussion of this man's private life- and as for his Public Service life- it has probably been destroyed- unfortunately.

Men will be men until the end of time. I am not a resident of San Francisco but I think Gavin Newsom has done a good job there.

I think this whole thing with Gavin is way blown up. He is human- he as done nothing that horrid- give the guy a break and let him do his job in peace.

To much time is being wasted on this subject. He was Open and Honest once confronted. This is his personal life and has nothing to do with the job is does. He does good work for SF and people shouldn't be hung up on his private life. Get over it !!

I am not from SF and so should have not say in the matter. I answered as if he were my mayor. Had I lived in San Francisco- I would have voted for Gonzales. As to whether Newsome will win- it depends on how he handels the job after this.

I don't care about Newsom's personal affairs per se. What he showed however- is a disregard for loyalty and honor in a man and in an elected official. Shame on him. What kind of man is this guy?

If Mr. Newson has so little respect for his close riends and co-workers- what can voters expect regarding his judgement on any and all other public issues? Voters elect politicians on their core beliefs and values to drive their political decisions.

There are other factors tio be considered besides his infidelity. He has also gone into rehab- which will affect his credibility. Some other things he has done as mayor will also keep him from being re-elected. Thank you to Dan Noyes and the I-Team.

I am not an avid fan of the mayor- HOWEVER I don't think he's getting a fair deal. This situation hasn't affected SF citizens thus far. it's a personal matter and should remain just that!
gross error of judgement

If Newson was a Republican the media would of already had his head on a platter. Hypocrites!

everyone keeps saying he took advantage of the lady- what if she took advantage of him? It takes 2 to dance and she was a wiling partner in the affair- so I don't think everyone should be putting all the blame on the Mayor

He's nothing but the devil and soon- everyone will see the real him. Being Mayor does not exclude him from doing a not too nice thing- but it does say a lot about his character. I say let any other politician throw the first stone. At least he didn't try to wishy washy himself around the issue as others have done.

Way out of proportion to importance- altho since it pushed him into getting help for his drinking - it's good. He's human. Don't the reporters- TV- etc have

more important things--Middle East- Global warming- education (lack of) --to cover?

I didn't like Newsome to begin with and this just reinforces those feelings. He will likely win a re-election campaign since people still voted for Nancy Pelosi who is a divisive and disruptive presence in the House.

Gavin is doing a good job. The Board of Supes need to get over themselves. Between Peskin sounding like Al Haig and MacGoldrick's self-righteousness- they are tripping over each other trying to make an advantage for themselves out of this.

Newsom is a lightweight who has depended on good looks and money to carry him through life. His appointments- such as the Security Advisor and Police Chief have been failures and he dithers. The gay community is not his only constituency.

I couldn't care less about politicians' private lives. Republicans were upset with Bill Clinton's mistake which only involved sex- while Bush is responsible for killing thousands of people...

If all the political leaders who have had affairs or done something others disapprove of the offices would all be empty. He is a good leader and should be judged on his accomplishments not on his sex life.

The media makes too much out of these "sex" scandals. This country is too much into the terrible three letter word. We should be more worried about the violence in CA cities- how those mayors are running said cities- corruption- lack of police- etc.

Please type your response here I am not a good evaluator of Mayor Newsome since I have minimal interest in what happens in San Francisco.

While Gavin's worst sins are his appointments of Tony Hall and Ms. Conroy and his total failure to fix the potholes and crumbling infrastructure of this city- the current roster of other candidates is worse.

Poor judgement and the impact one's actions have on others are key to any politician. Newsom has shown horrible judgment and callous disregard as to the impact his actions have on not only the people involved- but all potential voters.

This is none of our business. The supervisor that's telling him to resign is just getting air time. He's grandstanding and looks foolish.

Bill Clinton was as popular as ever after his outlandish saga. Society is just not concerned about elected official's improprieties. Newsome's competition will be the only voice heard.

The only difference between him and some other people in office is that he got caught and also admitted a drinking problem. I'm sure there are a lot of practicing alcoholics in public office

This whole thing is being blown out of proportion. It was a personal error in judgement. He betrayed a friend- but that doesn't always translate to being a bad mayor. Shame on SF for being so nosy.

I think elected officials and people purported to represent the American ideal should set the highest standard of ethics - when they don't we all suffer a black eye.

I have never liked Mr Newsom. and I don't think he has done that good of a job for the city

This is a media hyped event. Newsome's personal life and who he chooses to sleep with should not be a NEWS event.

This man has no integrity or morals. Then on top of all that he has addiction problems. Just what we need in office more people with no morals and addiction problems.

people are people. everyone makes mistakes. it was brave of him to come forward. more should also do so. what is in their closet that they are not coming forth.

I feel that the media should stop focusing on this whole incident. Mr. Tourk got his revenge by going to the media- now let it go and leave Mayor Newsom alone!

good luck Mayor in finding a new campaign manager

The media presents all too much information on a daily basis regarding the Mayor's indiscretion. We all make mistakes and the means by which to judge is to look at HOW IS THE SUBJECT person handling the matter?

Everyone has done things they regret. Newsom is only human.

His personal life should have no bearing on his political life.

I wasn't particularly impressed with Mr. Newsom before the latest revelations and my opinion has not changed. I don't know how the people of S.F. will respond to this current situation- if you also include the drinking problem.

Personal lapses are forgivable and repairable. If a person makes bad political choices- there should be political consequences. If a person makes bad personal choices- there is room for understanding and repair.

He is human and we all make mistakes and he was man enough to admit to it right from the beginning

The Mayor's troubles just proves he is human- it took two to tango...we all make mistakes- admitting it helps us heal...he is still a great Democratic up and comer...I look forward to his future and ours!!!

While my opinion of him has gone down- he is STILL better than the others on the list. We voted for a Moderate. All the others are Far Left.

What Mayor Newsom did was stupid and showed lack of judgment but should not be y
"career ending." Ye- Gods- it's just sex. Chill out!

his private life is nobodys bisness

Newsom was up-front and honest. Most hide info til caught- then deny for a
while. It may- though- hurt him politically. As far as affair- it takes two -
not one guilty party and one 'victim.' Doesn't make it right- just evens things
out.

he owned up to it immediately. at least he didn't lie. that would have effected
pretty much everything. it also would have made this matter NOT go away. i am
not a big fan of his- but san francisco could do worse.

Leave his personal life just that...personal. Let the man do his job. As
evidenced by many politicians throughout history- low morals/scruples has
nothing to do with an individual's ability to carry out their responsibilities.

