

■ LETTERS

Choice?

Although Arnold Schwarzenegger has to do some acting in *Junior*, his pithy remarks are still his strong point. "My body, my choice," elicits sympathy from men who vicariously identify with his character though perhaps lacking his physique.

Similarly we do not want our homes invaded. A man's home is his castle, removed from control by an outside agency. Suppose I rent my house to someone. That is my free choice. Then I decide to stop renting. Also my choice. But we accept a law requiring the landlord to give 30 days notice — except in extreme cases where the tenant is trashing the house.

What about the unborn? They have a term too, of nine months, before they can be viable outside their little homes. Did the woman not already exercise her choice by getting married or agreeing to sex?

The homeless and the womb-

less are being dehumanized when called transients or fetuses. It is not the same for a selfish mother-to-be to disregard the life of her unborn as it is to convince the morally sensitive to follow suit, and in a nation that bears arms to protect itself against tyrannical government, we find that the unborn have a few champions, prompting those women and their helpers to turn to the government for protection, the same government they do not want protecting their unborn.

Earl Gosnell
Eugene

Number one

Having returned bleary-eyed and happy from Pasadena, I'd like to commend the Oregon football team for its department both on and off the field. They made all Duck fans extremely proud.

Not so commendable were those fans at the recent UCLA basketball game who taunted the Bruins with the chants of "O-ver-

rat-ed" as the Ducks secured their marvelous win. Demeaning the quality of the UCLA team only diminishes the achievement of our players; if UCLA is indeed an overrated team, the Oregon's upset win isn't nearly as impressive.

Next time, how about a chant of "We're No. 1!" instead?

Tom Jordan
Eugene

Narrow

It is clear that Brian Womack suffers from selective amnesia. He forgot to relay a critical piece of information about the newborn child that was thrown out of a window into the freezing cold. He did not tell you the mother's reasoning behind the act itself. Religion. She felt her unwed pregnancy would not be accepted by her devoutly religious parents.

Brian Womack's narrow world view conveniently side-steps the results of a anti-choice lifestyle

combined with reality. The mistakes in his article are too numerous to mention. One thing is certain, it was a tragedy that was compounded by strict religious beliefs like those of Brian Womack.

Philbert Paluch
Post-baccalaureate biology

Unfair

Kirsten Parmeter somehow concluded I was asking "a religious institution to violate its own doctrine" (*ODE*, Jan. 9) though my earlier letter (*ODE*, Jan. 6) actually urged citizens to ask Sacred Heart not to forbid physicians providing abortion/artificial insemination/assisted suicide "away from the main hospital premises." This reasonable alternative, one that should not conflict with Sacred Heart's "moral" beliefs, was first offered by Women's Care Clinic when physicians there were negotiating integrating with Sacred Heart. Women's Care Clinic sug-

gested retaining private ownership of a small area so that legal abortion services could continue being offered in relative, hopefully untargeted safety. This was not "clean enough" in the words of Sacred Heart Director Monica Heerings, who chose instead to roadblock health care needs and potentially place patients and doctors directly in the line of fire.

There is something intrinsically unfair that all property tax payers pay a higher rate due to Sacred Heart's free ride as a tax exempt, "non-profit" institution. But it is a law of the land that many of us accept. It is a hard thing to swallow, however, when Sacred Heart shackles physicians and roadblocks reasonable, workable alternatives. Their stance is unconscionable and irresponsible. Those who agree should contact their physicians and Sacred Heart. Make your objections known.

Carol Berg
Eugene



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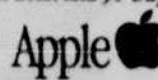


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