

Opinion articles do not necessarily represent the views of the Portland Observer. We welcome reader essays, photos and story ideas. Submit to news@portlandobserver.com.

OPINION



New Prices Effective May 1, 2010

Martin Cleaning Service

Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning Residential & Commercial Services
 Minimum Service CHG. \$45.00

A small distance/travel charge may be applied

CARPET CLEANING
 2 Cleaning Areas or more \$30.00 Each Area
 Pre-Spray Traffic Areas (Includes: 1 small Hallway)

1 Cleaning Area (only) \$40.00
 Includes Pre-Spray Traffic Area (Hallway Extra)

Stairs (12-16 stairs - With Other Services): \$25.00

Area/Oriental Rugs: \$25.00 Minimum
Area/Oriental Rugs (Wool): \$40.00 Minimum

Heavily Soiled Area: Additional \$10.00 each area (Requiring Extensive Pre-Spraying)

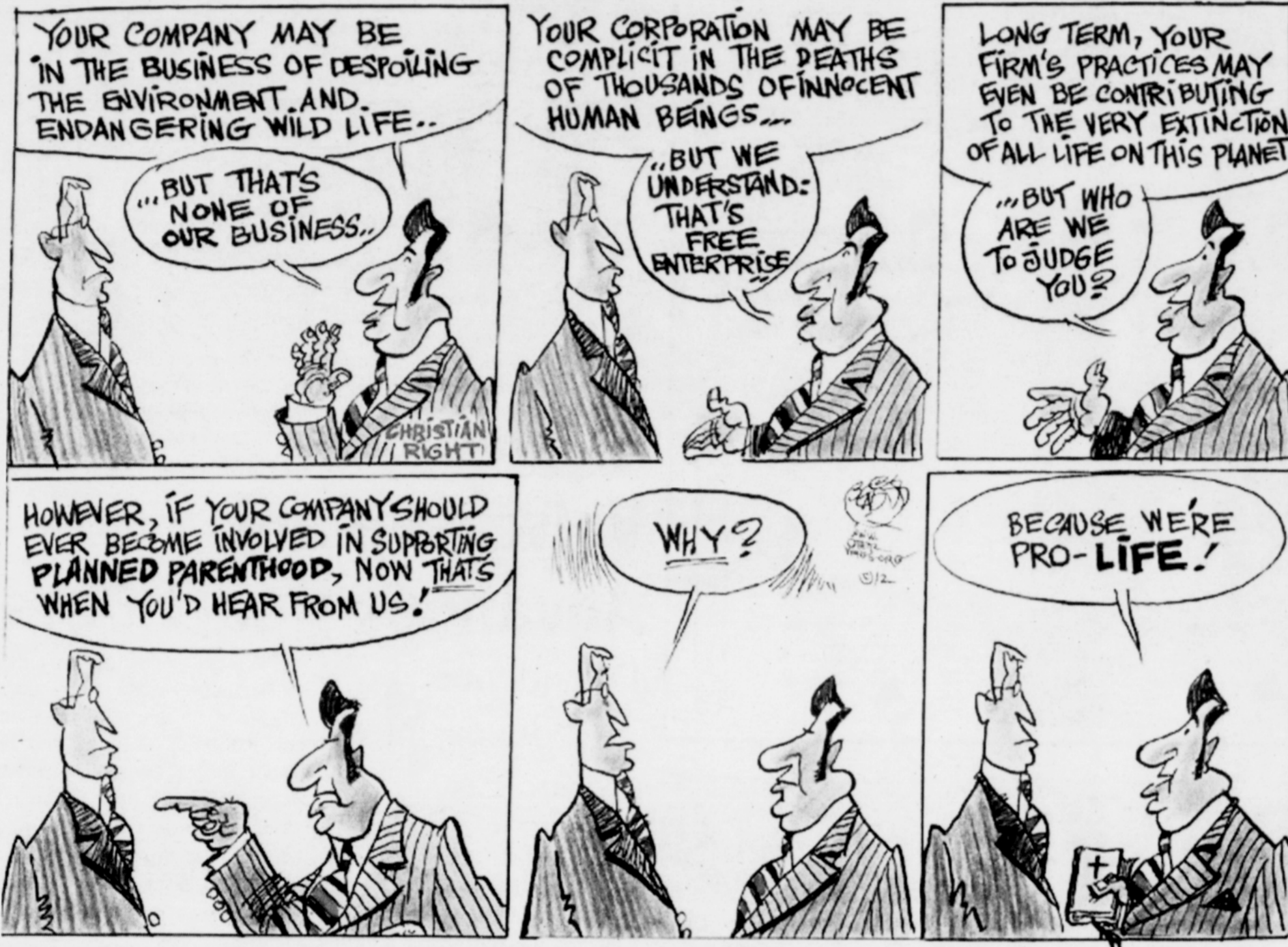
UPHOLSTERY CLEANING

Sofa: \$69.00
 Loveseat: \$49.00
 Sectional: \$109 - \$139
 Chair or Recliner: \$25 - \$49
 Throw Pillows (With Other Services): \$5.00

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- Area & Oriental Rug Cleaning
- Auto/Boat/RV Cleaning
- Deodorizing & Pet Odor Treatment
- Spot & Stain Removal Service
- Scotchguard Protection
- Minor Water Damage Services

SEE CURRENT FLYER FOR ADDITIONAL PRICES & SERVICES
 Call for Appointment (503) 281-3949



Howling over EPA Mercury Regulations

GOP lawmakers pick business over the unborn

BY JIM HIGHTOWER

Why do the Republicans in Congress hate unborn babies?

Yeah, I know they profess to love the unborn. They even consider them to be "persons" from the very moment of conception.

Yet, whose interest do you think these same politicians have chosen to protect when it comes to regulating an especially nasty industrial toxin that threatens unborn babies?

That nasty substance is mercury, a neurotoxin that spews into our air from old, coal-burning electric power plants. This



toxic mercury lands in water, where it's turned into methylmercury, which builds up in fish. Many pregnant women unwittingly eat these contaminated fish, and the methylmercury messes terribly with the emerging nervous systems of their fetuses, pro-

But wait, the lovers of the unborn aren't celebrating this move to stop industry from doing gratuitous damage to children's IQs.

ducing babies with impaired IQs, who are unable to think and learn as they should.

