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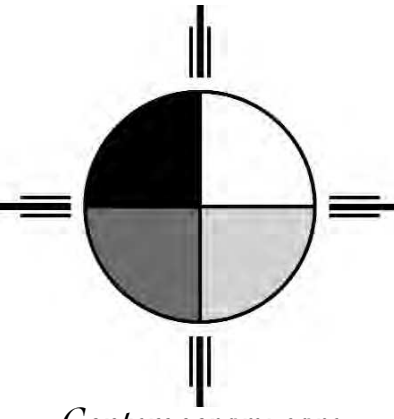
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news Briefs



Isabel Charlé and Ben Cooper of the Beyond Patriarchy collective

— Lakoff is careful to say “progressive” rather than “liberal,” which has negative associations for some — holds that people need to be nurtured in order to reach their full potential.

Everyone uses both metaphors to some degree — even the most nurtured child can understand an Arnold Schwarzenegger movie, Lakoff said. But mutual inhibitory circuitry, the same brain mechanism that only lets people see one view of an optical illusion at a time, prevents people from using the two metaphors simultaneously. Therefore, rather than being on a continuum between conservative and progressive views, people hold different combinations of conservative and progressive views.

Given that, Lakoff said Obama's approach to bipartisanship, finding the progressive positions conservatives hold, is sounder than that of Clinton, who he said acts as though there truly is a center position and moves her positions rightward in order to compromise. Lakoff also criticized Clinton's strategy of dividing the electorate into special interest groups, adding that these groups do not add up to a coherent progressive vision.

“Obama connects to what is real,” Lakoff said, adding that the candidate's Reaganesque appeal to people's emotions is not necessarily illegitimate or irrelevant. “The issues change over four years, but values and trust are constant.” — *Eva Sylwester*

BEYOND PATRIARCHY CONFERENCE

This year's Beyond Patriarchy conference will be held at the UO on May 9 and 10. The previous incarnation of the conference, which focuses on empowering women and was called Against Patriarchy, has often drawn a crowd — including the ears and eyes of the FBI and the Eugene police hoping to find leads on Eugene “radicals.”

Beyond Patriarchy will cover a range of issues from male domination, privilege and sexism to white supremacy and colonialism. “Against Patriarchy was really successful last year,” says Isobel Charlé, who is part of the collective organizing Beyond Patriarchy. “I wanted the same this year.”

Various workshops will cover a range of issues from women's herbal health to male feminism. Performances will include a pocket porn reading of feminist erotic literature. Music, food and zine trading will be included over the weekend. Space will be provided for open mic time and impromptu workshops.

“We are trying to keep the conference broad and organic,” says Charlé. “We want to give people the chance to make whatever they want out of the experience.”

The conference is free and open to the public. Beyond Patriarchy is still seeking

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