

OPINION

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Daily
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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Power trip

Gov. shouldn't meddle in NU affairs

The people of the state shouldn't be fooled by Gov. Ben Nelson's veiled attempt to exert more control over the University of Nebraska.

His idea to appoint the members of the NU Board of Regents is one example. The proposed constitutional amendment he requested (LR29CA) that would seek more control over the University of Nebraska budget is another — and more dangerous — example.

"This is not a power grab," Nelson told the Legislature's Education Committee on Tuesday.



Bret Gottschall/DN

As the saying goes: If it walks like a duck ... and it talks like a duck ... chances are it must be a duck.

And this duck sounds like it has a powerful quack.

Nelson apparently is concerned that his office doesn't hold the reins over an agency that represents 17 percent of the state's budget.

Nelson said there was nothing "draconian" about the state's chief executive having control over that percentage of the state's budget.

The Daily Nebraskan believes that if Nelson's proposal is approved and the people of the state adopt it, exceedingly harsh — or "draconian" — consequences could follow.

These consequences could include: a disproportionate geographic representation of the state and increased lobbying from outside special-interest groups.

A 1977 Supreme Court decision, *Exon vs. the NU Board of Regents*, should be a standing precedent in this matter. The regents are more responsible if they are elected. Questions of accountability can be drawn to any appointed governing body.

The Education Committee should not advance this constitutional amendment to the full Legislature.

In one breath

President Clinton announced Wednesday his nomination of Michael Carns, a retired Air Force general, for the post of Central Intelligence Agency director.

Carns would succeed R. James Woolsey, who left the agency last month after a rough two years. Critics pointed to what they saw as Woolsey's mishandling of the Aldrich Ames spy case.

So far, both Democrats and Republicans have been supportive of Carns, unlike Clinton's other current nominee, Henry Foster for the position of surgeon general.

Robert Gates, the director of the CIA during the Bush administration, has voiced his support for the nominee.

"I think he's a terrific appointment," Gates told The Associated Press. "He's been a user of intelligence, and he understands a good deal about how intelligence is prepared."

The United States Senate should confirm Carns.

Editorial policy

Staff editorials represent the official policy of the Spring 1995. Daily Nebraskan. Policy is set by the Daily Nebraskan Editorial Board. Editorials do not necessarily reflect the views of the university, its employees, the students or the NU Board of Regents. Editorial columns represent the opinion of the author. The regents publish the Daily Nebraskan. They establish the UNL Publications Board to supervise the daily production of the paper. According to policy set by the regents, responsibility for the editorial content of the newspaper lies solely in the hands of its students.

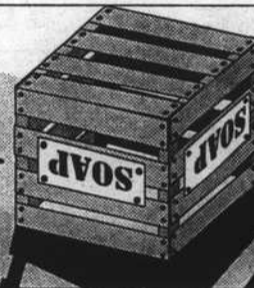
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verification.

Right choice

I usually look forward to Michael Justice's articles in the Daily Nebraskan because I find them intelligent and witty. However, his last article on abortion (Feb. 6) disappointed me.

First, the pro-life position is not a religious-only position. I know many people who are not religious, yet still see abortion as wrong because biologically, it ends the growth and development of a person.

Second, I would like to say that a woman made her choice when she decided to have sex (this does not include cases of rape or incest, when pregnancy rarely results).

Finally, I feel that I do share the same feelings as women who are pregnant and afraid. I got pregnant at 16. I was afraid, but I also realized that this baby was my responsibility. Although I could not raise it, I thought that for my child's best interest I would place him for adoption, not dispose of him.

I, too, think of my child daily, and they are thoughts of joy because I know that I made the right decision not only for me, but for him also. I have a bright future with good grades and feel very happy that I made a beautiful contribution to the world and a lonely couple incredibly happy.

Tina McMenamin
freshman
general studies

'Dr. Justice'

All hail the eminent Ph.D. of theology, Dr. Michael Justice, for he knows "all about God."

Perhaps instead of arguing finer points of Christian history (in an offensive and ignorant manner), Dr. Justice might want to take a few classes in logic, for his is just a tad on the inconsistent side.

Dr. Justice faults Christians for wanting a better world; presumably, this is "hypocritical." But in the same breath that he becomes irritated at us beacons-o'-truth for

"preach (-ing our) personal set of beliefs," we learn from the good doctor that crime, kids killing each other and random violence is wrong.

What!? How can Mike make such judgments? It must be because he knows "all about God."

I find it hard to see why the good doctor is justified in berating Christians for expanding HIS OWN set of morals to the unborn. Dr. Justice might tell us it would be wrong to kill a 5- (or should I say 14-) month-old baby, but a 5-month-old child in the womb is fair game. What's up, Doc?

After some careful consideration, Dr. Justice might even be able to find the not-so-subtle difference between his sister's "choice" and his friend's. In his sister's "choice," no one was required to die.

Shane Tucker
senior
biology

'No sense'

Michael Justice's column "Abortion is woman's decision" (Feb. 6) made no sense at all. For someone who claimed to "know all about God," Mr. Justice forgot how much God likes the truth. For an article on abortion, I found that it tended to try to tear apart the Catholic Church and not try to support his stand on abortion.

As for the part of the article on abortion, the pro-life activists do not pass judgment on a woman who is in a crisis; we leave that to God. We try to protect a child who has no voice yet and can't stand up to say they have a right to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," as everyone else does.

Donna Mills
sophomore
education

Jesus

How dare Michael Justice digress? Just because his interpretation of the Jesus Conference meets his own shallow beliefs, or he

interprets it to do so, doesn't mean he has any right to mock what I and so many believe, namely the teachings of the Catholic Church.

I don't know the whole story behind this Jesus Conference, but Jesus did live here, he probably did some fishing and he was a man; a God-made man. He did not have to be, over the course of time, elevated to omnipotent status, because he was already there during his time on earth.

Justice simply cannot overlook all of the wonderful and seemingly impossible things that Jesus did while he was among us. It is our faith that makes us strong, and helps us believe, and if Justice is lacking in this gift, I will pray for him.

Brian Coulter
senior
agricultural engineering

Abortion

"God so loved the world He gave His only Son, not to condemn but so that we might be saved."

We have been given so much in this world. Did you know God loves YOU as if you are the only person on earth? He died for YOU! He also died for each unborn child so that they would have life.

However, they are not getting a chance to live in this world if they are aborted. What if your neighbor killed his teen-age son? That would be considered murder, and you would want him to get his just punishment.

Yes, there is a difference between killing a teen-ager and an unborn child. The unborn child is defenseless! They have no way to protect themselves or to fight back.

I am not against abortion just because of my religious beliefs, but because abortion is inhumane! How we treat others is how we treat God. When we kill an unborn child, we hurt God. Are you willing to say that God doesn't exist to mask your self-serving morality?

Terri Rickel
junior
elementary education