I could care less who the Mayor is sleeping with!

Although I am disappointed to hear about Mr. Newsom's personal life- I feel his
personal life is none of my business.

We always want politicians to be honest about their mistakes. Newsom did that -
and took steps to deal with his problems. In my mind- it makes him a stronger
candidate because he is honest- yet human.

In the long run Newsome will survuve. the liberal voters of SF will forgive any
indiscretion by any Democrat. If he had been a Republican he would be hounded
out of office just like that idiot Foley.

Bush is a FOOL!

This affair and the substance abuse problem are indicators of character. What
happened to demanding high standards in our public officials? Sad that people
think personal thought processes differ from public ... all the same brain.

Although our elected leaders should be role models- that is just not the case. I
don't feel that digging up personal dirt on people is in anyone's best interest.
It detracts from the real issue's of job performance. That should be the focus.

Politicians often make poor personal decisions- which have no bearings on their
public performance.

Why does the media make such a big deal of this? It happens all over
everywhere. If ut doesn't affect the way he performs his job- it makes no
difference. "HIgher standards" are a joke - always have been. We're all human
& flawed.

We should move on from this issue

Liberal acts- liberal city- this will not affect him.

My choice for who to vote for mayor has nothing to do with either Newsom's love life or his alcohol problem. It is based completely on other- unrelated-factors.

This is between him and his conscience. Why would we assume other candidates haven't made bad choices in their personal lives?

The guy is a jerk.

San Francisco is just like DC even though their mayor was convicted of drug issues they re-elected him. SF will re-elect him- regardless of how it makes SF look in the national eye.

We are all human. The Mayor owned up to his shortcomings. From presidents on down- people have affairs. It's not such a huge deal anymore. Frankly- I thought he was gay until very recently.

It takes two to have an affair. I have not seen any comments about her. Feel she's equally responsible and should share her part of the blame.

If his friend can't trust him not to have sex w his wife- how can he be trusted not to take bribes and do things in his own best interest not the cities.

There needs to be a standard of responsible behavior set for the leader of a city. Anything goes is for Hollywood- not civic leaders.

Your Question about the effect of this situation on his ability to do his job will not be affected if the press and the other media will just drop it and go on to something important.

Another tempest in a teapot- just like Clinton and Monica.....not worth the media wasting their time....

I think there is the issue of trust that should be considered when you elect an official and he has proven that he has some major trust issues to contend with.

I've been disappointed in the Mayor of late for seemingly surrounding himself with sleazy or incompetent people--like Conroy and Ragone...and how he has taken his eye of the ball--the police department- the stadium...

These stories were just typical of the sleazyness that has always connoted San Francisco. Willie Brown was the exception- Newsome is just typical.

We are all human and prone to mistakes-a tempary lapse in judgement does not make him a bad person. The supervisor asking for the mayor's resignation is lacking in feelings or compassion.

I think the bigger issue is 'can the mayor stop drinking?'. There has been some info since that his drinking caused meetings to be late- etc. The affair can be forgotten only by his other actions and if he can stop drinking.

He cannot be trusted!

Just as with President Clinton I think that personal lives as regards to sexual status does not necessarily play a roll in the job performance but are politically manipulated to undermine a progressive thinker- especially in this case its in the past.

I think he is a smart dedicated public servant. Dumb personal choices by him and his partner in the affair should not cause us to lose his talents as mayor and a public leader.

Your I-Team investigations are television at it's worse- nothing more than feb. sweeps candy. you need to bring some class to this segment and your camera out to get someone tactics i don't buy - along with all your consumer segments.all else ok!

I think his conduct will have little effect in San Francisco- but more elsewhere. I'm no fan of Newsome and believe this kind of conduct should be expected of him.

why in the hell would i vote for matt gonzales want to talk about CORRUPT! an the supervisors should do their jobs an leave gavin alone. what a bunch of screaming queens. i am gay an find their actions pathetic.

I did not choose any opponent as I feel he will be re-elected. I think the publicity and the news media have overdone the reporting. I resent that several days the scandal was front paper in the Chronicle... and I am not pleased with Dan Noyes- either!

I suppose I would have a stronger opinion if I lived in San Francisco. I live in the East Bay and really don't care about the Mayor of San Francisco other than from a "gossip" interest.

I see Gavin Newsom as a brilliant and dedicated public servant- but- is HUMAN and capable of mistakes (and who isn't) but because he is a smart and savvy person he will (HAS)learn from his errors in judgments.

People tend to either forget or just forgive some of these kinds of problems.

I don't understand why this issue was considered "newsworthy" and why people were subjected to so much discussion about an issue that should NOT have been public in the first place.

Newsome is and always has been a rotten scoundrel with good looks and patronizing elitist views. He deserves every piece of c***that sticks to him. And San Francisco deserves him. pfagh!

Mr. Newsom is human- as we all are. How he conducts himself from here on will determine his future.

I think that we all make mistakes- this one is not detrimental to San Francisco (at least it proved that he is not gay)

Perhaps the public has a right to know even his private life and vote for or against him as they see fit. But I think the media are being a bit sensational in their coverage of this.

You may hear people say that what had happened is a personal thing- but the public tends to your personal affairs as a reflection of your attitude and character overall. That is- the character that would represent the city.

Newsom did a stupid thing relating to his personal life and unrelated to his governance as mayor. Let's move on to more important issues of which there are many.

He is still a jerk.....

The Mayor hasn't done anything unusual- except he got caught. If he can perform his job duties- then his personal life is irrelevant- just like any other profession.

Any emotional relationship situation has an effect on how you perform your job- no matter what your job.....

It's nobody's business but his and the other parties directly involved. Spend more time informing the public- on our airwaves- about the intrusions of the admin on our privacy and the immoral occupation of Iraq.

His affair with friend's wife is inexcusable; his drinking problem affects judgment and proves his weakness and lack of self-control.

Why would we expect these revelations to affect him negatively.? While our leaders should be extraordinary and above reproach- now that the office of president has been diminished through Clinton's infidelity- why would anyone care about a lowly mayor?

So sad that Gavin suffers from OFD (open fly disorder) and that he chose to have a fling with a woman who should never have told her husband about her adulterous affair Gavin. Isn't there anything else going on in the world ? Global warming? etc. etc.

It was a very stupid thing to do- and politicly dumb- but in the larger scheme of things- not really important. This may slow his career down somewhat- but it really isn't any of my business. If he is a good Mayor and does a good job for his constituents

While the lessons learned from Clinton's behavior might not've tricked down to Newsom- it did for this observer. When is the US going to get over Plymouth Rock?

