

Letter to the editors

Dear Editors,

We are writing in response to "Homosexuality is immoral." We feel the piece portrays a disrespect for human rights. This article is badly written and logically inconsistent.

Rossomardo begins with a melodrama, followed by an analysis of the word 'homophobia,' a shortened form of 'homosexual-phobia.' He sets up a 'straw-man' to attack.

Rossomardo informs us that homosexuality has a biological component. This has *not* been proven. These studies are still being disputed by researchers. For now, let's humor him.

The author believes in Natural Law, which states that all which is good reflects goodness and all which is evil reflects evil. Natural Law calls the natural result of sin: death, the natural result of good: wellness. All things love themselves. Diseases and deformities are caused by sin.

For the sake of Rossomardo's argument, let us subscribe to Natural Law and genetics. (This is inconsistent). Observe: Non-human animals aren't capable of making moral decisions. The actions of animals stem from biological drives. Some mammals display homosexual behavior. According to Rossomardo, "the sole purpose of the sex drive is reproduction." Why then would animals display homosexual behavior? The author contradicts himself.

Rossomardo's assessment of sexual intercourse is a slap to the face of any Christian. He defines intercourse as reproduction but marriage as a sacred covenant among man,

woman and God. We find this absurd.

In Natural Law, no rational being harms itself. Why would homosexuals risk ostracization, excommunication, or death? To satisfy biological urges endowed by a God who punished homosexuality with death and disinheritment?

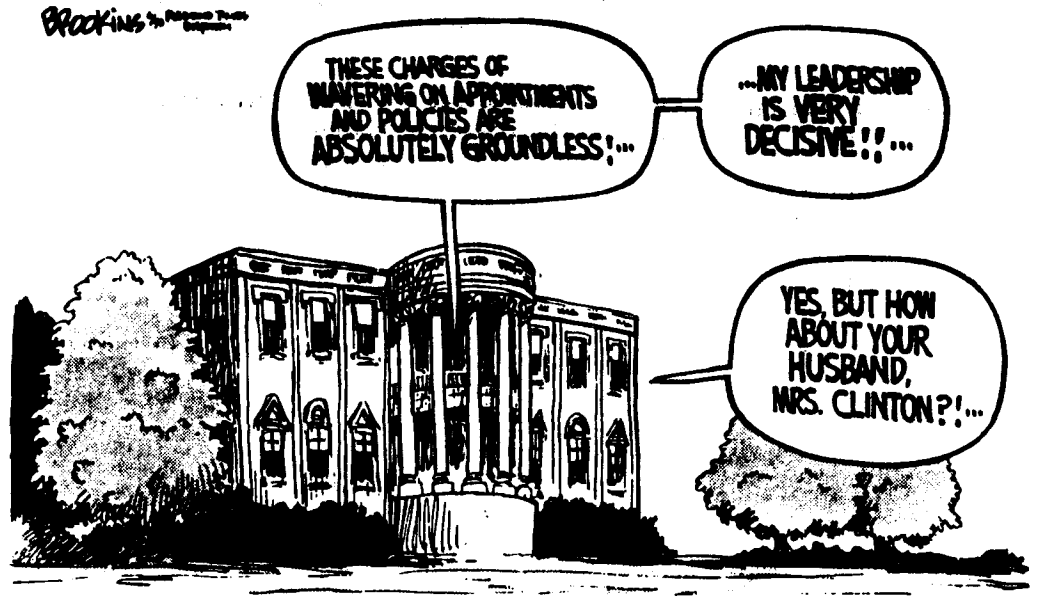
For love, John Rossomardo, for love. Why can you not fathom that two men--or two women--might have a physical and spiritual love so deep that they would risk anything to consummate such love?

We respect Rossomardo's religious standpoint. But that standpoint is hardly logical. Our constitution demands separation of church and state. The science of 1793 is obsolete. So is Natural Law. Human rights, however, still include life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness--whether or not Christendom accepts homosexuality.

Amber and I do not find homosexuality immoral. We empathize, rather, with those among us who live in a homophobic (we clarify this to mean *biased* against, and afraid of, *homosexuals*) society but we do not live immoral lives. Rather, we live within a morality which demands tolerance and empathy--as well as strick attention to the rights of all.

Amber Palmer
6th Semester
Biology Major

Jeremy Sloan
6th Semester
English Major



Editorial Cartoons



THE NEW BERND COLLEGE
Collegian

Published weekly by the students of
The Pennsylvania State University
at Berd College

Co-Editors
Marian D. Cline
Alicia Hoffman

Business Manager
Darlene Stoeck

Advertising Manager
Linda Ross
Mark Dreyfus

Sports Editor
Matthew D. Cline
Keith E. Smith

Copy Editors
Alicia Hoffman
Linda Ross

Page Designer
Linda Ross

The Collegian's editorial opinion is determined by the editorial staff, with the editor holding final responsibility. Opinions expressed in The Collegian are not necessarily those of The Collegian or The Pennsylvania State University.