

**LETTERS**

**Yo-yo**

Two recent letters to the *Emerald* by members of the Oregon Citizens Alliance (ODE, June 28) are fine examples of a trend that is as consistent in our history as the passing of Halley's Comet. This trend is the pendulous swing of the moral weather vane over time.

We humans spout the doctrine of, "If we don't learn from the past, then we are doomed to repeat it." Our moral progression isn't linear forward, however. It is similar to a yo-yo action, with progress inevitably being snapped back up to the place from which we started.

The losers in this exchange, beside the human population as a whole, are those who are somehow different from the people holding the end of the string. If we look around today this scenario is being played out across this country, but most notably in our own backyard.

If we ever wish to break this monotonous loop of reactionary blame, near-sighted finger-pointing and one-stop easy-cure moral legislation, then the answer is not to go trolling for conflict in the letters to the editor section of the *Emerald*.

The answer lies in a simple solution. We, as supposedly civilized human beings, need to share a dialogue in which our root fears and concerns are discussed in a calm forum away from the Sally Jesse yell-fest.

We need to be open to feel what those who would oppose us feel. We need to stop this cycle of either/or mentality or else our valuable human energy will be exhausted and all we'll have to show for it is ugly human petroglyphs of broken-record, red-faced antagonism.

**John Gordon**  
Pre-Business Administration

**Think about it**

Thinking about adopting a pet? Wait a minute. Do you know where you will be in two years? Three years? Twelve years? Will your pet still be able to live with you? Pets are too faithful and loving to be merely rented while it's convenient. Owning a pet needs to be a lifelong commitment.

Other issues to consider: Are your roommates allergic to pets? Are the costs of veterinary care and food within your means? Too many animals are left at the humane society or abandoned as strays because such concerns weren't addressed when the pet

was adopted.

And when you decide to become a pet owner, please adopt from the humane society. By adopting from an animal shelter, you will be saving a life.

Finally, neuter or spay your pets. Almost 8,000 puppies, kittens, dogs and cats were killed in Lane County in 1991 because there weren't enough homes for them all. More than 12 million die nationwide annually.

Pet overpopulation is a serious problem in our community and country, and each of us can significantly help end this problem by neutering or spaying our pets. Please take these suggestions to heart.

**Blake Stehling**  
Spanish

**If it were you**

I am writing in response to the June 28 letters by OCA representatives, "Agenda" and "Disgrace."

To Merle Pacewicz: Sir, I agree with much of the argument you present, but it seems to have one major flaw. You claim that the OCA initiative does not jeopardize a person's right to work based on their sexuality, which you say is "non-job related," but you also assert that a Jewish delicatessen owner must have the right to screen employees who are "unclean." Well, granted.

But herein lies the problem; one person's rights end where another person's begin. Whose concerns should take precedence?

To L. Miller: I regard your comments as little more than a hateful agenda with a modicum of consideration for the real issue. It has been my experience that homosexuals and lesbians do not want special rights; they simply want the same right you and I have to do their job without being fired or harassed. If people were discriminated against for hate speech rather than "the practices ... in the bedroom," perhaps it would be you who would be fighting for special treatment.

**James McClintock**  
Eugene

**Thankful**

Concerning the editorial of July 5, I ask you: What is this crap? You are apparently very ungrateful for everything this nation has done for you.

No, I'm not some conservative, God-fearing hick from

Springfield, but a Darwinian. I fear the attitude that our government is some cold-hearted (and unjustified) oppressor. Our government is far from creating a world utopia. With that in mind, I will be right there supporting U.S. imperialism, especially when the world population explodes to 10 billion and beyond. When it comes down to survival, oppression will not even be an issue anymore. I, at least, am thankful for what this nation has given me.

**Todd Helton**  
Humanities

**Compassion**

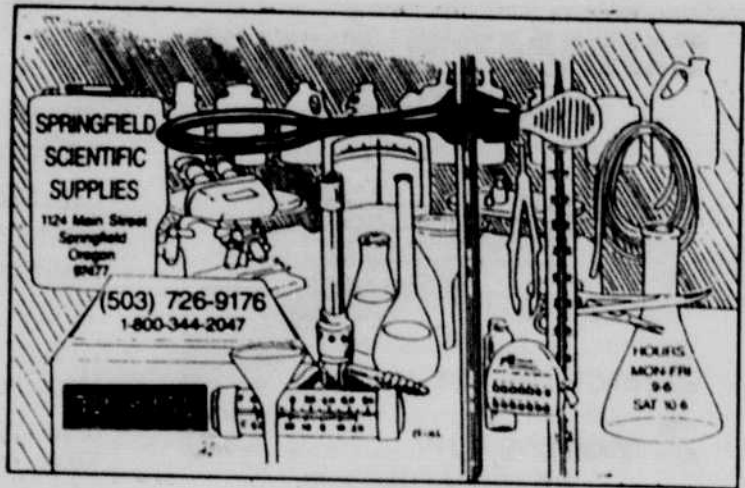
A genuinely compassionate society does not pass laws or policies sanctioning homosexuality as good or healthy. Promotion of homosexuality directly conflicts with the laws of nature. Natural law is superior to all law. Contradictory human reasoning has no validity. Natural law is right reason in agreement with nature. Natural law is universal, unchangeable and everlasting.

The Declaration of Independence recognizes our inalienable rights as being derived from the laws of nature of nature's God. Our Creator laid down certain unalterable laws of nature as a basis in establishing rules to govern ourselves. These laws, in agreement with nature, are for promoting the general welfare of all society's members.

Natural law separates man from animal by recognizing man's ability to reason. Right reason, in agreement with nature, fully developed and perfected, is called wisdom. When applied by government, it's called justice. Justice cannot be derived from laws violating natural law. If justice was served by man's opinion, a vote of society could turn alcoholism, drug use, smoking or overeating into good, healthy practices. A vote, law or policy cannot change or alter a biologically harmful practice.

Genuine justice is a compassionate society in obedience to the laws of nature. A compassionate society does not promote or sanction behaviors causing its members physical harm. Society has a moral responsibility to resist passing laws or policies sanctioning wrong or destructive behaviors violating the laws of nature. Sign the OCA's petition.

**Loretta S. Neet**  
Communications Director  
Oregon Citizens Alliance



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