



Save humans with potential

The kind of disrespect and oppression we afford women in our society surely ranks near the top of any just person's list of the despicable. The frequency and types of crime that American women are victims of are well beyond alarming. The ridiculous pay disparity between the sexes is not ridiculous — it's sobering.

In fact, I suppose I'll never really feel the crap the average woman must face from half-witted good ol' boys and sleazy urbanites. Even so, it is not necessary for me to be a woman to declare such abusive prejudice and institutional violence to be shocking to the conscience and wholly unjustified.

One historical rallying cry of the woman's movement has been "Biology Is Not Destiny." I don't agree with the way the slogan has been bastardized in meaning to support abortion on demand.

Legalized abortion on demand, I expect, would be opposed by the true feminists. The reflective persons who want real solutions to the underlying problems of our society (promoting the violence which plagues their lives) would shun the abortion mentality, one which advocates a retreat to senseless violence and convenience to deal with a complex problem they are not wholly responsible for creating.

In fact, it's no longer a matter of women's liberation when it comes to abortion on demand. It has derailed from such a noble cause.

Since the 1973 Roe case, Americans have facilitated a climate which subtly promotes and, more often the case, virtually demands the destruction of nearly a third of all babies conceived (over 1.5 million babies a year).

Every child a wanted child. What a notion! Does our "wantedness" determine the value of our lives? The idea that an unborn baby is to be weighed like a thing or an object that either is desired or disposed of is no less than sickening. A fetus is a human with potential — just as a two, 12 or 20 year old is — not a potential human.

I hardly am able to discuss in this forum the incredible number of undeniably rational reasons that codified (and more important, culturally acquiesced) abortion upon demand is senseless, destructive and does a tremendous disservice to our



Andy Yung
Columnist

morality and sense of value as a people.

I simply wish to add my voice to the ranks of the compassionate people who have realized what utter madness this country is whirling toward. Instead of addressing real structural and substantive problems (by extinguishing racism and sexism, ameliorating the lot of the poor and ensuring justice), we choose to engage in the greatest devaluation of humanity possible — the killing of innocents.

Many of the most important social reforms are pushed to the side, when we still have hope that someday all the poor and all the handicapped and all the learning disabled and all the (artificially labeled) undesirables have a 100 percent rate of abortion.

“We must stop the desensitization of empathy for our fellow humans that abortion necessarily entails. ... They (abortions) are not done for medical reasons; they are a matter of convenience.”

No, please no ... NO, we have got to stop this absurd assault on our compassion as a people and start practicing real compassion to these troubled women by making this a world worth coming into and one where the simple notion of birth control is discussed openly. But we cannot achieve such a state without recognizing all humans as valuable and ending convenience abortions.

It need not be a religious matter at all. I am opposed to all you fools and parent/child killers who go out to the Chicken, get drunk and drive. This is not a religious issue — it's a human issue.

We must stop the desensitization of empathy for our fellow humans that abortion necessarily entails. Some 60 percent of all abortions are repeats.

They are not done for medical reasons; they are a matter of convenience. Abortion is used as a birth-control device.

But we can't stop it, you say. Well, more than 1 million cars are stolen each year, and theft is illegal. Ergo, legalize it. Non sequiter, friends, just like the abortion advocate's reasoning. Furthermore, the idea of wholesale abortion "rights" (my stomach turns) due to the dangerous back-alley alternatives has been noted as being on par to saying: Armed burglary is a dangerous endeavor that can lead to a shoot out, and blood and you know. Thus, we must legalize it and make it safe.

As is said, you can't get rid of an evil by legalizing it.

Finally, this is what I leave you with: The Supreme Court seems to be saying that fathers have no right to save their child from a woman who wishes to have an abortion, theoretically, because it is the woman's body.

What does this mean? Biology does determine specific rights? Like the right of parenthood? Here is what every gosh-awful pro-choice woman and man must support. The right of the father of a child to go to the local courthouse anytime during the first two trimesters of pregnancy and sign away his legal, societal and financial responsibilities to the child.

This is the Male Abortion. Hell, Biology Can't Be Destiny, right? Because, we men have no right to choose whether to have an abortion, we ought not be straddled by the choices of women to have a child. This is a logical counterpart of the right to privacy, and it will definitely come to light in the near future.

I grant that if abortion is a constitutional right, male abortion (a denial of child support preceding birth) is one too. Guaranteed. However, we must not think Constitutional rights are sacrosanct because they are Constitutional.

We must instead insure HUMAN RIGHTS. To do otherwise is to just put too much pressure on our already-threadbare societal fabric.

Andy Yung is a junior political science major.

MAIL CALL

The Battalion is interested in hearing from its readers and welcomes all letters to the editor. Please include name, classification, address and phone number on all letters. The editor reserves the right to edit letters for style and length. Because of limited space, shorter letters have a better chance of appearing. There is, however, no guarantee letters will appear. Letters may be brought to 216 Reed McDonald or sent to Campus Mail Stop 1111.

Join in Earth Day celebration

EDITOR:

Earth Day is a time to celebrate what our home has given us and a time to look back at what we have done for our environment, the achievements as well as that which we should have done differently. This year, TEAC will host the Earth Day Celebration. The event will include activities for children, local bands performing and organic produce for sale.

Recycleable items (glass and aluminum) will be accepted (the aluminum will be purchased) and donations of clothing and other items will be collected to benefit the Twin City Mission.

The Earth Day Celebration, held at Hensel Park, is free. Local groups wanting to participate can call 846-6767.

