

other elements of the systematic (and often policy-based) American holocaust.

So guess what, folks: That's exactly who we are, and it always has been.

*Jeff Harrison  
Eugene*

## UNION BLUES

I recently received a flyer in the mail from the anti-union, anti-worker group OptOutToday. Following the 5-4 Supreme Court decision (Janus v. AFSCME), union members can now opt out of paying dues or joining the union.

The flyer lists several questions with answers. One question is: "What happens if a public employee opts out of paying dues?" The answer listed is: "An employee's wages and benefits will continue to be set by the union collective bargaining agreement and will not change if the employee resigns from."

In other words, you will keep benefitting from all of the important work done by the union without having to contribute. You will have better benefits, wages and work environments without having to pay for it.

Sounds like "free stuff" to me.

*Joshua Welch  
Eugene*

## HATE-FILLED HANDBOOK?

EW's July 25 Slant column mentioned that a communications professor from Northwest Christian University spoke about "Free Speech vs. Hate Speech" at the

City Club of Eugene. Is the word "ironic"? Hypocritical? As a condition of employment at NCU, the instructor who spoke had to sign a "Statement of Understanding," saying "I am living in compliance with the Employee Handbook dated April 1, 2017." The new handbook states "Our understanding of marriage as the singularly appropriate context for sexual intimacy is rooted in the Genesis account of creation..." What is a legally same-sex married professor to do?

I know this is now a condition of employment at Northwest Christian University because I didn't sign and was "unhired" last September, after 12 years of exemplary employment in the school counseling program. I was told I was not "on the list of who could be hired" for not signing the post Trump election, new "Employee Handbook Statement of Understanding."

I fail to see how creating a condition of employment that basically states that you must be heterosexual (aka sexuality as in Genesis) to work here does not constitute "hate." It's certainly discrimination. NCU changed its public policies to sound more inclusive because many community school districts and agencies shunned their student's placements. But don't be fooled, practices remain as before. I believe the new handbook is homophobia and I think that is "hateful." I know, I used to work there.

*Debra McGee  
Eugene*



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