



Letters

Expression of opinion results in verbal attack

As this month is National Family Sexuality month, it is expected that discussions and debates arise about such issues as homosexuality and premarital sex. One such panel discussion on the former subject was conducted in my Psychology of Women class. The panel consisted of three women identifying themselves as lesbians. That was all.

The discussion was going fine until I raised the question: "Do you feel any guilt for having these unnatural relations with other women?" (I am a born-again Christian and was speaking from this viewpoint.) The class was in

shock. One of the women accused me of asking a loaded question. But is there such a thing as a loaded question when you have a loaded panel? I heard responses like "Oh, come on!" and "Not all Christians believe that." (In response to the latter comment, I ask you to read Romans 1:21-32.)

I felt this treatment was unfair and against the instructor's stated purpose of the course. This purpose is stated in item three of the course syllabus: "You need to give feedback to practice your ability to take responsibility for your beliefs. No one will be penalized for stating their opinions." I took

responsibility for my beliefs, stated my opinion and was penalized.

I think any discussion on a controversial issue such as this should be given fair treatment in any class that chooses to deal with one. My instructor did not do so. I was the only one in class who expressed opposition and was the only one who was verbally attacked for standing up for my views. Such practice should not be condoned at this university, nor in any class.

Scott Stocking
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Student says homosexuality is mental illness

If a chilly Midwest climate keeps gays in the closet, as the title of John Koopman's article (DN, Oct. 11) indicates, I accept a return to the Ice Age with open arms. I cannot deny that I will be the first to accept that society must face up to the homosexual situation and become informed. But I will be the last to accept a homosexual community as anything even near permanent in our society.

In Koopman's article, Brezinski-Stein says, "Homophobia is more pronounced in the Midwest because the people have little expo-

sure to anyone who is 'different.' This may be true to a degree, but it would be a mistake to think that Midwest traditional values don't also play a role.

Larry Weiss points out that "in the late '60s and early '70s, homosexuality still was being treated as a mental illness..." While you read that in the past tense, hold on. That is one view that's here to stay. The most valid point in Koopman's article is that stated by Brezinski-Stein that "the problems are magnified by people who look for simplistic answers to

complex solutions."

While I believe that the answers are not simple, I stand by the fact that homosexuality is a mental illness. Believing such, I find it particularly hard to swallow Stebelman's statement that "gay liberation is intrinsically tied to women's liberation." In one sentence he has condemned 50 percent of America's population as mentally ill.

Tom Dierks
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Foreign students deserve local appreciation

In response to Nathan Strong's Oct. 10 letter to the editor voicing his concern for some people's narrow-mindedness pertaining to foreign students, I would like to exclaim, right-on, Nathan! As a student having lived in Europe and Asia, I also have a low tolerance for people who fail to consider the feelings of our foreign students and mock their identities.

Also, pure economics takes us further than just the mere goodwill. In a world with ever-increasing Third World populations and near stagnant developed-

trends will eventually force each one of us to think twice about meeting the world's needs, not to mention each individual's personal needs. How then can we cling to our present isolationary-utopian status in which we envision ourselves to live?

Many foreign students represent countries that hold vast resources vital to the world economy, while others represent countries with staggering problems in need of technology and resources. We cannot fail to see that our fellow students who are foreign representatives hold the key to major impact on the world

economy which eventually hits home — Lincoln.

Take a moment to consider the situation that many foreign students face: family, friends and all familiar ties lie thousands of miles away. They come here with one main goal, a prospective future — a future for themselves by rising above masses through higher education to better themselves and their countries. These courageous individuals, to say the least, deserve a hearty welcome and our admiration.

Annette Friskopp
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Sexual abuse warrants violence, student says

I agree with the idea of levying taxes on violent pornographic movies (James A. Fussell column on page 4 of Thursday's Daily Nebraskan). However, I feel taxes will induce these people to move underground or sell to international markets, if they are not doing so now. Besides, it could be years before such a law would be passed, if passed at all, for I'm sure the pornographic industry would fight until its last breath to hang onto any profitable portion of their abhorrent business.

Women are too passive in their attempts to deal with pornography, rape, child molestation or other sexual attacks against them. Picketing pornographic theaters and marches is not going to work. Men must realize women mean business, and one way is to

put ourselves on their level and fight violence with violence.

From day one our daughters should be taught and drilled in serious self-defense measures, such as judo, karate or any other combative sport. Train them to use a gun, not once, but make them practice to kill any man who tries to force himself upon her sexually. Concurrently, women must organize a secret search and destroy hit-team to kill any man acquitted for rape under twisted evidence. The members, of course, would remain anonymous to society and make their own rules accordingly.

For those who wish to fight peacefully, then do so by boycotting. These women should boycott stores that sell pornographic magazines, magazines that pub-

lish degrading advertisements of women being abused, the product advertised, or perhaps, picket the pornographic theaters.

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