It's really nobody's damn business what two adults do in a bedroom. Should people be cheating on their spouses? Probably not. But it's no one else's business.

What the Mayor did was inexcusable. But he is in the process of recovering. He was honest and forthright- and did not dodge; in fact- he actually disclosed information prior to the media's reporting of it. If he is re-elected and keeps his nose clean

It will be fun to watch the lefter than the Newsom left try to destroy him for not being left enough

Is he corrupt? Did he do something to hurt the people he represents? No- the scandal is his own personal business. We all make mistakes. Many of us drink too much. What is he guilty of--confessing to an affair of a year ago and drinking too much. Yawn.

There was no sexual harrassment if the relationship was mutually acceptable. The "man-code" stuff is hogwash-for most men who might stray that way- they're probably only concerned about this code if they get caught. The woman was equally responsible.

The mayor has done a lot of good things for S.F. He was wrong in what he did re: the affair but was right in publicly admitting to it. Its always better to admit it yourself rather than it getting twisted by the media. I appreciate his honesty.

It was a major lapse in judgement for the mayor to have an affair with a staff member who is also the wife of your most important support...your campaign manager YIKES!!

The "affair" happened one and a half years ago- it really is a private matter and he has been doing what he is elected to do. It is a heroic and crazy position

He's just another in a line of "snake oil salesmen" to have been elected by the boobs in SF. You get what you deserve.

We are all human and humans are definitely not perfect. We are not considered humans if we are perfect. We've be considered as humanoids / robots. Look at Clinton- people still love him even though he had numerous affairs.

Life happens.

When someone has an affair- I do not think that it affects their jobs. It just shows bad personal judgement.

Get him out of there!

I thought it was stranger that he dated a nineteen year old than it was having an affair with a married woman.

The affair isn't as big an issue with my perception of him doing a good job as mayor. The bigger issue is the revelation of his alcohol abuse and working while drunk.

People's personal lives should not be the main consideration in determining their ability to do a job. Bad judgement in romance/sexual areas doesn't necessarily carry over to the office.

I don't approve of everything he has done in office- mainly the Olympics and SF 49ers. He blew it there. However- I don't think he should be penalized for

private matters. That old adage of people who live in glass houses- shouldn't throw stones.

His personal life is not my business and frankly I don't care to hear what other's do in their own privacy. Myself -I like doing it in public-if anybody needs to know!

Leave Gavin alone. The media makes too much out of his personal life. He is a fantastic Mayor and how he messes up his personal life is his business as long as it does not impact his role as mayor. Those who are demanding he should step down are idiots...

Too soon to tell about most of this yet. But I think the mayor should be given a chance to get his act together. I hope he gets the help he needs.

One has to wonder whether the mayor's appalling lack of judgment and honesty in his personal life is indicative of a lack of judgment and honesty in how he handles the City's business affairs. It is extremely disconcerting.

What he did was reprehensible- but it has no bearing on his ability to do his job. We Americans focus too much on the personal lives of our leaders and too little on the job they do.

HEY IT'S SAN FRANCISCO! ANYTHING GOES! HE COULD HAVE SEX WITH A SHEEP AND NOBODY WOULD CARE!

It takes two to have an affair- yet the mayor has taken full blame for this. I admire the fact he's not tried to "excuse" his way out of it.

I would not vote for a person that would have an affair with another persons spouse! Especially a trusted friends spouse. Why would anyone ever trust him again? THE BASTARD

Look at Clinton. He had his fling and now he is more popular than ever. What Gavin does in his after hour life is his business and no one else's. They should just drop all this BS that they are stirring up and let him do his job as Mayor.

I think Gavin Newsome is a fine Mayor and I think people should practice to be forgiving. It makes the world a better place to live. No one is perfect. Not the folks at abc 7 or the president or the Pope. Forgiveness is key to a better world

What? We are supposed to be shocked and outraged that a politician had an affair? Grow up!

I think this is another case of possibly loosing a good public servant because of something that really doesn't concern that service. Does Gary Hart come to mind?

the mayor is paying for his arrogance

people ought to grove up and look at the ability a person has to do a job. sex is personal and so what everybody does it. People should get off the wagon and look at themselves- most are not angels.

I don't really know what the mayor has accomplished for the city of San Francisco since taking office so it is difficult for me to assess his performance and/or judge whether he should remain in his job or be reelected.

Americans are such prudes. A politician's dalliances are no business of ours. That should be a personal matter between the politician and their partner.

I am disappointed in Mr. Newsom for behaving badly- but I think his personal life has not interfered with his doing his job...so If I were voting for mayor of SF I would still vote for him.....

This entire fuss over the unhappy affair of Newsom and his lady friend is a veritable tempest in a teapot! My God! The Republic is going to hell and people want to worry over someone else's moral lapse? A waste of time.

I still like our Mayor- but I'm troubled that he appears to not really want to be Mayor- that it's not important or big enough for him. His disinterest is unappealing and we've noticed. The boozing & deceit (to a pal no less) adds to looking elsewhere

Enough all ready

He hasn't done anything that any other political figure hasn't done there is too much press given to this sort of thing! Is he doing a good job as mayor? That's what is important- not what he does in his private life!!

A politician's personal life should not affect how he/she runs his/her office. Mayor Newsom admitted his faults which makes him human. We put politicians on such pedestals- but they too have their downfalls.

You'll want to spell Sen. Migden's name correctly: it's Carole.

It seems that a lot of men in power have affairs; must have to do with the power- from presidents on down. Our elected officials are very rarely held to high standards- starting with the mud-slinging in elections. What does one expect. Sad...

I am very disappointed that Mayor Newsome made the poor decisions he did. I had really hoped that he would have a great future in politics- as I agree with him on most things political. However- I do think a person's character does matter.

He's a dirt bag - sleeping with a FRIEND's wife - that's a NO NO !!!!!!!

Besides being incredibly boorish- the fact that the mayor had an affair with the wife of one of his buddies and employees shows an incredible level of hypocrisy (reacting in a morally superior way to the non-story of the SFPD video while having the affair)

Gavin's position on same sex marriage probably has more impact on any run for higher office than this matter. If alcohol is a problem- I am glad he is seeking help.

I think it has lessened my opinion about his character- but the fact that he admitted he made a mistake- also is a credit to his overall character.

I still wonder when Americans will be capable of distinguishing professional performance from personal events. Notwithstanding the opinions of his staff and colleagues- I worry more that they're are able to continue work professionally than the Mayor.

