

MAKING BABIES

All this talk about gay marriages brings up the real reason to defend the sanctity and the primary purpose of a traditional heterosexual marriage: procreation. If you don't want to procreate, are unable to conceive, or carry a recessive gene that may cause birth defects, you can't marry. Period.

Besides, the Bible teaches us homosexuality is wrong. This is according to Leviticus which also says that tattoos, eating shellfish and wearing clothing of mixed fiber is also a sin. You can also own slaves and stone your neighbor if he plants two different crops in one field. The Bible does say polygamy is acceptable. Let's bring it back to further increase the survival of the species. Lesbians should be allowed to marry as long as they produce children. Marriage is, after all, about making more babies.

Same sex unions will disrupt the traditional family and harm children, the critics argue. There are other, more likely candidates for the ruin of the traditional family: the industrial revolution, shifting social and economic factors, divorce rates, and daddy preferring to cruise the Internet for porn rather than talk to his children.

When you strip away the moral, social, and legal issues in this controversy, this is the real reason against homosexual marriages. Other arguments fail.

Attacking gays for wanting to marry and have a monogamous relationship is jealousy from a society that doesn't want homosexuals to be, like them: normal.

*Alisa McLaughlin
Eugene*

FORGOTTEN CONTEXT

It happens every year: Eugene's peaceniks gather to remember the victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Why is it they never hold memorials for the victims of Pearl Harbor? Or the Bataan Death March? Or the unconscionable Rape of Nanking? Or the horrific Japanese POW camps?

The sheer magnitude of the cruelty and brutality of the Empire of Japan defies comprehension and understanding. I'm just thankful that, once upon a time, there were men such as Harry Truman, Curtis LeMay, Paul Tibbets (still with us) and Chuck Sweeney who knew what it takes to deal with such an enemy.

Given the leftist claptrap that passes for "history" in American education these days, I wouldn't expect many of the memorial organizers to know who some of these guys were — just as they clearly don't comprehend why those honorable men had to do what they did.

*Jerry Ritter
Springfield*

PANTS ON FIRE

Bush is flopping around like a fish out of water, but he's screaming that "Kerry is flip-flopping." Sure, the whole world is flip-flopping from his viewpoint, but Bush is making a fool of himself. Not that it's hard. Now he's screaming that "Kerry is losing his cool," though just yesterday, Kerry was being criticized for being too frozen. It might be helpful if Kerry thawed out a little. Meanwhile, Bush's aides report off the record that he has fits, writhing on the floor in the White House hallways, and frequently screams at staffers.

Guys who really were in Vietnam or maybe Cambodia at some time or other probably are spreading W's lies for him, accusing Kerry of "exaggerating." Haven't we heard this before?

When your pants are on fire, it's a bad idea to accuse your opponent of losing his cool.

*Ann Tattersall
Eugene*

SELLING CDS

While I can sympathize with the plight of the indie records store owner painted by Seth Walker's "Facing the Music" (8/12), I must add that service and friendliness to customers seems to be a forgotten art in today's small stores. And while it is all too easy to blame downloading on the lack of sales, the blame squarely falls on high CD prices (\$18.98 a CD!) and inferior music, as well as a "too cool for you" attitude.

And why no mention of Eugene's truly great music outlets like the Museum of Unfine Art or House of Records? It seems that the writer would rather send us to Portland to ignore two of Eugene's finest stores, where a smile and a "Hello" go a long way to making a sale.

*Marc Time
Junction City*

HUNGRY MORONS

I've been struggling to figure out how the Bush vs. Kerry polls could possibly indicate a close race with all that has been revealed about the Shrublicans from torture of consent to over-billing by Cheney's Halliburton, to an ill-conceived, poorly planned, hysterically pushed Vietnam-like tragedy in which thousands of innocent humans have been killed and maimed with the help of our tax dollars.

How is so much support possible? Thanks to Todd Anderson, AKA evil rich guy in "picking up the tab" (letters 8/5) for answering the question. It was Ronald Reagan's long cast over a still pond well stocked with hungry morons. With the shiny lure of red, white, and blue and a congenial smile, the gipper, skipper, or shrub could dupe all of those little fishies into believing that the Welfare Queen or the poor were detestable, unlovable by God or anyone else and were certainly not worthy of a free ride on average Joe's oh-so-hard-earned dollars.

All of the righteous sucker fish willingly crimped the access of their fellow citizens while flag-waving leaders facilitated the Savings & Loan debacle, the give-away of HUD dollars, Halliburton's exorbitant no-bid government contracts, Enron's rampant thievery, and the guaranteed success of monster businesses through corporate welfare giveaways by local, state, and federal government like familiar locals Sony and Hynix.

*Richard Gross
Deadwood*

SMELL THE BUSH

I am hoping that the citizens of Eugene will wake up and realize that the campaign to push Jim Torrey as a write-in candidate for mayor of Eugene is nothing short of an attempt by conservatives to assure that President George W. Bush will carry the state of Oregon in November. Wake up!

*Ron MacKenzie
Berkeley, Calif.*

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