

# Cable television's Spanish channel interesting, but United States should reject bilingualism

Even though I rather enjoy the programming on Lincoln's new Univision station, I feel that it has the effect of undermining the nation as a whole.

The strength of our nation is in our unity. To have two different languages weakens our ability to be effective.

I work with a man who has taught me much of the Spanish I know. He has lived in Lincoln for 20 years and cannot speak English. These people immerse themselves

in a Spanish-speaking environment.

I would like to cite an example of how this problem can weaken efficiency. I was in Miami and had lost a piece of luggage as the airport. None of the six women at the claims counter could speak English.

While I could communicate to a certain extent, we could not figure out the details.

I saw an ad later. It said, "Advertise with our (Spanish) newspaper." Did you know more than 65

percent of Miami's residents speak Spanish in their homes?

My grandparents are Norwegian and German. When they came to this country, they would not allow their native language to be spoken in the home. "We are Americans now," they said.

There are many languages and people from different countries, and I say we want our country to be strong and convenient. I don't think I should have to run into problems communicating in a major U.S. air-

port. That is not an unreasonable request.

A second point is that the movies project the Latin American values system. Much of it has socialistic and communistic overtones.

I have seen Spanish people promoting these points of view; my own reaction is that if that's the way they feel, just go live in a communistic country, and see how it feels then.

Kevin Ellis is a visiting communications major and a Diversions contributor.

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## Roommate problems avoidable

**Communication is key**

I would like to discuss roommates.

First I want to rebut the idea that living with someone who is already your friend will ruin your friendship.

I have lived with my best friend from high school for almost four years, and we seldom have problems. In those four years, we have always had two other roommates, who were also friends from high school. This living arrangement has always worked out fine.

But strangers can also live together and get along fine. In fact, three of my good friends are past roommates.

But if you select a roommate from a newspaper, you just need to be cautious.

Before you move in with a stranger, the two of you should go out for a Coke and discuss the following:

- pet peeves
- cleaning habits
- employment
- how the bills will be paid
- relationships

You need to decide what this person is like and whether or not you feel you could live with this person.

One of my roommates had a boyfriend who left me with a \$300 phone bill. Another roommate stole items from my apartment.

In order to get along with your roommates, you need to be considerate and flexible. You have to be able to bend a little and try to understand everyone's point of view.

Communication is also important. If you can't discuss your problems, it will be hard to live together.

Your relationship with your roommate will only be as good as you make it.

Stacey Kendall is a senior political science major and a Diversions contributor.

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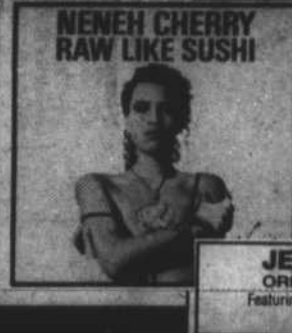
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