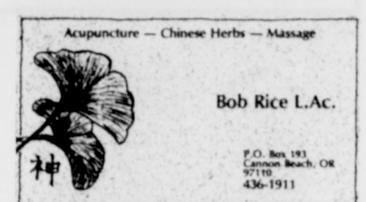
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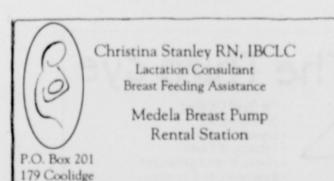
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DO NOT HAVE TO LOVE WHAT I LOVE FOU DO NOT HAVE TO SING WHAT I SING YOU DO NOT HAVE TO PRAY HOW I PRAY YOU DO NOT HAVE FO DANCE LIKE I DANCE YOU DO NOT HAVE TO LAUGH AT MY JOKES YOU DO NOT HAVE TO KISS, WHAT I KISS AND THAT IS WHY I CELEBRATE AND YOU SHOULD CELEBRATE WITH



Cannon Beach, OR 97110



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Dear Uncle Mike.

I recently learned that my fourteen year old daughter, we'll call her Monica, has stopped wearing panties. I don't count myself a prude, but I must admit I am concerned. She says she's not sexually active and, for the most part I believe her. She says a lot

of her friends don't wear underwear and that she feels more comfortable without it. What do you think?

Concerned Mom in Portland

Dear Concerned.

About what? Before Uncle Mike rolls up his sleeves to deal with your problem, he would first like to point out that you don't have one. On the off chance you've just emerged from a coma, Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood is not what it once was Children your daughter's age carry guns, shoot drugs, mug pensioners, and set winos on fire. Perspective established, we press on

If you're looking for moral support, you've knocked on the wrong door. Although Uncle Mike wears underwear himself, he sees no reason to expect the rest of humanity to follow him like sheep. If Monica and her friends feel more comfortable with one less layer of fashion, more power to them. Albert Einstein didn't wear socks.

Uncle Mike wonders what exactly is your concern. That your daughter is slightly more naked than you thought she was? Who in their right mind would care? As long as Monica favors pants and long skirts, this shouldn't pose a problem, either to herself or to innocent bystanders. That she's turned into a lying little slut? All things are possible, but unless the evidence involves more that what you've trotted out. Uncle Mike would caution against jumping to conclusions.

Testing his convictions, Uncle Mike spent a day without underwear. He did not feel any more lascivious than usual. He only felt cold.

Dear Uncle Mike.

My friend and I have a bet. I say since you're a whiney, self-righteous liberal, you voted yes on Measure 16, the so-called right to die initiative. For once your opinion is worth twenty bucks to me.

Reluctant Reader, Garibaldi

Dear Repugnent Reader.

My, we certainly know how to put our best foot forward, don't we? Before telling you that how he voted on any issue is less your concern than intimate details of his mating habits. Uncle Mike would first like to suggest a place to

put your stereotypes. While Uncle Mike can be on occasion whiney and self-righteous, he would cheerfully open a vein before being a liberal. Uncle Mike is a fullblown leftist. which in today's political climate makes him the sort of conservative who regards George Bush and Rush Limbaugh as fascists. If you must know he's a little worried about Madonna too.

As a conservative, Uncle Mike believes devoutly that our bodies and their contents, to include urine and fetuses, are our own. Whose else, pray tell, would they be? In the words of Ollie North's hero, Patrick Henry, "Give me liberty or give me death." In some cases, cupcake, they're the same thing.

Dear Uncle Mike.

My girlfriends and I have started an Uncle Mike fan club. We want to know if you're married and how old you are. Also if you're cute. Julie and Friends, Eugene

Dear Julie.

JOYCE L. COCHRAN, M.S.W., A.C.S.W.

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While Uncle Mike is flattered beyond words that you and your friends have made him the object of your obsessions, he wonders if you might not have stopped taking your medicine too soon. Praying that, if he humors you, you and your unbalanced little flock will not show up at his door, he ll indulge your nosiness.

Uncle Mike was once married. He regards this as unarguable evidence that the lust for experience comes before the will to survive. A serial monogomist by default, he is, at the moment, deliriously unattached. Unless you count poker.

As to his age, Uncle Mike is, depending upon what he did the night before, either younger than springtime or older than dirt. Not to be coy, if Uncle Mike were a black Lab, he would be three hundred and fifty

Is Uncle Mike cute? Yes, especially in the morning. Few physical deformities are

not more than offset by a wrinkled pair of bunny pajamas

An honest god is the noblest work of Robert G. Inversall



UPPER LEFT EDGE DECEMBER 1994