

God News

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Utah and Oregon.

He has been at this University on-and-off since the late '80s.

Strangely, Doug mentions his faith, his beliefs, with few words and constantly shifting eyes that seem to be scanning the room for something. He whispers something about this being his life's work and trying to get people to read the Bible, but it is not something that he makes himself up-tight about.

He even talks guardedly about Mormons, a frequent topic on his tongue.

Doug, who once lived in Salt Lake City, says it has all types — good, bad, straight, gay — but adds that some of the city's residents are not adjusting to a diverse population.

"Having lived in Salt Lake City for 20 years, you begin to realize somebody is getting fleeced," he said. "I can't say who, exactly."

He never says the word "Mormon" in a negative context, but this is the way Doug is. This is Doug trying not to judge or step on anyone's toes. Instead he slides over the table a picture of him and a girl. In the picture, Doug and his friend are flashing peace signs with the Mormon Tabernacle looming over their heads. Maybe it is satire or sacrilegious to someone else, but Doug just looks happy.

His problem is not necessarily with Mormons, but with orga-

nized religion. Doug considers himself a free spirit and the thought of going to a church does not interest him at all. He mentions that he has gone to church in the past but now does not attend one regularly.

Though Doug talks frequently about the past and the future, he is cryptic about his present life.

"I stay with people and live a basic life, sometimes more basic than others," he responds when asked where he lives.

Doug says how he supports himself is not important because of his "simple life." The only thing certain about Doug is his diligent presence on campus.

He speaks to college students because he came to Christ when he was college age.

"I don't go to high schools because I don't think it would be accepted there. It is an age thing," he says.

Doug tells a story of a high school-age neighbor whom he encountered last summer.

"The kid was shooting at my cats. I spoke with the kid and tried to explain to him that it was going to be OK. I was a young man once. I also wanted the things like cars that this kid wanted and could not get because he did not have the money. You have to be gentle with some one like that.

"I try to live one day at a time and be gentle with everyone I meet. That is me."

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