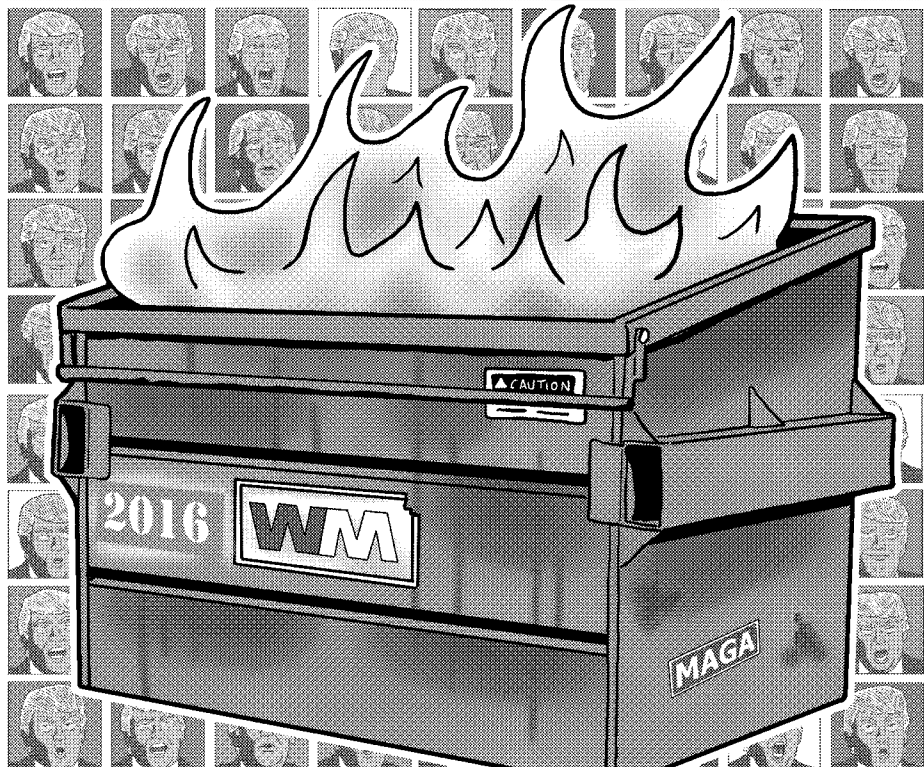


# THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

## 2016 IN REVIEW: A COMPREHENSIVE LOOK BACK



our own hidden prejudices with the same unrelenting discipline and clarity with which we approach hate-driven racism. That doesn't mean shaming people. That doesn't mean dismissing people.

It means sternly and compassionately holding ourselves and others accountable when we witness or perpetrate racist actions, and a swift declaration without nuance or exception that the moral virtues of all racism are not open for debate — that racism is fundamentally evil and entirely antithetical to our values and way of life.

Abby Pauls  
Eugene

### SEX WORK SALVO

Many a “captain save a ho” say prostitution is repugnant and needs to be stopped [“Rapistitution,” Letters, 12/22]. Believe me when I say there are a lot worse things than using your sexuality to make money — like not having cash to feed loved ones and spending a whole night or day without getting your fix.

When in withdrawal, “selling sex” is a small price to pay for 35 bucks to get well.

I had a prostitute for a roommate, and she told me “hooking” was the easiest way to make money if you can attract a john and keep the damn cops off your back: just sprawl on a bed, put a condom on a guy and turn a trick.

Another pro I knew would much rather hook than any other work, and it helped support her heroin and uppers habit.

Which brings me to another point: In Amsterdam, where drugs are decriminalized and prostitutes work legally, receive police protection and get health exams regularly, everybody is happier and less uptight.

Should anyone have to be a prostitute? It depends on how ambitious and uninhibited you are. If you are attractive sexually but have something against renting your body parts to lecherous people, then get a different job. Both options should be available in a free society.

Lots of prude fundamentalists who be-

lieve copulation should be reserved for reproduction and is sinful are the ones who need more than anyone else the expertise and attention of someone who is a professional in the “gratifying arts of physical love”

David Ivan Piccioni  
Eugene

### UNFAIR CRITICISM

Cindy Kay Biles needs to be corrected. In response to her “Commodity Planet” letter [12/15], she wrongfully over-dramatized her subject to point the finger at others and denigrate her father in a public place during the Christmas holiday season. It's unacceptable and the literal definition of criticizing unfairly.

During the holiday season we are supposed to celebrate family and joy, and be kind. I know Biles is struggling and hurting inside, but *EW* should support this message to remind readers to be respectful to their elders at all times.

Biles also misleads readers to believe chemical engineers poison our planet. Readers should know that many chemical engineers are environmental engineers who work hard to keep our air and water clean.

Biles is either misinformed or just doesn't understand much about this profession. I am a chemical engineer and a good person who practices good habits each day of my life trying to minimize my impact to make the world a better place. I live here in Eugene too.

Biles did make a good point though that “the time to go on a better path is now.” So let's do something about it!

Brett Kennedy  
Eugene

### LISTEN TO ELDER BROTHER

Winona LaDuke, Native American environmental leader and executive director of Honor the Earth, spoke to many hundreds of us in Eugene in November.

Before the program, attendees might have noticed a spool of golden thread was unraveled person-to-person, starting near

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|                                                | 3.23 Keola Beamer & Jeff Peterson |
|                                                | 3.24 Davina & The Vagabonds       |
|                                                | 3.30 Ana Popovic                  |