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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

As an analogy, in their attempt to become free from the influences of "The West," would you show more sympathy and support for the methodologies of Gandhi — or al-Qaeda?

David Pirie
Eugene

EXPEL THE PERVERTS

In light of all the letters referencing my anti-Country Fair one last month (7/16), I feel compelled to respond.

First of all, I'm not an ignorant jerk. I don't make things up. Everything I wrote is based in fact. Perhaps *you* don't do LSD, litter or walk around naked, gawking at 16 year olds, but many people do. I regret that I offended the *small* community of people who actually engage in decent behavior. I recommend you expel the perverts and druggies in order to retain your good name.

But there's another thing that's on my mind: What's the big deal? It's an event, a festival. Why do people admittedly wait the entire year for this occasion? You can't find love, beauty and peace in your garden, with your family and friends or in your pets? That's really pathetic. I've been to many moving concerts and gatherings, but none of it compares to the solace provided by my family.

"I waited all year for the fair" has got to be one of the dumbest things anyone has ever said to me. You wait for the birth of a child, for an anniversary or for your corn to sprout in the summer; waiting for a congested three-day event is really, really lame. I'm sorry. I don't see the attraction.

And all those kind hippie folk get all pissed when you say something to that effect.

But if what I said doesn't apply to *you*, why would it bother you in the first place? Sounds like a case of guilty conscience.

Eve Cienfuegos
Eugene

IT'S ONLY FAIR

Interesting beholder's-eyes opinions by Greg Hume (8/6) and Eve Cienfuegos (7/16), regarding the Oregon Country Fair. Like those two, I went to a few fairs in the 1980s. It might have been stinky, maybe I was overly-inebriated and tripped over a dirty diaper or two — can't recall details, since I've also been to every fair since 1976, and the positive afterglow completely eclipses any downside moments.

I do confess that on multiple occasions I've been seen as a 50-something man in the company of a bunch of teenage girls. My lifelong fair-going daughters and their friends were in the weird habit of hanging with geezer parents, on a peer level. Didn't seem disgusting or wrong to me, somehow.

Seems to me that Eve and Greg are meant for each other. Perhaps a regular wine tasting junket through the Oregon countryside, every second weekend of July? Leave the rest of us slovenly hippies to revel in our filth and squalor — no hard feelings. To each their own, and I quite love my beautiful, creative, musically-inspired tribe of idealists. At the very least we've managed to preserve and steward a huge chunk of original woodland, in perpetuity; the annual festivities are icing on that cake.

Long live the OCF!

Vip Short
Eugene

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