I don't think he should have had an affair with his friend's wife but thinking of Aaron Peskin stepping into his shoes makes me sick. I was born and raised in San Francisco and love the city.

Mr Newsome has a problem with alcohol. He is dealing with that problem. He will probably be a much better Mayor in the future. He had the guts to admit he made a mistake and ask for forgiveness. He didn't lie or steal. He will be fine.

As a World Citizen- a country- a state- and a city- we have much worse issues to worry about. The current White House resident should resign before Mayor Newsome! Why has there been no mention of the woman involved? She has the ability to say no- too.

I feel if someone is making very poor decisions in their personal life I would question their decision making in their private life. There is no way anyone can make great decisions in one without having it effect the other.

All the fuss over this subject is ridiculous. Who the mayor sleeps with is his own business not ours. Further- this happened 18 months ago. How he runs the city has no bearing on his sex life. Besides .. it takes two to tango.

I think the mayor's conduct is despicable. I once held him in high regard but now my personal opinion of him is tarnished.

While I think the Mayor has done an abmirable job in San Francisco- I for one am sick and tired of the sleeziness of male polititians. I am not a die hard"feminist"- but between the sexual antics in congress and now locally - I've had it!!!!

Gavin is human; he made mistakes and owned up to them- which is almost unheard of with politicians. Leave him alone and let him do his job.

It seems to me that this "affair" is an attempt to show that the Mayor is not gay. Any guy who marries a woman like Kimberly Guilfoyle who then moves to New York has something wrong with him. A married couple belong in bed together!

I wish American media would leave the private lives of politicians alone- as they do in some other places. Of course England is just as bad.

Affairs don't affect job performance. My opinion is- who cares- he had an affair. Move on.

What a disappointing example our local political leaders are right now. Ron Gonzalez in SJ having/denying an affair then marrying the 26-yr-old- now this-

Willie Brown's quotes in Newsweek about what's "ok" in San Francisco are really disappointing.

Much ado about nothing. San Francisco is the most liberal city in the U.S.A so what is the media fuss all about forget it.

So- Gavin is a human being. Whoopie . He has been honest about his errors. Its time to move on folks. You forgave Clinton for a lot worse. He has been and will continue to be a good mayor.

As a Mayor I have no problem with him Man to Man he is scum

The only reason this would have any effect on his ability to do his job is because you guys won't let it die. I don't really care about his personal life - like Clinton- if he's doing what we elected him to do- I don't care WHO he sleeps with.

This was consensual sex between two adults. What happens in their private lives should not be allowed to affect their professional lives as did Lewinsky to Clinton. The government needs to stay out of our bedrooms.

lighten up - this happens all the time

Mayor Newsom flaunts the law. He should have been impeached for blatantly violating the state constitution when he allowed the gay wedding ceremonies. With this scandal- he demonstrates bad judgement and an absence of ethical behavior.

I think that Mayor Newsom has done a great job- especially considering the board of Supes he has to deal with. An affair takes two willing people- less than that I believe is criminal behavior called some sort of rape. Another case of the media meddling

We are all human and our sexual drive some times impers ones thinking. If we were to judge everone by their sexual discretion we would not have anyone willing to run or hold any political office. Judge the person on their ability to run the government.

I admire Mayor Newsome for stepping up to the plate and admitting his indiscretions & problem with alcohol

I'm waiting to see how much alcohol had to do with this. Amazing lack of judgement for a person in control of themselves. Clinton did not bring his best friend's feelings into it He too has a problem. But it should not effect their ability to make decis.

While I am somewhat cynical about the "alcohol counseling" intervention- maybe this whole sordid mess will motivate him to take on the naysayers around him. The Skeletons are out of the closet- or are they???

sorry....I could care less about Gavin Newsom's escapades....I don't live in SF- and there is always way too much publicity about these kind of events....can we report real news (war in Iraq- the economy- global warming....you know- important stuff)

This is similar situation with President Clinton. It's a personal issue. it should not be linked to his ability to run the City of San Francisco.

While his relationship with the wife of his best friend was certainly inappropriate and does call into question his judgement- I am more concerned about his alcohol problem and how that is impacting his job.

This is San Francisco and we expect the unexpected.

People can do their job even when their personal life is in turmoil

President Clinton did far worse discretions and we forgave him. Believe that Gavon has lost some credibility but not enough to keep him out of office- think he is doing a good job for S.F. so far.

I think Mayor Newsom's actions are reprehensible both morally and because they involved the wife of a subordinate over whom Newsom has hire/fire power. Should have stayed with Sofia Milos- who was GREAT for his image.

The mayor made some poor choices. His lack of good judgment will- I believe- affect how he makes decisions in all parts of his life...including his job. I don't think the alcohol abuse can excuse what happened.

He needs to practice a little more discretion with whom he is with.

The man is an idiot but he's young enough to- hopefully- learn from his mistakes. Although given the example of George W Bush & cronies maybe no politician learns from their mistakes

Gavin is human. He came out quickly to confirm that he had had a relationship with this woman. I just don't know how he will afford to pay his newly resigned chief 15k monthly. I was surprised to hear about the amount of alcohol that is consumed at City Hall

The only fall out for Newsom seems to be that his going into rehab confirms his celebrity status. Many seem to question his sincerity in seeking help.

Seems all our politicians are prone to some degree of misbehavior. At least Gavin did a mea culpa rather than denial. I believe this is a personal matter- though such things to speak to character and should not go unnoticed.

This is a personal issue and has NOTHING to do with his job as mayor. We need to forget about it and move on.

People are human. with all the things going on in the world and the actual crimes other politicians have committed why are we jumping on this unimportant stuff. I do hope those who bring this up for debate live in glass houses themselves.

Once Newsom said he was seeking help for alcohol abuse he admitted that he no longer had control over his actions. A person in charge of a city should have control over his actions. He'll be reelected because most the citizens kiss his behind.

Its just politics as usual. You have come to expect that politicians are above everybody else and they made their own rules so they can do whatever they want to.

I think the most damaging aspect of all of this is his lack of maturity when dealing with the press. I think his press secretary is even more immature. Cracks are showing and they need to show a lot less hubris and a lot more humility.

He should be charged with sexual harrassment since the lady was working in his office.

I think Newsom made a mistake- but it takes two to tango. How about Ms Turk?

I feel bad for the mayor as this happens to quite a few people. Because he is the mayor he is scrutinized for being human and making a stupid mistake. I think the supervisors calling for his resignation should put their personal feelings aside.

He has done good job inspite of the Board of Supervisors.

