

contented class of the community and sow the seeds of discontent amongst them. That is the reason why agitators are so absolutely necessary. Without them, in our incomplete state, there would be no advance towards civilisation" (Oscar Wilde, 1891).

Lacey Phillabaum's defense of "the black bloc" seems reasonable to me. PC liberals complain about the mainstream media's focus on these radical groups, but being PC, they fall in line with government actions that disallow anything that isn't PC dissent. We don't all agree on the methods used, but most of us agree that our corporate- and military-controlled government needs to be abolished. Be the one you are. There's room at the table for everyone (with the exception of genderized dictators) as we witness our government's continuing grip on fascism.

There should be reserved seating for OSU's Jean Moule and Jerry V. Diller. Thanks to *EW* and Bryan Andersen for profiling their book *Cultural Competence: A Primer for Educators*. This book is about the methods we can all agree on — helping to put us in touch with each other.

Robert Simms
Corvallis

TWISTY LINGUISTICS

Jim Guthrie (11/30 letters) is confused and needs to be set straight:

1) A "Semite" is defined as "a member of any people speaking a Semitic language," which includes Hebrew. Hebrew is spoken by Jews. 2) An "anti-Semite" is one who shows prejudice against Jews or discriminates against or persecutes Jews.

Thus, all Jews are Semites; and the government of Israel (which is a Jewish state), cannot, by definition, be anti-Semitic.

Get thou to a dictionary, Mr. Guthrie. And see what you can do about that anti-Semitic attitude.

Karen Ecker
Eugene

MORAL CHOICES

After reading "Ike" Terrance's letter "Radical Loonies" (11/16), it is clear to me that he has missed something that my experience has taught me. While I applaud his interest in the quality of local entertainment and his concern for the environment, his analysis of the situations touched on in "Flames of Dissent" seem shallow. Might that be because a deeper look would threaten his moral standing?

In my brief time on this earth, 26 years, I have experienced numerous lifestyles, one of which came while I was enlisted in a branch of this nation's armed services. I had a new car and nice clothes, and I used cologne. However, I gradually began to wake up to the responsibility I had in the death of life. I started making changes in

my lifestyle, and became what "Ike" would probably refer to as a "Radical Loony."

Example: I abhor unnecessary violence and murder. From what I gather from Ike's concern over the potential for harm to life during acts of eco-sabotage, it sounds like Ike does too. While in the service I adopted a vegan diet, no easy feat. I wonder what Ike's dietary choices are. Some dismiss using non-human animal products as "nature's food chain." The facts are out: Industrial agriculture is not a natural process, and it's inefficient. So how long then till it's me who serves as your commodity?

All the "Ikes" out there can dismiss the passionate reactions of peoples as "lunacy" or terrorism, but to them I pose these queries: What is the difference between white power and black power? What is the difference between Israeli aggression and Palestinian aggression? What is the difference between machines that destroy our natural environment and destroying those machines? One is the function of an oppressor, the other the defense of the oppressed.

Jake Dutton
Eugene

GETTING SKEWED

Reading Cassy Firwood's article (11/22 Gift Guide) on the Pure Romance Party she attended, I had to stop and ask myself why she was so hell-bent on ridiculing both the party process and those who did the presentation.

She begins the article misrepresenting the party game ice breaker as a demeaning exercise of why sex is disgusting. Having attended two of these parties myself, I can accurately state that such is not the case. That game had me and my fellow partygoers in stitches, tears flowing from our eyes and gasping for breath. If this party game took on the dimension in her mind of equating sex with a "deep-seated repulsion of hairy, slimy nether regions," I suggest she visit a therapist and not take out her psychosexual phobias out on the readers of the *Weekly*.

Ms. Firwood attended that party with an agenda and then gathered information to support her skewed perspective. The last paragraph where she admits purchasing some of the products does little to salvage this biased and unfair article.

To accuse these two women of heterocentrism is laughable. Most of the time these women do use the word *partner*, and if Ms. Ghiringhelli had a lapse of absolute political correctness who cares? Let her or she who is without guilt hurl that first stone. The items they sell and the attitude they present cater to both the gay and hetero world, and to present it otherwise is inaccurate and unfair.

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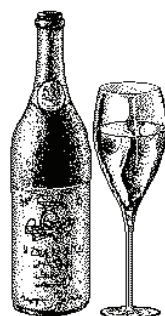
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