

# Suppression of gays, pay unfair

## Editorial Policy

### Letters

#### Homosexual prejudice reflects historical hate

It is very interesting that Jon Dewsbury has chosen to respond to Rodney A. Bell II's guest opinion in such a manner (Letters, Feb. 16).

The prejudices you have for homosexuals reflect the same ignorance and hatred toward "unpopular groups" that have created the ideological backbone for Nazi Germany, the Ku Klux Klan and white supremacists, just to mention a few hate groups.

These biased and intolerant views are based on the same ones that kept the black in the field and the woman in the kitchen, murdered millions of Jews, and refused to allow non-Christian religions a voice in this country.

If you represent the "majority" as you say you do, then the melting pot of the United States has developed a crack. The crack only allows for the freedom of the "acceptable" expression of a very few, and suppression for everyone else.

Kristine L. Wood  
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#### Sexual preference 'God-given instinct'

"Contempt prior to further investigation is a sure sign of ignorance."  
— Herbert Spencer

In response to the letter written by Jon Dewsbury (Letters, Feb. 16), I would like to pose this question to him: Who made you God, sir? And, while you are so viciously condemning homosexuals, why don't you add blacks, foreigners, women and handicapped people to that list?

Why is it whenever there is someone different from ourselves we feel the imperious need to damn them? Is it not because of our own insecurities that we fear looking at another person's point of view or lifestyle? Why are we so quick to judge? I think it's sad that in the 1980s we still have racial prejudice, sexism and discrimination based on someone's sexual orientation so prevalent in our society.

Furthermore, why should homosexuals have to adapt as you suggested by going "back to the closet." I mean, what "causes" a person's heterosexuality or homosexuality anyway? I feel that sexuality of any type is a God-given instinct, neither to be despised nor loathed.

Judi Unger  
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music

#### Workers should earn what they are worth

This is to declare my extreme opposition to LB1096 as reported in the Daily Nebraskan (Feb. 9), and to pledge my support to all who share my concordance with Sen. Ernie Chambers and the Nebraska Coalition for Women. The bill is an affront to human dignity. It devalues the labor of a segment of the population who, by virtue of their status, should have their wages increased if a change be made at all.

From the words of Dairy Queen operator Paul Eldien, "Most student employees are in a transitional stage between unskilled and skilled labor," are we to infer that the possession of a college degree is a prerequisite to serving the public ice cream? Or that all of Eldien's non-student work force are college graduates? This is typical of employers; they love to revel in the respectability and virtue of their own trade and enumerate its various "professional" demands.

It represents either an unsound appraisal of reality or an inferiority complex. Let us not equate soda-jerking with social work, accounting and finance, teaching, and the like. But to the point, I venture that some of Eldien's non-student employees do not have college degrees. This

being the case, should not the students, who have the benefit of "some" higher education under their belts, be paid more, not less than the others? This is not a demand, but serves only to highlight the reverse logic of Eldien's proposal.

I also suggest that if businesses have pains in the scheduling of student workers, they should cease from such an unhealthy practice. I shudder to think that I could vex my employer to that extent. Students do not require your patience and charity. Why is it that countless employers are convinced of the enormous favor they extend to their workers? I speak here not with reference to student employees alone.

Employers behave as if all the benefits of the relationship were conferred upon a single party, the employee. It is not conceivable that the employer should receive parity through the employee's labor. Employers so often perceive an imbalance in the pact in which they themselves play the role of a kindly, big-hearted benefactor — one who sacrifices profits to bolster American

youth and insure the future of this "great nation." Shall we not, at the foot of the Capitol, erect a memorial to the patriotic efforts of these employers? If students can't do the job, fire them; if they perform their tasks satisfactorily, give them their just dues. Remember, our incomes are lower than the employers', and the "kids" support them.

My grandmother began her college career at age 61 equipped with decades of skilled work experience. She also maintained an expensive household whose various annual taxes are in excess of \$2,000. Thank goodness she was a resident of Pennsylvania and not subject to the hypocrisy of an LB1096. What would the consequence have been had her employer decided to compromise her deservedly handsome wage as a technical drafter solely on the basis of her status as a student? Here is my demand: Equal pay for equal work! (I have heard that remark before somewhere.)

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