I live in Santa Rosa- Ca I have no opion on San Franisico

He's a snake- a criminal. He should've been put in jail when he allowed gay marraiges when we voted to not allow it...why vote when morons like him are allowed to break the laws we want passed?

I commend Mayor Newsome for his candid admissions. He is human and what he has done is no worse (in fact- not half as bad) as what other politicians have done. There are two sides to every story and we have no right to judge Newsome w/o knowing everything

I think the media has blown this out of proportion. It was made public and the people involved need time to heal. Leave them to it.

Too many trying to create a tempest in a teapot!

Contrary to ethical relativism movement in the SF Bay Area- a peron's ethical charcater includes the total person not a professional and personal division. His actiions certainly call into question his character.

Like many other politicians- he has - on this occasion - displayed poor judgement in his personal life. We all make mistakes but most of us are lucky enough to be private citizens and therefore not subject to the same level of scrutiny. He's fine!

People who live in glass houses should not toss stones! Let Mayor Newsom deal with his personal issues in private.

Honor- virtue- integrity- ethics- courtesy. Politicians- most especially Democrats- don't know what these words mean- and they are tearing apart the fabric of this country.

Ms Rippy comes from this county. A lot of people are not surprised about her affair knowing her family's history. Shame the Mayor is taking all the heat. After all- it does take two to tango!

Who cares what he did outside the office. He still does a great job while he is in the office.

I feel Mayor Newsom genuinely cares about the city and its people. Unfortunately something like this happened. He is a very hot mayor and it's not surprising that a woman would come onto him and many men are weak in that it's nearly impossible.

These are his personal demons and he needs to address them. He appears to be a sharp politician- just didn't use common sense. So what if he has a few drinks? But fooling around with staff is a no no. Naughty boy!!!

Intimacy between two consenting adults is a private matter. Most politicians seem to weather this kind of public scrutiny and move on. As they say in New York- "forget-about-it!" and let him go about the business of being Mayor of San Francisco.

Gavin Newsom's personal life should remain personal. He continues to do a good job as mayor. We have serious issues to deal with in the world such as terrorism- global warming- lack of health care- homelessness. Let's focus on that.

While I am personally disgusted by the mayor's actions- I don't think the people of San Francisco will care. Since he seems to own the DA's office- I see no way that he will be brought up on charges of mis-conduct with an employee.

I'm sick of people going to rehab and saying they're sorry. Actions speak louder than words and although he was eloquent in his apology- I didn't think it was genuine. He should've had the integrity and moral conscience to behave accordingly.

I don't condone what he did- especially since it was a friend's wife; however- if he wasn't in the public eye (as many other politicians/celebrities are)- it would not have been out in the media.

Why is the sex life of a political figure so important? Why not look at the accomplishments in the office and not in bed? The US is a real pervert country while hiding behind all these so-called righteous issues. What a joke!

I am a typical woman - I don't care what he does in his free time. That said- I think his behavior is deplorable and this is a total embarrassment to San Francisco/San Franciscans (I am an SF native). I don't think he has a chance outside of SF.

Lack of loyalty serious character flaw. Some may grant leeway because of divorce trauma or alcohol problem but this will be difficult to overcome. Am not ready to say- though- that it's impossible so I give my "don't know" answers.

President Cleveland said that a public office is a sacred trust. The mayor is a morally bankrupt man who betrays those closest to him. He cannot help but betray the electorate. He shouldn't have that opportunity.

I was surprised had how stupid Gavin was.

My understanding was the married couple in question was separated at the time. I am a woman and we do not have the same unwritten code that men do about friends ex's. I don't approve; I can understand why his campaign manager quit- but it's no big deal.

PLEASE!!! Newsome did not do anything BAD. Those that want him to step down...look into their past. Do they drink? What do they do behind closed doors and in private. Who's calling the kettle black? Others have done FAR WORSE! PLEASE!

I think Dan Noyes has shown that he has it out for Newsom. I think his interviewing tactics cross the line. He doesn't interview he asks questions that he knows won't be answered and then follows with commentary remarks. I'm considering changing networks

He admitted it and did not issue a statement that he will later need to recant.

Never thought he was a great mayor- and no more "morally corrupt" previous mayors. However- I don't like him paying out of his campaign fund- and I don't like the way he hasn't confronted the police. fire- & security departments. Tamany Hall politician.

Having an affair with a married woman is bad enough- but having it with a friend's wife is disgusting. He should be kicked out of office.

This a SF issue- up here in the north bay no one I know cares one way or the other. It's his personal business. If he ran for a state wide position I'd vote for him

I wish Gavin Newsom the best of Luck Jim Smith

Business is Business&& Politics are Politics&.. and our Private lives should be our own! Poor John Kennedy would never have been reelected if people had known his private life and he had lived to run for a second term!

So he had an affair. That's nobody's business but the people directly involved. This only proves that he is only human- like the rest of us. Why doesn't the news report everybody's affairs....they'd have to lengthen thier broadcast/newspaper space.

I hope the press gives him a break. Let him take care of the issue- get into a solid recovery program- and move on.

I think that the private sexual life of a public figure should not effect their agenda- unless they are rallying against that act. If the act is imoral that is between the two parties- if it is illegal that's another story.

The man has done a wonderful job as Mayor of San Francisco. Why would you want to replace him? His personal life is just that- as are those of his constituents.

Politicians have affairs - sometimes messy affairs. It is the politicians who do not have affairs that I fear the most - for example dimbulbs like the lowlife liar currently in the White House or the very dim Dan Quayle. Mr. Bush is dangerous.

I feel that public officials should make an extra special effort to keep their private life clean and clear. Today- things like this are always discovered and can have a dangerous effect on the official. If your political career is important- stay clean

Mayor Newsom's private life is his own business. He is an excellent mayor- and I hope he will be our next Governor.

If Clinton could do it why not Gavin?

Newsoms acts were reprehensible. I am sure the City of San Francisco must have regulations about managers having affairs with subordinates. Most companies do. He should be punished by the city - whether it is firing- suspension- fines or whatever.

I'm sick of hearing about this!!!!!!!!!!

Politics aside- it takes a pretty morally devoid person to not only cheat with a married woman- but a FRIEND's wife. That is as low as it gets in my personal opinion and I would never ever trust nor be associated with someone capable of stooping that low.

Because Newsome appears to be honest about his "mistakes"- the public may forgive him. It would be the end of his political career if Newsome tried to denied the allegations that are true.

if the news media would drop this "NON STORY" it would go away never to be heard of again!!!

