

Readers discuss abortion, religion, Cameron

Letters

Cameron feeding on misfortune, ignorance

Paul Cameron should move to France. There, he and Jean-Marie LePen, the leader of an ultra-rightist National Front who called the tragedy of the Holocaust "a detail in the history of World War II" (Newsweek, Oct. 26), could plot together. These new-Nazi Fascists would see innocent victims of a modern-day Black Death (AIDS victims) cut off from living a civilized lifestyle by imprisoning them (conveniently calling it "quarantining") in camps or tattooing them for identification.

Paul Cameron feels there are two ways to do things: his way and the wrong way. It is his kind who are detrimental to the free way of life that we, as Americans, are fortunate enough to live in.

Cameron is feeding not only on the misfortune of the victims but also on society's ignorance and paranoia about the disease to further himself. The only way to stop such an entity is that we as a society can't let him get to us. It's like dogs: If they know you are afraid of them they use that fear. We must stop feeding Cameron and his inhuman cause.

To take Paul Cameron out of the spotlight he has usurped, he must be ignored. Without our negative publicity (i.e. refusing to debate him publicly) he is nothing.

Liz Rogan
senior
history

Religious hypocrisy shouldn't be tolerated

As Christians at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, we often have been accused of trying to integrate church with state. When advocating human decency and morality, we have

been charged with pushing our "out-of-date" values.

To our knowledge, however, Christians are not alone. It appears that Jews, Buddhists, Muslims and members of other traditional religions are deemed "religious enough" to be exempt from university sponsorship. Remember last year's furor over Bible-study table tents?

Where's the furor, then, over University Program Council's highly advertised and student-funded Earth Religion class? Is it because the separationists are true hypocrites, or is it just that they don't want to fly in the face of a popular new-age philosophy? Where are the survey of Christianity, contexts of Judaism, and views of Islam courses? We feel that this is a double standard that should no longer be tolerated by an "open-minded" student body. While we traditionalists are berated for our views, we are offended to see trendy ideologies given free forums and student-funded ads in the Daily Nebraskan.

Robert Smits Thomas Hoffman
senior senior
math English

Reader says actions have consequences

This letter is a response to Nanciana Hamilton's letter (Daily Nebraskan, Oct. 30).

James Sennett has made an assertion that unborn children have a right to live, regardless of consequences. Hamilton responds with typical pro-choice arguments: abstinence is not practical, unwanted children are expensive and inconvenient, birth control often fails, giving a child up for adoption is too painful, and pregnant rape victims should not have to carry their pregnancies to term. She concludes with a challenge to Sennett to find a 100 percent effective form of birth control before he condemns women who opt for abortion.

My question is this: What is the chief purpose of sex anyway? Is it not to produce children and regenerate the human race? The point is that sex has

a purpose and consequences. It is not the responsibility of the defenders of the unborn to come up with foolproof birth control, but rather of those who want sex without children.

Although the example of a pregnant, 14-year-old victim of date rape is a tragic one, I cannot help but feel that a person (unborn child) has a right to live regardless of who its father is. The unborn child should not pay the price for the actions of its father; society has once again taken the easy way out, using modern medical technology to kill the child rather than attacking the problem at its source: proper execution of justice to prevent such irresponsible behavior from occurring in the first place. Further consideration of the rape problem in American society is beyond the scope of this letter.

All our actions have consequences, and our culture persists in ignoring these consequences. These complex questions can only be resolved when everyone is willing to assume responsibility for their own behavior.

Perry Sink
electrical engineering

Engineering surcharge will set risky precedent

I am writing this letter in response to the uproar that has been caused by the announcement that the University of Nebraska Board of Regents is considering adding a 20 percent surcharge to the tuition of all students in the College of Engineering and Technology. I feel that by itself, it is not a major change, but this move sets a precedent that in the long run will do major damage to this university.

