

Letters

Fetus called part of host's anatomy

"Thou shalt not terminate unwanted pregnancies." This is the Lord speaking. That's funny, I really don't remember him saying this. I do remember hearing this from people who claim to be saying or repeating God's word. Now I ask you, what god is this? It is not my God, for mine believes in me and my choice and does not tell me to go around telling other people how to run their lives. My God is the god of America which permits me to live my life and believe in whatever I want to, so to those of you who supposedly are preaching the holy work, bug off. I'm sorry; I seem to have gotten off the point.

Now, on the topic of abortion, we have established that the use of theological issues is an encroachment on personal freedom, so I will not impose mine upon you and I hope that you won't impose yours on me. Let us turn to biological issues.

A fetus is alive, since all living cells are alive. Moreover, it is alive before it is conceived, since the ovum is a perfectly healthy living cell and so is the sperm. So obviously we cannot use the term "alive" as a reason for condemning abortion since pulling a tooth would then be analogous to having an abortion. So instead let us try to use the term "individual." The definition of individual in the dictionary is "any one human being," so is the fetus a separate human being or, if not, when does it become one? Since there is a time during the development of the fetus in which it cannot live separate from its host, it cannot be classified as an individual but as a part of the anatomy of the host. The host should have as much say as to the conservation of this piece of anatomy as any person who wants to have a face lift or even a circumcision. Therefore, until the embryo can live as a separate entity it should be a question of choice.

My concluding comment is that

those who still view abortion as the murder of an individual should dedicate their money, time and effort to creating and developing the science necessary to enable the fetus to live without an unwilling human host, rather than condemning that host for wanting to be able to control that which is her own self.

Patrick Smith  
graduate

Abortion not convenient for the unborn children

In her support of the supposed need for abortion, Nanci Hamilton missed Daily Nebraskan columnist James Sennett's point and the key to the entire abortion debate.

Hamilton argues for the need for abortion as a cure for the hurt felt by an unexpectedly pregnant young girl. Yet it is only a violent end to a life begotten with violence. She thinks it should be a method of birth control to be used by "any woman of any age whose birth control fails" and whose life may be thus inconvenienced. Oh, to do away with inconveniences in life. And she finds abortion an acceptable alternative to adoption. For the child in question, is no life an alternative to life?

The point clearly in question is life. Just when does human life become important? At conception? After amniocentesis and assurance of a "normal child"? At birth perhaps, provided there is enough money for a "good life"? Or does life become important at the time of intelligible human communication? After that first job? Only if it progresses unfettered by handicaps and old-age dependency? Convenience arguments not only threaten the unborn child, they threaten all inconvenient humans. Abortion is only the first step down a long road of casual disregard for human life.

Often we do fail to see the problems leading to the decision to abort and fail to have compassion for those in difficult situations. But is that reason enough to, as Hamilton says, to "brutally murder an unborn child?" I think not. Rather, we must work to remedy the problems and support life, not

death for the sake of convenience.

Terry Radke  
graduate student  
animal science

ASUN ignores peers in approving tuition bill

I would like to say congratulations to the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska. Once again they have made fools of themselves. Not only did they vote in favor of the tuition bill, they went against the student majority opinion at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

It is a move such as this that makes students laugh at ASUN. If ASUN members are going to go against their peers that put them in office, why have the student senate at all? The only saving grace came from Bob Gestring. He, unlike other ASUN senators, sided with the students.

We realize the money for the indoor practice field and "rec center" and Lied Center was donated. But the students have to foot the bill for the upkeep. We can't even maintain the existing buildings on campus, and I cite Morrill Hall as an example. No, the students who pay for their education aren't getting enough. We don't eat at the training table. Nor do we have a new multimillion-dollar building to keep our butts warm in the winter. We don't even have the faculty to help us reach our goals. Why milk a dead cow, the money must come from the Legislature that supposedly supports education.

Jim Brisnehan  
junior  
architecture

Important local topics should get attention

To all who have expressed their opinions on the recently popular topic of abortion: We all value your opinions, but enough is enough.

Indeed, abortion is a serious matter and opposing viewpoints need to be considered and discussed. However, this issue has been overpublicized, and most individuals have developed strong opinions on this subject by the

time they attend college.

