

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



in Iraq (OWFI) has shelters for women fleeing domestic violence in many areas now under siege, and is mobilizing to move women and children to safer areas. New York-based MADRE is collecting donations to help.

As MADRE Director Yifat Susskind points out, "This surge of violence signals a return to the worst days of the sectarian fighting triggered by the U.S. invasion. In fact, these divisions are directly traceable to policies advanced by the U.S. that exacerbated distinctions between Sunni and Shia, and pushed Iraq away from a secular government."

You can help. Go to madre.org to donate and for more information, or send a check earmarked for Iraqi Women's Emergency to MADRE, 121 W. 27th St. #301, New York, NY 10001.

Robert Roth
Eugene

IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

UO VP Robin Holmes recently rejected a request for support for professor Jennifer Freyd's survey of experiences and perceptions of the UO campus climate. This study has the interest and shared surveys of a U.S. Senate committee and a White House task force, who asked Dr. Freyd to assist in piloting their work. I am sure they are intrigued by the university's response.

I have published survey development and research on abuse and related topics for more than 30 years. I reviewed the measures in the current survey, several used in my own work. There is nothing unusual, unethical or problematic about the proposed study, and it asks important questions about the impacts of institutional and interpersonal betrayal.

To attack this project for an *imagined potential* for bias by Freyd further diminishes an administration embarrassed by recent decisions, in local and national press accounts. That scandal occurred *after* this project was in development; Freyd's advocacy is the logical *result* of her many years of widely respected scholarly work. If a famed cancer scientist used her data to testify against smoking, would her research

now be criticized? If a professor who had authored a scholarly book on disabilities then advocated for his autistic son, would his work be recast as "biased"?

Scholars around the country are watching with concern that faculty and students who dare to speak out at UO will fall victim to suppression and criticism. Please keep us informed by your reporting.

Kathryn Quina, Ph.D.
Hope, R.I.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Kathryn Quina is a fellow of the American Psychological Association and a professor of psychology and gender and women's studies and associate dean at the Feinstein Providence Campus of the University of Rhode Island.

BARD IN THE PARK

Summer is upon us and that means another great Roving Park Players production is illuminating a lovely park near you. The first of two plays this summer, Shakespeare's *Richard III*, is updated in modern attire, a heavy metal soundtrack and blistering performances by some of Eugene's best actors.

Don't let the pervasive humor fool you: The Bard's timeless themes of intrigue, power-grabbing, seduction and betrayal with an occasional beheading will not disappoint those well-acquainted with this tragedy. For those less familiar with the story, a glance at a synopsis is all one needs, as the actors deftly convey the sense and meaning of Shakespeare's brilliant text. Local fencing master Sean Hayes choreographed the culminating fight scenes (which can be seen in this Community TV promo filmed during a rehearsal: wkly.ws/1s4).

Gather thy kinsfolk, pack a picnic and hie thee to one of the performances this week. All performances begin at 6 pm, are free, and canopies are provided in case it should rain. Ahhh, summertime and theater in our parks is one of the great pleasures in life. Huzzah! For more information, visit rovingparkplayers.org.

Eva Kronen
Eugene

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