Earth Day is to look toward the future because there still is so much we can do to save and preserve our home.

Bang Huynh '94

A&M students condone discrimination

EDITOR:

I would like to voice my utter disgust for the display of ignorance that I just overheard coming from several students riding the bus.

Their discussion was prompted by one's comment that "Those damned homos are complainin' now over that new discrimination policy." This individual continued his assessment by stating that "The homos deserve to be discriminated against," which was answered by another's declaration that he's glad Texas A&M is a close-minded school if being close-minded includes not protecting the "fags."

Being a believer in freedom, equal rights and equal protection for all people, I found myself an obvious minority in this group.

It's no surprise to me that students from other universities have referred to Aggies in general as "hicks" or "backwards rednecks" (comments I have heard for myself) after witnessing this display.

I love A&M and I think it's a sad day when the students of an "institution of higher learning" not only allow, but condone the discrimination and persecution of other social groups.

Comments like these that I heard today make me wonder if there aren't students in our population that would like to see black students sitting at the back of the classrooms and shuttle buses and condone the public banishment of gay students from the campus.

I can only hope my words will make others stop and think about how archaic and truly ignorant these acts of discrimination really are.

If you don't like the way someone conducts themselves socially or sexually, that's your prerogative.

When those opinions are allowed to perpetuate and extend into A&M policies, it truly has reached a very low point in its history.

Michael Kellett '91

Congrats to President Bush

DEAR PRESIDENT BUSH:

I want to congratulate you for the beautiful war you have so elegantly conducted. It was an impressive achievement which taught the whole world how strong, organized and powerful the United States is.

I was really dazzled in January by the beautiful lights over Baghdad: It reminded me of the Fourth of July. It was fun to be able to watch television in the privacy of my own home. After a long day of study and work, I could finally sit down and be entertained by modern technology. The bombs were precisely falling through the chimneys of military installations: The only thing that worried me was the safety of our pilots. It was really crowded up there and they had to be extremely careful about not hitting each other during their heroic missions.

I praise the U.S.' moral integrity and that of its allies for not interfering in the internal affairs of a foreign country. This has been a consistent policy which makes every single American proud. For example, I want to congratulate you for not getting involved in Iraq. The Iraqi people should solve their own problems: I am sure that with a little effort and some hard work, the Kurds and the Hussein Regime can reach an agreement. It will take time, no doubt about that, but eventually (and with a lot of praying), they will live happily together.

Again, violence is not the answer. So President Bush, congratulations for a policy which has human beings as its first priority.

Andrea da Conturbia
graduate student

Thanks to A&M Sailing Team

EDITOR:

I would like to take the time to thank the Texas A&M Sailing Team and all of the other sponsors who hosted the First Annual Surfennügen Regatta, a windsurfing extravaganza. I would like to extend congratulations to all winners and to the survivors of the second race. I hope that this will become another Aggie tradition. I had a blast!

Sean P. Phillips '91

The Battalion

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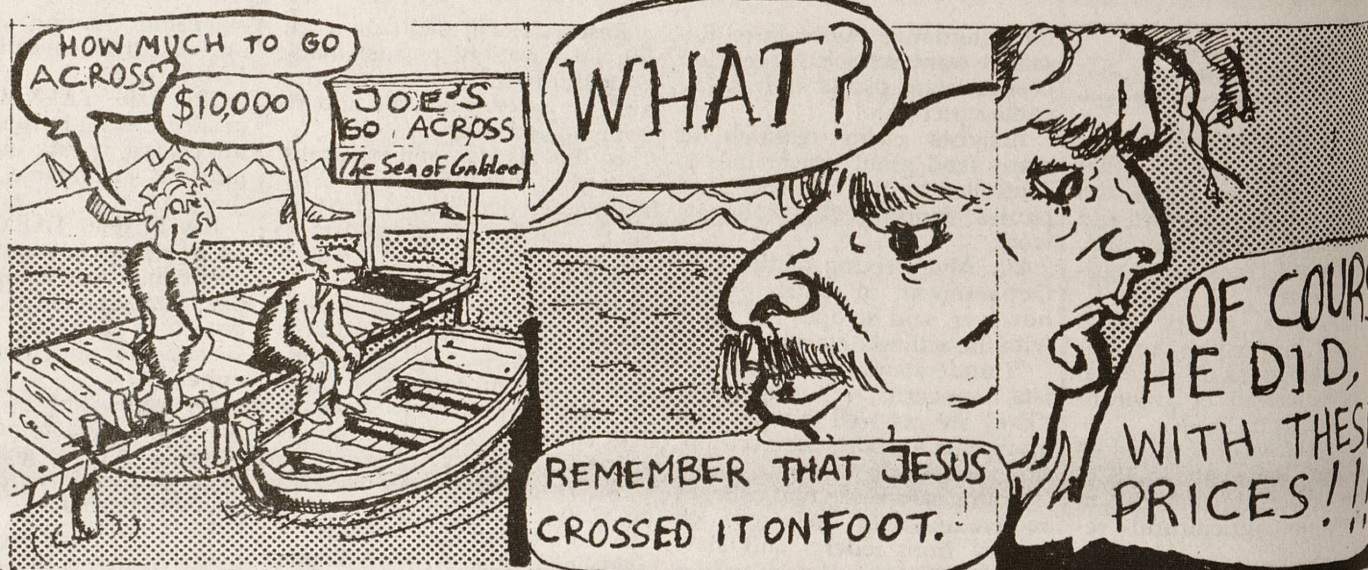
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