

ers? In my opinion, deflecting pain onto others is the action of a coward. Instead of trying to celebrate and accept our differences, we are taught to document and catalog them.

Many of us are through with the worn-out tradition of believing that we must defend ourselves against people who act, think or look different than us. The last time I checked, we are all human beings. Let us stop trying to categorize and identify all of our differences. We should start to celebrate our commonalities. Once we as a community can agree to honor the common good of *each person*, we all will be strengthened. There is an old phrase that one of my elders often repeated, "The higher you think of others the greater your world will be." Please, take just a moment to imagine how great our world can be.

Caitlin Turner Robertson
Eugene

A WEEKLY SWIZZLE?

I really have to voice my thanks and appreciation for a couple of things. One is the fellow who wrote in last week (Mitch, 3/15) and stated: "One thought I have is that it might be extremely selfish of me to insist on *EW*'s continued publication of Savage just so I can have my weekly hoot and to hell with even considering how it might affect the children in our community." I also appreciated Dan Savage himself stating in written and spoken word that his column is not for children.

The bottom line is that it is the *EW*'s decision to make itself a community oriented paper for everyone or not. I would think that the *EW* would want to keep the family audience and to influence the whole community in a positive way. So why not make *Swizzle* a separate paper with a focus on all the adult material? Maybe it costs too much for new newspaper stands. Ultimately I suspect it is this cost that might prevent the *EW* from making this decision. In that case how about making it a permanent insert, and the readers can then easily remove the insert before the children can see it. This would cost virtually nothing to do. Maybe it would even drum up more business for *EW*. *Swizzle* could contain the personals, the escort services, Dan Savage and the voluptuous picture ads. Give it a try and make the entire community happy!

And a question for those who think that *EW* need not be concerned with the children in our town. What do you think of the 12- and 13-year-old prostitutes who earn a living in Eugene?

Janelle Kinski
Eugene

BE A GREEN STEWARD

As a person of faith, I have come to believe that global warming is a real and

growing threat and is one of the greatest moral issues of our time. Since I believe we have been called to protect God's creation, we must take action *now* to preserve the earth for the benefit of our children and grandchildren.

I applaud Governor Kulongoski and the governors of Washington, California, Arizona and New Mexico for agreeing to work together toward a western cap of greenhouse gas emissions. Gov. Kulongoski has called for increased use of renewable energy to help achieve that goal.

My faith leads me to consider the kind of energy sources we use to be a moral issue. I am thankful that God has blessed Oregon with abundant renewable energy potential so our state can become a national leader in renewable energy.

I feel it is time for Oregon to join 21 states which have already adopted Renewable Energy Standards. Our legislators should pass legislation requiring utilities to have 25 percent of their power generated by renewable resources by 2025.

Our members of Congress should support similar legislation at the national level. Renewable energy is good stewardship of God's creation.

Dorothy Sistrom
Springfield

GREEN MOMENTUM

Global warming has finally found a national audience! *Nightline* recently interviewed Thomas Knutson, a hurricane researcher with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. According to his account, the Bush administration suppressed his research on the effects of human-induced global warming on the intensities of hurricanes. Knutson's research found that the rising sea-surface temperatures are going to cause hurricanes to get significantly stronger and more destructive. The online magazine *Salon* has reported that the White House controlled media access to NOAA scientists and routinely scrutinized their reports.

As residents of Oregon, and more specifically Eugene, we see the momentum of the green movement all around us. In addition, many of us know that small changes to our lifestyle can make big differences: using fluorescent light bulbs, biking to work instead of driving, demanding greater fuel efficiency from our vehicles and energy accountability from our corporations and local governments. But just as important as being a "green citizen" is convincing the rest of this country why global heating is of paramount concern and how they can be energy conscious.

The independence of the news media is constantly being eroded, and most of the country doesn't have access to impartial

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