

# THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

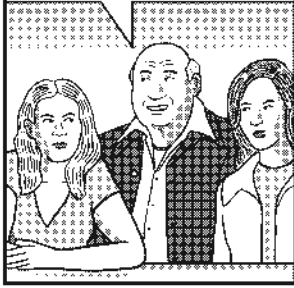
## VOTER OUTREACH

HELLO, LADIES! I'M FROM THE REPUBLICAN PARTY--AND WE WANT YOUR VOTES!

LIKE I ALWAYS SAY, YOU CAN'T HAVE A PARTY WITHOUT SOME LADIES!



NOW, I KNOW--SOME OF YOU GALS GET UPSET BECAUSE WE'RE TRYING TO RESTRICT ACCESS TO ABORTION, AND EVEN MAKE IT AS DIFFICULT AS POSSIBLE TO GET BASIC CONTRACEPTION--



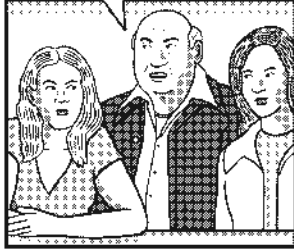
--AND THERE'S THAT WHOLE BUSINESS WITH THE FORCED TRANS-VAGINAL ULTRASOUNDS--

--AND IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT WE HAVE NO INTEREST IN LEGISLATING EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK--



--BUT WE ARE WILLING TO EXPRESS DISAPPROVAL OF THE DREADFULLY SEXIST THING SAID BY THE BOORISH BILLIONAIRE WE'RE DESPERATELY TRYING TO DRIVE OUT OF THE RACE.

I MEAN, UNLESS THERE'S A BACKLASH, I'M NOT MAKING ANY PROMISES.

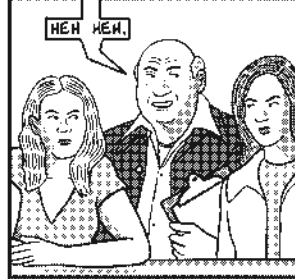


SO CAN WE COUNT ON YOU GIRLS?



I'LL TAKE YOUR HOSTILE SILENCE AS A "YES."

NOW WHICH ONE OF YOU LITTLE DARLINGS WANTS TO GO MAKE ME A SANDWICH?



A brave couple let them know that they were very displeased with their behavior. Doyle's letter was right that "they change day to day." Perhaps they have been rebuilt by now.

Marvin Davis  
Eugene

## NO THROWING BOOKS

I had never entertained the notion that I would find one of your covers bothersome until the Aug. 13 edition. The idea that books should be thrown is something I object to on an almost daily basis.

As a volunteer in a preschool and, during the school year, kindergarten classes, I spend a fair amount of time teaching respect for books. A repeated mantra is, "We do not throw books!"

Not being privy to what percentage of your readership is between 3 and 6 years of age, I won't even guess at how many times I will now hear, "But I saw them throw books in the newspaper."

Kenner McAlister  
Cottage Grove

## PLAGUED WITH DRIVERS

Apparently there's more than one Riverview Street in east Eugene. The Riverview I walk end to end almost every day (which, coincidentally, is also getting speed cushions) is plagued with drivers traveling far above the posted 25 miles-per-hour limit, endangering other drivers, pedestrians, playing children, pets and wildlife. Locals have erected handmade signs imploring drivers to "drive like you live here!"

I welcome the traffic calming speed cushions, and I imagine so do the majority of Riverview residents.

David Stambaugh  
Eugene

## ALTERNATIVE TRAJECTORY

Having followed the exchange between Dillon Thomson (7/23 and 8/6) and Karl Stout (7/30) for several weeks now, I

submit that they're both offering very important and not necessarily antagonistic insights. No force since the asteroid that wiped out the dinosaurs has been as ecologically destructive as the industrial extraction system Thomson condemns, and his call to fight to bring it to an end makes sound sense.

But to dismiss Stout's view overlooks the fact that bringing down the prevailing global order with nothing but apocalyptic-dystopian-anarchic nightmares or technotopian-space colonization-divine salvationist fantasies to fill the void will almost certainly make things far worse than they are now if for no other reason than the meltdowns of the 443 (soon to be 503) nuclear reactors Ted Taylor cites in his interview with McPherson (7/16). Yet, to uphold the industrial infrastructure on which we depend in order to prevent these meltdowns requires all the other industrially facilitated (and ultimately suicidal) forms of planetary destruction to continue.

Thus, with regard to nuclear reactors alone, neither an immediate industrial collapse nor the effort to maintain the present global trajectory have any real chance of leading to a healthier future. Instead, a much more imaginative, challenging and collaborative approach is needed: seeking a personal or cultural trajectory that leads toward positive, ecologically sound alternatives to industrial modernity out of which the gradual, conscious and noncatastrophic phase-out of such artifacts as nuclear reactors will naturally flow.

The efforts to uphold this alternative trajectory both individually and collectively will then bring about the very dissolution of the industrial order advocated by Thomson and in a way that avoids the calamitous societal meltdown feared by Stout.

The dinosaurs didn't have a choice. We still do.

Tim Fox  
McKenzie Bridge

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