

Take precaution before pleasure

The pleasures of sex date back through the centuries, but today is a much different age than back then; there are precautions that need to be taken in order to avoid any unwanted pregnancies

make a choice your health or your pleasure. For safety sake, I hope you make the right choice. You can contact your physician or local county health department and get examined to ensure you are Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) free. Both you and your partner should get examined, some-



Salena De La Cruz
Opinion Editor

Make a statement, be heard...

or diseases.

We grew up thinking we were invincible--that we could take on the world--but now I've learned I'm not and I can't. It's about time that everyone who is sexually active or thinking about having sex learns that lesson too.

We got all the talks growing up; practice safe sex, use birth control and yet the people in our classes were getting pregnant and/or contracting diseases. We either didn't listen or we thought this can't possibly happen to me. Reality check, it can! Yeah, keep telling yourself it can't, then one day you'll even start to believe it.

One of the ways to help in the prevention of diseases is to use a condom. Then after awhile, it seems the age-old excuse of "it just doesn't feel right wearing the condom," comes up. Well, then you have to

times it's easier together.

However, even with the precautionary steps taken, an infection can be contracted. An infection called vaginitis can be contracted from soap, laundry detergent, feminine hygiene products, bubble bath, etc. That is why it's very important for women to have at least a yearly exam, because you may have already contracted something and passed it onto your partner.

If you and your partner are thinking about having sex or already doing it, please think about precaution before pleasure. Find out what birth control is right for you and I cannot stress enough a regular health exam.

County health departments all over Oregon were given grants to help women who can't afford exams or birth control. So, nothing should be stopping you now. If not for your own safety's sake, do it for your

For more information, contact your local public health departments at:
Clackamas County Public Health at (503) 655-8471
Multnomah County Public Health (503) 248-3775
Washington County Public Health (503) 648-8851
STD Hotline at (503) 248-3700

Letter to the Editor... Is freedom of speech lacking in the classroom?

This letter is in regards to the over-publicized, out-of-context issue that occurred between Dr. Donald Epstein and his former student. I realize and understand the college's Code of Ethics, as quoted in *The Print*, but it would seem as though an important fact was disregarded: Dr Epstein's **RIGHT** to teach the context of the classes that he is paid to teach.

History shows that the Greeks were very pro-homosexual, while the Jews were very anti-homosexual. Jewish families were known to have killed their children just to be guaranteed that the Greeks did not steal them for their own uses. Both of these facts are part of his Judaic Studies class. If this information is inflammatory to a student, then perhaps they (the student) are in the wrong class, not the instructor. This class is not mandatory for general or transfer studies, nor was it ever meant to appeal to everyone. This is not high school; this is college. The students are supposedly mature enough to choose their own classes, show up to class and do their best. No one forced the student to take the class.

Why couldn't a simple drop be enough? Many students drop classes every term; sometimes they just don't like their instructor, but they don't file charges against him/her.

Additionally, Dr Epstein's personal views should not have been made an issue. He, along with everyone else, is entitled to his/her opinion, as long as they aren't preaching and expecting everyone else to agree. Dr. Epstein wasn't preaching; he was teaching...about an earlier civilization. When he was "quoted," his comment was not reflected in its entirety, but only a fragment of a sentence was repeated, giving an extremely biased view.

When someone from off-campus read the story they were appalled at how one-sided against Dr. Epstein the paper and the college seemed to be. What was put at stake was not a student's right to drop a class, or the right to dislike an instructor, but the right of an instructor to teach as well as the right of free speech.

Now, because of these allegations, a professor's 30-year career is ending when this term is finished at the end of March 2000. He has "decided to re-

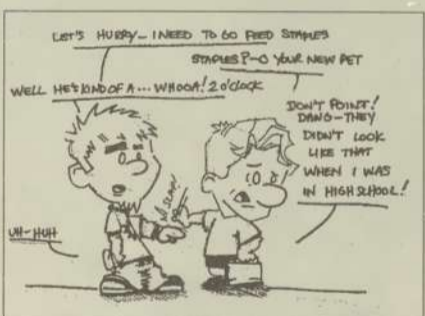
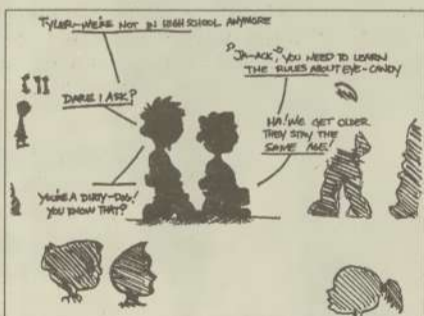
tire," and although he had apparently been considering retirement, I was told the tentative plans were for two additional years. Unfortunately, there are those who feel it necessary to attempt to destroy the good reputation of a very respected and effective professor. The question now should be, "Who's next?"

What instructor will be overly scrutinized, possibly even reprimanded, simply for doing the job they were hired to do? What instructor will feel it necessary to monitor their every word and action **BEFORE** entering the classroom, to make sure they don't offend anyone? In most instances, people will attend colleges (of all types) to broaden their minds, increase their knowledge, be better than they were before. I'm grateful to have a chance to go to college, not everyone can. It is very distressing to know, however, that my access to some types of information is being controlled without my consent.

When did the United States of America stop being the land of the free?

Teri L. Taber
Student

Jack & Staples by Joel D. GUNDERSON



Wanted cartoonists to fill a comic's page--Interested? Stop by B-104 or call ext. 2309 ask for Joel Gunderson

When the spoken word is not enough--Write it down and send it to *The Clackamas Print* with a disk, no more than 500 words double-spaced or e-mail it to cccprint@clackamas.cc.or.us.



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