

Abortion debaters—'ambiguity'

Quoting sources ranging from the 14th amendment to Associate Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, opponents in a Thurs. night Young Americans for Freedom (YAF) abortion debate agreed the issue is surrounded by cloud of "moral ambiguities."

Before a group of 35 persons, Robert Stock, UNL English professor, spoke against liberalized abortion laws and the Rev. Charles Stephen of the Nebraska Unitarian Church in Lincoln debated for the laws.

The reason for the ambiguities, according to both, is because discussion of the issue revolves around a balancing of rights, balancing those of the mother against those of the fetus.

The rights of the fetus are unclear, as interpretations as to when life begins vary, according to Stephen.

"But when we step on an acorn, are we killing a tree?" he asked in comparison.

Human beings have a priority over potential human beings on the matter of rights, he said.

"The health, life, happiness of women young and old is more important than the theologically-based laws" against abortion, according to Stephen.

"We should examine our own biases," said Stephen, when considering the rightness or wrongness of abortion. According to Stephen, restrictive abortion laws only stopped "safe, mechanically-wise" abortions. "Prior to the 1971 liberalized New York laws, there were as many as 500,000 illegal abortions a year in the United States," he said.

Professor Stock, who established at the outset of the debate that he was not a fanatic or a Roman Catholic, said that every modern embryology supports the pro life argument.

"The essential difference between the fetus and a newborn is that we don't see the fetus, and can't relate to it," he said. He used progressive development of the fetus as an argument against "interruption of growth while still in the womb."

Stock, appealing to the Constitution's 14th amendment, said that the amendment, once used to give blacks citizens' rights, is now being used by the Supreme Court to deprive the fetus of its right.

As to the mother's rights, Stock said women have the right to decide what happens to their own bodies, but that they are responsible to their bodies, too.

"Life is hard," he said. "We have to bear the consequences of our action or else suffer from moral cowardice and decadence."

ACROSS	45 Assaults	58 Organ part	9 Optional
1 To crack	49 Domestic pigeons	DOWN	10 Cord
5 Kitchen item	50 Resin	1 U.S. statesman	11 Minnesota
8 Ego	52 Appendage	2 Conceal	19 Behold!
12 Italian coin	53 Russian name	3 Operatic melody	21 Common value
13 Lyric poem	54 Sacred chest	4 Walk a beat	24 Distant
14 Charles Lamb	55 Anglo-Saxon serf	5 Very learned	25 Employ
15 Mine entrance	56 Fish sauce	6 Fuss	26 French astronomer
16 Base	57 Affirmative	7 Tidings	28 Insect
17 Penny		8 Cutting	29 Rowing devices
18 Annually			30 By way of
20 Intervals			31 Printer's measures
22 — Paul			36 Cavity in birds
23 Insect			37 Greek letter
24 Complete			38 Notice
27 Futile			41 Upon
32 Happy — lark			42 Wild ox
33 Beverage			43 Select
34 Vigor			44 Kill
35 Re-assemble			46 Comfort
38 Legumes			47 Prong
39 Inlet			48 Snow vehicle
40 Card game			51 Exist
42 Insect genus			

Avg. solution time: 21 min.

JUG	CAPS	GLEN
ASE	ALAE	ROME
BENEDICT	UNIT	
EYE	TUNNELS	
BERATE	POT	
ETA	SAM	TELLS
SATE	RAP	DIAL
SLEPT	ROI	BOO
	ION	INFEST
STETTED	SIR	
AIDA	VEGETATE	
GRIP	EMIR	LOW
SETH	RENT	SEE

Answer to yesterday's puzzle.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12				13				14			
15				16				17			
18				19		20	21				
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49					50	51			52		
53					54				55		
56					57				58		

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