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since 1983

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Letters to the editor should be limited to two double-spaced typed pages. **Deadline for submissions** to the editorial department and for the **Calendar** is the Thursday before the first and third Friday for the next issue. Views expressed in letters to the editor, columns and features are not necessarily those of the publisher.

The **display advertising** deadline is the Monday after the first and third Friday for the next issue.

Classified ads must be received at the office of **just out** by the Monday after the first and third Friday for the next issue, along with payment. Ads will not be taken over the telephone.

Ad policy. No sexually exploitive advertising will be accepted. Compensation for errors in, or cancellation of, advertising will be made with credit toward future advertising.

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The mailing address and telephone number for **just out** are PO Box 14400, Portland, OR 97214-0400; (503) 236-1252. Our fax number is 236-1257.

steppin' out



The documentary *Ballot Measure 9* won the Audience Award at the Sundance Film Festival on Jan. 28. From left to right: Linda Kliewer, regional producer and cinematographer; Kathleen Sadaat, featured activist; B.B. Jorissen, associate producer and editor; and Heather MacDonald, director and producer. Congratulations!

guest editorial

Earth to Mannix

Please tell me how House Bill 2303 will provide for those children for whom we are all responsible

by Kristine Chatwood

I don't understand Rep. Kevin Mannix. He and I have some things in common. He is a Catholic, and I am, too. He is a Democrat. Ditto for me. We are both Oregonians. Mr. Mannix, however, is a member of the Oregon House of Representatives. I am just a regular, committed, interested, yes, even patriotic voter.

Mr. Mannix is in the Oregon House because he wants to be. He campaigned for office. I assume he is concerned about the very serious problems facing Oregon and her citizens. And, because he went to all the trouble to win his election, I also assume Mr. Mannix is serious about working to resolve those problems.

Oregon is having a tough time. We cannot adequately fund our schools and, therefore, educate our children for the future they must face. We cannot provide even the most basic of health care to far too many Oregonians. In a state that prides itself on its agricultural industry, we have people who go to bed hungry every day.

Timber and fishing, industries that powered Oregon's economy for generations, are dying. We must attract new industries that not only provide jobs, but that provide jobs to Oregonians—that hire and train Oregonians to work in Oregon.

These are problems that require a great deal of thought and planning and work by all Oregonians. The leadership, however, must come from our elected officials, people like Kevin Mannix.

Amazingly, Mr. Mannix appears to have decided to solve Oregon's problems by outlawing the artificial insemination of unmarried women. Now, I have read a copy of House Bill 2303,

Mr. Mannix's bill. And I have read accounts of this bill in *The Oregonian*.

Under current Oregon law, a woman may not be artificially inseminated without her husband's written consent. House Bill 2303 amends current law so that a woman who, for whatever reason, does not have a husband, cannot have a child through artificial insemination.

For the most part, women who use artificial insemination to become pregnant do so because they truly want to be parents. This process is expensive, time consuming, carries no guarantees of success, and can wreak havoc with one's emotions. This is no different from the decision of any responsible adult to have a child.

The ways in which we define family require a discussion that cannot be resolved by a few pieces of legislation that detract from the immediate survival problems facing the state of Oregon.

And so I ask you, Mr. Mannix, please tell me and other Oregonians how the passage of House Bill 2303 will provide the jobs, education, health care, food and serious planning needed to ensure that there is an Oregon adequate to provide for those children for whom we are all responsible.

Just Out accepts guest editorials on a variety of topics. Submissions should be around one and one-half double-spaced, typed pages (12-point type). Send submissions to: Editor, PO Box 14400, Portland, OR 97214-0400; e-mail to: JustOut2@aol.com; or fax to: 236-1257.

contents

VOL 12 NO. 7 FEBRUARY 3, 1995

FEATURE

Valentine vignettes

A sampler of dates from heaven and dates from hell (pp. 15-17)

DEPARTMENTS

World news

India hosts a first-ever conference for gay men (p. 5)

National news

A Seattle gay couple is allowed to adopt a 4-year-old boy (pp. 6-8)

Local news

Portland firefighter convicted of intimidation is fired; Lesbian Avengers converge in Salem to protest "anti-turkey baster bill" (pp. 9-13)

COLUMNS

Queer thing

The quest for civil rights must go on every day (p. 27)

Amazon trail

Spare time and food freedoms pale while Lover is away (p. 28)

ARTS

Theater

Seattle's Yellow Boat offers children a rare opportunity (p. 22)

Entertainment

Lisa Kron piles up humorous humiliations (p. 23)

Television

The Boys of St. Vincent airs on cable in February (p. 24)

Cinema

Queer cinema flowers at Eugene festival (p. 25)

Books

Tee Corrine expands our perception of lesbian erotica (p. 26)