Consensual sex- whether it's with a friends wife or not is NONE OF MY DAMN BUSINESS!!!! Maybe if someone (I won't name names) got some on the side- we wouldn't be in the mess we are right now!! The greatest leaders have all been there- done that.

As a former San Francisco resident- it is very hard to understand how elected officials can continuously evade prosecution for having sexually relations with a subordinate. The mayor should be brought up on charges of sexual harrassment- even if consensual

People in political positions are supposed to be representing their constituents and should have higher morals than most and should work for the constituents lives- not their own personal agenda.

Who cares about the affair. It is just another distraction for those who need us to be distracted by something other than what they are doing that they shouldn't

be. The only people who care and probably won't let this die are his political opponents.

I think the press/media cares about this "scandal" far more than the public does.

I'm waiting to hear about more women he's fooled around with.

The San Francisco mayor must step down. He has corrupted the office of the mayor.

Have you ever noticed IQ tests don't measure your ability to tell right from wrong? I never liked the Mayor of San Francisco. The Mayor is a disgrace. Amorality is a state of mind.

I really couldn't care less what they do up in San Francisco- it has little impact on the south-bay and for me it is unimportant. Having said that- I think that Newsom will get away with whatever sleazy activities he pursues since he's a Democrat.

It shows a lack of good judgement.

I think Mr. Newsoms personal life should remain his Personal Life. As long as he does a good job for San Francisco that should be what counts. I think the media has blown this way out of proportion. Also- Doesn't the woman own any of this? He didn't rape her

Mayor Newsom should be ashamed of himself for the affair. If he worked in the private sector- he would have been fired for abuse of power with a person who worked for him. And to have an affair with a friend's wife is inexcusable. SF deserves better!

I think he should resign- but in today's political world this type of behavior is tolerated everyday everywhere- so he will probably come out looking like a rose

His personal life would have no bearing on his performance as a government leader if his performance was ethical. That whole bs with Annemarie Conroy and other people that he has appointed is not right.

The only way this will impact his ability to do his job is if the board starts playing games.

He is a public disgrace and has set another tone of immorality like Bill Clinton. He needs to be publicly dishonored but San Francisco will never do that.

Yes. He had a lapse- a big lapse in judgment. But I still think that given a rational board of supervisors he could do the job for San Francisco that he wants to do. THEY are the problem- not Gavin.

I think that the reality of having "real people" in office is a risk that we as voters take. The day you get "perfect moral" people in office- you will have no room for real life as it happens to be taken into consideration. getting the job done counts.

His behavior was sleazy. But- we've come to accept that in our politicians... I've lost respect for him not because of the affair but because he tried to buy his way out of guilt. Paying the guy for screwing his wife? We have attained a new low folks.

I don't see the relevance between Mayor Newsom's affair and his ability to act as Mayor of a large City. This is a private matter and should remain separate from his job.

I think that it is disgusting for Mayor Newsom to have an affair with the wife of a close co-worker. Gavin Newsom should have resigned immediately . What kind of example does he set for our future leaders. Shame on him!

I have great respect for Mr. Newsom and his political conduct. I do not really care about his private life- and regret that he even commented about it at all.

Mr Newsome has breached public trust and as for his blaming an alcohol for his problems- that seems to be the cop out most public people seem to be using. It is a cop out for not taking responsibility for your actions. Bad- bad!!

Of course he was screwing some woman. Married? Not my problem. But an immediate employee- married to his close friend and associate? That's sleazy

It is good news that a prominent public person steps forward and discusses his problems and then promptly deals with them.

Newsome has been somewhat diminished in my mind by this revelation- because he damaged a friend. He shouldn't have continued an affair. I nevertheless respect his stands and readiness to lead.

What Mayor Newsome does in private should stay private. People should stay out of his business. It takes two to tango.

He continues to do a great job- and that is all that should be considered

I think this is a personal situation and shouldn't be aired publicly.

Although I don't agree with the liberal politics of the mayors office- I believe there will be little effect on Newsom's ability to get re-elected. I was disappointed to hear he was "entering rehab". There is a little to "hollywood" for my taste.

I am saddened for what he did- but i think he is a good politician and wants to do good

The Mayor's private life should be left PRIVATE - we do not need to know what he does with his free time as long as he is not breaking any laws!

What he did was despicable. He should be flogged! He is a liar & untrustworthy by even close associates. But- liar & lousy excuse for a friend & homewrecker isn't a crime & doesn't rate resignation. But- hopefully- his political career is over!!!!

I think that these revelations will hurt him some with some people- but it will probably blow over like it usually does. I imagine most guys won't think it's a big deal I hope he really changes for the better in his life

D.Noyes needs to lighten up on Newsom. He just dogs the mayor. I believe the mayor is genuinely trying to do the right thing & to think outside the box to remedy problems. Newsom's lapse of judgement during a difficult time in his private life should not

This is- of course- a personal matter but is indicative of the poor ethical standards of many politicians--blaming it on alcoholism and then getting only cursory counseling is a poor strategy to attempting damage control.

Whatever Gavin Newsom does in bed has nothing to do with his performance as Mayor. Unfortunately- because of people's skewed views- he probably will be drummed out- to the detriment of SF/California. If anything- I admire him more for being open & honest.

Although this is a personal matter for the mayor- it does display his character and will affect his future election bids.

I think people in prominent positions should be held accountable for their indiscretions as much or more than the general population. If they "cheat" on friends and family then they would not hesitate to "cheat" on the public.

Personal messes should stay personal. He fessed up to doing his friend wrong - get over it - get back to work!

Mayor Newsom's personal life is just that...his personal life.

I find it alarming how little regard the public seems to have for the sanctity of marriage. Newsom and his wife divorced because their careers took priority. Then he has an affair with his campaign manager's wife. How smarmy can you get? Who can you trust?

Who cares?

I seem to remember both Giuliani (R) of New York City and Gonzalez (D) San Jose both were stuffing a woman during their first term as mayor. They both eventually (divorced?) and married their strumpet and then were re-elected. Now if Mayor Nuisance appears

I am very disappointed in the tabloid type journalism abc7 is showing on this.

Please spend this much effort on investigating local govt issues that matter such as why SF motorcycle police officers issue fewer tickets per day than comparable cities.

Democrats seem to self-destruct around sexual matters- while Republicans seem to do the same around graft/ corruption-and circumventing the constitution whenever and/or wherever convenient for their purposes. Sexual indiscretion around here? no prob

Ironically- whether he can keep the 49ers in SF may have more to do with his re-electability than his affair. I did dislike his "excuse" that he needed rehab.

