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PERSPECTIVES

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Dear Lon

This Valentine's Day, consider changing a few words in your rhetoric — and possibly making a drastic adjustment to your perspective



Cupid's arrows do not always fly straight, but gloriously queerly as well. And so, in loving tribute to my romantic comrade Matthew, who fell to the epidemic on Valentine's Day three years ago, the following questionnaire, which found its way around the San Francisco gay community a few ago, is offered to Mr. Mabon and Co. How dare you tell us that our chosen families, whom we love above all else and to whom we devote our lives, are simply not "families" at all but sinful liaisons that are undermining the traditional and moral fabric of our society and threatening to destroy it?

1. What do you think caused your homosexuality?
2. When and how did you first decide you were a heterosexual?
3. Is it possible your homosexuality is just a phase and that you will grow out of it?
4. Is it possible your homosexuality stems from a neurotic fear of the same sex? Maybe you just need a positive gay experience.
5. Heterosexuals have histories of failures in gay relationships. Do you think you may have turned to homosexuality out of fear of rejection?
6. If you've never slept with a person of the same sex, how do you know you wouldn't prefer that?
7. If homosexuality is normal, why are a disproportionate number of

8. To whom have you disclosed your heterosexual tendencies? How did they react?
9. Your heterosexuality doesn't offend me as long as you leave me alone, but why do so many heterosexuals try to seduce others into that orientation?
10. If you should choose to nurture and or have children, would you want them to be heterosexual, knowing the problems they would face?
11. Most child molesters are heterosexual. Do you consider it safe to expose your children to heterosexuals? Heterosexual teachers, particularly?
12. Why must heterosexuals be so blatant, making a public spectacle of your heterosexuality? Can't you just be what you are and keep it quiet?
13. Heterosexuals always assign themselves such narrowly restricted, stereotyped sex roles. Why do you cling to such unhealthy role-playing?
14. How can you have a fully satisfying, deeply emotional or sexual experience with an opposite-sex person, when the obvious physical, biological and temperamental differences are so vast? How can a man possibly under-

- stand what pleases a woman sexually and vice versa?
15. Heterosexual marriage has total societal support yet the divorce rate continues to grow. Why are there so few stable heterosexual relationships?
16. Since there are so few happy heterosexuals, techniques have been developed to help people change. Have you considered trying aversion therapy?
17. Could you trust a heterosexual therapist/counselor not to try to influence you toward his or her own sexual leanings?
18. Do heterosexuals hate and/or distrust others of their own sex? Is that what makes them heterosexual?
19. A disproportionate number of criminals, welfare recipients and other irresponsible types are heterosexu-

OPINION



Hannah Dillion

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Clarify traffic appeals

We feel it is important to clear up a few errors in your article "Board hears student parking violation appeals" (ODE, Jan. 21).

There are two steps in protesting a University parking citation:

1. An initial written petition, which is read and decided upon by the traffic petitions officer.
2. If the petitioner is not satisfied with that decision, they can submit a written appeal to the Traffic Appeals Board. In that written appeal, they may request to appear before

the appeals board at the next meeting. Frequently, that request is granted. If the person does not appear, the board's decision is based solely on the written materials presented to them. The end result can be a waiving of the fine, a reduction of the fine or an upholding of the fine (denial of the petition and appeal).

It is important to be clear that it is the University Traffic Appeals Board (faculty and staff members appointed by the University committee, students appointed by the ASUO) and as such is completely independent from the Office of Public Safety. OPS plays no part in the

petition or appeals decision-making process. Further, the traffic petitions officer is a non-voting, ex-officio member of this board, appointed by the University administration.

Generally, the appeals board will consider between 15 and 20 appeals each monthly meeting — not 3,500 per year. The traffic petitions officer may consider between 2,000 and 3,000 petitions from students, faculty and visitors each year, but only a very small percentage of those are ever appealed to the board.

We feel that anyone wishing to petition or appeal a University citation should read Pages 8 and 9 in

The University of Oregon Parking Rules and Regulations — this section presents the process in a clear and concise manner.

Rand Stamm
Parking and Transportation, OPS

Gender neutrality

Given the gender-neutralizing activity that permeates our beloved campus even into its smallest, most remote corner, I find it simply amazing that no one has gone into a shrill frenzy over the term: fresh "MAN."

Bill Smee
University employee

Thumbs



TO RAISING MARRIAGE AGES: A group of legislators in Utah are trying to raise the age at which a person can legally be married. Currently, children as young as 14 can get married, provided they have the consent of at least one parent. Some county officials have reported assigning marriage licenses to girls whom the officials suspected might have been sold into marriage or who might have been part of an arranged marriage. Clearly, either situation should be avoided, but even "consensual" marriages at so young an age are troublesome. Under state laws, some of these children won't be allowed to have sex for four years, yet they are considered mature enough to enter a theoretically life-long bond.



TO POSSIBLE CENSORSHIP BY THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT: A group of students who took banners to a football game claim the security guards hired by the department confiscated the banners protesting Nike donations. The department insists the banners were removed only because they were held on sticks, which are against department rules, but it seems unlikely it was necessary to confiscate the entire banner if the problem was a pair of removable sticks. Moreover, the situation has produced a string of confusing and possibly contradictory explanations. All of this suggests some kind of censorship may have taken place, which would clearly be troublesome.