

Letter to the Editor

Religious Views Differ

I am writing this in response to John Rossomando's most recently disturbing article, "Being a Christian."

Rossomando states, "Do not try to analyze the word of God with your small human minds because it is like a blind man trying to read printed words on paper."

If Rossomando is correct in that Christians should take the Bible literally on blind faith, then there is a lot of money being wasted on Bible and ministerial colleges, research, explorations - all things created by and involving people with small human minds trying to enhance their understanding by increasing their knowledge.

The Bible states that from knowledge comes understanding and from understanding comes wisdom. It doesn't say, "Do not try to analyze (Me) with your small human mind."

Rossomando also asserts, "For most people, pleasures of the flesh and of being intoxicated are all there is and anyone who speaks against this is a fool." Another earth-shattering statement could be, "For many people there is only the pleasure of serving Christ and anyone who speaks against this is a fool."

Both are quite correct. Many people need some sort of emotional support, either something stronger than themselves to believe in, or something higher to reach for so that they can improve themselves in some way. People usually turn to religion, but drugs (including alcohol) sometimes do

fulfill this need.

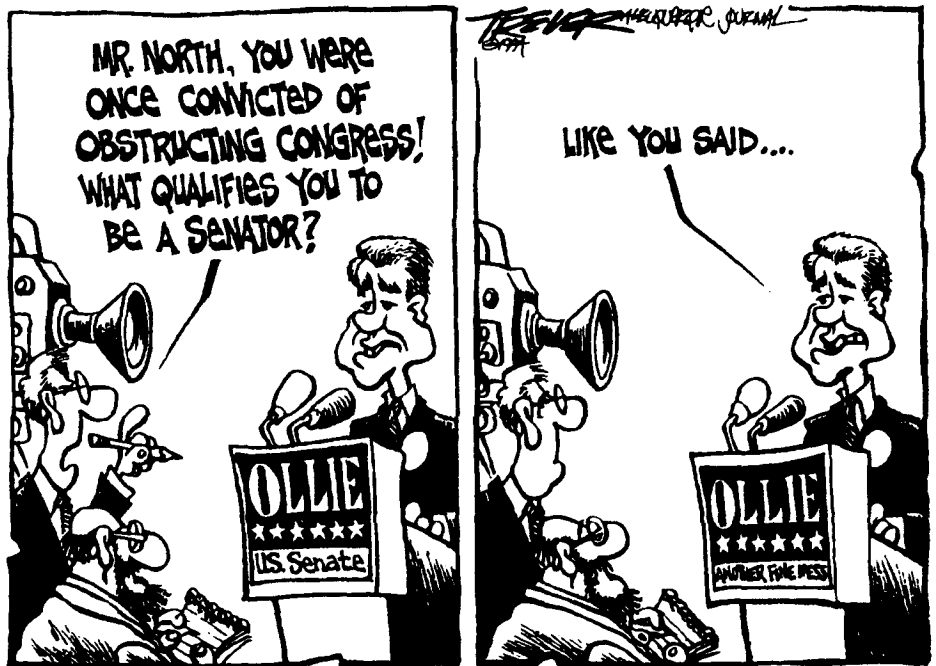
My earliest memories of my parents date back to when they were still marijuana-smoking hippies. I would bring my five-year-old friends over to play, and my mother would be rolling a joint. After delivering my younger brother, however, she felt the tug of responsible motherhood, and she stopped doing drugs. She started reading the Bible. By the time I was eight, my mother was a Fundamentalist Protestant Christian, and I had been placed into a private Christian school and subjected to the propaganda of the Accelerated Christian Education (ACE) curriculum.

However, unlike many Christians I have known since I was eight, my mother did not stop thinking after she became "saved." She did not point to the Bible and say, "Do not try to analyze the word of God with your small human mind." She taught me to use my brain so I could separate the bias of preachers from the actual Word of God. "That's why God gave you one," she said.

I am very glad neither John Rossomando nor any of his ilk was my mother. The passage in the Bible about knowledge, understanding, and wisdom are a great deal of the reason I am here at Behrend.

If my pursuit of knowledge had been stunted at an earlier age, I would probably be at home right now, married, not analyzing my life or trying to improve myself mentally, but going to church functions to make up for the lack of personality.

Raine Custer
2nd Semester
Creative Writing



Editorial Cartoons



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The Pennsylvania State University
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Co-Editors
Matthew D. Cissne
Alicia Hartman

Business & Advertising Manager
Darlene Stromic

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Office Manager
Lori Anna Dyer

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