I think his immediately admitting to his behavior and poor judgment will serve him well if he chooses to continue his political career. Having betrayed a friend may have more adverse impact than the affair.

It is interesting that for those who have little or no moral values actions like an affair don't mean anything to them or the voters. Others with values having a problem like this- then everyone comes down hard on them instead of offering forgiving them.

This just puts him in the same category as Bill Clinton and John F. Kennedy!

The aide he had an affair with is mostly guilty as she was married and Newsome wasn't. He made a bad choice- but I think this will never happen again. The mayor is human- but he didn't start a bogus war killing many. I still respect and support Mayor

Mayor Newsome made a mistake but he should be treated like a human being. Phil Matier was offbase reporting on this. It is not in the public interest to villify politicians for their private lives. Let's put some compassion into politics.

People seem to forget that it took two people to enter into that affair. Also- his alcoholism didn't affect his job performance - there was never an implicaiton that he was ever drunk during working hours.

Politicians are human also look at Clinton in the White House - his popularity hasn't gone gone with the Monica case.

What I've always liked about Gavin Newsom was his ability to answer questions honestly and not sound like a politician. He is human. He made a mistake. I'm sure he feels badly about it. End of story. (or should be)

Who Cares as long as he does a good job. All politiciations do these kind of things. as long as he does not embezzal from the city or get rich by taking kick backs who really cares.

We could ALL use a 12 step Program!

Politics = power- sex- corruption. What else is new?

Mayor Newsome's future will be determined by how he approaches his recovery process- from the scandal- and from alcohol abuse. If he is honest about it- he will be forgiven and supported for continued public leadership.

Just like with Bill Clinton- this news has become fodder for those who disliked him in the first place. The mayor's personal mistakes should not affect his political career- but will as long as his enemies insist on keeping this issue in the news.

This guy has hit a new low- just when I believed the Demos could go no lower!

I strongly feel that Mr. Newsom's private life is just that -- private. As long as it does not change the way he does his job- then no one has anything to say about it.

Makes me wonder if his unresponsiveness to attend council meetings is a thoroughly considered political decision (I used to think this); or if Mr. Newsom is too "scattered" because of his personal challenges and how difficult he finds governing to be.

Shame on Mayor Newsom. I thought he was bright and strong enough to resist anything that may distinguish the public's trust in his judgement. Unfortunately- this type of behavior seems to be the norm lately. What next.....

There r many more important issues than THIS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

I can't condemn him for falling for someone who works close to him. I can have less of an opinion of him for acting on it. But that shouldn't effect how he does his job. Was he doing a poor job before anyone knew this was happening? I don't think so.

We moved away from SF because of the politics in that city where we have lived most of our lives. It has changed negatively to the point of ridicule in the rest of the country. SHAME.....beautiful city!!!!

Because of what he did I feel he does not have good judgement and he is self centered. These are not good qualities for someone in an elected position.

Mr. Newsom should explore Polyamory. And leave the serial monogamists alone.

I think he is a great guy who is human and young-- he messed up - like who hasn't? I think he should take some time out to regroup himself. His frank admission to the affair and to his drinking problems are in his favor- as well as his apologies.

I am sick of tired of the talk about the affair. People should be interested in the topics that matter and are of actual importance . . .education/school closures- homelessness . . .

Our moral standarts-especially our leaders-are no longer exist. It is not fair to pick on the mayor. Even some of our presidents did that too-and got away with it. May be we should change our expectations.

The fault doesn't lie with Newsome as much as societies' current mistaken belief that humans are monogomous animals. As a general rule- the lifetime- monogomous Christian ideal marriage is a promise that humans are incapable of keeping. Get a clue folks

The news media makes too much out of the moral failings of our elected offiicials. It should be reported and let die. I am sure the ones doing the story have a hidden part of their lives.

The mayor is a typical sleezeball politician. The fact that the mayor is paying 15K/month to his ex-campaign manager is indicative of his low morals.

It seems like Mayor Newsom is doing a far superior job compared to other recent mayors- despite his personal issues. I think he should be given a chance to put these behind him. Where is the forgiveness we're supposed to afford others?

The whole thing has been blown way out of proportion - it's his private business.

A person's private life should not interfere with their public life and duties.

He should be ashamed of himself to have done this. His betrayal of the friendship with the husband(can't remember his name) won't be fixed. He should do some deep thinking about ethics & morality. Life has to have some guidelines.

Why I do not condone what he did I am not sure how that impacts his ability to run a city anymore then it has in the time since this happened? I mean we all thought he was doing a great job last month?

We have a President who wrecklessly leading our country to economic disaster- lied about Iraq- lies continueally about Iraq and now is fanning the IRAq lies with Iran- and we're worried that Gavin slept with another person who was the wife of a staffer?

The Mayor's personal struggles have not affected his performance as Mayor of San Francisco. He should be re-elected and the media should leave him and the Tourk's alone to cope.

We live in an age of public scrutiny- spurred on by the ever increasing impact of print- digital- and broadcast media. Gavin Newsom's missteps as mayor have cast him as an arrogant buffoon- not to be taken seriously by his constituency.

His poor judgment provides conservatives with anti-liberal ammunition: serving alcohol to underage evening companions- sleeping with the wives of subordinates- holding gay marriages during an election year.

If Gavin Newsom would have an affair with a friend's wife- in what other unkind-dishonest and possibly illegal act would he engage? I no longer trust him.

Once again it's just a ublic figure's private shortcomings. He's human afterall. If he can keep his alcoholism under control- there should be no future difficulties for him.

First his private life should not be our business. Second the affair was alomst 2 years ago and was already over. Third the woman in question was the one breaking marraige vows as he was unmarried.

The affair isn't surprising but it was the betrayal of a friend and confidant that is troublesome.

This puerile titillating preoccupation with other peoples sex lives that the media stimulates and sustains is just simply getting tiresome and oh-so old. Can't we all just... grow up?

He's not the first and won't be the last politician caught in a sexual scandal. It has lowered my opinion of him- but the public has a very short memory.

the media blows things out of proportion - too bad our political officials can't have their human mistakes in private --

While it's always disturbing to see a public figure fall from grace- as long as the mayor's job performance doesn't suffer I'd rather not know about his personal life. I'm sick and tired of the cult of personality. I want news not idolatry!

he admitted it and said he's sorry!!!!!! what else should him do? and as for mayor- i think he is doing a good job!!! with rudy guiliani- for president. it is another story. he strayed from wife to wife (3x) . don't even run you sob!!

