

## Bill protects privacy in hiring practices

House Bill 2325 proposes an amendment to the equal opportunity employment laws in Oregon. It seeks to add sexual orientation to the list of qualities an employer cannot discriminate against when hiring. This addition will help maintain the right to privacy for individuals seeking employment.

This bill commonly is referred to as the "gay rights bill," but that is a misleading phrase. The legislation would protect everyone, not just homosexuals, from being denied a job specifically because of sexual preferences.

Nonetheless, opposition to the bill comes from those worried that it will acknowledge homosexuality as acceptable behavior. But this is not the point.

The bill addresses the issue of privacy. It specifically forbids an employer from asking about an applicant's sexual background and denying him/her a job because of it. Similar restrictions apply to businesses selling, renting or leasing goods.

Current Oregon laws protect individuals from being denied jobs on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, marital status, national origin, age or handicap. The proposed legislation would add sexual orientation, which is limited to heterosexuality, homosexuality or bisexuality, to the list.

This is an equal rights bill proposed to reduce hiring discrimination in all aspects. Because it is an extension of everyone's civil liberties and right to privacy, it should be supported.

## War criminals deserve strongest arm of the law

Accused Nazi criminal Klaus Barbie mocked the French court he was in Tuesday when he referred to the proceedings as the Nuremberg trials. He claimed he was innocent because he was only following orders.

This statement shines a warped ray of light on a man once convicted of war crimes and currently on trial for crimes against humanity. Barbie does not deny who he is, and hundreds of people have agreed to testify to the crimes and torture he committed.

Nonetheless, Barbie will not take responsibility for his actions. He says that because he was following orders, it was not his fault, and he should not be punished. But he is guilty, and by refusing responsibility, his immoral character is apparent.

In a sad statement on American values, Barbie was hired by the U.S. Army Counter Intelligence Corps after the war. The United States gave him a new identity and a job in South America.

The United States should never have helped Barbie. But because it is too late to correct that mistake, the United States should do what it can to help the French convict him.

Barbie's actions are inexcusable. He should be convicted without reservation.



## Letters

### Be responsible

Promiscuous heterosexuals and homosexuals threatened by AIDS, and abortion-on-demand backers — what common thread ties them together?

Plain and simple — it's personal irresponsibility.

As spawned of liberal "if-it-feels-good-do-it" underpinnings, they proudly and militantly demand to do whatever they want, whenever they want, with whomever they want — all with no concern for the social, financial or emotional consequences to them or anyone else.

And when those consequences manifest themselves (and they inevitably do) with VD, AIDS or unwanted pregnancy, then suddenly it becomes society's (i.e., responsible taxpayers) duty to bail them out.

They recklessly engage in "high-risk" sex, and then they demand the massive costs of their medical care to be provided by others. They demand contraceptives to be provided by others, and when those fail (and they do) or aren't used, then they demand the right to kill their unborn to be provided by others.

But here's the tragic bottom-line irony: There is no bail-out for AIDS. And there is no bail-out for the remorse caused by

killing your own offspring.

It needs to be said: Promiscuous "safe-sex" is not responsible sex — nor, in fact, is it safe. Be responsible. That plainly means — save it for your spouse (or future spouse).

Jon Wollander  
Eugene

### Crack down

Besides reading, 'riting and 'rithmetic, the 4-J teachers can add rioting to the basic R's of learning.

The strike may be over, but the pain and suffering the union teachers physically inflicted on innocent human beings should not be forgotten.

Jail terms are in order for those fanatics who diligently and purposely abuse society's norms — whether it be Silas T. Bissel, Charles Manson or the 4-J striking teachers.

The teachers' behavior was similar to that of a drunken mob on a witch hunt.

In the future, if such violence breaks out again, let's hope the police and courts crack down on such despots and treat them like the criminals they are.

Dan Goulet  
Political science

### Winners

To Kasey Brooks and others who scoffed at the Levinson/Ball campaign — a short history lesson.

Imagine taking on the British, the world's most powerful nation in the 18th century, being optimistic enough to even consider the merging of 13 diverse

and economically competitive states into one nation, fighting the War of 1812 against insuperable odds, the luck of Napoleon's needing funds and the resultant Louisiana Purchase, the hardiness of settling the frontier, the bonanza of California's annexation, the odds against preserving the Union in the Civil War when faced with the militantly superior forces of the South, the gamble of successfully assimilating millions of immigrants — the most diverse elements of humanity, and the incredible victories in two world wars.

Even Columbus himself was one of history's greatest gamblers — an Italian explorer betting on finding the East by sailing west in three ships; financing the whole shaky enterprise by a loan secured by a Spanish queen's jewels.

Then realize that no one in the history of the University, or Oregon for that matter, has spent more on a student presidential election than the Levinson/Ball campaign.

I am still trying to verify the national record. Not only did "The People's Choice" surpass the record for advertising in the Emerald, but for all student publications throughout the state and possibly nationwide.

The lesson seems clear — America is not only a nation of gamblers, it is a nation of winners.

As Phil and Robert's campaign manager, I should know.

Charles Carter  
Former president  
and state co-chairman  
Oregon Student Council to the  
state superintendent  
of education

## Oregon Daily Emerald

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published Monday through Friday except during exam week and vacations by the Oregon Daily Emerald Publishing Co., at the University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon, 97403.

The Emerald operates independently of the University with offices on the third floor of the Erb Memorial Union and is a member of the Associated Press.

The Emerald is private property. The unlawful removal or use of papers is prosecutable by law.

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