

# OPINION PACKAGES

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## Quotes OF THE WEEK

**"Our leadership in the world is unrivaled. The state of our union is strong."**  
*President Bill Clinton, in his State of the Union address*

**"(Clinton) went out of his way to reduce elements of partisanship, and that's unusual for this president."**  
*U.S. Rep. Doug Bereuter, R-Neb., about the State of the Union address.*

**"What Roe (vs. Wade) said was that women can be their own moral decision makers. It was a theological issue about life."**  
*Chris Funk, director for Planned Parenthood of Lincoln*

**"We hate to point out a negative incident as having positive consequences, but I think this one has."**  
*Chancellor James Moeser, one year after the Sigma Chi cross burning*

**"I don't want to have to choose between a regents meeting and a hockey game."**  
*Kim Todd, former director of campus planning, explaining that she would now prefer not to have to work long weekends*

**"In kind of a strange way - John Elway, I've always enjoyed him. I just wish he hadn't done it against me."**  
*Green Bay Packers Coach Mike Holmgren, after Elway and the Denver Broncos beat the Packers in Super Bowl XXXII*

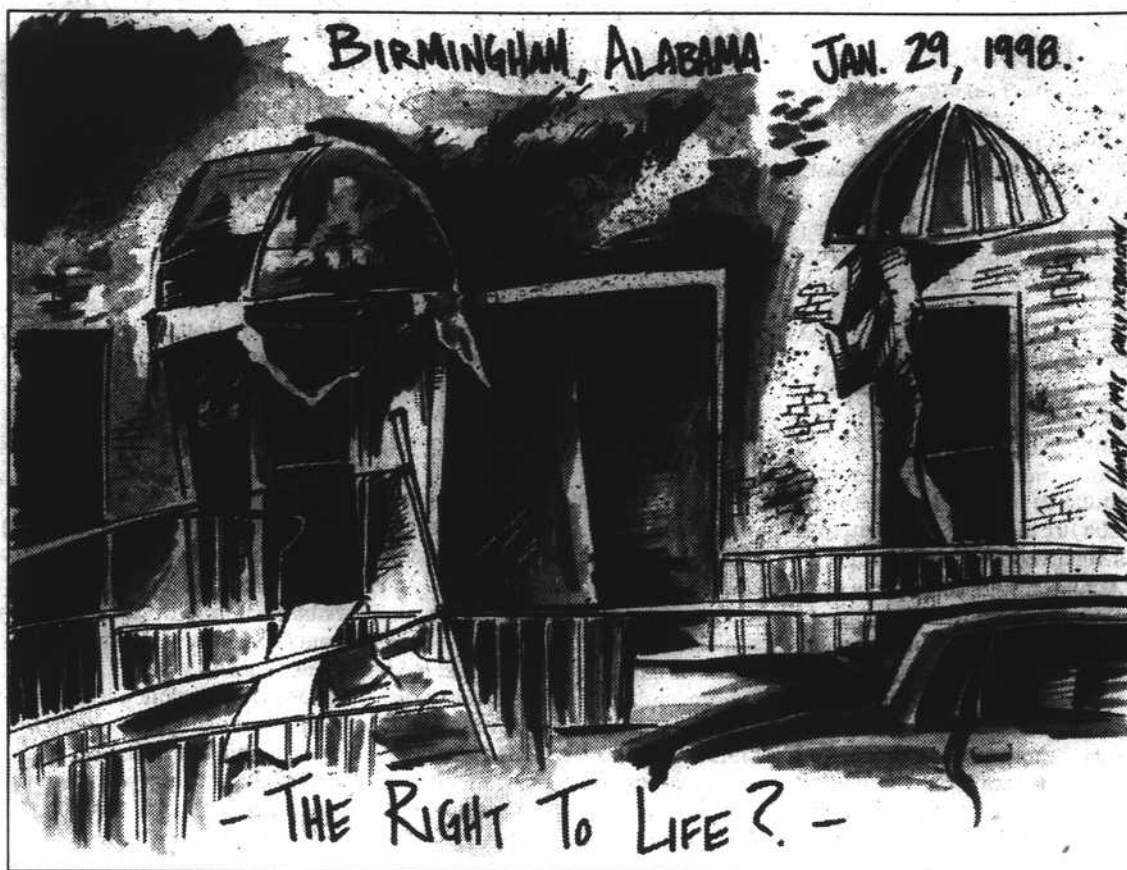
**"The future of the state truly lies in our young people, and this is an investment in our young people and their opportunities."**  
*Gov. Ben Nelson, introducing LB1176, the "brain gain" bill*

