

J.J.
HARDER

Evil incarnate

Letters to editor not description of a real person



I guess I'm not a very nice person. I just basically don't like people. Blacks, Hispanics, women, Jews — all are hated by the evil J.J. Harder. I even hate groups in the majority like whites, males, people with all of their limbs — whatever. I hate everyone. My sole mission in life is to offend the world. I want to bring about the demise of our nation by sharing my opinions with the campus of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

I hate anyone who looks at all different from me. I slit my wrists when I hear any opinion other than my own. I lead an underground group of men who maim and kill the politically correct. I have tried repeatedly to remove the word "multicultural" from the dictionary. I want to build a wall on the Mexican border so high that not even the most gifted of immigrants could expertly scale it.

I support communism in every regard. I would like to bring the nation's political system to its knees using only an industrial amount of cyanide and a few well-trained militia men. I have a plan to murder

every living democrat by the year 2010.

I seek the office of the presidency to bring about the destruction of the world. My campaign slogan is "Your Friendly Neighborhood Racist!" I speed up when I see kids playing in the street. I heavily support the return of the African slave trade. I disembowel rodents on stage.

I leap rows of midgets in a single bound. I laugh at the sight of danger. I strike fear into the hearts of men. I want Armageddon to eliminate anyone with any thoughts contrary to my own.

When people wake up in the morning, I want them to eat J.J.'s and think nothing but hatred. I want everyone in the galaxy to succumb to my almighty wrath. I am the bastard child of Dahmer and Manson. I am Hitler, Stalin and Mussolini rolled into one.

The grim reaper is my mentor. I have horns coming out of my head and carry a smoldering pitchfork. I breathe the flames of death — I am the devil himself.

Actually, I'm none of those things. I'm just a guy who writes for the paper. It just seems like I believe in those things judging from some of the outlandish responses I have received this year. I express my opinions to make people think about certain things and either strengthen or weaken their arguments.

I'm not out to make anyone angry, but I'm not going to be concerned about offending anyone either. After all, everything in this world offends



MATT HANEY/DN

someone. Controversy maybe is my middle name, but that's not why I write. (It's just one of those little perks of the job.) I don't beat around the bush, but am straight and to the point. Sometimes my words may seem a bit too harsh, but that is an unfortunate corollary to stating an opinion.

Many of you truly think that I am all of those things that I said I was before. Well, I'm not, but I am an opinionated yet open-minded, conservative, Christian guy who will tell you what he thinks.

I do not, contrary to popular opinion, hate anyone. I love every human being, including my enemies and my opposition, but I do not agree with the actions and views of a lot of

people. That's right about the time that the letter box gets stuffed full.

So, if you're still not convinced that I'm really not out to get everyone, too bad. Either send me a bomb in the mail, become my stalker, or calm down, you freak! It may be a while for my words to again appear in this fine media product, so you'll have a long time to build up enough frustration with the world to let out your aggression on me.

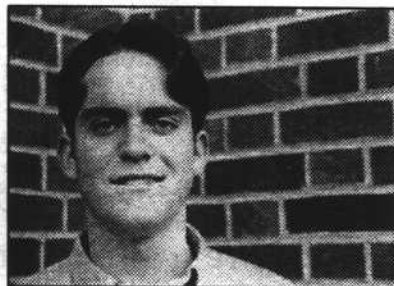
But if I do again put my thoughts to paper, I trust that you all will be ready to disagree, because otherwise it just wouldn't be any fun at all.

Harder is a sophomore broadcasting major and a Daily Nebraskan columnist.

Michael
DONLEY

The ultimate answer

Thinking about what matters poses new questions



The Timothy McVeigh trial and too many hours spent perfecting a philosophy paper have really made me think about the basic structure of our society and what — if anything — is important.

Let's look at some facts. Timothy McVeigh took a long look at our government and believed that we went astray. Now before people start thinking I'm advocating blowing up government buildings hear me out.

If McVeigh is guilty, he is probably sociopathic. A person would have to be to kill people at random with a truck built into a bomb. Killing people is wrong, of course, and we need to find a more constructive way to deal with our problems.

Having said that, now consider that McVeigh did something that most people never do throughout their entire lives. He sat down,

thought about all of the things he spent his time doing and decided on a meaningful (to him at least) life philosophy.

A few short decades ago "to formulate a meaningful life philosophy" was the number one reason that students attended universities. Now that the top reason is "to make good money," we must ask ourselves a question. **Is college worth it?**

Let's say, theoretically, the only reason I am attending this university is to make good money. If this were the case, I would be getting my money's worth.

When I graduate I will be more marketable as an employee. Given that I possess drive and initiative, my college degree — just as a credential — is worth the investment.

If a more secure financial future was the most important thing I gained in college, though, I would feel cheated. When I sit down — yes, I had to do this for a philosophy class — and write down what is important to me, nothing on my list had anything to do with money.

I found this very strange. In a country where money and status are a huge part of the culture, when I sat down and thought about what was important, money had very little to do with my personal happiness.

“Whether it's a girlfriend or boyfriend that you really aren't sure you want, or an education that you haven't put all of your effort into, almost everything that goes wrong in life can be traced back to indecision.”

But how often do any of us sit down and think about what is important to us? When I did, I found I spent a lot of time doing things that are just not fulfilling and very little time doing things that actually matter.

You're probably saying to yourself "Well Michael, oh great master of philosophy, what do I do to give my life direction?"

First, pull out a piece of paper. Then consider where all of your energy goes. Write down what makes you happy and what doesn't. Write down what is doing some good for your life and what isn't.

Now look at the portions of your life that are chaotic. I will bet, if some portion of your life is causing serious problems, your heart really

isn't into it. Whether it's a girlfriend or boyfriend that you really aren't sure you want, or an education that you haven't put all of your effort into, almost everything that goes wrong in life can be traced back to indecision.

Not so long ago, I had not decided what I wanted to do with my life or my career, so I added a second major and decided to shoot for law school.

The way I figure it, in 2012 I will be more than 35 years old. And they are still taking applications for President of the United States, so why not?

Everyone needs a goal.

Donley is a sophomore philosophy and sociology major and a Daily Nebraskan columnist.