I was a student of a major university in the Southwest which had and still has a very fine engineering college. In 1985, this university tripled its tuition across the board because of the state's losses in oil revenue. Because of this, I was forced to return to my home state of Nebraska. Of course, I was disappointed, but I understood. This university was spending its

money on a new engineering facility (of which it has three, as well as new facilities for business and agriculture), paying top prices for professors who are outstanding in their fields of study, and leading the country in money spent on research and development.

When I heard of this surcharge, I began to look at it in the same light. I saw this: professors whose salaries do not even come close to the salaries of their contemporaries (I should know, my father is one); a college that needed funds to bring it up to par with similar colleges; and what stood out the most, a \$3.3 million student recreation center to be used mainly by the athletes of the university. Quite frankly, it made me sick. In the dictionary, the word "university" means

"a place for educating persons in the higher arts and sciences."

The College of Engineering needs \$500,000 to keep its accreditation. The Board of Regents and ultimately the Nebraska Legislature feels that we should spend \$3.3 million on a new rec center for a football team that has consistently placed in the top 10 for the past decade without one.

I hope that someday the NU Board of Regents and the Legislature will see the folly of their ways and start investing money in the education of the young men and women of this great state and not in the sports achievements of this so-called "university."

Noel Salac
junior
engineering

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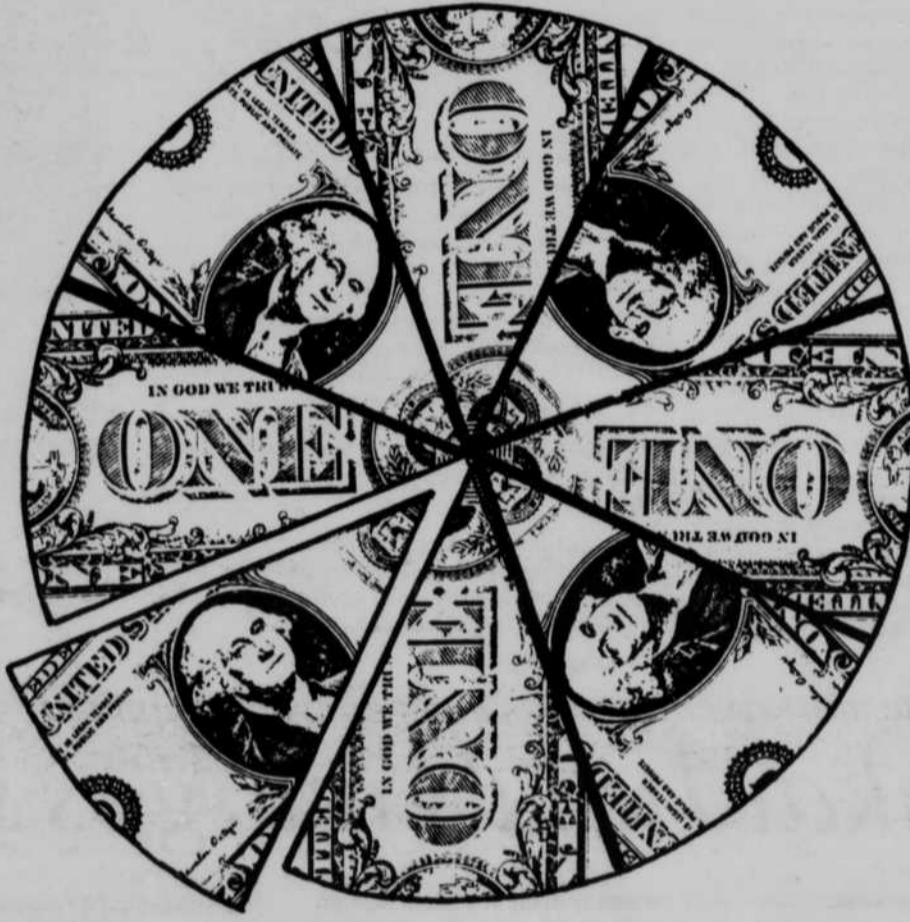
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