Actually- it depends on how he acts with his alcohol abuse. If he follows through- as I think he will- I will vote for him.

I think it's beyond ridiculous for the public to be completely consumed with tales of public figures' sexual escapades with other consenting adults. I was disgusted with the SF Chronicle for making Mayor Newsom's sexual behavior front page news.

The problem for me is not adultery - "everybody does it". But with betraying a friend

While I feel it was a breach of friendship - I feel it is a personal problem- and we should butt out- the more he is harassed re: the issue- the more time is taken away from his job- running this city. I didn't vote for him the 1st time but I would now.

This affair says more about him as a man with a lack of personal character and morality than as a politician; politicians are seldom affected anymore due to these failings. Unfortunately- lack of character has little impact in any aspect of life anymore

How can the mayor have an affair with an employee - my company would fire him - how can he still be in office?

I think he did the best thing in terms of damage control. Too bad Clinton could not have taken a lesson and just fessed up immediately also. It is deception that gets people into trouble.

I feel that all officials should live an exemplary life- because of their position. If we can't trust them to be honest and upright- we can't trust their leadership.

It seems that if you are in office and do something terrible- you can just go to rehab and everything is fine. A bunch of crap that is

I marked one incorrectly. I don't think it will affect his ability to do his job. I do however think it was a really stupid thing to do with his secretary and his friends wife and he should be very careful not to blame his actions on alcohol.

There are more important issues- like Bush & the Republican's corrupt members. Now that they are out of office they are squealing like pigs about everything- Who cares if Madam speaker uses a Jumbo Jet which she did not ask for!

As with the Clinton scandal- my opinion is that what they do in the social/moral arena does not affect the job they do during the day as politicians- and I sure wish we had handled the Clinton scandal better because then we wouldn't be in this war.

I do not care for Gavin Newsom. He has no understanding of homelessness issues- and great willingness to exploit the residentially-challenged to further his career. But anyone else will be no better or some worse- and he's allowed to be human.

Personal issues should not impact his job...just look at President Clinton What is the greater tragedy is that so many people seem think that what a person does in their personal life shouldn't matter (back to Bill Clinton again)- as if that is not even more telling of the character and values of the individual!

Mayor Newsome made a very big mistake - one that a lot of men and women make. Unfortunately for politicians it was discovered and used in the media as a headline. The families suffer when this happens and depending on how it is handled his career too.

In Calif- we are more liberal. But to run outside of Calif. He would have a hard time. It will depends on how the media blows it up.

I think that- were general undisclosed political corruption to be exposed- Mayor Newsom would come out looking like a choir boy.

People should be concerned about the job he is doing as mayor and not about his personal life and his private affairs.

I forget that the chronicle is now a Hearst paper-
coverage is shameful--not our business

mr.newsom is a good man and a true patriotic american who made a simple mistake. forgive and forget!

By showing he is lacking in personal integrity- loyalty to a friend and a general disrespect for public morality- I don't think he differs substantially from most other politicians.

I forgave what Mr. Clinton did and at that- that should have been an example for all other politicians on how they should conduct themselves while in any office. I don't forgive the rest after that.

I think his biggest mistake was announcing the "drinking problem" and that he is going to go thru counseling for this. Bluntly- it was a very stupid move and that will hurt him more than the affair.

Not a Newsom supporter ... but the media - as usual- is fanning the flames.

San Francisco- being what it currently is- would reelect the mayor regardless because they do not have a moral or ethical standard to show them otherwise.

I'm so sick of the bedroom police that I don't even listen to this garbage any more. There are far bigger concerns in government than who sleeps with who.

Give Gavin Newsom a little space. He is not the first mayor who has had an affair nor the first mayor who has a drinking problem.

It just shows he's human like the rest of us . None of us are without sins.

What Mayor Newsom does in his private life is his business and no one else's!

I believe that politicians are people- just like everyone else. They make mistakes. He took responsibility and acted appropriately as it all unfolded. I don't need more than that from any politician.

I was saddened to read of Mr Newsom problems- but I have to admire the fact that he did not lie- he was straight forward with the facts. I still think he is a very sincere person- trying to help all peoples of the city

A public official- when he/she accepts such a positio- accepts the increased responsibility and standards of conduct that go along with it. People make mistakes. Public officiials- however- cannot have "situational morality:"

As with Bush- voters don't seem to care about competence and qualifications. If the candidate visually looks like someone desirable to sit down and have a beer with- that's good enough for at least 51% of the voters.

WHY IS IT SOME POLITICIANS GET A PASS AND OTHERS DON'T- WHEN "SCANDALS" APPEAR. IT APPEARS GAVIN WILL GET A PASS AND THATS WRONG. IN MY OPINION HE SHOULD BACK OUT OF POLITICS ALL TOGETHER- FOR WHAT HE HAS DONE IS A LOT WORSE THAT OTHER WHO GOT THE BOOT!

I do comend Mr. newsome for coming forward quickly & promptly dealing w/ the matters afftecting his personal life & focussing on his job. I'm not so suprised by the news since it seems to be more then common for politicians to be doing this.

Time to move on to some real issue

This happened between two consenting adults. It was a poor decision/choice on his part and something he will have to live with. It is really nobody's business but the parties involved. SF has enough REAL problems to deal with. People- let it go.

What Mayor Newsome does with his lower anatomy has little to no affect in how he uses his upper anatomy (brain) and influence/personality to get things accomplished for the City of San Francisco. On this item alone- he should not be judged.

I wish that the media would pay more attention to a politician's public activities and not his private affairs.

It is too bad that each election gives one not much choice. It is a case of voting for the lesser evil.

This event with the mayor speaks to his moral compass. I am sure he will be re-elected because he represents an immoral city who believes who you sleep with makes no difference outside of the bedroom. As you can see- it clearly does.

If he were a Republican- he would be hounded out of office by the news media- but because he is a Dem he is treated like a Celebrity for such actions. What an incredible Double Standard you in the media have based solely on one's Party Affiliation.

It seems to me that issues such as this- which are personal- have no bearing on the person's ability to do the job. The only drawback is the noise made by those who are out to replace him anyway. Or- as in the case of Foley- the hypocrisy would exclude

Mr. Newsom is human. I am disappointed in the media giving supervisor McGoldrick so much exposure in this matter. I am also disappointed in the Mayor for being involved with co-workers...

I don't care if he is the mayor of Baybalon by the sea. His showing up drunk after an officer was fatally killed and his office tried to dismiss the action is the not the actions of a responsible person