

WHAT ABOUT DEAR ABBY?

I am appalled that you would have a column ("Savage Love") in your free, easily available to all, including children, newspaper. This is pornographic literature! If this were an adult publication that was requested to be delivered to a home or bought in an adult store, by someone 18 or older — I would not have a problem with it. But I thought this was supposed to be a community newspaper about events, news and happenings around our area, including children's programs. Please — our children need us to help protect them from things they are not yet ready for or mature enough to handle.

Please consider ALL of your readers as you fill this space with a sex freak's advice. What about Dear Abby!

Sharon Benvie
Springfield

SPANKING TIME

What about the f*%#kin' kids?

Robert Young's (2/1) worry over what children will have access to is certainly troublesome. Thank goodness that children tend to have parents who are in charge of that whole thing. Otherwise, little ones might be reading "Savage Love" while smoking filterless cigarettes in the middle of the freeway.

The *Weekly* is not for toddlers. Neither is South Park, Grand Theft Auto, nor Tom Haggard's MySpace page. That doesn't mean that we should ban it or change it to suit those who refuse to look after their children. I have loved "Savage Love" ever since he said that the blood of Christian babies made the pink in pink lemonade. We need him in a town like this, where feeling offended or oppressed is more socially acceptable than enjoying who and what you are and being able to laugh about it.

I don't care how many *EW* advertisers know what's in "Savage Love." They're here to sell stuff, not place moral prohibitions on content. Shame on you, Robert. You need a spanking, and luckily there are several professionals in the back pages of the *Weekly* who can administer the necessary steps.

Johnny Davis
Eugene

GOURMET SEXUALITY

I have this image in my mind of the editors of the *Weekly* sitting back and laughing at all the controversy they have created around their back pages and at the old-fashioned sense of wholesomeness of the people whose ire they have triggered. In this issue, both sides are right.

Sexuality is a fundamental part of life and shouldn't necessarily be left out of public forums. But what quality of sexuality? Honestly, the back pages of *EW* are to sexuality what McDonald's is to gourmet food.

If you wish to discuss sexuality in a mean-

ingful way, then by all means do so; but don't consider "Savage Love" as a serious attempt at this.

This column is nothing but entertainment — witty and crass, but on a psychological level narcissistic and crude. Reading it is like being at the carnival freak show. Is this what the editors of *EW* consider to be "discussing sexuality"? Let's be real.

The *Weekly* has deliberately positioned itself as a community newspaper, and yet it it seems aloof of taking responsibility for the quality of its own content in some areas. In reading "Savage Love," first I laugh a little bit at what appear to be made-up stories; and then I cry, realizing some impressionable (i.e. young) or naive people may be taking this as serious commentary on the topic of human sexuality.

David A. Caruso
Eugene

IRAQI LOSSES GLOSSED

The provocative and disturbing cover of your newspaper the week of Jan. 4 accentuates the America-centric attitude most citizens take regarding the country's latest foray into imperialistic hubris in Iraq, thanks to the moron-in-chief and his henchmen.

That 3,000-plus of America's finest have been sacrificed on the alter of "democracy" (read: capitalist, neo-corporate colonialist, profit-taking and market expansion) is, indeed, a tragedy, especially since evidence has proved this to be a war of discretion rather than one of necessity. But your cover, sans any explanatory article, I believe glosses over the stunning losses the Iraqis have been dealing with for the last 15 years, whether by U.N. sanctions, which conservatively killed 500,000 Iraqi children, or the latest civil war triggered by the U.S. invasion and occupation, which has killed somewhere between 400,000 and 650,000 Iraqis and displaced 3.5 million more.

America has destroyed a country, caused untold human misery, refused to take responsibility for it and then has the unmitigated gall to weep and wail over *its* sacrifices, which, let's face it, are usually someone else's, thank goodness. It really is all about us, isn't it?

Well, never fear. These losses, along with 22,000 wounded, are well within the cost-profit parameters laid out by the corporatocracy and the various war profiteers. After all, when you run a worldwide operation for profit and glory, you have to expect losses.

Timothy Crow
Eugene

UP TO US NOW

In Molly Ivins' last column she said, "We are the people who run this country. We are the deciders. And every single day, every single one of us needs to step outside and take some action to help stop this war."



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