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Three personal thoughts about deciding on a Real Estate agent

✓ **Ethics:** When you are in the middle of one of the biggest decisions in your life you want to be able to TRUST your agent completely. You want someone honest and open who will give you all of the information, and strongly represents your needs in selling and buying negotiations.

✓ **Enthusiasm:** After you've browsed through your memories and imagination and you know you want to see growing things and clouds, your agent should be devoting time and energy to finding homes with windows, gardens and views. Making a move brings up lots of emotion, you want someone to respond to your ideas.

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letters

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3) all appreciated, but would have appreciated more if they had a film-reviewer critique the film. Please girls, let's get over ourselves—this is a FILM, not a political thesis), Amanda Colorado, who appreciated the film for what it was, Linda Kliewer for her incredible photographic display, Susan Anderson at Pro-Lab, Linda Carter, and Lloyd Hamil at Full Sail for his generous contribution.

Again, personal thanks to Lester, Ann Goldman, Demi-Monde's publicist who had to jet between here and L.A., and MUNDO thanks to Karen Harding, proprietor of Cup and Saucer Cafe which we've adopted as the *Claire of the Moon Cafe*, for all their double lattes and rice krispie cakes and taking such good care of Trish, Annie, me and the rest.

Nicole Conn
Portland

Stunned and betrayed

To the Editor:

I am aghast. I am stunned. I am confused. I am betrayed.

For the six years I've lived in Portland, I've regarded *Just Out* as a responsible community voice. I haven't always agreed with positions you have taken, but have perceived them as responsible.

Now the June "Just think" by Ariel Waterwoman has me boggled. While certainly a strongly worded article, I can support the vast majority of what she wrote. But the first paragraph is so violent, so unjust, so irrational. And it seems a mockery of the beautiful words spoken by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., "I have a dream."

Hopefully future issues will guard against such irrational and vicious abuse of the power of the press.

Rev. Gary Wilson
Portland

Bigotry is bigotry is bigotry

To the Editor:

I have just finished reading the article entitled "I have a dream," by Ariel Waterwoman on page 18 of the June issue of *Just Out*. First and foremost, I am outraged that *anyone* would use the "I have a dream" phrase from one of Dr. King's most powerful and moving speeches, as the title for something as negative and as hateful as the article to which I refer. Dr. King's dream, which many of us are trying to keep alive, was about inclusiveness, harmony and love. The dream expressed on page 18 of the June issue of *Just Out* is full of vitriol and venom, not one inclusive, harmonious or loving vision is contained therein. How dare you use the words of a great leader in the movements for justice, equality and peace as the introduction to your mean spirited article.

That anyone would call for the forced sterilization of any group of people, as is called for in the first paragraph of this diatribe, is appalling. To preface that hateful call with the "I have a dream" phrase is to demean all that Dr. King and many of the rest of us have stood and struggled for. Reading the hatred expressed in that one line, I heard the voice of Adolph Hitler and saw men in white hoods. In *Just Out*, the paper which calls for equality in the acceptance of lesbians and gay men, I read that a LESBIAN believes it is OK to participate in the cycle of violence and hatred to which we so adamantly object when we are its victims.

Yes, there is racism, sexism and homophobia in America, it is part of our culture, it is what we do, it is what we be. Yes, there is anger in America, it is one of the few emotions respected by this culture just as violence is a behavior this culture respects. Yes, I want it to stop and I work

towards that end almost every day. But I know that hatred will not win the world I want to see, one free of the false divisions among us. I thought the folks at *Just Out* knew that too.

How dare *Just Out*, a major voice for the lesbian and gay community in Oregon, use its pages to promote bigotry then expect fair and equitable treatment from others? It is inappropriate to use this newspaper as a vehicle for personal anger and hatred. Shame on you *Just Out*, shame on you Ariel Waterwoman, bigotry is bigotry is bigotry.

Kathleen Saadat
Portland

Talking to each other

To the Editor:

This is a hard letter to write. I am a European-American woman, raised in "American" culture, which means I am racist, having learned racism along with the other cultural myths in our society. I have been doing anti-racist work on a personal level for some years, and realize I still have a long ways to go to be a true ally to people of color.

I usually feel that an appropriate response to expressions of anger by people of color is respectful attention or, at the very least, silence. But I have to respond to Ariel Waterwoman's "I have a dream" article. I understand that any white response to people of color is loaded with emotional baggage, and it's impossible for me to escape my white privilege. Yet not to respond at all seems even more disrespectful and divisive.

I looked through this article's list of global instances of white supremacy for the "one simple thing that [I] can do every day which will help stop racism." It wasn't there. Implying that complex problems have simple solutions, that somehow if we all just become aware of these things, we would renounce white supremacy and stop being racist, is not helpful to anyone. If it were simple to end oppression, most of us would be doing it already. The things I'm doing, few of which are simple, to address the problems I see certainly do not mean that I'm no longer racist or that I have no further responsibility to the planet to end white supremacy. But attacking European-Americans, many of whom are struggling to find ways to be allies, only perpetuates the old game and further divides us, to the delight of those in power.

This letter is part of my struggle to fight the racism within, and to link it with my struggle against internalized oppression: sexism, classism, and heterosexism.

We do have to deal with the legacy of racism and white supremacy, and the pain that it causes us all. But I hope we don't lose sight of the goal of working *together* to end these evils. The *means* we use to get to social justice are important in themselves. The *means* shapes the end.

We need to find ways to talk to each other.

Sylvan Rainwater
Portland

Just Out is not helpful

To the Editor:

In recent issues of *Just Out* (Ariel Waterwoman) has expressed several strong opinions about racism and violence in our community. I have found some of the ideas to be poorly thought out and unconnected to any political analysis, but I figured they at least stimulated some of us to think. (She has) gone way off the deep end with the article entitled, "I have a dream." (June 1992) and I am writing to say that this article is NOT helpful, useful, or acceptable in a newspaper which represents me.

This kind of "eye for an eye, tooth for a tooth" thinking is so reactionary and out of step with the pulse of the lesbian and gay community and the greater Portland progressive community that I