

PERSPECTIVES

Larry Flynt vs. adultery?

Although Flynt believes he is helping the president, he is only adding to the sleaze that surrounds Capitol Hill these days

Bring on the Y2k bug. Hurl an asteroid directly at the United States. Bring on the biblical apocalypse. Why not?

While I don't personally give much credit to any of these theories destroying the planet, I sometimes wish they were true. The last seven years of my life I've seen more laws manipulated with legal double talk, cover-ups and blatant lies than I can possibly stomach. And that's only talking about the president of the United States.

Opinion



Aaron Artman

On the eve of the Senate Impeachment trial, would it be too much to ask if we can simply have the presentation of the facts followed by a Senate vote to put this whole ordeal to rest?

Yes, as a matter of fact, it would.

Thanks to Larry Flynt, the publisher of the sex magazine Hustler, the American people can add blackmail to the lengthy list of crimes that the Democrats see as irrelevant.

Flynt, an alleged friend of President Clinton and lead strategist James Carville (who actually appeared in the biographical film "The People vs. Larry Flynt"), is offering one million dollars for proof of "an adulterous sexual encounter" by members of Congress or other high-ranking government officials.

Thus far, not a single Democrat has made a single statement encouraging Flynt to stop his tactics. And why should they? Flynt's strategy is aimed at revealing the hypocrisy behind the Republican's desire to impeach Clinton. Because no Democrats are under attack, why would they



want to interfere with Flynt?

The blackmail campaign already forced the resignation of Republican House Speaker-elect Bob Livingston. Tuesday, the campaign may have taken another victim with Georgia Republican Congressman Bob Barr accused of having multiple affairs as well as paying for a former wife's abortion. That is not the kind of press a pro-life congressman needs, but the motive behind Flynt's attacks seems convoluted.

In fact, it doesn't even make sense. Why take down a congressman who has already cast his vote for impeachment?

If Flynt is really against the hypocrisy, then why is he paying women for their

stories? For years the Clinton team destroyed the credibility of women alleging sexual misconduct because they were paid by a media outlet for their story. Now, all of a sudden, we are supposed to believe these allegations.

Don't get me wrong, I am all for the removal of morally bankrupt legislators and government officials. I don't care if they are Republicans or Democrats. But when sex magazine publishers are footing the bill for these removals, something is very wrong.

Hey Larry, if you are going to pay hookers to bring down our nation's leaders,

take down both Democrats and Republicans. Otherwise it is fiercely partisan. And how can you be a supporter of the Democratic party if you participate in partisan politics. After all, isn't that the job of the witch-hunting, sex-obsessed Republicans?

Flynt may believe he is helping Clinton and the Democrats, but in essence, he is a fine illustration of the cliché that the pot is calling the kettle black. By engaging in a witch-hunt of his own, Flynt is just another example of a confused American claiming that the whole impeachment ordeal is just about sex.

Aaron Artman is a columnist for the Emerald. His views do not necessarily represent those of the newspaper.

Letters to the Editor

Article unfair

I would like to address a couple of the comments in the Nov. 21 Oregonian article, "One in four trucks rumbled north in spite of bad brakes, bald tires etc." The national average for our out of service violations on commercial vehicles is 25 percent; therefore, the Oregon experience followed the national trend. This figure is higher than any of us in the industry would like to see, but it should be noted that these trucks are not selected on a truly random basis for inspection. The enforcement officers have a data base identifying which companies have a known safety problem and those are the companies that are targeted.

This allows the agencies to best use their limited resources by targeting the known unsafe carriers and letting the better companies proceed without inspection. However, this practice skews the average number of trucks placed out of service. We can show you many Oregon trucking companies whose out of service ratio is as low as 5 or 6 percent, and some who have no out of service violations. It was also noted in the article that employers must trust the driver to advise them if he or she has a traffic conviction. In fact, The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations require each motor carrier to "make an

inquiry into the driving record of each driver it employs every twelve months."

Again, we support the enforcement efforts of OSP and ODOT. To those who share the highways with our trucks, please be assured that we are working diligently with these agencies to remove unsafe drivers and trucks from the highway. In the meantime, please remember that the vast majority of truck drivers on our highways are safe, professional and make their living delivering all the products you and I will find on the store shelves today.

John S. Sallak

Executive Vice President, Trucking Associations

Clinton Defense Fund

It is a shameful situation that the country is in now. True, President Clinton did have a disgusting relationship with Monica Lewinsky. However, with Paula Jones, his request for oral sex was refused. She walked away, and Gov. Clinton did nothing. She went back to her job, received favorable ratings and pay raises.

Then several years later, he told a Republicans organization what had happened. The final result; she walks away with nearly \$1 million. Not bad.

Lewinsky, an attractive sexually experienced young girl in her 20s, reveals to the president, by lifting up her dress, her undergarments. Any man, aged 50 or so, would respond to such activity. The president did as she expected. All future contracts were made by her.

So after meetings involving some sexual incidents, over a period of less than 15 months, and under investigation by Starr, Lewinsky will walk away with about \$5 million in media and public appearances.

Now the president is left with legal bill of about \$5 million. If only 10 percent of the 47 million voters who favored the president will send him a dollar or two into a defense fund, the bill can be paid. No Republican critic would be able to point a finger at any number of prominent democrats and accuse them of paying the bill.

The supporters of a Clinton Defense action should mail checks to:

Mrs. Hillary R. Clinton
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, D.C. 20502

Sol Lubitsch
Florida

LETTERS POLICY

The Oregon Daily Emerald will attempt to print all letters containing comments on topics of interest to the University community. Letters must be limited to 250 words. The Emerald reserves the right to edit any letter for length, clarity, grammar, style and libel. Letters may be dropped off at EMU Suite 300.