



Letters

Mr. Horton replies

The Justice Department, the CIA, the FBI and the White House could certainly bear closer scrutiny and more stringent regulation. But, on balance, it would seem that the important and necessary functions they perform (aside from the possible fostering of criminal activity as evidenced by the Watergate disclosures) would exclude their abolition as a viable solution to these problems. In any case, they are, unfortunately, outside my jurisdiction.

On the other hand, it is my opinion that in applying a similar balancing test to "body shops" in Lane County, the important social need they might serve is greatly outweighed by the need for county-wide uniformity of legislation and the protection of the public welfare from criminal acts of violence that have already occurred and may be repeated in the future. These are not the kinds of acts that easily lend themselves to regulation.

The proposed ordinance was sent to the County Commissioners on my recommendation, but only they may vote it into law. A public hearing will be held May 30, 1973, and I would recommend your appearing before the Commissioners at that time.

While I disagree with your conclusions, I do concur that a public airing of your views would be in order.

Very truly yours,

J. Pat Horton
District Attorney

Note: The above letter from Mr. Horton is in response to a letter written by John Mighell and published in last week's Emerald.

A higher priority?

Recently it was recommended that ASUO funding of the Daycare Center be eliminated. The executive department of the ASUO has reportedly been against the funding; however, it appears that alternative uses for the money have as yet not been proposed. Could it be that a higher priority item has usurped the allocation of funds for childcare? If so, what is this priority? Should single fathers, mothers, and married parents be placed in educational jeopardy due to a reallocating of funds?

A petition was circulated in support of the Daycare Center funding. About 1500 students showed their support. The Incidental Fee Committee must now vote for or against this petition. I have been wondering how open this vote will be. I personally would like to see the published results and dissenting decisions, if any, of Randy Shilts, Gloria Gonzalez, Gail Hoffnagle, Jeff Jefferson, and Emmanuel Hernandez. In our past election the total number of students who voted was 2002. Mr. Shilts, chairman of the committee, was voted in by 545 votes.

While I was circulating the petition, Oregon Daily Emerald

numerous students asked how much support individual parents pay for daycare. Presently we function on ability to pay, with a sliding scale—1-3 of our money is from ASUO, 2-3 from the federal government. I pay \$77 per month, which is the average cost of other daycare facilities in the Eugene area.

If the ASUO Child Care Center is closed due to the committee's decision, 133 students will be affected, not to mention the husbands and wives of many of these. It will also have a profound effect upon the ESCAPE program, which utilizes the facilities of the center. As a single father, I will have to find another childcare center for my daughter, who is 2½, and disrupt her life.

John F. McEvoy
Grad. CSPA

Two for Daycare

We are students involved in the ASUO Daycare Program who have received practicum experience through the Escape Program. We both feel that the opportunity to work with preschool is possibly the most significantly rewarding experience we have had in our four years of college.

Tutorial programs, enabling college students to experience children rather than read about them, cannot be phased out of the educational process if it is to be a viable part of teacher education.

The elimination of ASUO funding for the Daycare Center will force it to close. This will have disastrous consequences for student parents, and will also eliminate a valid educational experience for the University community.

We strongly object to this absence of human consideration for student parents, their children, and the students of this University.

Lynda M. Mason
Senior, Psychology

Debbie Levin
Senior, Education

Parent for Daycare

I am a single mother and a full-time student using the ASUO Child Care & Development Center. At present, I am enrolled in 18 hours of classes, work 10 hours a week, and care for my 3½ year-old daughter.

My daughter has been in the center for a year, and I plan to graduate next June, if she is able to continue in a daycare center where she is happy and well-cared for. The ASUO Daycare Center is a positive, caring place for my daughter to be during the time I am in school.