Are we accomplishing anything by attacking one another's views day after day on this highly emotional subject? Instead, we should focus our attention on local issues that we are more likely to have influence upon and which are currently deserving of our attention.

Wendy Nielsen  
freshman  
business

UNL's leaders called mental-ward wizards

The time has come for all good University of Nebraska-Lincoln administrators to come to the aid of their mental institutions. The administration continues to delegate the responsibility of raising funds for education to faculty and students. The Association of Students of the University of Nebraska's Sen. Pete Castellano and President Andy Pollock's resume-building activities of mock student government is ridiculous. Can't they realize that the administration of this university is paid to perform duties such as this?

If the current administration can't function to the fullest potential as defined by institutional norms, it should resign, retire or bow out gracefully by accepting positions as head wizards at some other mental institution. Castellano and Pollock continue to propose wacked-out, idealistic suggestions and enhance their leadership qualities. Is this where we got Reagan?

Alan D. Classen  
senior  
marketing

Reader says bicyclists must obey traffic laws

From time to time a bicyclist writes in to the Daily Nebraskan to complain about harassment by the police or local drivers. Cyclists calling the police and drivers obnoxious is like a pot calling a kettle black.

These cyclists are indignant when they have to live by the same rules of

the road as cars or motorcycles. If we as motorists followed their lead, we would write a whiny letter to the DN every time we got a ticket. The newest obnoxious game for cyclists is to ride down the center of the road.

I ride a motorcycle. If a bicycle can run a stop sign or slow traffic in an obnoxious and unsafe manner, then why can't motorcycles? If we can, then cars can. And then we can get back to safe streets.

Eric Salem  
junior  
advertising

State's affluent need to wake up

Although I sympathize with the sentiments expressed in the letters of Douglas Engh and Jim Brisnehan, (Daily Nebraskan, Nov. 4) I must respectfully disagree with their assessment of the proposed faculty salary bill. The bill now before ASUN is not the most preferable way of addressing the financial plight of this university, but given present circumstances, it's the only way we've got.

To their credit, Engh and Brisnehan recognize and deplore the university's present financial woes. Unfortunately, they misunderstand the extent of resources from which the Legislature can draw to support higher education in Nebraska.

Thus, the question "Where will the money come from?" is an appropriate one to pose to student lobbyists seeking increased state support. The fault lies not with the Legislature for asking such a question, nor with ASUN for endeavoring to answer it. It lies with the affluent of this state who are apathetic to UNL's educational mission and who are loath to support it through increased taxes. These are the ones who need to "get off their dead butts," as Engh so picturesquely put it, and recognize their obligation to youth and society. They are the ones toward whom the student body should direct its indignance, not ASUN or the Legislature. They are the ones who should make the sacrifice to improve this university and this state.

Brian G. Svoboda  
junior  
political science

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Captain and The Red Hot Flames

Big city jam from the open country of Colorado? You bet. Some of our home grown R&B bands are finally getting the fame they deserve, producing hot rockin' R&B as it was meant to be played. The Captain and The Red Hot Flames have been blazing a blues trail across the West and will be burning up Lincoln this week at Oscar's, 800 "O" St.

The Captain, English born Dave Bowker says he got hooked on American R&B and blues by listening to the crackly airwaves of Radio Luxembourg. His music was influenced by early stints with Del Shannon and Long John Baldry.

But Captain and The Red Hot Flames have a style all their own. A guitar oriented R&B, accompanied by horns, honky tonk piano, and just the right rock-n-roll touch. Don't expect to take this band sitting down. They are famous for high energy shows where sometimes, the Captain will decide the best place to pick his strings is on your table top.

The Captain thrives on a good audience. "I'm just into good-time music" he says. "We like to offer people a little relief with The Red Hot Flames, some good time music for this troubled world." You can get relief from your troubles all week at Oscar's in the Haymarket Arena, 800 "O" St. Captain and The Red Hot Flames play every night beginning at 9 p.m. in celebration of Oscar's 10 year anniversary. Advance tickets good for admission all week are available at Pickles or Oscar's for \$4. Don't miss a single show, Captain and The Red Hot Flames will rock your socks off.