**"I just want to work my hardest, and I don't want to have a bad attitude."**  
*NU I-back DeAngelo Evans, about his rehabilitation from a pelvis injury*

**"The University of Nebraska is the place you want to go if you're not already there. It's a big-name university - everybody's heard of the University of Nebraska."**  
*Shad Williams, director of Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity's expansion*

**"In no case shall the mother of the unborn child be prosecuted for any act contributing to the death of the unborn child."**  
*Provision stated in LB981 and LB987, bills defining "viable" unborn children in the uterus and actions to be taken when an unborn child is killed*

## Haney's VIEW



## DN LETTERS

### The truth hurts

As a former DN columnist, I know cynicism is required of a college writer. Because of that experience, I will not refuse all the obvious satire in the Jan. 29 DN editorial ("Stopping the drain") bemoaning the supposed lack of quality life in Nebraska. Instead, I will paraphrase the famous line from Stripes, "Lighten up, Francis," and apply it here: "Lighten up, DN."

If Nebraska has "Nothing that would make a young person stay here," as you put it, why are you still here? I guess no one on the editorial board could get into KU.

My "brain gain" proposal isn't a panacea for all the state's ills, but I do believe it's a cost-effective way to keep our best and brightest young people here. Think about it: If more of them stay, maybe the editorials in the DN will be worth reading. My bill will also encourage companies to grow here, pay taxes here and invest money here.

Is this why the DN is called the "Rag?"

Sen. Jon Bruning  
District 3  
Omaha

### Preach on!

In response to Joe Fraas' Jan. 29 letter ("In defense of the father..."), I believe you are missing the point of the editorial entirely. The article is not disagreeing with the teachings of the Bible, it is simply saying the Christian church has always twisted and distorted whatever message the Bible may have to its own uses.

I agree with the Jan. 28 editorial wholeheartedly. The church that is supposedly founded on a poor man's teachings is now the church that surrounds itself with riches and luxuries. Sounds kind of odd, huh?

Eric Rost  
freshman  
mechanical engineering

### Testify!

Several responses by readers to Mr. Colman's article point out that you cannot judge the worth of Christianity by the behavior of some of its adherents.

Many Christians have judged the worth of Judaism by the behavior of some of its adherents. They base this judgment on Jesus' words in Matthew 23.

Should we not judge a tree by the fruit it bears?

Steven Carr  
Bradford, England

### Beware the keeper of the house...

A lot of little red flags shot up in my head when I read Anthony Colman's article, "A cross to bear." The one that bothers me most is how he claimed that Christians proclaim Christianity is the cure for all social ills. Christianity does not claim this. In fact, God says life will not always be a bowl of cherries. "I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world (John 16:33)."

Yes, if we were all Christians and followed Christ's example the world would be better. But we don't. Christians call themselves Christians, but are human too and make mistakes. Just because we say we are Christians does not mean we claim to be perfect. That's why Christ is needed: because we aren't perfect. We try our best, and the rest is taken care of by him. I'm sorry to disappoint you, Mr. Colman, but society's ills will never be cured.

What's most important in life actually has nothing to do with this life but what comes after it. "So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal (2 Corinthians 4:18)."

Go ahead and believe the path of

Christianity leads to suffering and exclusion. I won't be the one you'll be answering to.

Rebecca Pohlman  
sophomore  
speech pathology

### ... for ye know not when he comes

You may be as surprised to discover you have readers in San Francisco as I was, who read Anthony Colman's Jan. 28 column on Christianity in America (A cross to bear).

As a gay person of faith (unitarian universalist), I was disappointed at his rather negative portrayal of faith and its role in our society. It is certainly true many evil things are done in the name of God. It is also true many congregations of diverse faiths are today engaged in fighting racism, homophobia and other social maladies, and trying to live up to what Jesus of Nazareth taught as the greatest commandment: to love God, and to love one's neighbor as oneself.

I am an active participant in the life of my congregation: I am a teacher in our religious education program. Our denomination was one of the first to perform ceremonies of union for same-sex couples and has been vocal in support of equal rights for all people. In short, my faith has been my anchor in a world that doesn't always accept me for who I am.

I do not believe Mr. Colman is incorrect to question the role of faith in our society. And the separation of church and state is and must remain fundamental to the law of our land. But to turn a blind eye to the many ways in which faith can bring healing and understanding to a diverse society is to forget the core teaching of Jesus: to love God and to love one another.

Charles E. Galvin Jr.  
San Francisco

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