Naturally, as a parent and as a person who appreciates the high quality of the ASUO Child Care and Development Center, I was shocked and unhappy to hear that allocations of incidental fees for the center are in jeopardy. I know that the majority of students are willing to fund

daycare. In the Incidental Fee elections, 65 per cent of the students supported daycare. In the past two days, we collected about 1500 signatures on a petition protesting the Executive recommendation of no funding for daycare. I myself gathered many of these signatures. In two hours of walking around the EMU talking to people and asking for their support, I had only five refusals. I got about 120 signatures during that time. If I did not have other responsibilities and could spend more time collecting signatures, I know I could collect many more. In a joint effort, parents and staff at the Center collected about 1500 signatures in about 1½-2 days. It is apparent that a majority of the students support daycare.

One alternative suggested by some people is that the parents who currently use the daycare center, use the drop-in center, a proposed addition to the new EMU building. This suggestion can only come from people who have never been parents or been involved in Daycare. The idea of a drop-in center for mothers who want to attend one class or occasionally sit in on lectures or special programs is very good. But it is impractical and in fact impossible for a parent to enroll full time in classes when there is always a doubt whether there will be room for the child at the drop-in center from day to day. I myself would not subject my child to the chaotic kind of existence that would be involved in a situation where she would be left with a different set of children every day, not knowing anyone or having any sense of continuity in her daily experiences. Children need some consistency in their lives. Our children are exposed to enough uncertainty already.

We know the students are willing to support us. The question is: will the Incidental Fee Committee and the Executive uphold the wishes of the majority of concerned (voting) students. The future of 100 present student-parents and many potential parents who are now students hangs upon this question. I can understand Richard Nixon turning against daycare after his election. I will not believe that this could happen at our own University.

Mary M. Gillan
Junior, English

For daycare

I think the ASUO Daycare Center should be given financial support from the student incidental fund for the following reasons:

1. Students should decide where their money is to be spent; 65 per cent of the students who stated a preference for funding of student-related activities chose the childcare center, second only in per cent support to the student union.

2. I think the fees should be allocated according to need (as long as the needy are students). The Child Care Center and its users are in need; without ASUO funds it cannot get matching funds and will thus be in financial straits. Those who use the center cannot afford to pay for daycare, those who are poor.

3. The drop-in center, alleged by some a

substitute for a child care center, is in fact designed to help those who come to school for an occasional (though perhaps serious) lecture, not those who go to school full time. Even if it were free to those who could not afford to pay, (which it won't be, probably,) the services would not always be available, as it could fill up quickly at certain times.

Steve Ramey
Grad. Lib.

Sigmund suffers

There's something exhilarating about high places. I think it's the view. People will flock to a mountain-top, the edge of a cliff, or the top floor of a building, all for the purpose of staring down at the world. It's a great ego trip; I've found it to be so myself, and so I wasn't surprised to find my friend, Sigmund New, sitting in the sun on the roof of his house one day.

"Nice view?" I called up to him.

"No, no," he said. "I have no time to enjoy the view, I'm working."

Sigmund didn't look like he was working. He had a beer in one hand and a funny-looking cigarette in the other, and I wondered why he even needed the roof; he seemed high enough already.

"What work are you doing?" I asked.

"I'm sitting up here to raise funds," he answered. "You see, people will contribute money to a charitable organization if they find out that others are interested in it and think it's worthwhile."

"How are you showing it to be worthwhile?"

"We're suffering!" he said proudly. "It's very dramatic. We're showing the world that we care enough to sit out here on the roof where our beer can get warm!"

"But why should you have to suffer?" I asked in my innocence.

Sigmund was shocked. "Don't you understand?" he said, "This relates all the way back to the capitalist ethic. People won't give to a charity unless they feel they're getting something in return — a tax deduction or a pound of flesh. It's the American way."

"And so what are you doing?"

"I'm bleeding."

"But aren't there more useful ways to suffer? Why not organize a crew to clean up litter in the city, or start a community drive to BRING back all the things that can be recycled? Wouldn't then people think it's worthwhile?"

"That sounds like work," he said, trying to ponder it out, "more work even than marching for dimes. I don't think that would be much fun at all."

"You're probably right," I said. "Well, enjoy the view."

"No, no," he insisted as I walked away, "I'm suffering."

John M. Mighell
P. Science