



## Letters

### Clinic's role explained

In response to Chris Koenig's letter (Daily Nebraskan, Feb. 22), I would like to clarify a point in her response on Planned Parenthood.

Working as a volunteer at Planned Parenthood of Lincoln, I have helped with programs for high schools and newcomers to our clinic. Those programs have included information about birth control methods. When we go to a high school, we usually give birth control information that is available at our clinic; we also tell teen-agers it's all right to say "no," and we try to promote communication between parents and teen-age couples.

However, the choice to say "no" is not handed over our counter in prescription form. This choice is available inside the person in that situation. This option should be taught to teen-age couples and supported by the family and the church.

As the earlier letter mentioned, the course of teen-age pregnancy is on the rise. It is obvious that this message is not being taken very seriously from all three parties: The church, the family and the teen-age couple.

Our philosophy is not "Do it, but don't get caught." Our philosophy is that every child should be a wanted child.

It is very sad for us to think about teen-agers who try to follow the Pope's stance on birth control and do not have the will power to commit themselves to it. More than 50 percent of the teen-age couples who come to us for help have been sexually active for a year. What happens to teen-agers who come in too late for our help: Single-parent families, forced marriages, abortion, or deformed children because the teen-age mother did not know how to take care of herself during the pregnancy. At Planned Parenthood, we would like to see this lesson taught through our help.

In the earlier letter, the overtone is that the sex act has only one purpose: To have children. Planned Parenthood does not offer the easy way out for people who have sex. We simply provide information and birth control methods to couples who believe sex is a natural spontaneous act and that children do not have to be the outcome.

Chris Cerny  
Freshman  
Undeclared

### Statement discriminates

March 2, I read in the Daily Nebraskan that Dr. Paul Cameron, chairman of the Committee to Oppose Special Rights for Homosexuals, make the following comment: "If people choose to discriminate against homosexuals, it's their right under the Constitution. As a heterosexual, that doesn't bother me."

It occurred to me that this declaration is a very useful and general one, having implicit in its form the capacity to express virtually and discriminatory sentiment. Consider its range of applications. Now anyone, however inarticulate and muddled of thought, can compound his very own classist, racist or sexist rationalization with a minimum of effort by the following methods: Just read the passage again, after replacing the pair of words, "homosexuals, heterosexual," with any other pair of relevant cultural or political descriptors. Some examples are: "blacks, white;" "woman, man;" "the poor, upper-middle-class member;" and "Jews, Nazi."

A few words of caution are in order for those who intend to use this method. First, not that the phrases used in each pair have different pluralities; hence, some attention must be given to their constitution. The utterer of an instance of Cameron's statement will not be able to preserve the fragile illusion of his intelligence if care is not taken in respect of the plurality complication.

Second, the phrases in question are ordered; the first must be chosen from the class of nouns applying to the oppressed, and the second must be chosen from the class of nouns applying to the privileged. A user of the method who produces an instance of Cameron's statement without regard for the order of the arguments may be variously regarded as a flaming liberal, a reverse-dis-

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criminator or a very naive individual, depending upon the character of his audience.

For those readers who would like to use this method to express themselves but who feel it is entirely too demanding, I offer the following restatement of Cameron's comment, which covers all cases and expresses the underlying sentiment even more explicitly than does the original.

"We who are in power here consider it our undeniable right to behave in whatever way will preserve our power. Moreover, we are untouched by the difficulties that pre- vade the lives of our less powerful contemporaries, and we refuse to give any consideration to their problems."

Rebecca S. de la Motte  
Senior  
Chemistry

### Church must reconsider

This letter is in response to the guest opinion by Jay Vankat (Daily Nebraskan, Feb. 23) concerning the Catholic Church and world overpopulation.

Without going into endless arguments of what is morally correct and the reams of figures available concerning world overpopulation and food supply trends, I want to present a few facts:

The earth is of finite size and resources, and can support only a finite population. We are accelerating toward that finite limit geometrically and will reach it within 10 generations.

The population growth rate of the nations of the world is roughly proportional to their illiteracy rate. In other words, when people become educated enough to weigh the options they choose birth control, regardless of their religion.

How the Catholic Church and the rest of us should deal with these facts may deserve some rethinking. It seems irresponsible to ignore the obvious.

Ray Stark  
Senior  
Engineering

### Letter policy

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