

(3/26) about two Eugene Peace Corps volunteers in Kyrgyzstan, formerly a Soviet Union republic, reported that political demonstrations and unrest grew from hundreds to thousands, and President Akayev fled to an undisclosed location. The protesters claimed "widespread corruption and rigged elections," demanding Akayev's resignation. How about Florida in 2000 and Ohio in 2004? What will it take for a second American revolution?

John Saemann
Eugene

QUIET, PLEASE

I went to see a foreign film last week that got great reviews in *EW*. I think I liked it, but it was hard to concentrate — people in the audience were talking the entire time! Saying "shhh" many times didn't work — neither did changing seats twice. These weren't young kids, who might not know any better; they were adults ages 35-70 who should know better!

I love the magic of going to the movies and losing myself in the film and forgetting about the world outside. It's impossible to do that when your attention is broken every few minutes by things like "What's that?" "He's eating an onion." "There's Louisiana!" Please remember that going to the movies is not the same as being alone in your living room — and keep your comments to yourself until after the show!

Loren Asrael
Eugene

KEEP THE TRUTH

At last the truth is in black and white: Salman Rushdie says it (March 13 in the *R-G*), "the combination of religion and nationalism ... is frightening." And the Democrats are rushing around like squirrels, in my opinion, to claim their religiosity to get a vote.

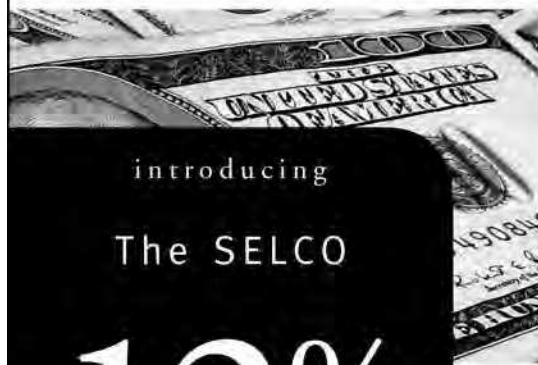
This is my homeland, too. I was born and raised here. I'm the grandniece of a Methodist minister and am myself an ordained minister, but still, I say keep religion off of the political platform, off the streets and practice it in the confines of your own home and church. And please, even if you have an open heart and embrace all the major religions, as I do, let us keep the truth on our lips. "The universe wasn't created in six days by a superforce that rested on the seventh," as Rushdie says.

I also wonder about the numerous religious posters on more and more lawns, driveways, and in windows in the apartment complexes; how intrusive and offensive it must be for the immediate neighbors who are anything but Christian. I cannot believe that these poster-proselytizing folks truly know their religious history of wars upon wars in the name of their God, nor can they possibly grasp the harm they inflict on others by their "our way is the way" thinking. This is not the way to generate a "Love thy neighbor" atmosphere.

God lives in the degree of goodness and compassion we all have within our own hearts; this is not something to take to the marketplace, it is rather, a way to be.

Peggy Starr
Eugene

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