

LETTERS

Hate still lives

I went to the memorial for Brian Mock and Hattie Cohens exactly two years ago. I never thought that things could get that bad. Didn't we determine that consenting adults could sex each other up all they want in private? Suddenly, when pressing fundamental economic questions should be addressed, concerns that affect the material lives of all people, gay, straight or bored — some self-righteous, self-centered sexual fascists think they can barge in and lobotomize our social conscience, again.

I am horrified at the murders of innocents slain over their love. I was infuriated at Measure 9 and its diversionary impact on the debate over the nature of our political economy. Now the same sponsors think they can demand the same thing, but win with softer voices with Measure 13. The million-plus dollars raised to fight measures 9 and 13 would be better directed against AIDS. But it's like we are battling a house fire while someone is kicking us in the crotch.

I think it could all be a very successful ploy on the part of the Right: to distract attention from the fact that the entire wealth of the country is quietly being sucked up by a few cold capitalists. All the while, their fundamentalist, moronic minions shriek about queer teachers in the schools as the public education system itself teeters on the brink of farcical collapse.

This election is almost an IQ test. The intelligent citizen will vote Nein on 13.

Chris Brady
History

19 censors

Measure 19 amends the Oregon Bill of Rights to permit censorship by local and state governments of books, videos and music which it deems to be obscene. Measure 19 is not only a threat to everyone's First Amendment rights, but could seriously impede the educational mission of the University.

Where can students, staff, faculty and others get information on Measure 19? They can call the No Censorship - No on Measure 19 campaign office at (503) 228-7531, or the Eugene office of the ACLU at 345-6162.

Additionally, the Unitarian Church of Eugene and Lane County, located at 40th Avenue and Donald Street, is holding a forum on Oct. 16 at 9 a.m. There will be a discussion of both Measures 13 and 19. The public is welcome to attend and ask questions.

G. Dennis Shine
Springfield

Equal protection

Measure 13, Protect Our Children. The first day I saw this slogan, someone had stuck a bumper sticker form onto the window of Baba Yaga's dream. Opening the hate-free coffee house that morning, I was relaxed until I spied the vile propaganda.

"Protect our children." Our children? Whose children are they referring to? Mine, yours, the children of lesbian and gays, or the children of the OCA? In the past weeks, we have seen children murdered by their peers, abused by guardians, cheated out of education and adequate

medical care. Is this what yes on Measure 13 serves to protect our children from?

No, ladies and gentlemen, Measure 13 protects your children from me and others like me. What is my horror? I am a lesbian. I am different, but never in my life have I posed a threat to a child. Nor have my friends, who are kind, gentle people.

This sick, twisted propaganda of the OCA is a scare tactic. I have no desire to push my beliefs on others, but in return I expect that people respect the fact that I am not like them. Instead of looking to protect children from social ills, guns and neglect, the OCA falls back on oppression and lies.

Read the paper. In the last few weeks, this county has lost several children and seen several others abused and neglected. Now look for articles about children murdered, beaten and abandoned by a gay or lesbian — it will be hard to find one. Unless...

Unless it is a gay or lesbian child harassed and beaten by peers, a child of a gay or lesbian intimidated and made fun of, or a gay youth who has blown his/her brains out because of the fear of increased intolerance if Measure 13 passes.

Who is protecting these children? The OCA? I think not. Who will protect my nieces, who love and accept me and my partner, when people say these cruel, unchristian things? Who will help me protect my child from fear and intimidation? The people of Oregon can if they think hard about the real implications of Measure 13 and vote no.

Rachael Dueker
Anthropology



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