

of speech. I hope you will give equal space to Forum regular attendees to refute the content of his allegations and deconstruct their real purpose.

Briefly, “anti-hate” movements in America today have nothing to do with stopping racism. On the contrary, their agenda is undermining freedom in order to aid the most important form of racism in the country — Jewish racism. Consider: The U.S. boycotted the white apartheid state until it collapsed. It supports the equally violent Jewish apartheid state to the hilt. The “anti-racist” left helps this program as much as overt Zionists do, using weasel words like “an environment where hateful acts and the espousal of hateful ideas, without context to the university mission of continuing education, is not tolerated.” This means the abolition of the First Amendment and academic freedom. Under the PC language, it is a direct attack on our society’s values in the service of another’s.

I reject the far right’s analysis of the Jewish Question, but at the same time, I need freedom to figure out America’s peculiar support for Israel’s crimes against humanity, in complete contrast to its own history of slowly but surely abolishing racism. Williams and co. are trying to take it away from people on the left like me as much as from others.

Jay Knott
aka Roderick McLaughlin
Portland

SPONSOR A SURGERY

I am a fan and a frequent reader, but I was surprised to see the omission of the City of Eugene Spay and Neuter Clinic from the “Just Give It” list of organizations helping animals because the clinic is the Rosetta Stone of the humane movement in Lane County. We called the clinic the Spay-Neuter Implementation Program (SNIP). The omission is akin to forgetting to have mentioned Rosa Parks during the Montgomery Bus Boycott.

Please allow me to correct the omission: In addition to the other worthy organizations listed in the article please remember the City of Eugene Spay and Neuter Clinic and sponsor the spay or neuter of dogs and cats by participating in the clinic voucher program. Your participation will help continue work that began more than 30 years ago, spaying and neutering more than 100,000 animals and preventing millions of unnecessary deaths due to pet overpopulation. To sponsor a surgery please contact 682-3643.

Joan Walker
Eugene

HEALTH CARE SLAVERY

House Democrats, including Peter DeFazio, are poised to shirk the public option, just as the Senate has, while forcing Americans to buy health care or pay the price. What no public option means is that there will be no incentive for the for-profit health care providing corporations to keep their costs down or for for-profit insurance corporations to provide adequate coverage. You will be paying about half the amount of your rent or mortgage to insurance companies that are in the business of denying coverage because they are in no way beholden to the

public, but to their shareholders!

Without a public option or a law prohibiting health care providers from for-profit status, we will get no health care reform whatsoever. Right now, corporate health care stock is increasing in value because of the expectation that the new law will force us all to buy whatever they’re selling. This is no kind of reform at all. In fact, it’s the opposite. We are forced to buy the same old bad health care that allows people to die and forces families into bankruptcy. Way to keep the public from protesting by passing the Senate bill on Christmas Eve!

Jennifer Shier
Eugene

ECONOMIC STATUS QUO

The economy is recovering from the recession, the media says, but most people aren’t feeling it. Experts patiently explain how the recovery won’t reach the job market for awhile, because employment is a lagging indicator. The commentary stops with that, as though there were nothing more to say, but the logical conclusion is whatever effect economics has on the public, it is not direct.

Economics doesn’t concern itself much with folks mired in the everyday. It views the quality of our lives, notions of human rights, and collateral damage from dog-eat-dog financial battles as regrettable. We are human resources. Our use is as fuel. So if economics isn’t central to most of us, why does it intrude into nearly every learned discussion?

Economics single-mindedly pursues efficiency, sorting winners into a parallel universe and enriching them beyond imagination. Not only does it create this heavenly kingdom, but it rules up there, guiding business development, mergers and acquisitions, stock offerings, etc. That’s where the money is, the universe of Wall Street, bankers, titans of industry. And there’s your answer: Economics is vital to the upper class.

This system works. We grumble, but there’s usually enough trickling down to keep most of us quiet. The over-emphasis on economics does have a downside: abandonment of the poor (lower class), degradation of the environment, perpetual preparation for war and financial busts which fall most irrevocably on the middle. But it has built a strong country.

The public doesn’t understand the bargain it has made, and the upper class aims to keep it that way. As long as it can deny its own existence, the rest of us will keep believing in “our national economy” and unknowingly support higher privileges for the few.

Change begins with awareness. When speakers back an argument with “economics” and “the economy,” think “upper class” and “status quo.”

At Christmas, we had our annual reminder that *It’s a Wonderful Life*, which this year was surprisingly familiar. The basic economics has staunchly remained the same over generations. The question is, why have we?

Douglas Brown
Eugene

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