After 20-years of delay forced by lobbyists for utilities, the Environmental Protection Agency finally came out in December with regulations to control the mercury

emissions from power plants. Hallelujah—save the babies!

But wait, the lovers of the unborn aren't celebrating this move to stop industry from doing gratuitous damage to children's IQs.

Far from it. GOP lawmakers are now howling to overturn the EPA's mercury regulations. A bunch of them say they want to kill the EPA itself to stop such "governmental interference" in the corporate pursuit of profits. Unborn babies make great politics, but they don't make big campaign donations. The GOP goes with whom it really loves.

How ironic that the defenders of mercury pollution are "mad as a hatter" about the EPA's protection of children. Maybe they don't know that the phrase comes from 19th-century hat makers who used mercury compounds in their work, often causing mental damage that literally drove them mad.

Jim Hightower is a radio commentator, writer, and public speaker.

The Portland Observer Established 1970
 USPS 959-680
 4747 NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Portland, OR 97211
 EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, PUBLISHER: Charles H. Washington
 EDITOR: Michael Leighton
 DISTRIBUTION MANAGER: Mark Washington
 CREATIVE DIRECTOR: Paul Neufeldt

The Portland Observer welcomes freelance submissions. Manuscripts and photographs should be clearly labeled and will be returned if accompanied by a self addressed envelope. All created design display ads become the sole property of the newspaper and cannot be used in other publications or personal usage without the written consent of the general manager, unless the client has purchased the composition of such ad. © 2008 THE PORTLAND OBSERVER. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. REPRODUCTION IN WHOLE OR IN PART WITHOUT PERMISSION IS PROHIBITED. The Portland Observer—Oregon's Oldest Multicultural Publication—is a member of the National Newspaper Association—Founded in 1885, and The National Advertising Representative Amalgamated Publishers, Inc, New York, NY, and The West Coast Black Publishers Association

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Portland Observer, PO Box 3137, Portland, OR 97208

CALL 503-288-0033 FAX 503-288-0015
news@portlandobserver.com ads@portlandobserver.com
subscription@portlandobserver.com